

INTERIM EVALUATION OF
TAKING ACTION: THE UK
GOVERNMENT'S STRATEGY
FOR TACKLING HIV AND
AIDS IN THE DEVELOPING
WORLD

Final Report

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ACTION*: THE UK GOVERNMENT'S
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PREFACE

Taking Action: 'the UK's strategy for tackling HIV and AIDS in the developing world' was launched by the Prime Minister in July 2004. The Department for International Development (DFID) is the lead government department for implementing *Taking Action*, working together with the Foreign and Commonwealth Office, the Department of Health and others. The UK Government has committed significant funding for this area: at least £1.5 billion over 3 years, up from £270 million in 2002/3.



DFID's Evaluation Department (EvD) has commissioned this interim evaluation of *Taking Action* to look at progress against the commitments in the strategy, to generate lessons which will enable the UK Government to improve its effectiveness, to feed into new policy and strategy, and to lay the groundwork for a more systematic and detailed evaluation of the UK Government's strategy and activities in this area, planned for 2008/9.

The report represents a major piece of work undertaken with inputs from many people in the UK government and its partners around the world. The evaluation was managed by Julia Compton, John Murray and Jane Gardner, with the support of a large steering group chaired by Andrew Rogerson, and carried out by independent consultants in a consortium led by Social & Scientific Systems, Inc. (USA).

The report states that "*Taking Action* and its spending targets galvanised the UK Government, in general, and DFID, in particular, to give a higher profile to HIV and AIDS". We are pleased that the report recognises the many contributions made by the UK government to date, particularly in political leadership and in improving the international response to AIDS.

We welcome the recommendations in the report and are giving them serious consideration. Some of the activities already underway include:

- AIDS spending target: we have recently recalculated how this is measured and publicised the new method (Recommendation 1)
- UK leadership on contentious issues: we are supporting the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime (UNODC) to focus on HIV prevention amongst injecting drug users, and harm reduction programmes (Recommendation 4)
- Guidance on aid instruments: we have recently commissioned a report on 'Aid Instruments and Sexual and Reproductive Health/HIV outcomes' (Recommendation 7)

AIDS is a fast-moving area of work, and our strategies require regular updating to take account of changes in the disease pandemic and in our knowledge of how to help developing countries tackle it. We are between May 17 and August 8 2007 conducting a consultation process to update "*Taking Action*". This interim evaluation will feed directly into our thinking about the new strategy. Please visit the DFID website (www.dfid.gov.uk) to learn how to contribute.

Mark Lowcock
Director General (Policy and International)
DFID

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This report documents an evaluation process conducted by an independent team from Social & Scientific Systems, Inc. The core team has included the following people – Kathy Attawell (team leader), Roger Drew (lead author), Ariella Bock, Kate Butcher, Susan Duberstein, Sue Griffey, Karen Semkow and Peter Aggleton, Rachel Albone, Janet Gruber von Kerenshazy, Susan Hunter, Barbara Pillsbury and Ian Warwick. Other people who joined the team to conduct specific country case studies were Aimée Mwadi Kady (DRC), Indira Kapoor (India), Cliff Lenton (China), Andy O’Connell (Zambia), Wei Ran (China), Gennady Roshchupkin (Russia), Priti Dave Sen (India) and Judith Sherman (Zimbabwe). Country visit teams were strengthened by the addition of DFID health/HIV advisers from other countries, namely Marion Kelly (from Ethiopia to China), Patsy Sterling (DRC to Zimbabwe), Martin Taylor (China to India) and Raza Zaidi (Pakistan to India).

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- Staff of DFID and FCO offices in the countries visited, namely China, DRC, Ethiopia, India, Russia, Zambia and Zimbabwe.
- ‘Friends’ of the evaluation including Robin Gorna and Clare Shakya of the Global AIDS Policy team.

The evaluation process has involved conducting seven country case studies and producing three working papers, in addition to this main report. We are grateful to the huge number of people (see Annex 1, pA1) who have helped by meeting with us, individually and in groups, and by submitting written comments. Where possible, we have recorded these inputs in the relevant documents.

Full responsibility for the text of this report rests with the authors. In common with all evaluation reports commissioned by DFID’s Evaluation Department, the views contained in this report do not necessarily represent those of DFID or of the people consulted.

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Abbreviations

ABC	Abstinence, Be Faithful, Use a Condom
ADB	African Development Bank
AEAD	Aid Effectiveness and Accountability Department
AFEW	AIDS Foundation East West
AIDS	Acquired Immunodeficiency Syndrome
AMO	Avenir Meilleur pour les Orphelins (DRC)
APF	Africa Partnership Forum
APPG	All Party Parliamentary Group
APR	Autumn Performance Report
ARIES	Activities Reporting Information E-System
ARROW	Antiretrovirals for Watoto (Children) Trial
ART	Antiretroviral Therapy
ARV	Antiretroviral
ATM	AIDS, TB and Malaria
AU	African Union
B	Billion
BBC	British Broadcasting Corporation
BCC	Behaviour Change Communication
BPG	Best Practice Guidance
CABA	Children Affected By AIDS
CAFOD	Catholic Agency for Overseas Development
CAP	Country Assistance Plan
CARE	International NGO
CARES	Comprehensive AIDS Response (China)
CARHAP	Central Asia Regional Harm Reduction Project
CBO	Community Based Organisation
CCM	Country Coordinating Mechanism
CCS	Country Case Study
CDC	Centers for Disease Control
CEDAW	Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination Against Women
CEP	Country Engagement Plan
CHARTS	China HIV and AIDS Roadmap Technical Support
CHAT	Country Harmonisation and Alignment Tool
CIDA	Canadian International Development Agency
CIPIH	Commission on Intellectual Property, Innovation and Public Health
CPD	Continuing Professional Development
CPPG	Corporate Planning and Performance Group (formerly CSG/SRSG)
CRAIDS	Community Response to HIV/AIDS
CRC	Convention on the Rights of the Child
CRD	Central Research Department
CSCF	Civil Society Challenge Fund
CSG	Corporate Strategy Group
CSHR	Consortium for Strategic HIV Operations Research
CSO	Civil Society Organisation
CSP	Country Strategy Paper
CSR	Comprehensive Spending Review
CSW	Commercial Sex Worker

Abbreviations

CTB	Coopération Technique Belge (DRC)
DAC	Development Assistance Committee
DAG	Development Assistance Group (Ethiopia)
DART	Development of Antiretroviral Therapy in Africa Trial
DBS	Direct Budget Support
DCI	Irish Aid
DDP	Director's Delivery Plan
DFES	Department for Education and Skills
DFID	Department for International Development
DFIDSA	Department for International Development Southern Africa
DH	Department of Health
DKT	A social marketing organisation
DOC	Drivers of Change
DPA	Development Partnership Agreement
DR	Departmental Report
DRC	Democratic Republic of Congo
DTI	Department of Trade and Industry
EC	European Commission
EDF	European Development Fund
EHRP	Emergency Human Resources Programme (Malawi)
EMAAD	Europe, Middle East, the Americas and East Asia Division (formerly EMAD)
EMAD	Europe, Middle East and Americas Division (now EMAAD)
EMSAP	Ethiopia Multisectoral AIDS Programme
ESP	Expanded Support Programme (Zimbabwe)
ETIFID	Europe, Trade and IFI Division
EU	European Union
EVD	Evaluation Department
FAO	Food and Agriculture Organisation
FBO	Faith-Based Organisation
FCO	Foreign and Commonwealth Office
FCPD	Finance and Corporate Performance Division
FHI	Family Health International
FP	Family Planning
FTI	Fast Track Initiative
FY	Financial Year
G8	Group of Eight
GAERC	General Affairs and External Relations Council (GAERC)
GAP	Global AIDS Policy (Team)
GBS	General Budget Support
GBV	Gender-Based Violence
GCP	Global and Country Health Partnerships Team
GCWA	Global Coalition on Women and AIDS
GDP	Gross Domestic Product
GHAPA	Global HIV and AIDS Plan of Action (World Bank)
GIPA	Greater Involvement of People Living With HIV and AIDS
GIST	Global Implementation Support Team
GNI	Gross National Income
GNP	Gross National Product
GNP+	Global Network of People Living with HIV and AIDS
GO	Government of (e.g. as in GOC, Government of China)

GRZ	Government of the Republic of Zambia
GTT	Global Task Team
GTZ	German Development Agency
HAPAC	HIV/AIDS Prevention and Care Project (China and Kenya)
HAPCO	HIV/AIDS Prevention and Control Office (Ethiopia)
HIV	Human Immunodeficiency Virus
HLSP	Consultancy firm – member of Mott MacDonald Group
HMA	Her Majesty’s Ambassador
HMG	Her Majesty’s Government
HMT	Her Majesty’s Treasury
HO	Home Office
HR	Human Resources
HRH	Human Resources for Health
HSRC	Health Systems Resource Centre
IAVI	International AIDS Vaccine Initiative
ICD	Information and Communication for Development
ICPD	International Conference on Population and Development/ also a department within DFID called Information and Community Partnerships Department
ICSD	Information and Civil Society Department
ICW	International Community of Women Living with HIV and AIDS
IDA	International Development Association
IDAD	International Division’s Advisory Department
IDC	International Development Committee
IDU	Injecting Drug User
IEC	Information, Education, Communication
IFI	International Finance Institution
IFF(m)	International Finance Facility (for Immunisation)
ILO	International Labour Organisation
IMPAACT	International Maternal Paediatric Adolescent AIDS Clinical Trials Group
INGO	International NGO
INP+	Indian Network of Positive People
IOM	International Organisation for Migration
IS	Institutional Strategy
ISP	Institutional Strategy Paper
ISSD	Information Systems and Services Department
ITPC	International Treatment Preparedness Coalition
JAPR	Joint Annual Programme Review (Zambia)
JAS	Joint Assistance Strategy
JASZ	Joint Assistance Strategy Zambia
JBAR	Joint Budget and Aid Reviews (Ethiopia)
JIA	Joint Institutional Approach (UNICEF)
JLICA	Joint Learning Initiative on Children and HIV/AIDS
JSI	John Snow International
KFA	Knowledge for Action (Russia)
LAC	Latin America and the Caribbean
LSHTM	London School of Hygiene and Tropical Medicine
LSTM	Liverpool School of Tropical Medicine
M	Million(s)
M&E	Monitoring and Evaluation

Abbreviations

MAP	Multi-country HIV/AIDS Programme
MCDSS	Ministry of Community Development and Social Services
MDGs	Millennium Development Goals
MEFF	Multilateral Effectiveness Framework
MENAD	Middle East and North Africa Department
MERG	Monitoring and Evaluation Reference Group
MICS	Middle Income Countries
MOD	Ministry of Defence
MOPAN	Multilateral Organisation Performance Network
MOU	Memorandum of Understanding
MRC	Medical Research Council
MSF	Médecins sans Frontières
MSM	Men who have Sex with Men
MTCT	Mother to Child Transmission
MTEF	Medium Term Expenditure Framework
MWCD	Ministry for Women and Child Development
NAC	National AIDS Council/Commission
NACO	National AIDS Control Organisation (India)
NACP	National AIDS Control Programme
NAO	National Audit Office
NAPLWHA	Network of People Living with HIV and AIDS (Ethiopia)
NAPWE	Network of Positive Women in Ethiopia
NCA	National Council for AIDS (China)
NEPAD	New Partnership for Africa's Development
NGO	Non-Governmental Organisation
NHS	National Health Service
NIAID	National Institute of Allergy and Infectious Diseases
NPA	National Plan of Action
NPF	National Partnership Forum (Ethiopia)
NSP	National Strategic Plan
NZP+	Network of Zambian People Living Positively
ODA	Official Development Assistance
ODI	Overseas Development Institute
OECD	Organisation for Economic Cooperation and Development
OGD	Other Government Departments
OHCHR	Office of the UN High Commissioner for Human Rights
OHI	Open Health Institute (Russia)
OPR	Output to Purpose Review
OSI	Open Society Institute
OTD	Overseas Territories Department
OVC	Orphans and Vulnerable Children
P	Principal
PAM	Poverty Aim Marker
PARPA	Action Plan for the Reduction of Absolute Poverty (Mozambique)
PASDEP	Plan for Accelerated and Sustained Development to End Poverty (Ethiopia)
PBS	Protection of Basic Services (Ethiopia)
PCB	Programme Coordinating Board (UNAIDS)
PCN	Project Concept Note
PCR	Project Completion Report
PD	Policy Division

PDP	Personal Development Plan
PEPFAR	President's Emergency Plan for AIDS Relief
PfA	Programme for Action (EC)
PIMS	Policy Information Marker System
PLOW	Professional Development for Livelihood Website
PLWHA	People Living with HIV and AIDS – also PLHA, PLHIV
PMF	Performance Measurement Framework
PMO	Programme Management Office (India)
PMTCT	Prevention of Mother to Child Transmission
PNG	Papua New Guinea
PNMLS	National Multisectoral Programme in the Struggle against AIDS (DRC)
PPA	Programme Partnership Agreement
PRBS	Poverty Reduction Budget Support
PRISM	Performance Reporting Information System for Management
PRP	Protracted Relief Programmes (Zimbabwe)
PRS	Poverty Reduction Strategy
PRSP	Poverty Reduction Strategy Paper
PSA	Public Service Agreement
PSI	Population Services International
PSNP	Productive Safety Nets Programme (Ethiopia)
PUSS	Parliamentary Under-Secretary of State
PVV	Personnes Vivant avec le HIV (see PLWHA)
Q	Quarter
QA	Quality Assurance
QAG	Quality Assurance Group
QMR	Quarterly Management Report
QUEST	Name for part of DFID's information system (see section 8.27, p115)
RAP	Regional Assistance Plan
RC	Resident Coordinator (UN)
RCH	Reproductive and Child Health (Team) (previously REACH)
RCP+	Reseau Congolais des Personnes Vivant Avec le VIH/SIDA (DRC)
REACH	Reproductive and Child Health Team (now RCHT)
REPSI	Regional Psychosocial Support Initiative for Children Affected by HIV/AIDS
RFE	Rapid Funding Envelope (Tanzania)
RHCS	Reproductive Health Commodity Security
RPC	Research Programme Consortia
S	Significant
SACS	State AIDS Control Societies (India)
SADC	Southern African Development Community
SAIC	Staff Appointed in Country
SBS	Sector Budget Support
SCMS	Supply Chain Management System
SCS	Senior Civil Service
SD	Sustainable Development
SDD	Social Development Direct
SEAPRO	South East Asia and Pacific Regional Office
SIDA	Swedish International Development Agency
SIPAA	Support to International Partnership against AIDS in Africa
SNR	Strengthening Nigeria's Response (to HIV and AIDS)

Abbreviations

SP	Strategic Priority
SPM	Strategic Plan of Management (Ethiopia)
SPW	Student Partnership Worldwide
SRH	Sexual and Reproductive Health
SRSG	Statistical Reporting and Support Group (now CPPG)
SSA	Sub-Saharan Africa
SSS	Social and Scientific Systems
STARZ	Strengthening the AIDS Response in Zambia
STD	Sexually Transmitted Disease
STI	Sexually Transmitted Infection
SWAA	Society of Women against AIDS in Africa
SWAP	Sector Wide Approach
TA	Technical Assistance
TACAIDS	Tanzania Commission for AIDS
T&C	Treatment and Care
TB	Tuberculosis
Tilla	Association of PLWHA (Ethiopia)
TQA	Table of Questions and Approaches
TRIPS	Trade-Related Aspects of Intellectual Property Rights
TSP	Target Strategy Paper
TWG	Technical Working Group (Ethiopia)
UA	Universal Access
UK	United Kingdom
UN	United Nations
UNAIDS	Joint UN Programme on HIV and AIDS
UNAIS	International Service
UNCD	United Nations and Commonwealth Department (DFID)
UNCHD	United Nations Conflict and Humanitarian Division (DFID)
UNCT	United Nations Country Team
UNDG	United Nations Development Group
UNDP	United Nations Development Programme
UNFIP	United Nations Fund for International Partnerships
UNFPA	United Nations Population Fund
UNGASS	United Nations General Assembly Special Session
UNICEF	United Nations Children's Fund
UNIFEM	United Nations Development Fund for Women
UNITAID	International Drug Purchase Facility
UNODC	United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime
US	United States
USAID	United States Agency for International Development
VCT	Voluntary Counselling and Testing
VSO	Voluntary Service Overseas
WB	World Bank
WFP	World Food Programme
WHO	World Health Organisation
WP	Working Paper
WTO	World Trade Organisation
XDR-TB	Extensively Drug Resistant TB
ZACH	Zimbabwe Association of Church-Related Hospitals
ZAN	Zimbabwe AIDS Network
ZANARA	Zambia National Response to HIV/AIDS Project

ZBR	Zero-Based Review
ZNAN	Zambia National AIDS Network
ZNFPD	Zimbabwe National Family Planning Council
ZNNP+	Zimbabwe National Network of People Living with HIV and AIDS

