

Dear GPC Key Populations Community of Practice Member,

The 9th KP COP event was held on 14 March 2024 and focused on effectively addressing stigma in key population programmes. The event was co-hosted with **UNDP** and the **Global Partnership** for Action to Eliminate HIV-Related Stigma and Discrimination.

This was the first time we hosted this event as a virtual cafe to allow for a greater range of experiences to be shared from across three continents!

▼ Scroll down for resources and reflections from the event ▼



We had over 250 participants attend across the two sessions

Event highlights

Tim Sladden (UNFPA) and Clemens Benedikt (UNAIDS) opened the morning and afternoon sessions, respectively. They set the objectives of the virtual cafe, which were to a) share global evidence and guidance to address stigma in key population programmes and, b) understand how countries are implementing such programmes.

Anne Stangl (CDC) presented on evidence-based interventions to address stigma against key populations, highlighting the *Health Stigma and Discrimination Framework* as a cross-cutting framework to inform research, intervention development and policy addressing health-related stigma.

Daughtie Ogutu (GNP+) provided a synthesis of available global guidance and country examples, sharing a range of tools for advocacy and campaigns towards addressing stigma. **Erica Spielman (WHO)** then proceeded to share overarching good practices and guidance focusing on addressing stigma and discrimination in healthcare settings.

In breakout rooms, countries shared practical experiences of effectively addressing stigma:



Dr Katayoun Tayeri (Iran): shed light on Ministry of Health in Iran developing interventions in the health care setting including positive policies and training of health care providers to facilitate provision of stigma free services.

Dr Magreth Kagashe (Tanzania) spoke about Tanzania's "Public Health Approach" to addressing stigma in key population programme. She emphasised the need to create an enabling environment, community engagement and empowerment and effective coordination.



Tanzania's experience on address stigma in KP programm



Ray Natthakarn Laohacharoensombat (Thailand) shared MPlus Foundation's work in creating safe spaces for key populations and designing campaigns to address stigma and discrimination against them. The community based organisation also conducted training for staff, developed SOP and code of practice for their teams to ensure stigma free services are provided.



Fara Zumudio and Angela Villon (Peru) shared how they have advocated against gender-based violence in Peru by adopting a trans feminist approach. They shared the various strategies used in the response including providing temporary emergency relocation, address food insecurity, capacity building on security and safety, using hard-hitting visualisations for advocacy and providing legal support to trans and cis women engaged in sex work

Moud Chinembiri and Eliza Gwenzi (Zimbabwe) spoke about Wakakosha – an intervention that aims to improve self-worth and welling among young PLHIV. They shared project's evidence-based and peer-led activities that include IBSR (cognitive-based), creativity (music, poetry, writing, drawing), mindfulness, training of trainers, ongoing community of practice and online resource tools





Glenroy Murray (Jamaica) presented on the partnership between government and key population organisations in Jamaica. In the case of JFLAG, connecting the dots between frontline workers was a "critical juncture in shifting the tone" and creating an enabling environment for key populations

In reflecting on the morning sessions, **Sindy Matse (MoH Eswatini), Anna Shapiro (NSWP)** and **Matteo Cassolato** (**Global Fund)** recognised the complexity of the topic and the significant role that stigma plays in perpetuating vulnerabilities to HIV and limiting access to HIV programming. They emphasised the need to put key populations in the centre of interventions and comprehensive planning across settings and types of stigma.

Similarly, lurie Climasevschi (MoH Republic of Moldova), Aria Shahbazpour (MPACT) and Kent Klindera

(USAID) stressed the negative impact that discriminatory laws play in reinforcing stigma at an institutional sociopolitical level. They reflected on the use of U=U as a stigma-reduction tool.

A special thanks to our facilitators: Jeffrey O'Malley (UNDP), Simone Salem (Global Partnership), and Heather-Marie Schmidt (UNAIDS and WHO).

Speaker presentations ▼

Morning session / Afternoon session



Webinar recordings **V**

Morning session / Afternoon session

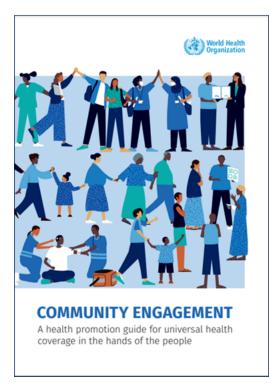


Key resources shared

Go to the **UNAIDS website** to access documents from the Global Partnership including: Monitoring and Evaluating Programs to Eliminate HIV-related Stigma and Discrimination in 6 Settings and A Practical Guide to Ending HIV-related Stigma and Discrimination: Best practices and innovation approaches ▼



Go to the <u>WHO website</u> to access documents on community engagement and effective social participation





Catch upcoming events from International AIDS Society Heart of Stigma Programme including regional webinars on the PLHIV Index and their satellite session at the International AIDS Conference which will showcase what works in stigma reduction.

Access the recordings of the previous webinars through the SSLN YouTube channel ▼

- 1. Financing & sustaining Key Population programmes (session 1)
- 2. Financing & sustaining Key Population programmes (session 2)
- 3. <u>Scaling up effective programmes with young Key</u> <u>Populations (session 1)</u>
- 4. <u>Scaling up effective programmes with young Key</u> <u>Populations (session 2)</u>
- 5. Navigating the WHO's 2022 Consolidated Guidelines (session 1)

- 6. Navigating the WHO's 2022 Consolidated Guidelines (session 2)
- 7. <u>Measuring and monitoring the KP programme outputs and outcomes</u> at national and global level (session 1)
- 8. <u>Measuring and monitoring the KP programme outputs and outcomes</u> <u>at national and global level (session 2)</u>
- 9. <u>Scaling Up Harm Reduction Interventions for People Who Inject &</u> <u>Use Drugs (session 1)</u>
- 10. <u>Scaling Up Harm Reduction Interventions for People Who Inject &</u> <u>Use Drugs</u> (session 2)

Reach out to us

For more information on the Global HIV Prevention Coalition (GPC), the Key Populations Community of Practice (KP COP), or support towards implementing harm reduction programmes, please reach out to us and visit our websites: <u>GPC website</u> | <u>SSLN website</u>



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