



## FSP-PITCH Advocacy Campaign for “Committing to Ending AIDS and Leaving No PLHIV and KP Behind”

### Concept Note

#### I. Background

Around the world, complacency has struck national HIV responses, and HIV has become less prominent in global policy forums. This is due in part to the transition of HIV from a public health emergency to a chronic disease due to the development of powerful antiretroviral medications, including prophylaxis, and other biomedical interventions that have greatly advanced the ability of countries to control the HIV epidemic.

However, there remains significant unfinished business in the HIV response, including uncontrolled epidemics among key populations, persistent and disturbing stigma, discrimination, and violence experienced by key populations and other marginalized groups, and shrinking civil society space. Even the biomedical and mainstream approaches to health run the risk of leaving people behind, especially people that are affected by larger power structures and inequities, which disadvantage, marginalise, and criminalise them. Additionally, the funding for community interventions are decreasing, combined with a policy trend to limit and restrict the activities of civil society organizations in critical areas, such as reaching marginalized populations with life-saving services, human rights programming, and advocacy.

Through a campaign directed at specific Member States, parliamentarians, multilateral institutions, civil society partners, and the social justice movement, we seek to revitalise the momentum around HIV and human rights in this evolving context, in particular the role of communities in leaving no one behind in HIV, broader health, and the Sustainable Development Agenda.

The campaign will mobilise partners and communities to build new partnerships that will create ownership beyond the lifespan of the campaign: Phase I from March – October 2019, and Phase II from November 2019 – 2021. This concept note focuses on Phase I.

#### II. Objectives of the Campaign

*AIM: What is the focus of the campaign and why?*

- HIV must remain a priority in (global and national) discussions, commitments, and processes reaffirming the 2030 Agenda with a particular focus on leaving no one behind.
- FSP and PITCH partners will collectively agree upon the specific policy outcome focus.

*OBJECTIVES: What we want to achieve with the campaign:*

- Increased profile of HIV and the needs of key populations and other affected groups at discussions on SDG implementation, including:
  - During thematic sessions on Goal 10, Goal 16, and Goal 17 at the July HLPF.

- Within the Political Declaration to be adopted at the end of the SDG Summit.
- Within the Political Declaration to be adopted at the end of the UHC HLM.
- Within national commitments to SDG implementation and affirming the 2030 Agenda (to be announced at the conclusion of the SDG Summit).
- Commitment from UNAIDS and Co-Sponsors to address punitive laws and enabling environment in programs in the HIV response.

*What are the proposed messages that the campaign should definitely include?*

- HIV-related stigma and discrimination leaves people behind.
- Discriminatory and punitive laws delay the realisation of the right to the highest attainable standard of health for PLHIV and KPs.
- Communities must have an enabling environment to help in the implementation of SDGs, including the ability to hold governments accountable.
- Realizing human rights across all the SDGs in addition to ensuring access to quality health services is essential to ending AIDS.
- Robust and sustainable funding for the HIV response, including for community action and key population-led organizations, must remain a top priority for donors.

*Advocacy asks (to be decided at the PITCH Policy Summit)*

*Targets and allies:*

<b>Audience</b>	<b>Why Engaged</b>	<b>What we want</b>
Decision-maker: Member State governments	MS will formulate a political declaration to be adopted in September 2019 following the SDG Summit	Strong language about communities living with and affected by HIV, ensuring equality and non-discrimination, promoting robust civil society that is empowered to advocate for themselves; commitments to implementing SDGs that include/mention HIV
51 Member States presenting Voluntary National Review of SDG Implementation	This is an opportunity for the MS to describe their commitments to HIV within the SDG framework at the SDG Summit	Recognition of HIV as a key development challenge, strong inclusion of HIV and affected populations in written and oral remarks describing SDG implementation
Decision-maker: UNAIDS & 11 Co-Sponsors	These agencies need to make the link between Goal 10, Goal 16, and Leave No One	Side events to raise profile of HIV at HLPF; global leadership and guidance on

	Behind (LNOB) as pertains to HIV in the July HLPF and HLM on UHC	addressing HIV and the needs of key populations in the SDG framework
Allies: CSOs working on HIV	Many are unaware about the HLPF and SDG framework, despite being a vital partner in the implementation of SDGs, especially Target 3.3	Increased capacity to advocate for HIV/KPs in Capital and in global forums within the framework of the 2030 Agenda

**III. Campaign delivery**

*Campaign Phase 1: March – October 2019*

As the guiding framework for all UN Member States to achieve “the Future We Want,” the 2030 Agenda is composed of 17 Goals and 169 Targets that are interlinked across economic, social, and environmental dimensions of development. This includes Target 3.3 to end AIDS by 2030, and a commitment to “leave no one behind.”

The purpose of the proposed FSP-PITCH strategic advocacy campaign is to mobilise UN Member States, UNAIDS and the 11 co-sponsors, and civil society to advocate for strong inclusion of language in the Political Declaration and in VNR reporting that acknowledges HIV as a key development challenge and affirms multistakeholder commitment to ending AIDS by 2030, with a particular emphasis on leaving no one behind and removing the key barriers related to stigma, discrimination, and criminalisation.

The campaign will be co-developed by global advocacy networks in the Free Space Process ([FSP](#)), as well as global policy and communication specialists and country advocates in the Partnership to Inspire, Transform, and Connect the HIV response ([PITCH](#)). FSP Partners will meet in Amsterdam (21-22 March 2019) to discuss the Campaign concept note and key messages. Some FSP members, along with PITCH colleagues (Country Focal Points, country/regional partner organisations, and policy/program staff) will also attend the PITCH Policy Summit in Kyiv (27-29 March 2019) to discuss campaign tactics, strategies, and validate key messages.

**IV. Key Events/Opportunities**

During the span of this campaign, several key events and entry points must be seized upon for disseminating messages and positioning Member States, UN agencies, and other stakeholders to deliver on key commitments. In 2019, these events include:

- a) SDG 10 and SDG 16 Expert Group Meetings (April 2019)
- b) High Level Political Forum on Sustainable Development (July 2019)
- c) High Level Meeting on UHC (September 2019)
- d) SDG Summit (September 2019)

The 2019 timeline for the campaign will capitalize on these events to share the numerous research and advocacy outputs from FSP and PITCH programs, and to garner more commitment to an equitable movement of empowered communities in the HIV response.

In October 2019, there will be an assessment of achievements at the above-mentioned events, so that the campaign can be re-tailored and adjusted to suit community needs and capitalise on entry points in 2020 in Phase II of the campaign.

More detailed descriptions of the key events listed above follows:

- a. SDG 10 Expert Group Meeting (2-3 April, Geneva) and SDG 16 Expert Group Meeting (3-5 April, Rome)

Each year, UN DESA and other UN entities jointly organise thematic preparatory meetings on the SDGs that are included in the thematic review at the HLPF. These meetings inform thematic segments of the HLPF, and provide evidence and other information to shape the content of the outcome document from the HLPF.

FSP will support advocates to attend the EGMs to intervene, share research, and advocate for inclusion of our issues. This is a key platform to disseminate messages and build allies with friendly governments and UN agencies.

- b. High Level Political Forum (HLPF) on Sustainable Development under the auspices of the Economic and Social Council (8-19 July 2019)

FSP will support advocates to attend the July HLPF.

Under the auspices of the Economic and Social Council, the international mechanism for review of progress on the SDGs is the annual High Level Political Forum ([HLPF](#)), which includes the Voluntary National Review ([VNR](#)) of SDG implementation by Member States. Additionally, in 2019 a SDG Summit will take place under the auspices of the UN General Assembly to discuss the modality of the HLPF and produce a Political Declaration to reaffirm commitment to the 2030 Agenda.

The 2019 HLPF theme is “Empowering people and ensuring inclusiveness and equality” and will include a thematic review of Goal 4 (education), Goal 8 (decent work), Goal 10 (inequalities), Goal 13 (climate action), Goal 16 (peace, justice, and strong institutions), and Goal 17 (partnerships for the SDGs).

The first week of the HLPF is composed of thematic sessions for each Goal under review. Main outcomes from the EGMs are shared, and a panel of experts discusses the bottlenecks and

opportunities in depth. The campaign will reinforce key messages during the thematic sessions on Goals 10, 16, and 17.

17-19 July 2019 is the High Level Ministerial Segment of the HLPF, in which the 51 Member States who have prepared Voluntary National Reviews (VNRs) of SDG implementation will share their outcomes during interactive dialogues. Several Targets within the 2019 Goals under review are directly relevant to the health and human rights of people living with and affected by HIV, including:

- **Target 10.3:** Ensure equal opportunity and reduce inequalities of outcome, including by eliminating discriminatory laws, policies and practices and promoting appropriate legislation, policies and action in this regard
- **Target 16.B:** Promote and enforce non-discriminatory laws and policies for sustainable development
- **Target 10.2:** By 2030, empower and promote the social, economic and political inclusion of all, irrespective of age, sex, disability, race, ethnicity, origin, religion or economic or other status
- **Target 16.1:** Significantly reduce all forms of violence and related death rates everywhere

The VNR reports should share data, challenges, and progress on the above Targets, alongside the other SDGs in the 2030 Agenda framework.

FSP-PITCH is planning a key stakeholder dialogue/side event during the HLPF to address how best to combat punitive laws and discriminatory policies and how to broaden civic society space for sex workers, gay men and other men who have sex with men, and people who use drugs to successfully advocate for their human rights and achieve SDG goals 10 and 16, building on the campaign.

*Influence strategies and Key Resources:*

- 1) 2018 VNR Assessment Report (MPact)
- 2) VNR civil society parallel reports (Indonesia and Tanzania)
- 3) Paper on Goal 10 and HIV (Frontline AIDS)
- 4) Technical Briefs on Goal 10 and Goal 16 (MPact)
- 5) CSO interventions during VNR interactive dialogues
- 6) Uptake of language on HIV/KPs...in outcome declaration of HLPF
- 7) Side Events: Increasing support of Member States
- 8) Social media targeting of UN/MS
- 9) PITCH and London School of Hygiene and Tropical Medicine research report on the transformative integration of HIV into Universal Health Coverage
- 10) PITCH and CIVICUS report on the shrinking space of civil society in the HIV response
- 11) FSP Community responses to health discussion paper

c. High Level Meeting on Universal Health Coverage (23 September 2019)

As approved in Resolution [A/RES/72/139](#), the first-ever UN High Level Meeting on Universal Health Coverage will be held under the auspices of UNGA, with the theme “Universal Health Coverage: Moving Together to Build a Healthier World.” The Permanent Representatives of Hungary and Thailand will co-facilitate an open and transparent consultative process with Member States to propose modalities and outcomes of the HLM.

It will be the most significant political meeting held on UHC to date, and will result in a Political Declaration on UHC, negotiated by Member States and endorsed by Heads of State. The Political Declaration will form the basis for global efforts to provide universal access to affordable and quality health-care services, in line with SDG target 3.8.

The Political Declaration should secure commitment from Heads of State and government for a coordinated global response, recognizing the primary responsibility governments to urgently and significantly scale up efforts to accelerate the transition towards UHC, and that effective and financially sustainable implementation of universal health coverage is based on a resilient and responsive health system.

d. SDG Summit under the auspices of the UN General Assembly (24-25 September 2019)

- The 2019 September High-level Political Forum (HLPF), under the auspices of the United Nations General Assembly (UNGA) – SDG Summit, will assess progress achieved so far since the adoption of the 2030 Agenda in September 2015 and provide leadership and guidance on the way forward that would help accelerate implementation of the 2030 Agenda and SDGs.
- HLPF meetings under UNGA auspices take place every four years at the beginning of the UNGA session and are intended to be a platform where together the international community could pause and look back at areas where progress is insufficient to meet the Goals on time and what can be done to catalyze it. Areas where progress has been made will be identified and actions needed for scaling up will be considered.
- Side events, special events and exhibitions on implementation of the 2030 Agenda and SDGs will be also organized on the margins of the Summit.
- The UN SDG Summit provides an opportunity to reinvigorate international commitment to the 2030 Agenda, showcase areas of global progress towards the SDGs, and raise awareness on the importance of the 2030 Agenda and SDGs globally. The Summit will also help leverage progress in key areas to kick-start an acceleration process.
- A Political Declaration of Heads of State and Government giving political guidance how to accelerate the implementation of the 2030 Agenda and SDGs will be adopted. The co-facilitators, who will lead the negotiations for the Political Declaration, are H.E. Ms. Sheila Gweneth Carey, Permanent Representative of Bahamas to the United Nations, and H.E. Mr. Olof Skoog, Permanent Representative of Sweden to the United Nations
- Voluntary Commitments for the implementation of SDGs are encouraged to be announced at the Summit and online in advance of the meeting.

## V. Timeline of Key Events/Opportunities

Date	Activity
Week 11	Draft campaign concept / shared with FSP and other – to be identified – stakeholders.
Week 12	FSP F2F discussion on campaign
Week 13	Policy Summit workshop discussion and kick-off campaign
Week 14	<a href="#">Goal 10 Expert Group Meeting</a> and <a href="#">Goal 16 Expert Group Meeting</a>
Week 15	<a href="#">Goal 17 Expert Group Meeting</a>
Week 16	
Week 17	Regional Meeting Africa ( <a href="#">ECA</a> ) and Regional Meeting West Asia ( <a href="#">ESCWA</a> )
Week 18	Regional Meeting Latin America and the Caribbean ( <a href="#">ECLAC</a> )
Week 19	
Week 20	Civil society hearings on UHC
Week 21	
Week 22	World Health Assembly
Week 23	
Week 24	
Week 25	
Week 26	
Week 27	
Week 28	HLPF (ECOSOC)
Week 29	HLPF High Level Ministerial Segment (ECOSOC)
Week 30	
Week 31	
Week 32	
Week 33	
Week 34	
Week 35	
Week 36	
Week 37	
Week 38	
Week 39	<a href="#">High-Level Meeting on UHC</a> and <a href="#">SDG Summit</a> (UNGA)
Week 40	
Week 41	