



Industry Liaison Forum Strategic Plan 2012-2014

Approved by the ILF Advisory Group
July 2011



International AIDS Society (IAS), PO Box 28, CH-1216, Cointrin, Geneva,
Switzerland

Who we are

The Industry Liaison Forum (ILF) is an initiative of the International AIDS Society (IAS) that brings together industry, independent investigators, non-governmental organizations, foundations and other stakeholders to enhance HIV treatment access and outcomes in resource-limited settings, with a particular focus on the role and responsibilities of industry. The ILF provides the unique platform that allows industry to engage, communicate and collaborate with other stakeholders to enhance HIV research, and thereby promote evidence-based health policy and health delivery in resource-limited settings.

The ILF is an integral component of the vision of the IAS, as reflected in Goal 3 of the IAS Strategic Plan 2010-2014: Strengthen research capacity, identify research priorities across all disciplines and advocate to address them. This includes:

Objective 3.1: Promote research as a critical component of the global response to AIDS.

Output (3.1.5): The IAS mobilizes other providers, including industry and academia, to provide financial and other support for research.

Objective 3.3: Identify and advocate for research priorities.

Output (3.3.3): The IAS convenes and supports the Industry Liaison Forum to identify and advance research that industry can support in areas focused on core IAS priorities.

What we do

The ILF was founded in 2001. The purpose of the ILF was to establish a partnership forum that would mobilize stakeholders to address the complex and inter-related research issues on HIV/AIDS.

Under its 2008-2011 Strategic Plan, the ILF led a comprehensive consultative priority-setting exercise to identify clinical and operational research gaps related to treatment needs of women and children affected by

HIV/AIDS. This effort resulted in a Consensus Statement, entitled "[Asking the Right Questions: Advancing an HIV Research Agenda for Women and Children](#)", endorsed by the IAS and 15 other leading public and private sector organizations. This statement included 20 specific recommendations to expand and improve responses to the HIV-related challenges facing women and children worldwide.

Furthermore, in line with the 2008-2011 Strategic Plan, the ILF has continued to work on pre-exposure prophylaxis (PrEP)-related issues in HIV research.

Our Mission

The mission of ILF is to accelerate scientifically promising, ethical HIV research in resource-limited countries, with a particular focus on the role and responsibilities of industry, namely pharmaceutical and diagnostic companies, as sponsors and supporters of research.

The ILF fulfills its mission by: identifying research gaps; promoting targeted research; identifying challenges and best practices; analyzing available data and evidence; disseminating information; consulting and convening stakeholders; providing industry expertise; and supporting capacity building for research and health delivery.

About this Strategic Plan

The ILF's new Strategic Plan 2012-2014 was developed through a consultative process, including: a survey of [ILF Advisory Group members](#); a teleconference of the Advisory Group; interviews with a number of representatives of partner or allied agencies; a discussion paper summarizing input; and a strategic planning meeting of the Advisory Group in Boston on 3 March 2011, where the objectives were prioritized. The final Strategic Plan 2012-2014 was presented and approved by the Advisory Group on 17 July 2011 at the 6th IAS Conference on HIV Pathogenesis, Treatment and Prevention (IAS 2011) in Rome.

Our Priorities

For the next three years, the ILF will continue to prioritize prevention and treatment for women and children in resource-limited settings, with an emphasis on prevention and treatment outcomes, as well as access. In pursuit of those objectives, the ILF will support research and other strategies to: enhance treatment management; scale up prevention of mother to child transmission (PMTCT); improve prevention and treatment access and outcomes for women and children; optimize the potential of chemoprevention technologies; and support best practices in public health policy and delivery.

The ILF is committed to monitoring and evaluating the outputs as stated in the next section, and will do so in line with the IAS mechanisms currently in place.

Key Goals and Objectives

Goal 1: Enhancing HIV treatment management, access and outcomes

Role: The ILF is well positioned to play a role in engaging stakeholders to address the growing challenge of treatment management as the need for antiretroviral treatment expands and as the demand for second- and third-line therapies accelerates. The ILF can also play a role in convening and coordinating industry and other stakeholders to address treatment issues related to the needs of women and children.

Objective 1.1: Enhance gender-sensitive research, data collection and analysis on treatment management, access and outcomes for women and girls.

Output 1.1.1: Continue to award an annual research prize for excellence in research related to HIV, women and girls¹.

Output 1.1.2: Pool data on outcomes of ARV exposure during pregnancy, particularly from resource-limited settings, from the

pharmaceutical industry for reporting to the Antiretroviral Pregnancy Registry.

Output 1.1.3: Commission a review paper on pharmacology and other issues related to antiretroviral treatment in women with the emphasis on treatment management outcomes (i.e., diagnostics, switching drugs, viral load monitoring, better drugs, pharmacological vigilance, differential outcomes in women, and related issues).

Objective 1.2: Contribute to addressing the challenges of treatment management, access and outcomes for infants, children and adolescents.

Output 1.2.1: Convene and coordinate stakeholders to enhance early infant diagnosis and clinical management (e.g., monitoring of paediatric drug resistance).

Output 1.2.2: Convene stakeholders to overcome paediatric drug formulation challenges and address future paediatric treatment needs.

Objective 1.3: Foster discussion and debate on treatment management challenges: resistance to first-line regimens; access to second- and third-line antiretrovirals (ARVs); access to diagnostics and monitoring tools; costs; programmatic and operational barriers; and other issues.

Output 1.3.1: Commission discussion paper(s) and/or host debate(s) on the challenges of enhancing treatment management.

Goal 2: Optimizing HIV prevention research and scale up

Role: The ILF can play a role in advancing the HIV prevention agenda based on the collective expertise and cooperation of industry and other stakeholders. The ILF can play a role in convening and coordinating the contributions of industry and other stakeholders.

Objective 2.1: Address programmatic challenges in eliminating paediatric HIV infection.

¹ Co-sponsored by UNAIDS, and supported by ICW and ICRW

Output 2.1.1: Collaborate with key strategic partners on issues related to scaling up and improving PMTCT programmes.

Output 2.1.2: Promote operational research on models for successful PMTCT programmes.

Objective 2.2: Contribute to understanding the potential role of chemoprophylaxis for populations most at risk.

Output 2.2.1: Convene stakeholders to accelerate research, development and delivery of the next generation of chemoprophylactic modalities (i.e., PrEP, microbicides).

Sustainability and Success

Funding

The ILF receives membership fees from industry partners in the ILF Advisory Group. Sponsorship covers the operational costs of the ILF, including staffing, event planning, travel costs, communication and promotion, and design, printing and distribution of reports and other materials.

ILF Profile and Communication

Information on the ongoing work of ILF, such as an event calendar and meeting reports, will be available via a dedicated page on the IAS website (www.iasociety.org/ILF.aspx). ILF work will also be promoted through the IAS newsletter, conferences, reports, related programmes and social media outlets (Twitter, Facebook).

Linkages with Other IAS Initiatives

The ILF is well placed to benefit from links with other IAS initiatives that share related objectives. As such, the ILF is committed to broadening its role within the IAS and strengthening relationships with other initiatives and programmes that would support the ILF in its goal to strengthen clinical research in most affected, resource-constrained countries.

The ILF falls under the Research Promotion Department within the IAS Policy and Communication Unit. The synergies with other research promotion efforts, including the *Journal of the International AIDS Society* (JIAS), research fellowships and grants, and IAS prizes and awards, allow for strengthening ILF activities. The ILF is also engaged with policy and advocacy initiatives in the existing IAS structure.

Appendix A: ILF Advisory Group

Please visit the ILF website for an updated list of ILF Advisory Group members:
<http://www.iasociety.org/ilf.aspx>

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