

STRENGTHENING THE HIV PREVENTION AND ACCOUNTABILITY FRAMEWORK THROUGH THE COMMUNITY-LED MONITORING PROCESS

Track: E: Implementation science, economics, systems and synergies

Sub Track: Implementation science and scale-up of prevention

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BACKGROUND

- The global HIV prevention roadmap was launched at the 24th International AIDS Conference by UNAIDS, which took place in Montreal, Canada. Countries, including India, became a part of the same to strengthen HIV prevention methods.
- Alliance India is one of the partner organizations of Frontline AIDS. In December 2019, Frontline AIDS launched the Global Plan of Action for 2020-2025.
- Alliance India contributes to the Global Plan of Action. Action 1 is improving access to comprehensive HIV prevention services (including comprehensive sexuality education and harm reduction) to prevent new HIV infections among marginalized people. The following are the key population networks associated with Alliance India that are collectively contributing to the process.

- National Coalition of People Living with HIV in India (NCPI+)
- National Network of Sex Workers (NNSW)
- National Network of Transgender Persons (NNTP)
- Integrated Network of Sexual Minorities (INFOSEM) and
- Indian Drug Users' Forum (IDUF)
- All India Network of Sex Workers (AINSW)
- Network of Indian People with Alternate Sexualities Living with HIV/AIDS (NIPASHA)



DESCRIPTION

- Since 2022, the coalition, convened by Alliance India, collected data with the civil society and community networks, documenting their priorities and perspectives of the HIV prevention landscape.
- A community-led coalition, convened by Alliance India and supported by Frontline AIDS, consisting of civil society organisations and community networks, works together to assess the country's progress against the 10 Actions outlined in the Road Map. Basic steps included - reviewing key documents; agreeing on collective assessments and gathering inputs from bilateral agencies and government stakeholders and implementing partners.
- This data was published in December 2023, with Frontline AIDS, as the "HIV Prevention and Accountability Report: A Community Perspective 2023." The recommendations demonstrate community priorities for the government to consider.

KEY POPULATIONS	Sex workers	Men who have sex with men	People who use drugs	Transgender people
Latest size estimate	2022	2022	2022	2022
Estimated HIV prevalence	1.9%	3.3%	9%	NO DATA
HIV prevention service coverage	77%	66%	46%	NO DATA
Avoidance of healthcare due to stigma and discrimination	27%	29%	29%	9%

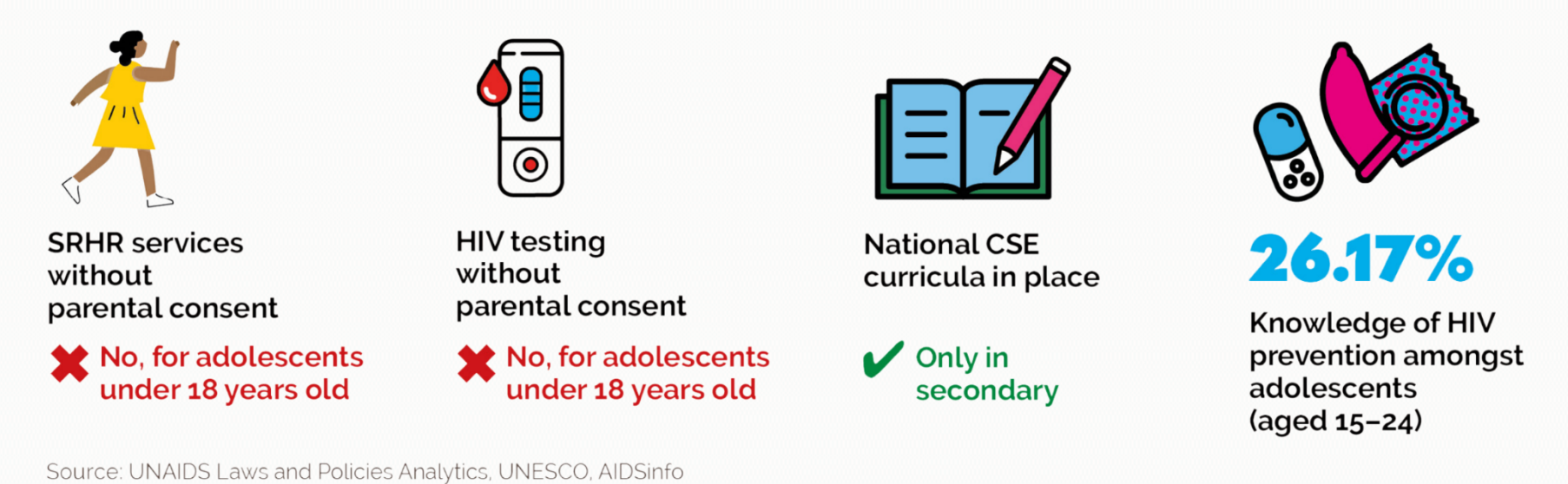
Source: UNAIDS Key Populations Atlas; The Global HIV Prevention Coalition

LEGAL ENVIRONMENT	Criminalised?
Same-sex sexual acts	NOT CRIMINALISED
Sex work	NOT CRIMINALISED
Drug use or possession for personal use	CRIMINALISED
Transgender people	NOT CRIMINALISED
Gender expression	NOT CRIMINALISED
HIV transmission, non-disclosure, or exposure	NO DATA

Source: UNAIDS Laws and Policies Analytics; Human Dignity Trust

LESSONS LEARNT

- The report cited important findings for the HIV prevention landscape in India. It demonstrates that India has made significant strides in improving HIV data collection and has nearly accurate population size estimates (PSEs) for all the key population groups.
- The report highlighted that more focus and investment are needed to address and mitigate gender-based violence (GBV) effectively.
- The report also highlighted that the criminalisation of drugs and personal possession should be reviewed. Basic rights for communities living with and affected by HIV should be enacted to create an enabling environment.
- Sharing information and meaningfully engaging communities and key populations to monitor and track progress on HIV prevention is a crucial step that India must take urgently.
- The 2025 Prevention Road Map tabled ten essential country-level actions towards a more data-driven, specific, community-centred, scaled, innovative prevention response. The Community-Led Monitoring approach helped reveal critical facts and figures for HIV prevention – to support better what the country should prioritise.



Source: UNAIDS Laws and Policies Analytics; UNESCO; AIDSimo

CONCLUSIONS/ NEXT STEPS



- The "HIV Prevention and Accountability Report: A Community Perspective 2023" listed the recommendations received from the key population networks. Now is the time to prioritise the recommendations and advocate for them.
- Consultation will be organised involving the key population networks, implementing partners, NACO and other bilateral agencies (ex. UNAIDS) to contribute to the country's prevention mechanism as a collective effort.

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