



GLOBAL FORUM
ON MSM & HIV
MSMGF.ORG



2015

ANNUAL REPORT

A DECADE OF DETERMINATION AND DEDICATION

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A MESSAGE FROM THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR



This year MSMGF turns 10 years old. Our organization was founded in 2006 by a group of brave gay and bisexual men who were frustrated by deliberate exclusion and omission of our communities in global discussions about HIV. Back then, public health officials, funders, researchers, and service providers were reluctant to even acknowledge that we existed, despite the fact that men who have sex with men were among the first to respond and remain among the hardest hit by HIV. We were expected to stay *closeted*.

Over the past decade, MSMGF built an international network focused on raising awareness about ongoing HIV-related disparities and disproportionate disease burden experienced by gay and bisexual men worldwide. We shined a spotlight on homophobic criminalization, violence, stigma and discrimination, which conspire to heighten disparities in the global HIV response. As an organization, our job is to challenge misinformation, expose injustices, and disrupt ineffective business as usual. MSMGF has instigated and supports a global movement, which can take credit for many important changes since the agency's early days. They include:

- » Priority focus given to men who have sex with men and transgender people by the Global Fund, International AIDS Society, UNAIDS in high-level policies and publications, and bilateral donors;
- » Evidence-informed, global guidance on rights-based prevention and treatment of HIV among men who have sex with men and transgender people issued by the WHO;
- » Stronger technical guidance on civil society engagement and on the needs of men who have sex with men issued by U.S. PEPFAR to country missions; and
- » New global funding opportunities for organizations and networks serving men who have sex with men and other key populations (e.g., Robert Carr Civil Society Networks Fund, Global Fund's new funding model; USAID LINKAGES Program).

2015 builds on our 10-year legacy of achievements. Last year, MSMGF increased its technical support to advocacy and HIV service implementation in 31 countries; worked with UNFPA, UNDP, WHO, UNAIDS, USAID, World Bank, and the Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation to publish practical guidance for implementing HIV and STI Program with men who have sex with men; expanded support to Asian, African, Caribbean, Latin American, and Eastern European regional networks; and intensified activism directed at UNAIDS, the Global Fund and U.S. PEPFAR. We also established a new advocacy platform to fast-track the global HIV and human rights responses. In 2015 we trained scores of stakeholders and guided the development of several critical educational, training, and policy documents, including ground-breaking new publications on anti-LGBT violence and on the future of the global HIV response. In addition, MSMGF implemented a new Communications Strategy in 2015 that resulted in a fresh logo, a modernized website, and a significantly expanded social media presence. The enormous pride we feel over our achievements is equaled only by the profound gratitude we have for the support we receive. To staff, volunteers, activists, and donors – a heart-felt thanks!

As we begin celebrating our 10-year anniversary, we must also prepare for the challenges that lie ahead. Sadly, the global HIV response continues its over-reliance on politically convenient rhetoric rather than effective action – rhetoric that continues to render invisible the terrible daily toll HIV and human rights abuses take on gay and bisexual men. Meanwhile, the global HIV response is failing men who have sex with men, as evidenced by escalating HIV transmission rates in all countries of the world. We must emphatically and unapologetically reject calls for the end of AIDS unless those calls openly acknowledge the disproportionate impact HIV continues to have on gay and bisexual men and include strategies that are aligned with our sexual health needs. Anything less would be equivalent to asking us all to remain quietly locked in closets.



WHO WE ARE

The Global Forum on MSM & HIV (MSMGF) was founded in 2006 at the Toronto International AIDS Conference by an international group of activists concerned about the disproportionate HIV disease burden being shouldered by men who have sex with men (MSM) worldwide. The silence at that time about the toll HIV was taking on MSM was deeply troubling to many community members and advocates working at the frontlines.

Our coalition includes a wide range of people, including HIV-positive and HIV-negative gay men directly affected by the HIV epidemic, and other experts in health, human rights, research, and policy work. What we share is our willingness to step forward and to act to address the lack of HIV responses targeted to MSM, to end AIDS, and to promote health and rights for all. We also share a particular concern for the health and rights of gay, bisexual and other men who have sex with men who: are living with HIV; are young; are from low and middle income countries; are poor; are migrant; belong to racial/ethnic minority or indigenous communities; engage in sex work; use drugs; and/or identify as transgender.

VISION

MSMGF envisions a world where the health and human rights of all men who have sex with men are actively recognized, realized, and respected.

MISSION

To advocate for equitable access to effective HIV prevention, care, treatment, and support services for gay men and other MSM, including gay men and MSM living with HIV, while promoting their health and human rights worldwide.

VALUES

In all of our work, MSMGF foregrounds the values of human rights, self-determination, and working in coalition. We employ approaches that are community-led, strengths-based, sex positive, critically reflexive, evidence informed, and results oriented. By integrating these values into our policy, programs, research, and communications strategies, we strive to combine the full range of contributions generated by our constituents with methods that achieve smart, effective, and cost-efficient outcomes.

EXPERTISE + EMPATHY + EVIDENCE

1 MILESTONES

10 YEARS OF ACHIEVEMENTS

2006

2006 – MSMGF Steering Committee is formed following the second pre-conference meeting at the IAC in Toronto

2006 – MSMGF Steering Committee selects AIDS Project Los Angeles to host MSMGF Secretariat

2007

2007 – MSMGF receives its first core operating grants from Aids Fonds and Hivos in the Netherlands

2008

2008 – MSMGF co-sponsors first U.S. Congressional hearing on MSM & HIV

2008 – MSMGF holds its first expanded Steering Committee meeting

2008: International AIDS Society gives serious focus to gay, bisexual and other men who have sex with men

2008 – MSMGF launches msmgf.org

2008 – MSMGF hosts the third pre-conference meeting at the IAC in Mexico City – ‘The Invisible Men: Gay Men and Other MSM in the Global HIV/AIDS Epidemic’

2009

2009 – MSMGF receives its first large multi-year grants from the Department for International Development (UK) and the Gates Foundation

2009 – MSMGF creates its first strategic plan and establishes a governance structure

2010 – MSMGF opens an office in Oakland, California and hires its first full-time staff

2010 – MSMGF produces its first policy brief: *Reaching MSM in the Global HIV/AIDS Epidemic*

2010 – MSMGF is commissioned by the World Health Organization (WHO) to document HIV service-related values and preferences among MSM and transgender people

2010

2010 – MSMGF begins in-country work through Speaking Out advocacy training of trainers program

2010 – MSMGF launches its first Global Men's Health and Rights Survey (GMHR), repeated in 2012 and 2014

2011

2010 – MSMGF named North American NGO delegate to the UNAIDS Program Coordinating Board

2010 – MSMGF upgrades and launches msmgf.org in 7 languages

2011 – MSMGF expands its technical support work at country level through *Bridging the Gaps* (funded by the Dutch Ministry of Foreign Affairs)

2011 – MSMGF joins forces with advocates around to world to influence the United Nations High-level Meeting on HIV/AIDS

2011: Inclusion of MSM in the UN Political Declaration on HIV/AIDS

2011: UNAIDS Strategic Plan for Getting to Zero included MSM in its first prevention goal

2011 – MSMGF produces first scoping exercise that reveals programs for MSM are grossly under-resourced

2011 – MSMGF reports analysis confirming gross underrepresentation of MSM, people who use drugs, sex workers and transgender people in IAC program coverage

2011: U.S. PEPFAR first ever Technical Guidance on Combination HIV Prevention for MSM to U.S. missions

2011: WHO first ever guidelines for the prevention and treatment of HIV among MSM and transgender people

2012

2012 – MSMGF launches Robert Carr Doctrine, calling for a response to HIV beyond the health sector and centered on key populations

2012 – MSMGF releases its new Strategic Plan with input from stakeholders and community experts from around the world

2012 - present: Increased targeted funding for MSM (e.g., “*Bridging the Gaps*; Robert Carr Network Fund; the Global Fund's new funding model; USAIDS LINKAGES)

2012 – MSMGF publishes technical bulletins on HIV prevention and treatment; identifies perceived homophobia as #1 barrier to health services access through its community-based research

2012 – MSMGF helps found the Robert Carr Civil Society Network Fund

2012 – MSMGF hosts its largest pre-conference at IAC in Washington DC with dedicated track for transgender people

2012: Global Commission on HIV and the Law includes a specific focus on MSM and transgender people

2014 – MSMGF publishes 14 peer-reviewed articles on health and human rights of MSM

2014 – MSMGF appointed to the Conference Coordinating Committee for AIDS 2016 and 2018

2014 – MSMGF files its articles of incorporation and appoints its first Board of Directors

2014 – Launch of MSMGF's new Health Care Provider Training Curriculum on MSM sexual health for providers

2013

2013 – MSMGF begins work to establish itself as an independent organization

2013 – MSMGF selected to serve as secretariat for David Kato Vision and Voice Award

2013 – MSMGF forms and leads a new Consortium of MSM Networks from all world regions

2014

2014: WHO launches Consolidated Guidelines on HIV Prevention, Diagnosis, Treatment and Care for Key Populations

2014 – MSMGF conducts study around values and preferences of community to inform WHO clinical guidelines

2014 – First impact evaluation study of MSMGF's advocacy program, *Speaking Out*, reveals positive results

YEAR IN NUMBERS

MSMGF'S REACH IN 2015

16,000 unduplicated visits to msmgf.org

14,680 LGBT clients received health education and HIV prevention materials or services by partner organizations

6,209 Facebook Likes with an average reach of **14,000** users reached each week

5,700 Twitter followers, **93** original tweets creating **430,700** impressions

6,994 individual online members

949 health service providers were trained to deliver sensitive and responsive HIV-related services to MSM and other sexually marginalized groups

53 announcements sent to **6,994** users on mailing list

40 blog posts



2015 HIGHLIGHTS

ENSURING THAT FUNDING IS RESPONSIVE TO THE NEEDS OF GAY, BISEXUAL AND OTHER MEN WHO HAVE SEX WITH MEN

The U.S. President's Emergency Plan for AIDS Relief (PEPFAR) and the Global Fund on AIDS, Tuberculosis and Malaria are the two largest sources of funding for HIV programming. MSMGF worked to ensure that: 1) these key funding structures recognize and respond to the needs of gay, bisexual and other men who have sex with men; and 2) community organizations working with gay, bisexual and other men who have sex with men are aware of, and have access to, these funding opportunities to support their programs and activities.

MSMGF worked with a broad global network of over 20 civil society partners in sub-Saharan Africa and the US to provide feedback into a proposed revised funding process for PEPFAR. As a result, one of the largest HIV funding programs in the world now includes a more explicit focus on addressing the needs of key populations, including gay, bisexual and other men who have sex with men.

We also worked directly with community partners in six African countries—Cameroon, Cote d'Ivoire, Ghana, Kenya, Nigeria and Tanzania—to ensure that services focused on the needs of gay, bisexual and other men who have sex with men are now included in those countries' PEPFAR-funded programs.

Likewise, we provided technical support to community partners in their advocacy for the inclusion of the needs of key populations in processes related to the Global Fund. This included:

- » capacity building workshops for community partners in Francophone and Southern Africa;
- » stronger key population components in the concept notes and budgets submitted by Cameroon, Ghana, Nigeria, and Zimbabwe;

- » direct support to the Cameroonian task force advocating for a revised Global Fund concept note that integrates key population concerns, and the publication of a case study on the engagement of key populations in Cameroonian Global Fund processes; and,
- » working with the International Reference Group on Transgender Women (IRGT) on the publication of a technical brief on the involvement of transgender communities in Global Fund processes.

MSMGF worked with the Consortium of MSM and Transgender Networks to submit an advocacy brief to the Global Fund Board of Directors, calling for a bolder Strategic Plan that more specifically addresses the needs of gay, bisexual and other men who have sex with men, and transgender women.

In addition, the communication and advocacy updates surrounding all this work increased awareness among community advocates and policy-makers about the need for a greater focus on the needs of key populations within global funding programs such as PEPFAR and the Global Fund.

“It is difficult to imagine a world without MSMGF! Their work to create space for gay men and other men who have sex with men to have a say about their health is as important now as it was ten years ago.”

—Micheal Ighodaro, Program and Policy Assistant, AVAC

PLACING GAY, BISEXUAL AND OTHER MEN WHO HAVE SEX WITH MEN AT THE CENTER OF GLOBAL HIV AGENDAS

MSMGF advocated to ensure that the strategies and policies of United Nations agencies reflect the need to address the unabated and disproportionate impact of HIV among gay, bisexual and other men who have sex with men.

MSMGF provided input into the UNAIDS Draft Strategy (2016-2021), calling for bolder targets that more explicitly place key populations at the core of stated goals and strategies, while also calling for the decriminalization of homosexuality, sex work, and injection drug use.

We launched a Global Platform that will provide strategic advice to United Nations agencies, major donors, and other

stakeholders on HIV program needs and priorities for gay, bisexual and other men who have sex with men.

The Platform's short-term aim is to ensure strengthened language in the 2016 Universal Declaration on HIV/AIDS about the needs of gay, bisexual and other men who have sex with men, as well as elevated public visibility and awareness about the disproportionate impact HIV is having on gay, bisexual and other men who have sex with men surrounding key global events in 2016: the World Health Organization's General Assembly Meeting in May, the UN High-Level Meeting on HIV and AIDS in June, and the International AIDS Conference in July.

EXPANDING A RIGHTS-BASED APPROACH TO ADDRESSING HIV AMONG GAY, BISEXUAL AND OTHER MEN WHO HAVE SEX WITH MEN

The *Speaking Out Initiative* is a technical and funding assistance program launched by MSMGF in 2010 to support HIV advocacy efforts and leadership development at the grassroots level for gay, bisexual and other men who have sex with men, and transgender activists. It supports local community organizing and advocacy to address structural factors that impinge upon the ability of gay, bisexual and other men who have sex with men and members of the transgender community to access HIV services and fulfill their human rights. Over the years, *Speaking Out* has been rolled out in many countries resulting in adaptations of the tools in multiple languages and several breakthrough initiatives designed by local communities.

In 2015, MSMGF launched an updated Arabic language adaptation of the *Speaking Out* toolkit, following a participatory, training-of-trainers workshop that involved national and regional partners from seven countries across the Middle East and Northern African region—Egypt, Iraq, Jordan, Lebanon, Oman, Sudan, and Yemen. The “Aali Soutak” Toolkit is the first Arabic-language advocacy toolkit to address the rights and needs of key populations in the response to the HIV epidemic.

Likewise, the “Kumã-Parlons En” Toolkit is an updated French adaptation of the *Speaking Out* toolkit, developed through a similar process with national and regional partners from five West African countries—Burkina Faso, Cote d'Ivoire, Mali, Senegal, and Togo.

The *Speaking Out* Toolkits are designed to strengthen local advocacy capacity focused on addressing stigma, discrimination and violence – drivers of the HIV epidemic among gay, bisexual and other men who have sex with men, and transgender communities.

“MSMGF has been vital in continually refocusing the world's attention on the disproportionate HIV disease burden shouldered by gay, bisexual men and other men who have sex with men across all regions of the world. In the last ten years, MSMGF has also played a critical role in supporting grassroots community work and creating safe, accessible, evidence-informed and rights-based services.”

—Mark Dybul, Executive Director of the Global Fund on AIDS, Tuberculosis and Malaria.

Concurrently, MSMGF implemented *Speaking Out* training with MSM-led organizations working to improve their organizational and advocacy capacity. After training, *Speaking*

Out graduates completed plans to document human rights abuses and developed security protocols for advocates at risk for violence.

PROMOTING SERVICES THAT ARE TAILORED TO THE NEEDS OF GAY, BISEXUAL AND OTHER MEN WHO HAVE SEX WITH MEN

While there have been great strides in the inclusion of the needs of gay, bisexual and other men who have sex with men in global HIV programming guidance, MSMGF saw the need for more practical guidance and training to support the development and implementation of comprehensive HIV and STI programs with gay, bisexual and other men who have sex with men. This is why we launched a pilot-tested training curriculum with Johns Hopkins University for healthcare providers in 2014 titled 'Promoting the Health of Men Who Have Sex With Men Worldwide, a Training Curriculum for Providers.'

In 2015, MSMGF supported the translation and implementation of this 9-module curriculum in French and Spanish in partnership with Johns Hopkins University. MSMGF in partnership with Centro de investigación y Promoción para America Central de Derechos Humanos (CIPAC) trained clinical as well as non-clinical staff in Costa Rica to increase their knowledge and sensitivity. We provided technical assistance for training led by Johns Hopkins University in partnership with Enda Santé for healthcare professionals in Senegal.

MSMGF further expanded its efforts to promote programs that are tailored to the needs of gay, bisexual and other men who have sex with men by launching the MSM Implementation Toolkit (MSMIT) with our UN partners.

We promoted the MSMIT by:

- » Launching a promotional video on YouTube to help advocates, public health officials, and healthcare professionals around the world get better oriented to the MSMIT.
- » Supporting the translation of the Toolkit into French, Portuguese and Spanish.
- » Presenting the Toolkit at the ICASA Key Populations Pre-Conference in Zimbabwe
- » Training Fund Portfolio Managers at the Global Fund Secretariat in Geneva on how to use the MSM Implementation Toolkit to operationalize programming for gay, bisexual and other men who have sex with men

MSMGF further supported implementation of global HIV programming guidance by supporting a regional consultation for the operationalization of WHO clinical guidelines that brought together advocates and Ministry of Health officials from 12 sub-Saharan countries (Angola, Botswana, Cameroon, Ghana, Kenya, Malawi, Mozambique, Nigeria, South Africa, South Sudan, Swaziland, and Zimbabwe).

We also worked with high-level stakeholders and community based organizations in Cambodia and Botswana, in partnership with FHI360, to ensure USAID-funded programs were of high-quality and responsive to local needs of gay, bisexual and other men who have sex with men.

In 2015, we received a grant from the Levi Strauss Foundation to apply lessons learned from MSMGF's in-country training efforts to build a new e-learning and provider networking platform specific to the sexual health and rights of gay, bisexual and other men who have sex with men.

"I applaud MSMGF for ten years of unwavering perseverance and leadership in the pursuit of health care for all, void of discrimination and stigma. They are true soldiers who set the standard by demanding equal access for marginalized populations across the globe. MSMGF reminds us of the importance of community partnerships and grassroots advocacy especially in the face of adversity."

—Deborah Birx, Ambassador-at-Large
and U.S.Global AIDS Coordinator for PEPFAR

PROVIDING HIV-RELATED TECHNICAL SUPPORT TO COMMUNITY-LED ORGANIZATIONS

Bridging the Gaps is an international HIV initiative focused on the health and rights of LGBT people, sex workers, and people who use drugs. Funded by the Dutch Ministry of Foreign Affairs and led by Aids Fonds, the first phase of the programme (*Bridging the Gaps I* from 2011-2015) was implemented in 16 countries by an alliance of five Dutch-based organizations, four global key population networks including MSMGF, and more than 100 local partner organizations.

As an alliance member, MSMGF focuses on global-level advocacy and country-level technical assistance. In 2015, we provided technical and capacity strengthening support to community-led organizations in Burkina Faso, Cameroon, Costa Rica, Cote D'Ivoire, Ecuador, Egypt, El Salvador, Ghana, Iraq, Jordan, Kenya, Lebanon, Mali, Oman, Panama, Puerto Rico, Senegal, South Sudan, Togo, United States, Yemen, and Zimbabwe.

In 2015, with support from MSMGF, these organizations disseminated health education and HIV-related prevention materials or services to 14,680 LGBT clients. They trained 959 service providers to deliver sensitive and responsive HIV-related services to gay, bisexual and other men who have sex with men, and other sexually marginalized groups.

MSMGF delivered direct technical assistance and capacity building activities across a broad range of local partner needs including: strategic work planning; budget planning and

“The Global Forum is uniquely responsible for moving issues related to MSM & HIV from a niche priority in global health to a central tenet of the response to HIV.”

—Owen Ryan, Executive Director of the International AIDS Society

development; grant reporting; information exchange and information services; linkage and referral at various levels (international NGOs, national/local NGOs, government, UN/multilateral); knowledge on funding mechanisms (PEPFAR/Global Fund) and organizational development.

2015 marks both the end of *Bridging the Gaps I* and the transition towards a new and broader initiative—*Bridging the Gaps II*.

The new *Bridging the Gaps II* grant is now renewed for another 5 years (2016-2020). It will feature a more integrated approach to better link MSMGF's global advocacy and policy work with our in-country technical support work. We will operate across 11 focus countries under *Bridging the Gaps II*: Botswana, Kenya, South Africa, Tanzania, Zimbabwe, Indonesia, Vietnam, Kyrgyzstan, Tajikistan and Ukraine.

LEADING AND SUPPORTING REGIONAL NETWORKS WORKING WITH GAY, BISEXUAL AND OTHER MEN WHO HAVE SEX WITH MEN, AND TRANSGENDER COMMUNITIES

MSMGF leads and supports the Consortium of MSM and Transgender Networks, which brings together regional and global networks to support international collaboration. We believe that coordinated efforts to address the factors impacting health and human rights among men who have sex with men and transgender people could minimize duplication of effort, leverage our respective complementary strengths as advocacy and technical support providers, and ultimately result in significant resource efficiencies.

With funding from the Robert Carr Civil Society Networks' Fund, in 2015 the Consortium focused on the provision

of technical assistance related to Global Fund processes and funding in Azerbaijan, Belize, Cambodia, Georgia, Indonesia, Nigeria, Peru, Philippines, and Togo. The Consortium also worked at the regional and global levels to disseminate important information and to encourage greater civil society involvement.

MSMGF, together with other Consortium members, works as an intermediary between the Global Fund's Country Coordinating Mechanisms, and advocates working at the grassroots level.

The Consortium published an important case study on the value of its work, *(Even) Greater Than the Sum of Its Parts: Lessons Learned from a Consortium of MSM and Transgender Networks*.

Members of the Consortium include:

- » the African Black Diaspora Global Network (ABDGN),
- » African Men for Sexual Health and Rights (AMSHer),
- » the Asian Pacific Coalition on Male Sexual Health (APCOM),
- » the Caribbean Vulnerable Communities Coalition (CVC),
- » the Eurasian Coalition on Male Health (ECOM),
- » IRGT: An International Reference Group on Transgender Women and HIV,
- » the Middle East and North Africa-based coalition (M-Coalition),
- » the South-Caucasus Network on HIV (SCN), and
- » the Paraguay-based organization SOMOSGAY.

SUPPORTING WORK WITH TRANS* AND GENDER VARIANT COMMUNITIES

IRGT: An International Reference Group on Transgender Women and HIV was convened by MSMGF in 2011. Composed of members from diverse parts of the world, the IRTG is responsible to initiate and promote advocacy on trans health and rights as they relate to HIV/AIDS.

The IRGT received small grants to develop a technical report focused on human rights and HIV service delivery approaches appropriate for use with transgender people, with guidance on how to adapt approaches as required for local use.

The IRGT also published *Most Impacted, Least Served: Ensuring Engagement of Transgender People in Global Fund Processes*, a report that offers recommendations for improving policies and fostering a more enabling environment for transgender people to participate in and engage with Global Fund processes.

“None of the ongoing medical advances to prevent and treat HIV would have succeeded without the wisdom of community knowledge. As gay and bisexual men, HIV remains one of biggest threats to our right to enjoy good health, sex and love. If we want to see the end of AIDS within our communities, let us reinforce the foundations patiently designed for us by MSMGF in the past ten years. Let us ensure that MSMGF remains the global engine to galvanize the energies of gay and bisexual men who stand up for our health and rights.”

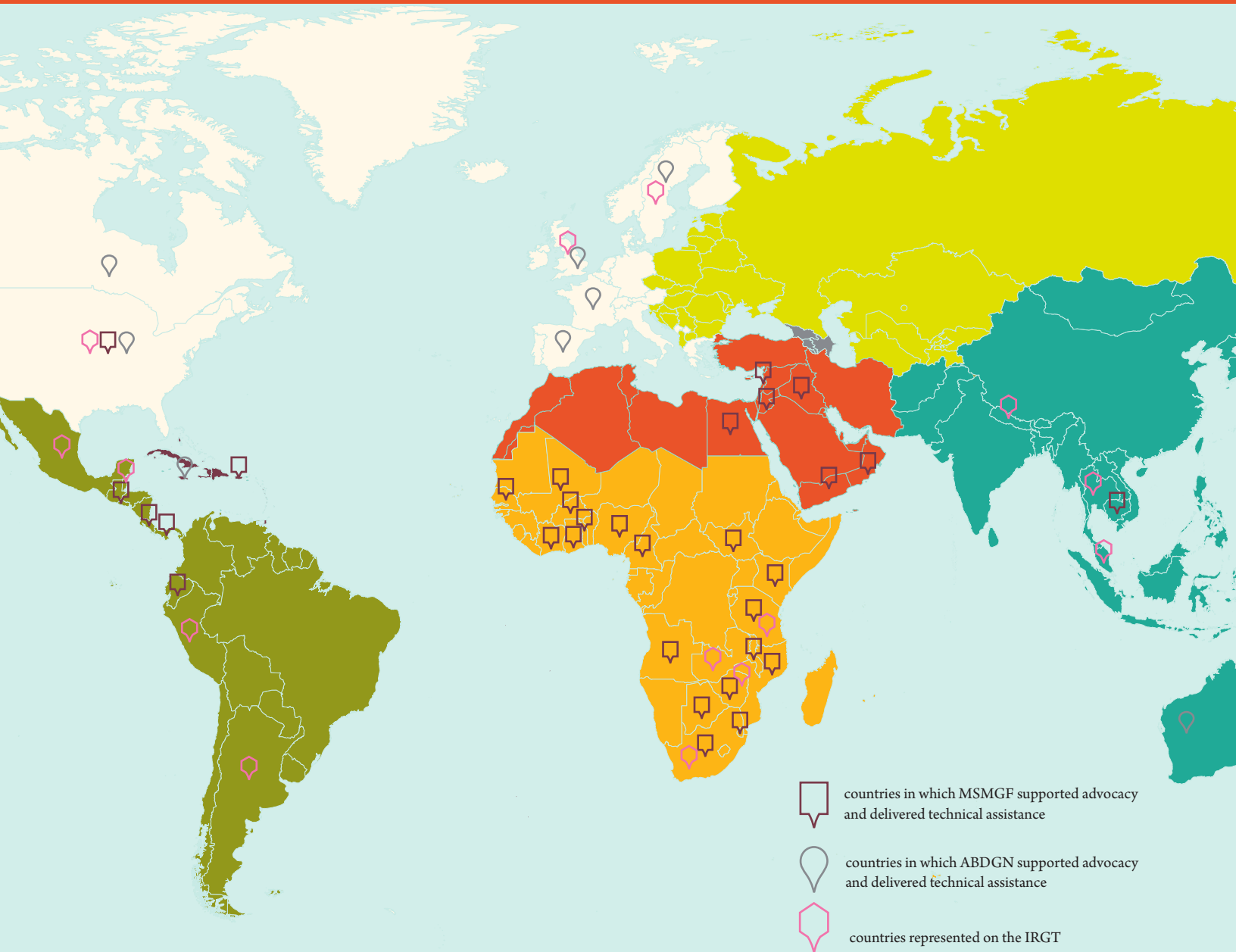
—Dr Cheikh Traore, HIV and Key Population Adviser,
Conakry, Guinea

MSMGF is proud to offer ongoing technical, logistics and administrative support to the IRGT, allowing IRGT to recruit new members, to develop the report mentioned above, and to develop an upcoming brief on research data related to trans women and HIV.

MSMGF presented major findings concerning transgender men who have sex with men from its global survey at the National Transgender Health Summit conducted by the University of California, San Francisco.



MSMGF'S WORK AROUND THE WORLD



AMSHER
Sub Saharan Africa

APCOM
Asia and the Pacific Islands

ECOM
Eastern Europe / Central Asia

CVC
the Caribbean

M-coalition
North Africa and the Middle East

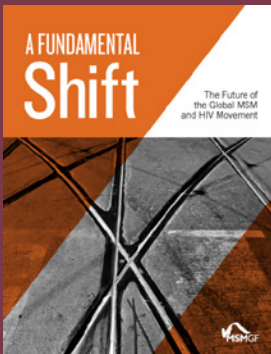
Somosgay
Latin America

SCN
South Caucases

COMMUNICATIONS AND PUBLICATIONS

Every year, MSMGF participates in knowledge exchange on key research and advocacy developments in the field of HIV as it affects gay, bisexual and other men who have sex with men. Below is a collection of some key publications led by MSMGF in 2015.

A FUNDAMENTAL SHIFT: THE FUTURE OF THE GLOBAL MSM AND HIV MOVEMENT



The global landscape for HIV and MSM is dramatically and rapidly changing. These trends and evolving context are only evident through hindsight. While a common practice is to conduct strategic planning for the short-term future (3 to 5 years), less common is an effort to cast ourselves farther into the future for long term planning.

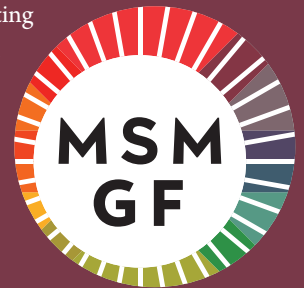
To anticipate where the MSM, HIV, and human rights movements might be in another 25 years, MSMGF carried out a foresight scenario planning process with several dozen of its stakeholders and partners. MSMGF began with a simple but fundamental question: “What will the global MSM and HIV movements look like in 25 years?” The scenario planning process and its outcomes are documented in MSMGF’s latest publication, *A Fundamental Shift: The Future of the Global MSM and HIV Movement*. MSMGF is using this document as the basis for its next 5-year strategic plan, launching in 2016.

MSMGF REVEALS NEW WEBSITE, LOGO AND BRAND IDENTITY

To kick off its 10-year celebration, MSMGF proudly introduced a new logo and a renovated, modernized website that will function as an information exchange hub. We will use the website to watchdog public health policies and funding trends; strengthen local and regional advocacy capacities; and support community-based organizations

at the front lines of the HIV response. Our new tagline, “Expertise+Empathy+Evidence,” encapsulates the legacy of our efforts to date and signals our continued dedication to rigor in our work ahead. We are re-branded, refocused and inspired to embolden our advocacy efforts over the exciting years to come.

The new MSMGF logo is composed of two off-center circles that mirror our own left-of-center approach to advocacy and technical support. The radiating rays of the logo symbolize our optimism and desire to amplify community voices. The colorful palette is a nod to LGBT movements with an added richness that reflects diversity and nuance. The colors are intentionally warm, inviting, and inclusive. The font is necessarily bold and grounded, invoking seriousness and commitment. The disc can also be viewed as a dynamic wheel that embodies movement and activism.



BLUE RIBBON BOYS HIV VIRAL SUPPRESSION CAMPAIGN

MSMGF has partnered with Hornet to launch the largest MSM targeted, global HIV viral suppression campaign in history, directly reaching over 7 million men who have sex with men (MSM) around the world called Blue Ribbon Boys.



Following CDC and WHO guidelines, Blue Ribbon Boys advocates early initiation of antiretroviral medications for MSM living with HIV and widespread use of PrEP as HIV prevention among HIV-negative MSM. Blue Ribbon Boys also provokes discussions around HIV, other STIs, PrEP, PEP, and provides links and/or access to sexual health resources when possible. Regarding HIV specifically, the goal is viral suppression across all communities.

Users are prompted to answer a set of yes or no questions about their sexual health and behavior and if they meet a pre-determined criterion they become a Blue Ribbon Boy and then a blue ribbon banner appears in their profile photo. It stands as a status symbol for men who are open and honest about their sexual health and support ending HIV and stopping HIV transmission in every possible way.

RIGHTS IN ACTION: ACCESS TO HIV SERVICES AMONG MEN WHO HAVE SEX WITH MEN



MSMGF partnered with LINKAGES and FHI360 to publish, Rights in Action: Access to HIV Services among Men Who Have Sex with Men, the first of a series of technical briefs highlighting the main findings from MSMGF's 2014 Global Men's Health and Rights (GMHR) Survey. Each brief will focus on specific challenges and opportunities that impact efforts to scale up coverage and quality

of services for men who have sex with men across diverse regional contexts.

“MSMGF has been critical in envisioning a comprehensive healthcare response to the needs of MSM. Their mission transcends HIV issues and depicts gay men and other men who have sex with men, not as statistics, but as human beings striving for equity in a very inequitable world. MSMGF and its partners are a testament of what we can do when we work together.”

—Carlo André Oliveras Rodríguez, Advocacy Coordinator for Latin American and the Caribbean at the International Treatment Preparedness Coalition (ITPC)

The first brief is dedicated to understanding perceived access to HIV services among MSM and the role of consumer confidence in shaping demand for services. The data presented shows that access to HIV prevention and treatment services continues to be unacceptably low among men who have sex with men, particularly among younger men. The brief provides ten actions that can be taken to proactively address barriers and bolster facilitators identified in this study. Recommended actions include specialty training for healthcare personnel, hiring MSM (including young MSM) to deliver services within local HIV programs, and assisting MSM to obtain reliable Internet access.

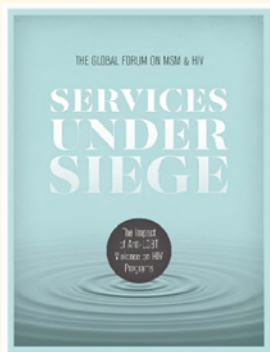
(EVEN) GREATER THAN THE SUM OF ITS PARTS: LESSONS LEARNED FROM A CONSORTIUM OF MSM AND TRANSGENDER NETWORKS



MSMGF supported the publication of this case study by and about the Consortium of MSM and Transgender Networks. The Consortium is an international collaborative project of ten regional and global networks of advocates, with MSMGF as the lead organization. The Consortium members dedicate their work to maximizing efficiency and coordinating global efforts to support the sexual health and human rights needs of MSM and transgender people

in the global HIV epidemic response.

“(Even) Greater Than the Sum of Its Parts: A Case Study on Working Together as the Consortium of MSM and Transgender Networks” documents the impact of the Consortium’s efforts. The primary context of the case study is the Consortium’s implementation of two grants by the Robert Carr civil society Networks Fund (RCNF) over the past two years. The Case Study highlights multiple examples of how working in a Consortium has benefited member networks and MSM and transgender communities in general.



SERVICES UNDER SIEGE: VIOLENCE AGAINST LGBT PEOPLE STYMIES HIV PREVENTION & TREATMENT

Released on International Human Rights Day – December 10, 2015 – this disturbing and sobering report

from MSMGF examines levels of violence against lesbian, gay, bisexual and transgender (LGBT) people around the world, revealing a high frequency of brutal attacks across all

regions. The report indicates that activists and HIV service providers are especially vulnerable, with attacks against community leaders resulting in interruptions to life-saving HIV services. The report underscores the urgent need for real, institutionalized protections for marginalized communities.

The report features data from a wide range of sources, including new statistics on violence from the 2014 Global Men’s Health and Rights (GMHR) survey. The survey included responses from over 2,300 men who have sex with men in more than 150 countries, exposing high levels of physical and sexual assault due to sexual orientation across all regions.

A key role of MSMGF is to lend its collective voice for advocacy on key issues affecting gay, bisexual and other men who have sex with men around the world. In 2015, MSMGF raised its voice to speak in solidarity with its global networks of MSM on several issues, including the following position statements:

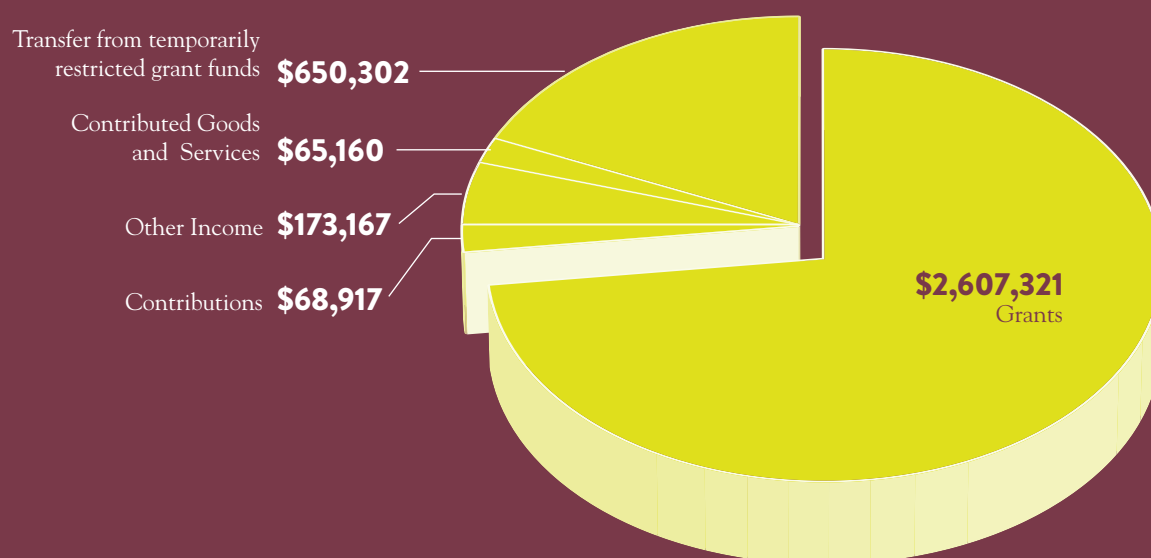
- » Consortium of MSM and Transgender Networks Disappointed in Global Fund Strategy Draft
- » More Advocacy Required for Adequate Inclusion of MSM in PEPFAR Processes
- » MSMGF Celebrates Groundbreaking Global Guidelines for HIV ART and PrEP But Calls for the Removal of Barriers to Access Among MSM
- » MSMGF on the Rentboy Raids—No Justice in Criminalizing Sex Work
- » PrEP for MSM Cannot Wait
- » MSMGF Responds: UNAIDS Draft Strategy for 2016-2021 Can Be Bolder Successes, Concerns and Next Steps in Engaging Men Who Have Sex with Men and Other Key Populations PEPFAR Country Operational Plans: STAY ENGAGED!

FINANCIAL STATEMENT

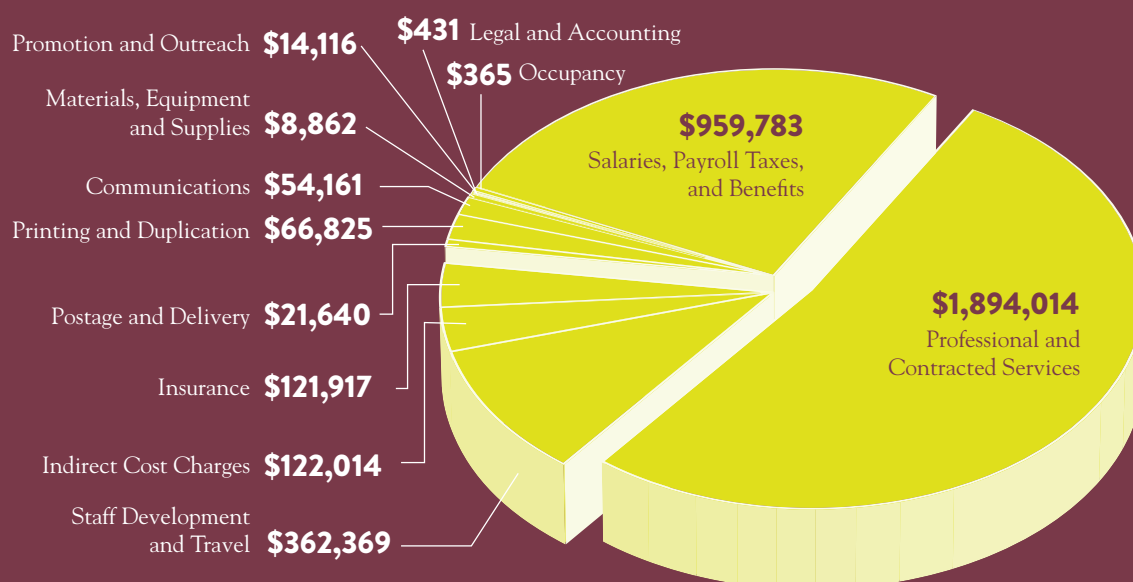
THE GLOBAL FORUM ON MSM & HIV (MSMGF)

Year Ended June 30, 2015

REVENUE - \$3,564,867



EXPENSES - \$3,626,497



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“The MSMGF emerged during an important transition in the global HIV movement, a transition of no longer discussing issues in a way that is only disease-driven. Instead, the Forum became a platform that incorporates voices of openly gay activists from all over the world, with a legitimate, fearless claim. To me, as a part of ‘the next generation’, this is the most valuable legacy of the Forum ”

—Sergio Lopez, Programs Officer Somosmay/
 YRG Co-chair

STAFF

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MSMGF IS GRATEFUL TO ALL OF ITS SUPPORTERS
 AND ITS COMMITTED TEAM OF STAFF.



GLOBAL FORUM
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The Global Forum on MSM & HIV (MSMGF) has worked since 2006 to encourage targeted, tailored, better-resourced, and rights-based sexual health services for gay men and other men who have sex with men (MSM) worldwide through its advocacy and technical support work. As a global network, MSMGF has successfully influenced HIV responses at the local level through shifts in global-level policies and has effectively utilized public health as an entry point for advancing the human rights of LGBT people. MSMGF currently supports programs in 15 countries.

MSMGF

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2015 Annual Report **A Decade of Determination and Dedication** March 2016

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