



SRHR AND HIV LINKAGES: NAVIGATING THE WORK IN PROGRESS 2017

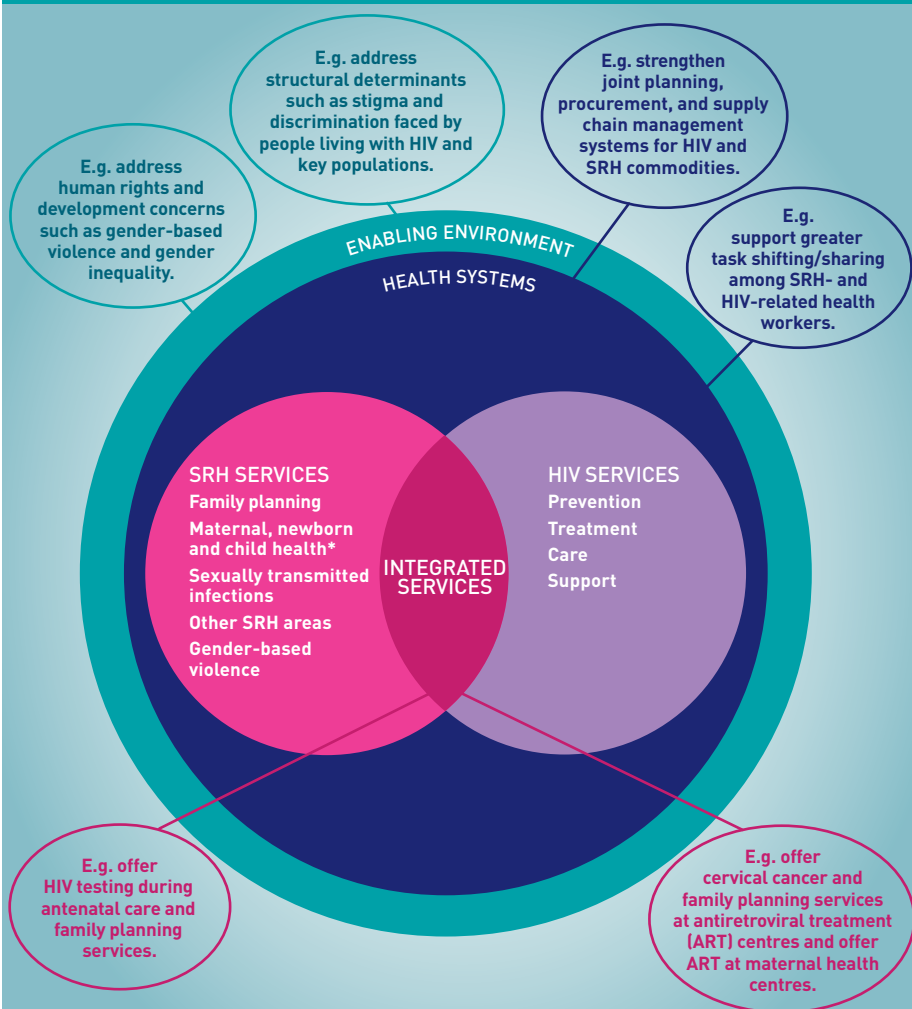
This overview has been prepared by the Interagency Working Group on Sexual and Reproductive Health (SRH) and HIV Linkages (IAWG) convened by UNFPA, WHO and IPPF. It works with 25 organizationsⁱ to:

- advocate for political commitment to a linked sexual and reproductive health and rights (SRHR) and HIV agenda;
- support national action to strengthen SRHR and HIV bi-directional linkages at the policy, systems and service delivery levels; and
- create a common understanding of SRHR and HIV linkages by building the evidence base and sharing research, good practice and lessons learnt.

Rationaleⁱⁱ

The intrinsic connections between SRHR and HIV are well-established, and have numerous benefits,ⁱⁱⁱ especially as HIV is predominantly sexually transmitted or associated with pregnancy, childbirth and breastfeeding.

Linking SRHR and HIV responses is critical for reaching human rights, gender equality, and health targets for the Sustainable Development Goals.



Source: Adapted from WHO, UNFPA, UNAIDS, IPPF (2005) *Sexual and Reproductive Health and HIV/AIDS: A Framework for Priority Linkages*.

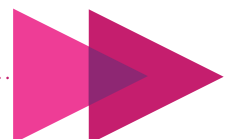
* Maternal health is an SRH service, which is often clustered with newborn and child health services.

To find out more please visit www.srhshivlinkages.org

i. For IAWG members see back cover.

ii. Adapted from WHO, UNFPA, UNAIDS and IPPF (2005). *Sexual and Reproductive Health and HIV/AIDS: A Framework for Priority Linkages*.

iii. IPPF, UNFPA, WHO, UNAIDS, GNP+, ICW, Young Positives (2008). *Rapid Assessment Tool for SRH and HIV Linkages: A Generic Guide*.





Linking SRHR and HIV: Understanding the key connections

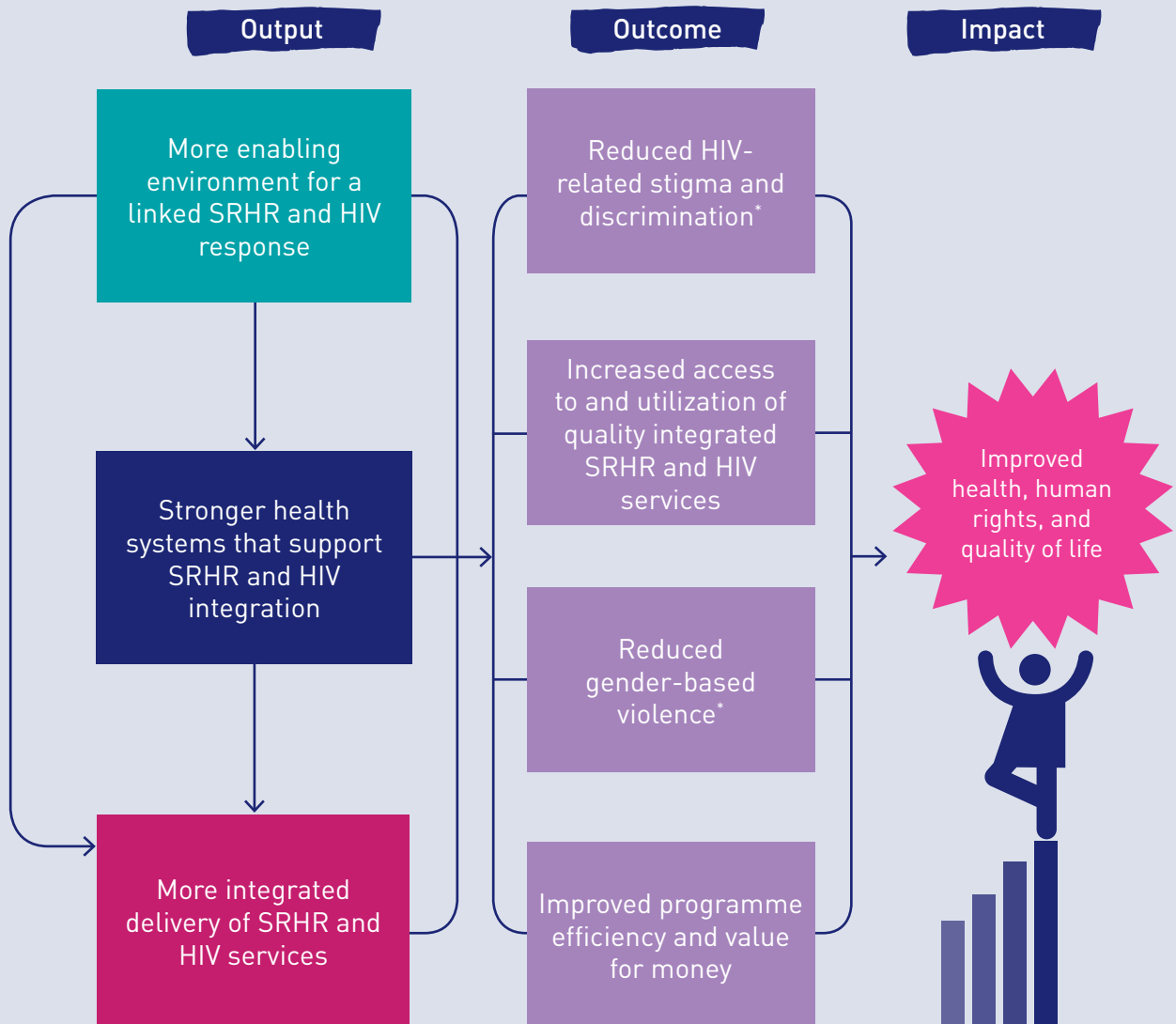
Linkages versus integration^{iv}

Linkages refer to bi-directional synergies in policy, systems, and services between SRHR and HIV. It refers to a broader human rights-based approach, of which service integration is a subset.

Integration refers to the service delivery level and can be understood as joining operational programmes to ensure effective outcomes through many modalities (multi-tasked providers, referral, one-stop shop services under one roof, etc.).

Linking SRHR and HIV responses is critical for reaching human rights, gender equality, and health targets for the sustainable development goals.

Theory of change for SRHR and HIV linkages



Source: Adapted from IPPF, UNFPA, WHO (2014) *SRH and HIV Linkages Compendium: Indicators and Related Assessment Tools*. Available at: <http://bit.ly/1KVaeT1>

* It is recognized that reducing stigma and discrimination and gender-based violence are also impact level measures and the outcome measures influence each other.

Key connections between SRHR and HIV

The intrinsic connections between SRHR and HIV are well-established. These include:

- 1 HIV is predominantly sexually transmitted or associated with pregnancy, childbirth and breastfeeding.¹
- 2 HIV is the leading cause of death in women of reproductive age and the second leading cause of death among adolescent girls globally.²
- 3 HIV-associated maternal death contributes to maternal mortality.³
- 4 Gender-based violence can increase after an HIV-positive diagnosis.⁴
- 5 HIV can be transmitted to infants during pregnancy, delivery, and breastfeeding; without ART and care interventions HIV transmission to infants ranges from 15–45%.⁵
- 6 Sexually transmitted infections (STIs), such as gonorrhoea, HSV, chlamydia, and syphilis, greatly increase the risk of HIV acquisition and transmission.⁶
- 7 Male and female condoms provide triple protection from unintended pregnancies, HIV, and other STIs.⁷
- 8 SRHR and HIV strategies and policies should be interconnected to increase comprehensive service provision, and effective responses must go beyond health services to address human rights, gender equality, and development.⁸
- 9 Integrating SRHR and HIV services requires strengthening health systems including: coordination; joint partnerships; planning and budgeting; human resources; procurement and supply chain management; and monitoring and evaluation.⁹
- 10 Providing integrated SRHR and HIV services could enable clients to receive as many quality services as possible at the same time and in the same place, especially at the primary healthcare level.¹⁰
- 11 Young people need access to a range of SRHR and HIV information and services related to their physical, social, emotional, and sexual development.¹¹
- 12 Key populations – including men who have sex with men, people who inject drugs, people in prisons and other closed settings, sex workers, and transgender people – typically have higher HIV prevalence than the general population, are often not adequately reached with health services, and frequently experience violations of their human rights.¹²

1. UNAIDS (2010) 26th Meeting of the UNAIDS Programme Coordinating Board. Thematic Segment: Sexual and Reproductive Health (SRH) services with HIV interventions in practice. Available from <http://bit.ly/20s63e9>, Kaiser Family Foundation (2015) *The Global HIV/AIDS Epidemic Factsheet*. Available from <http://kaiserf.am/1TSyT2G>

2. WHO (2013) "Women's Health" WHO factsheet N°334. Available from <http://bit.ly/1Tzsex1>; Lozano R, Naghavi M, Foreman K, et al. (2012) Global and regional mortality from 235 causes of death for 20 age groups in 1990 and 2010: a systematic analysis for the Global Burden of Disease Study 2010. *The Lancet*, 380(9859):2095-128; WHO (2014) *Health for the world's adolescents: A second change in the second decade*. Available from <http://bit.ly/1Tzsex1>

3. WHO, UNICEF, WB, UN Population Division (2015) *Trends in Maternal Mortality 1990–2015*. Available from www.who.int/bit.ly/1XsiZRO

4. UN Commission on Status of Women (2013). Agreed conclusions on the elimination and prevention of all forms of violence against women and girls. New York, UN CSW; WHO and UNAIDS (2013) 16 ideas for addressing violence against women in the context of the HIV epidemic: A programming tool. Available from <http://bit.ly/25itSvV>

5. WHO (2016) *Mother-to-child transmission of HIV*. Available from <http://bit.ly/1VfU17Z>; UNAIDS (2011) *Global plan towards the elimination of new HIV infections among children by 2015 and keeping their mothers alive*. Available from <http://bit.ly/1W00qZZ>

6. WHO (2016) *Global health sector strategy on sexually transmitted infections, 2016–2021*.

7. UNFPA, WHO and UNAIDS (2015) Position statement on condoms and the prevention of HIV, other sexually transmitted infections and unintended pregnancy. Available from <http://bit.ly/10JxmdU>

8. Op. cit 1a.

9. IPPF et al (2009) *Rapid Assessment Tool for SRH and HIV Linkages*. Available from <http://bit.ly/1sNhfHV>; Population Council, IPPF and LSHTM (2015) *Steps to Integration Issue 1: Integration of Sexual and Reproductive Health and HIV services*. Available from <http://bit.ly/1TrU40L>

10. FHI360 et al (2013) *Integrating Family Planning into HIV Programs: Evidence-Based Practices Services*. Available from <http://bit.ly/1WdAoyt>; IPPF, Population Council, LSHTM (2013) *Making sense of complexity: Key findings from the Integra Initiative*. Available from <http://bit.ly/1sNhvqI>

11. UNFPA (2013) *UNFPA Strategy on Adolescents and Youth: Towards realising the full potential of adolescents and youth*. Available from <http://bit.ly/10T1NDI>; Every Woman Every Child (2015) *Global Strategy for Women's, Children's and Adolescents' Health, 2016–2030*. Available from <http://bit.ly/2LrH8xe>

12. UNAIDS (2015) *UNAIDS 2016–2021 Strategy: On the fast-track to end AIDS*. Available from <http://bit.ly/1U7e2bB>

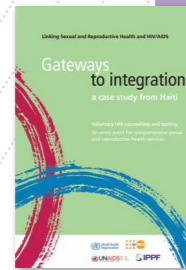
SRHR and HIV linkages in practice

HIV and SRHR Linkages Infographic Snapshots

The HIV and SRHR Linkages Infographic Snapshots provide an overview of national data for the full scope of SRHR and HIV linkages/integration at three levels: enabling environment (policy and legal); health systems; and integrated service delivery. They have been developed for 25+ countries to date and highlight results, areas that need strengthening, and data gaps to support priority setting, planning and resource mobilization.

TOOLS CONDUCTED TO DATE

- Infographic Snapshots
- Rapid Assessment Tool
- Both



Gateways to Integration: A case study from Haiti

To meet the varied needs of some of the poorest people in Port au Prince, GHESKIO began providing voluntary counselling and testing services and this became the gateway to a full range of clinical SRH and HIV services.

Gateways to Integration: A case study from Serbia

As a pioneer of integrated SRH and HIV services, the Institute for Students' Health created a model of care that meets the needs of its target populations in a more convenient and user-friendly manner whilst offering health professionals more effective and satisfying ways of working.



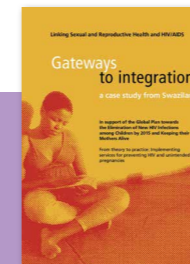
Sexual and Reproductive Health and Rights (SRHR) and HIV Linkages Project: Botswana, Kenya, Lesotho, Malawi, Namibia, Swaziland, Uganda, Zambia, South Africa and Zimbabwe

The overall aim of the project – funded by EU/NORAD/SIDA and implemented by UNFPA and UNAIDS – is to overcome barriers to strengthening linkages between SRHR and HIV policies, systems and services.

<http://bit.ly/1SDd0bn>

Gateways to Integration: Case studies from Kenya, Rwanda and Swaziland

Better meeting the needs of people living with HIV requires an integrated and comprehensive approach such as integrating ART into existing SRH services and integrating elimination of mother-to-child transmission of HIV services.



What works? Sexual and reproductive health and HIV linkages for key populations: India, Indonesia and Uganda

Empowering and meeting the needs of people living with HIV and key populations are at the crux of the SRH and HIV linkages agenda and are fundamental to the joint universal access goals of SRH and HIV. Documents highlighting the experiences, lessons and good practices have been developed including for men who have sex with men and transgender people in India, people who use drugs in Indonesia, and sex workers in Uganda.



Compendium of case studies: HIV and SRH programming Case studies from Ethiopia, Ghana, Lesotho, Malawi, Nigeria, Swaziland, Uganda, Tanzania and Zimbabwe

This compendium provides a user-friendly resource of innovative promising approaches to integrated SRH and HIV service delivery.



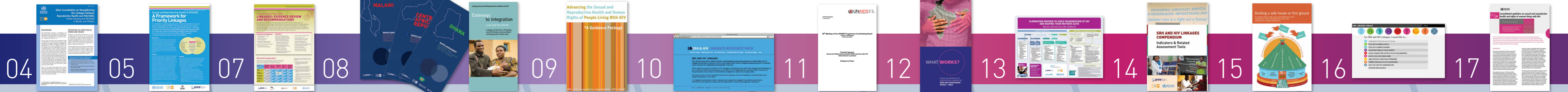
Human rights are the cornerstone

“Upholding human rights is intrinsic to the [SRHR and HIV] linkages agenda, in particular the human rights of people living with HIV, key populations, and women and girls.”[†]



[†] UNAIDS (2010). 26th Meeting of UNAIDS Programme Coordinating Board, Background Paper: Sexual and Reproductive Health (SRH) services with HIV interventions in practice, Paragraph 4 (page 5). http://srhhivlinkages.org/wp-content/uploads/2013/04/26thpcbthematicbackground_2010_en.pdf

Key achievements



- 2004:** The **Glion Call to Action and the New York Call to Commitment** galvanized political commitment among the international community to intensify and strengthen programmatic linkages between SRH and HIV.
- 2005:** To increase understanding of SRH and HIV linkages **A Framework for Priority Linkages** was developed that outlines key concepts and a set of policy and programme actions to strengthen linkages between SRH and HIV.
- 2007:** **Linkages: Evidence Review and Recommendations** summarises the findings of a systematic review of the linkages research literature published between 1990 and 2007.
- 2008 onwards:** A **Rapid Assessment Tool for SRH and HIV Linkages** was developed to support national assessments of bi-directional SRH and HIV linkages at the policy, systems and service delivery levels. The Tool has been rolled out in 48 countries and summaries of the findings and recommendations are available for 25 countries.
- 2008 onwards:** **Gateways to Integration Case Studies** were published to promote good practice examples of different models of SRH and HIV integration. Case studies now available for Kenya, Haiti, Serbia, Swaziland and Rwanda.
- 2009:** The guidance package **Advancing the Sexual and Reproductive Health and Human Rights of People Living With HIV** was developed to help policy makers, programme managers, health professionals, donors and advocates to better support the SRHR of people living with HIV.
- 2010:** The IAWG on SRH and HIV Linkages developed and launched an online **SRH and HIV linkages resource pack** – www.srhhivlinkages.org – to build a common understanding of SRH and HIV linkages and be a repository for linkages resources.
- 2011:** A background paper – **SRH Services and HIV Interventions in Practice** – was developed for the 26th UNAIDS Programme Coordinating Board. It outlined the key principles for linking SRH and HIV and presented evidence and country experiences to date.
- 2012:** **What Works? briefs for SRH and HIV linkages** were developed to help programme managers, advocates and policy makers to more effectively link SRH and HIV services for key populations.
- 2013:** The **EMTCT Job Aid** was developed to support healthcare workers in providing comprehensive services to women related to all four prongs of eliminating mother-to-child transmission of HIV (EMTCT).
- 2014:** Based on a theory of change, the **SRH and HIV Linkages Compendium** contains a focused set of indicators and related assessment tools that have relevance to tracking the links between SRH and HIV programmes at national and sub-national levels.
- 2015:** **Building a safe house on firm ground** – a community survey on the SRHR of women living with HIV – was completed.
- 2016:** A simple-to-use online **SRHR and HIV Linkages Toolkit** – <http://toolkit.srhhivlinkages.org> – was developed to guide users to the most recent, relevant and important SRHR and HIV linkages resources.
- 2017:** The **Consolidated Guideline on SRHR of Women Living with HIV** was developed to enable the provision of comprehensive SRHR for women living with HIV.



Building the evidence base

A research working group of the IAWG identifies gaps and shares information and results of research related to SRHR and HIV linkages, including integration. Key current research areas include:

- The relationship between hormonal contraception (HC) and HIV
- Integrated models of service delivery
- Cost effectiveness
- Approaches to reducing stigma, discrimination, and gender based violence against key populations

Examples of research include, but are not limited to:

- **Integra Initiative – IPPF, LSHTM, Population Council** – benefits and costs of a range of models for delivering integrated HIV and SRH services in high and medium HIV prevalence settings. www.integrainitiative.org
- **Link Up – ATHENA Network, Global Youth Coalition on HIV and AIDS, International HIV/AIDS Alliance, Marie Stopes International, Population Council, STOP AIDS NOW!** – young key populations and young people living with HIV including a study of their priorities around HIV and SRHR integration. www.aidsalliance.org/our-priorities/current-projects/28
- **LINKAGES – FHI 360, Pact, IntraHealth International, University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill** – stigma and violence experienced by men who have sex with men, transgender women and female sex workers in six countries. <http://bit.ly/1PtKYh4>
- **ECHO Study – Echo Consortium** – a study on the relationship between HC and HIV outcomes. <http://echo-consortium.com>

Related research supplements include:

- Sexual and Reproductive Health and Human Rights for Women Living with HIV (2015), *JIAS* Vol 18 Supplement 5
- Integration for Resilient Health Systems: Lessons from HIV and Reproductive Health, *Health Policy and Planning* (forthcoming 2017)
- Achieving pregnancy safely for sero-discordant couples, *JIAS* (forthcoming 2017)



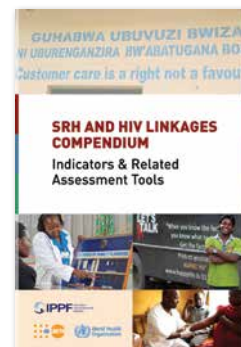
Measuring SRHR and HIV linkages

A number of tools and indicators are being developed to capture progress toward linking SRHR and HIV:

1. SRH and HIV Linkages Compendium: Indicators and Related Assessment Tools

Based on a theory of change, the SRH and HIV Linkages Compendium contains a focused set of indicators and related assessment tools that have relevance

to tracking the links between SRHR and HIV programmes at national and sub-national levels. Each indicator includes an overview, a brief description of its relevance to SRHR and HIV linkages, and a hyperlink to a detailed definition. All the indicators in this compendium have passed through a rigorous evaluation based on the indicator standards of the UNAIDS Monitoring and Evaluation Reference Group.



2. Composite SRHR and HIV Linkages Index

The full scope of SRHR and HIV linkages is difficult to capture in any single indicator. The SRHR and HIV Linkages Index uses 30 indicators across three domains (enabling environment, health systems and integrated service delivery) to provide a composite measure of SRHR and HIV linkages. It reflects the complex nature of linkages and allows progress to be measured. <http://index.srhivlinkages.org>

3. HIV and SRHR Linkages Infographic Snapshots

The Infographic Snapshots provide an overview of national data for the full scope of SRHR and HIV linkages/integration at three levels: enabling environment (policy and legal); health systems; and integrated service delivery. By highlighting results, areas that need strengthening, and data gaps, these Infographic Snapshots can be used for determining priorities, programme planning and resource mobilization. <http://bit.ly/InfographicSnapshot>





Linkages with other interagency groups and strategies

- **Start Free. Stay Free. AIDS Free.**
<https://free.unaids.org>

- **FP2020**
www.familyplanning2020.org

- **Global health sector strategies on sexually transmitted infections, HIV and viral hepatitis. 2016–2021**
<http://bit.ly/1LUza7v>

- **Global strategy for women's, children's and adolescents' health 2016–2030**
www.everywomaneverychild.org

- **Implementing Best Practices Initiative (IBP)**
www.ibpinitiative.org

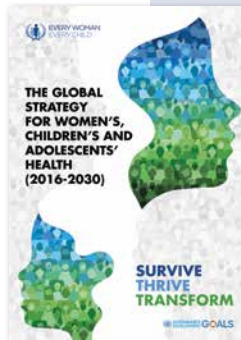
- **Initiative for Multipurpose Prevention Technologies (IMPT)**
www.theimpt.org

- **On the fast-track to end AIDS: UNAIDS 2016–2021 strategy**
<http://bit.ly/1MYWQb8>

- **The Global Fund strategy 2017–2022**
www.theglobalfund.org/en/strategy

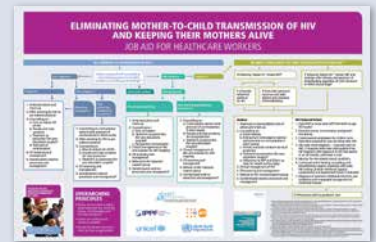
- **WHO global plan of action on violence against women and girls and against children**
<http://bit.ly/1KcaWCI>

- **16 ideas for addressing violence against women in the context of the HIV epidemic**
<http://bit.ly/1PIpTip>



Maternal Health, Family Planning and ART Working Group of the IATT on the Prevention and Treatment of HIV Infection in Pregnant Women, Mothers and Children www.emtct-iatt.org

- **EMTCT Job Aid for Healthcare Workers - updated (forthcoming 2017)**



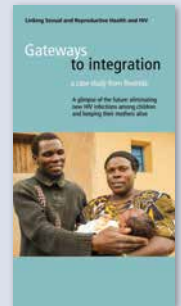
- **How to integrate SRH/MNCH and HIV/EMTCT services (forthcoming 2017)**

- **Integrated EMTCT commodities package (forthcoming 2017)**



- **Elimination of mother-to-child transmission of HIV and syphilis**
<http://bit.ly/1jCx7sf>

- **Glimpse of the Future: Eliminating New HIV Infections in Children and Keeping Their Mothers Alive. Case study and film to support countries scaling up various aspects of EMTCT**
<http://bit.ly/1nkRjQF>



Members of the IAWG on SRH and HIV Linkages

ATHENA Network, Department for International Development (DfID), EngenderHealth, FHI360, Global Fund to Fight AIDS, TB and Malaria, Global Network of People Living with HIV (GNP+), Guttmacher Institute, Institute for Global Health, International Center for AIDS Care and Treatment Programs (ICAP), International Civil Society Support (ICSS), International Community of Women Living with HIV/AIDS (ICW), International HIV/AIDS Alliance, International Initiative for Impact Evaluation (3ie), International Planned Parenthood Federation (IPPF), Joint United Nations Programme on HIV/AIDS (UNAIDS), London School of Hygiene & Tropical Medicine (LSHTM), Population Council, U.S. President's Emergency Plan for AIDS Relief (PEPFAR), Share-Net International, United Nations Development Programme (UNDP), United Nations Population Fund (UNFPA), United States Agency for International Development (USAID), University of California, San Francisco (UCSF), World Bank, World Health Organization (WHO), Young Positives.

For the most up-to-date list of members see <http://bit.ly/1kzQDWB>

Photo credits front page: SafeHands for Mothers/Nancy Durrell McKenna/Swaziland; IPPF/Phillip Wolmuth/Dominica; IPPF/Daniel McCartney/China; IPPF/Peter Caton/India.



To find out more

Visit www.srhivlinkages.org – a collection of more than 150 SRH and HIV linkages resources – and the toolkit of SRH and HIV linkages resources <http://toolkit.srhivlinkages.org>



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