



The future of the global AIDS response Implications for NGOs

The global economic crisis has induced cutbacks in the spending of Government and international donors. This also threatens efforts for an effective response to HIV and AIDS. In addition, a 'backlash' against disease-specific initiatives can be observed in the international arena, with calls for a diversion of foreign aid from HIV and AIDS and toward other health priorities such as reducing maternal and child mortality or strengthening health systems.

HIV and AIDS, with presently 33.4 million people living with HIV remains a serious global problem, reaching beyond the health sector. A united and coordinated effort is needed more than ever.

What are the implications of these debates on macro level and cutback in funding for NGOs working in the field of HIV/AIDS and international cooperation? What are impacts of the decision by international donors to direct more funds to lower income countries and to focus more on strengthening health system programs, thereby extending their focus to include other health issues in addition to HIV and AIDS? What does a health system approach towards AIDS mean in practice? How will a health systems approach differ from the approach of the last decade? What are future steps to be taken by aidsfocus.ch in order that universal access is reached and the MDGs realized? These are some of the questions that will be discussed at the aidsfocus.ch conference.

Objectives of the conference:

- To deepen the understanding through sharing and analysing information on the current and future situation regarding the global HIV epidemic and the AIDS response in context of global health governance changes and the economic crisis
- To discuss the implication for Swiss NGOs and possible responses

We invite all partners of aidsfocus.ch and representatives of organisations working in international cooperation, HIV and AIDS, as well as of any other person interested in the discussion.

Program

9.00	<i>Arrival, coffee and tea</i>
9.15	Welcome and introduction
	The global AIDS response
	Dr Christoph Benn , Director Partnership, Communications, Resource and Mobilization, Global Fund to fight AIDS, TB and Malaria: The future of the global AIDS response Andreas Loebell , Policy Advisor, Swiss Agency for Development and Cooperation (SDC): Implications for SDC
	Implications for NGOs
	Robin Gorna , Executive Director, International AIDS Society (IAS): The future of the Global AIDS response. Implications for HIV professionals and Civil Society organisations Florence Ajok Odoch , Manager TASO Mulago, AIDS Support Organisation (TASO), Uganda: Implication of funding trends on community based programmes
12.30	<i>Lunch</i>
13.30	Implications for NGOs (continued) Sharonann Lynch , HIV/AIDS Policy Advisor, Médecins Sans Frontières (MSF): Punishing success? Early signs of a retreat from commitment to HIV/AIDS care and treatment Dr Stefan Germann , Director, Learning and Partnerships, World Vision International: Reaching the other half of children affected and living with HIV and AIDS by 2015
	Workshops (proposed) Future of Global AIDS response - implications for Swiss NGOs: Conclusions, recommendations and steps to be taken
16.30-17.00	Plenary and Farewell

The conference will be held in **English**.

Further information: www.aidsfocus.ch

Venue: Kornhausforum, Kornhausplatz 18, Bern, www.kornhaus.org

Conference fee: Partners of aidsfocus.ch: CHF 70.-. Others: CHF 150.-

Organisation and coordination: Helena Zweifel, aidsfocus.ch/ Medicus Mundi Switzerland

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Registration for the aidsfocus.ch conference 2010

Name

Organisation

Address

E-mail

Please send back your registration by 5 April 2010, by mail or by e-mail to: H. Zweifel, Medicus Mundi Switzerland, Murbacherstrasse 34, 4013 Basel, or: info@aidsfocus.ch, or register on our website www.aidsfocus.ch. Your participation will be confirmed.