

## **ELDIS HIV & AIDS REPORTER**

**04 December 2012**

<http://www.eldis.org/go/topics/resource-guides/hiv-and-aids>

This is our regular bulletin that highlights recent publications and announcements on HIV and AIDS issues.

The documents are available without charge on the web. If you are unable to access any of these materials online and would like to receive a copy of a document as an email attachment, please contact our editor at the email address given below.

A CDROM with collections of documents from Eldis is also available to users with poor internet access. See details in the footer of this reporter.

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**UNAIDS Report on the global AIDS epidemic 2012** Drawing on information provided by countries, this report summarises the current situation in the effort to reach the 2015 targets set forth in the 2011 Political Declaration. In addition to providing a snapshot of the current situation for each target, it identifies key trends. Using a scorecard approach on key indicators, the report allows individual countries to

compare their own achievements with those of others. Regional breakdowns enable comparison of progress between different parts of the world. This report highlights instances where recommended policies and programmes have yet to be implemented. Available online at: <http://www.eldis.org/cf/rdr/?doc=63176> [Back to list](#)

**Quantifying and addressing losses along the continuum of care for people living with HIV infection in sub-Saharan Africa: a systematic review** Authors: Kranzer,K. Produced by: Journal of the International AIDS Society (2012) Recent years have seen an increasing recognition of the need to improve access and retention in care for people living with HIV/AIDS. This review aims to quantify patients along the continuum of care in sub-Saharan Africa and review possible interventions. The article finds that losses occur throughout the care pathway, especially prior to ART initiation, and for some patients this is a transient event, as they may re-engage in care at a later time. However, data regarding interventions to address this issue are scarce. Research is urgently needed to identify effective solutions so that a far greater proportion of infected individuals can benefit from long-term ART. Available online at: <http://www.eldis.org/cf/rdr/?doc=63172> [Back to list](#)

**HIV and the law: risks, rights and health** Authors: Levine,J. Produced by: Global Commission on HIV and the Law (2012)

34 million people are living with HIV, 7,400 are newly infected daily and 1.8 million died in 2010 alone. This document argues that the legal environment (laws, enforcement and justice systems) has immense potential to better the lives of HIV-positive people and to help turn the crisis around. International law and treaties that protect equality of access to health care and prohibit discrimination - including that based on health or legal status - underpin the salutary power of national laws.

Based on an analysis of where the law could transform the AIDS response and send HIV epidemics into decline, the Commission focused its inquiry on: laws and practices that criminalise those living with and most vulnerable to HIV laws and practices that sustain or mitigate violence and discrimination against women laws and practices that facilitate or impede access to HIV-related treatment issues of law pertaining to children and young people in the context of HIV.

This document provides findings and recommendations which offer guidance to governments and international bodies in shaping laws and

legal practices that are science based, pragmatic, humane and just. The findings and recommendations also offer advocacy tools for people living with HIV, civil society, and communities affected by HIV.

Findings include:

123 countries have legislation to outlaw discrimination based on HIV; 112 legally protect at least some populations based on their vulnerability to HIV. But these laws are often ignored, laxly enforced or aggressively flouted.

In over 60 countries it is a crime to expose another person to HIV or to transmit it, especially through sex. At least 600 individuals living with HIV in 24 countries have been convicted under HIV-specific or general criminal laws (due to underreporting, these estimates are conservative). Such laws do not increase safer sex practices. Instead, they discourage people from getting tested or treated, in fear of being prosecuted for passing HIV to lovers or children.

In many countries, the law (either on the books or on the streets) dehumanises many of those at highest risk for HIV: sex workers, transgender people, men who have sex with men (MSM), people who use drugs, prisoners and migrants. Rather than providing protection, the law renders these “key populations” all the more vulnerable to HIV.

A growing body of international trade law and the over-reach of intellectual property (IP) protections are impeding the production and distribution of low-cost generic drugs.

Available online at: <http://www.eldis.org/cf/rdr/?doc=63169> [Back to list](#)

**Don't Stop Now! Calling for a UK Blueprint to achieve an HIV-free generation** This report calls on the UK government, the world's second largest bilateral HIV donor, to develop a detailed blueprint by June 2013 which maps out the UK's role in achieving an HIV-free generation. The blueprint would build on the role the UK government has played in the global HIV response for the last 30 years, from the landmark HIV awareness campaigns and the introduction of harm reduction in the UK in the 1980s, through to the global political and HIV funding leadership of the 2000s. The report argues that if governments, donors and others implemented the Investment Framework that emerged from the 2011 United Nations High Level Meeting on AIDS, an estimated additional 12.2 million new infections could be averted and 7.4 million AIDS related deaths prevented between now and 2020, and the following targets set at the would become reality by 2015. Available online at: <http://www.eldis.org/cf/rdr/?doc=63139> [Back to list](#)

See our HIV and AIDS Resource Guide for a complete list of new additions at: <http://www.eldis.org/go/topics/resource-guides/hiv-and-aids>

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