

AIDS Accountability International – About Us

AIDS Accountability International (AAI) is an independent non-profit organization established to increase accountability and inspire bolder leadership in the response to the AIDS epidemic. AAI does this by rating and comparing the degree to which public and private actors are fulfilling the commitments they have made to respond to the epidemic. Its assessments are presented in the form of scorecards that identify gaps between stated commitments by governments and key actors, and their actual performance.

Why does AAI exist?

The HIV/AIDS epidemic is still spreading

Some 33 million people worldwide are infected with HIV, and the disease has claimed the lives of over 25 million since the global epidemic began in 1981. Sub-Saharan Africa is the home to two-thirds of people living with HIV. We know today how to reverse the spread of HIV and mitigate the impact of AIDS. Yet AIDS continues to claim over two million lives every year and over 2.5 million people are newly infected annually.

Lots of talk. But what about the action?

Following up on commitments

Through the Millennium Development Goals, the 2001 *Declaration of Commitment on HIV/AIDS* and regional declarations such as the *Abuja and Dublin Declaration*, national leaders have committed to a series of actions and concrete time-bound global health targets to reverse the spread of HIV and mitigate the impact of the AIDS epidemic. Considerable funding, manpower, knowledge and technology have been invested in order to achieve these goals. Yet the epidemic continues to outpace our best efforts.

AAI's efforts to trigger response

Nearly 30 years into the epidemic, AAI is the sole provider of global ratings of governments' responses to the HIV/AIDS epidemic. We analyze existing data and use existing networks to spread the word and promote transparency. By these means we can applaud leaders who are succeeding, put pressure on those who are failing, and stimulate constructive debate about what more needs to be done. AAI identifies discrepancies between promises and performances, and triggers political accountability mechanisms that will provide incentives for better leadership and help ensure more effective responses.

Politically relevant ratings

AAI ensures its research is politically relevant through ongoing consultation with internationally renowned experts from intergovernmental agencies, civil society, policy makers, and donors, many of whom are from high-burden countries.

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Visit our website for more information. www.aidsaccountability.org