

Ending the Epidemic: Turning the Tide Together

The scientific programme kicks off this morning with presentations that take stock of the tools now available to turn the tide on HIV and the actions necessary to bring those tools to the scale necessary to begin to end the AIDS epidemic. U.S. Secretary of State Hillary Rodham Clinton will address the session.

From Science to Public Health

Anthony Fauci (United States), Director, National Institute of Allergy and Infectious Diseases at the National Institutes of Health, will speak on *Ending the HIV Epidemic: From Scientific Advances to Public Health Implementation*, noting that basic and clinical science have provided highly effective interventions to treat and prevent HIV infection. "If we markedly scale-up the global implementation of these interventions, we can dramatically alter the trajectory of the pandemic towards the ultimate goal of an AIDS-free generation. Science has provided highly effective interventions to prevent and treat HIV infection. Now we have the moral responsibility to scale-up implementation globally to ensure the end of the HIV/AIDS pandemic."

United States

Phill Wilson (United States), President and CEO of The Black AIDS Institute, will describe the AIDS epidemic in the United States, a nation with both a concentrated epidemic and a generalized epidemic, and lay out both opportunities and challenges to ending the U.S. AIDS epidemic. Wilson's presentation, *Deciding Moment: Ending the AIDS Epidemic in America Together*, will also include recommendations on what needs to be done to achieve that goal. "We have the tools to end the AIDS epidemic in America. The challenge is whether we know how to use those tools; whether we can make those tools available to those who most need them; and whether or not, when provided access to those tools, we will utilize them. To end the AIDS epidemic, we are going to have to combine the best of what we have been doing with the best strategies and tactics that are presented to us today."

Affected Countries

Sheila Tlou (Botswana), Director, UNAIDS Regional Support Team for Eastern and Southern Africa, will speak on *Turning the Tide in Affected Countries: Leadership, Accountability and Targets*. According to Tlou, political and other leaders have the responsibility to identify their own evidence-informed priorities, uphold human rights, and mobilize domestic resources for the AIDS response. Communities also have a critical role to play in holding leaders accountable for honoring their commitments. "We can reach zero only if we invest in the AIDS response, involve communities, respect human rights, and uphold the sexual and reproductive rights of all, including those of young women in their diversity."

Award Presentation: IAS-NIDA Fellowship

The International AIDS Society (IAS) and the National Institute on Drug Abuse (NIDA) will present the recipients of their fourth annual joint research fellowships at 8:30. Five young researchers will receive US\$75,000 each to pursue groundbreaking research to advance the scientific understanding of the linkage between drug use and HIV, while fostering multinational research. The recipients are Makhbatsho Bakhromov (Tajikistan), MD. Salequl Islam (Bangladesh), Georgios Nikolopoulos (Greece), Mehrak Javadi Paydar (Islamic Republic of Iran), and Seyed Ramin Radfar (Islamic Republic of Iran).

Global Village: A World of Diversity to Welcome You

The Global Village Opening Ceremony kicks off today at 11:00 on the Main Stage in Hall B featuring a performance by Jamar Rogers from "The Voice" television show, an indigenous drumming circle, and welcoming remarks by UNAIDS Executive Director Michel Sidibé, Washington, D.C. Mayor Vincent Gray, and others.

The AIDS 2012 Global Village is the largest in the history of the International AIDS Conference and, with 190,000 square feet, is more than double the size at AIDS 2010. A vibrant space filled with an array of activities, the Global Village is the civil society and community focal point at AIDS 2012, reflecting the collaboration of science, community and leadership in the HIV response.

The Main Stage is the heart of the Global Village and will feature music, dance and theatre performances throughout the week. The Global Village is also host to the Youth Pavilion, 27 issue-, region-, and population-specific Networking Zones, a screening room, NGO and Marketplace booths, art exhibits, two fully programmed session rooms, meeting rooms, and the Community Dialogue Space.

Additional information about Global Village activities is available through the Programme-at-a-Glance. The Global Village is open to delegates and the general public and admission is free. Positive Action is the principal sponsor of the Global Village.

HIV/AIDS in the United States

The U.S. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention estimates that 1.1 million people in the United States are living with HIV infection, with almost one in five (18%) of them unaware of their infection. The annual number of new HIV infections has remained relatively stable, with approximately 50,000 Americans becoming HIV infected each year even as the total number of people living with HIV in the U.S. has increased in recent years. Nearly 18,000 people living with AIDS die each year in the U.S.

In addition to recognized risk behaviors, a range of social, economic, and environmental factors place some at increased risk for HIV. These factors include poverty, discrimination, stigma, and homophobia; prevalence of HIV and STDs in a community; and higher rates of undiagnosed/untreated STDs. Much of the U.S. epidemic is heavily concentrated in urban areas and in specific populations. The South and Northeast, along with Puerto Rico and the U.S. Virgin Islands, are disproportionately impacted.

By risk group, men who have sex with men (MSM) of all races remain the population most severely impacted, representing 2% of the U.S. population, but 61% of new infections each year. Young MSM ages 13-29 are the only risk group in which new HIV infections are increasing, driven by alarming increases among black MSM.

[Continued overleaf >>>](#)

AIDS 2012 Merchandise Available


Take a piece of AIDS 2012 home with you by purchasing official conference merchandise. Organizers have produced a special line of t-shirts, caps, coffee mugs, lapel pins, magnetic frames, and more. Items are available for sale at the AIDS 2012 merchandise booth in Hall C. The items are a great way to remember the accomplishments of AIDS 2012 and show your commitment to turning the tide against HIV and AIDS.

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Programme Highlights

Improving Effectiveness and Efficiency in the HIV Response

Session Room 1, 11:00-12:30 


The session is to explore efficiency and effectiveness in the HIV response, both in theory and in practice. Speakers include: U.S. Senators Lindsey Graham and John Kerry, philanthropist Bill Gates, former Minister of Health of Lesotho Mphu Ramatlapeng, World Bank President Jim Yong Kim, and U.S. Global AIDS Coordinator Ambassador Eric Goosby.

Late Breaker Track A

Session Room 2, 11:00-12:30 


Oral abstract presentations for Track A: Basic Science.

Regional Session: Eastern Europe and Central Asia

Location: Session Room 5, 11:00-12:30 


Sandra Elisabeth Roelofs, First Lady of Georgia, and H. Pevkur, Minister of Social Affairs, Estonia will join a panel discussion on key issues facing the region. Simultaneous interpretation in Russian.

Can Public-Private Partnerships Help Those who Think Globally, Act Locally

Session Room 1, 13:00-14:00 


Keynote speech by Sir Elton John with remarks by South African Health Minister Aaron Motsoaledi, Elena Salgado, Spain, John Megrue, USA, and James Chau, China.

How Do We Get There? Country Planning for Maximum Impact

Session Room 2, 13:00-14:00 


Session features South African Deputy President Kgalema Motlanthe, Rwandan Minister of Health Agnes Binagwaho and current and former U.S. Global AIDS Coordinators Ambassadors Eric Goosby and Mark Dybul.

The Science of HIV: What Lies Ahead?

Session Room 5, 13:00-14:00 


Moderated by NIH Director Dr. Francis Collins and journalist Jon Cohen, the panel includes high-level researchers and community advocates who will present their visions of what lies ahead in HIV vaccine, cure, treatment and prevention research.

Regional Session: Sustainable Development and HIV – A Caribbean Agenda

Location: Session Room 5, 14:30-16:00 

Sarah Wescot-Williams, Prime Minister of Saint Martin, and Leslie Ramsammy, Minister of Agriculture, Guyana, will be among those addressing the session, which also includes an opportunity for questions and answers.

Treatment as Prevention: Is It Time for Action?

Session Room 2, 16:30-18:00 

Researchers Julio Montaner and Kenneth Mayer will offer differing perspectives on the opportunities and challenges implicit in treatment as prevention and participate in a panel discussion that includes Benedict Xaba, Minister of Health of Swaziland.

Programme Updates – Monday, 23 July

Plenary Session MOPL01: Ending the Epidemic: Turning the Tide Together

United States Secretary of State Hillary Rodham Clinton will address the session.

Special Session MOSS02: Can Public-Private Partnerships Help Those who Think Globally, Act Locally?

This session, which includes a keynote address by Elton John, has been moved to Session Room 1.

Special Session MOSS01: How Do We Get There? Country Planning for Maximum Impact

This session has been moved to Session Room 2.

Regional Session MORE02: Regional Session: Sustainable Development and HIV - A Caribbean Agenda

Sophie Martelly, First Lady of Haiti, will provide Closing Remarks.

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White MSM account for the largest number of annual total new HIV infections of any group in the U.S., followed by black MSM and Hispanic MSM. Individuals infected through heterosexual contact account for approximately 27% of annual new HIV infections, while people who inject drugs represent 9% of annual new infections. More than two-thirds (68 percent) of those infected through heterosexual sex are women, with black women most heavily affected.

Among racial/ethnic groups, African Americans face the most severe burden of HIV. Blacks represent approximately 14% of the U.S. population, but account for 44% of both people living with HIV and new infections each year. The HIV incidence rate for black women is 15 times as high as that of white women and more than three times that of Hispanic women. Latinos represent approximately 16% of the U.S. population and account for approximately 20% of new infections each year.

In 2010, the U.S. released its first-ever National HIV/AIDS Strategy, which outlines steps to achieve four measurable goals: reducing the number of people who become infected with HIV, increasing access to care and improving health outcomes for people living with HIV, reducing HIV-related health disparities, and achieving a more coordinated national response to the epidemic.

Be a Part of AIDS 2012 Evaluation

The Conference Evaluation Team invites delegates to take part in our efforts to evaluate the conference. Here are three ways you can participate:

Workshop Surveys

Provide feedback on workshops you attend through the dedicated printed survey forms distributed at the beginning of each workshop.

Focus Group Discussions

If you accepted an invitation to participate in a focus group discussion, please do so at the time and location provided to you.

Post-Conference Survey

Complete the post-conference online survey that will be emailed to you in late July. Key findings and recommendations will be documented in the AIDS 2012 Evaluation Report, which will be posted on the conference website in December 2012 and shared with key stakeholders in order to improve planning of the next International AIDS Conference.

Visiting the Quilt Display

The AIDS Memorial Quilt will be on display on the National Mall and more than 50 other locations throughout the Washington, D.C. area through Wednesday, 25 July. The display on the Mall is located between 8th and 14th Streets, NW, and is open from 9:00-16:00 daily. You can sign up to read names on site. The display is accessible via the Metro from the Smithsonian station on the Orange and Blue lines and the Archives station on the Green and Yellow lines, two stops from the Mount Vernon Square station at the convention center. Panels will also be on display in the Global Village and in Session Room 1. For information about other display locations around the city, visit www.quilt2012.org.

PROGRAMME-
AT-A-GLANCE



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