

International AIDS Society

Annual report

2022 – 2023

iasociety.org

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Opening letter

Our 2021-2025 strategic plan outlines how we will achieve a resilient, science-based, adequately funded HIV response that respects human rights and meets the varied needs of people living with and affected by HIV. In line with this strategic plan, our activities over the past 12 months fall under three impact areas: Promote Science; Support Action; and Empower People.

At the IAS, we know that progress happens when science, policy and activism come together, with people at the centre of an evidence-based HIV response.

Harnessing the power of science

Under the impact area, "Promote Science", the IAS pursues and supports scientific advancements that positively alter the course of the HIV pandemic and promotes greater understanding of these discoveries. Through its activities, the IAS advances the full spectrum of scientific achievement – from basic science to implementation research – and uses the visibility of its meetings to highlight cutting-edge, innovative work and make it globally accessible.

As the urgency of the COVID-19 pandemic waned in the period under review, the IAS capitalized on the shift in focus. AIDS 2022 reminded the world of the threat to the HIV response if scientific innovations and evidence-based policies are not implemented with renewed energy.

What this means in practice: Highlights

The Global HIV Vaccine Enterprise hosted a series of virtual and in-person events focusing on experimental medicine and its potential to accelerate the development of safe and effective HIV vaccines.

In addition to publishing four special issues on different scientific themes, the Journal of the International AIDS Society (JIAS) launched a new article category, called Field Notes, and published the first two articles of the category. This new category will deepen our understanding of contemporary challenges in HIV public health practice.

Translating science into impactful action

The IAS works closely with governments, civil society organizations and other stakeholders to ensure that evidence-based interventions and policies are implemented effectively. By advocating for access to prevention and treatment services, promoting human rights and addressing social and structural barriers, the IAS strives to create an enabling environment that supports individuals and communities living with and affected by HIV.

What this means in practice: Highlights

In collaboration with the World Health Organization (WHO), the IAS supported the development and dissemination of updated WHO guidance for differentiated PrEP delivery and published the country policy development brief, "Key considerations in developing policy guidance for differentiated PrEP service delivery".

To ensure inclusion and funding for community-led monitoring in the next round of funding applications to The Global Fund to Fight AIDS, Tuberculosis and Malaria, the IAS published "Community-led monitoring of programs and policies related to HIV, tuberculosis and malaria. A guide to support inclusion of CLM in funding requests to the Global Fund".

The IAS also used the past year to advocate for urgent work on social, cultural economic and legal inequalities, putting out position statements and award-winning podcast episodes that influenced pressing issues.

Putting people first

Empowering people is at the heart of the IAS strategic plan and IAS activities over the past 12 months. The IAS is committed to engaging and involving communities, including people living with HIV, key populations and young people, alongside scientists and clinicians, in research endeavours and advocacy efforts.

What this means in practice: Highlights

From launching a new Youth Hub to convening a stakeholder consultation series on person-centred care in the HIV response, the IAS continued to use its programming to ensure that the HIV response is truly inclusive and responsive to the needs of diverse populations.

Much of our work over the past year focused on putting communities at the centre of the HIV response. The IAS integrates its advocacy across all of its programming for a multidisciplinary, integrated and long-term approach to care for people living with and affected by HIV that is responsive to their evolving needs, priorities and preferences.

A highlight of the year was the World AIDS Day focus on an organizational core value: putting people first. Issuing a call to action across science, policy and activism, the IAS challenged organizations to re-examine their own HIV response against a simple principle: does it put people first?

With thanks

We extend our sincere gratitude to all those who have partnered with us over the past year. Through the collective efforts of our members, partners and supporters, we have made significant strides towards our shared vision of ending HIV as a threat to global public health and individual well-being. Your collaboration is critical to creating a healthier future.

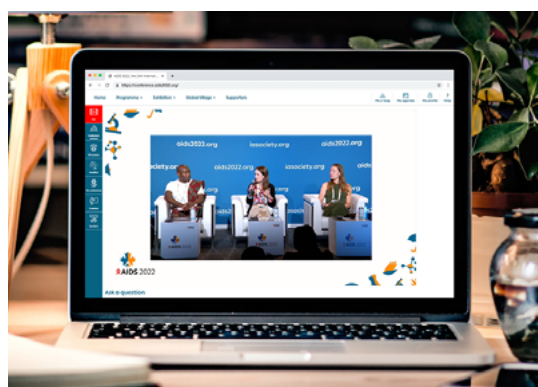
Much work remains to be done. Together, let us forge ahead. By harnessing the power of science, supporting effective action and empowering individuals, we will achieve health equity for all.

We invite you to explore the stories, data and insights in this report that illustrate the impact of our work.



Birgit Poniatowski
Executive Director

We promote science



AIDS 2022, the 24th International AIDS Conference

AIDS 2022, held in Montreal, Canada, from 29 July to 2 August 2022, created a primary opportunity to simultaneously address all three IAS strategic priorities. Showcasing breaking science, AIDS 2022 brought participants together to define future research agendas, shift latest evidence to action, and chart a new consensus on overcoming the HIV pandemic as a threat to public health and individual well-being.

Delivered as a hybrid conference, AIDS 2022 enabled broad participation. Almost 13,000 HIV professionals and members of civil society, including approximately 3,600 virtual delegates, took part. In-person attendance at the conference considerably exceeded IAS expectations despite the difficulties encountered by numerous delegates in obtaining visas for travel to Canada. More than half (56%) of participants attended in person, with 37% of in-person attendees coming from low- and middle-income countries.

AIDS 2022 called on delegates to re-engage and follow the science, emphasizing the risk to the global HIV response if scientific innovations and evidence-based policies are not implemented with renewed energy. The conference also highlighted the need to overcome inequities in global health and place community leadership at the heart of the HIV response.

"AIDS 2022 has made it clear once again: progress happens when we come together and unleash the power of our movement. That is why the IAS exists. That is why we need to double down on our efforts to unite the voices of activists, policy makers and scientists."

Sharon Lewin, IAS President



During the five-day conference, delegates heard new data on cases of HIV remission, a novel technology for measuring the HIV reservoir, long-acting pre-exposure prophylaxis (PrEP) and the use of an antibiotic as PrEP to reduce the incidence of sexually transmitted bacterial infections.

The undetectable = untransmittable (U=U) concept was a major thread running through AIDS 2022, with HIV professionals and communities working through the practical and policy implications of science presented at previous IAS-convened conferences.

Almost all of the more than 100 conference sessions were broadcast live and made available subsequently as on-demand recordings. The hybrid conference successfully integrated speakers broadcasting from all over the world into sessions and enabled virtual delegates to question presenters and network with other delegates.

The conference featured 37 oral abstract sessions organized into six tracks. The 81 invited-speaker sessions included 12 prime sessions, 38 symposia, 16 in-person workshops and 12 virtual workshops. Nine pre-conferences and 108 satellite meetings complemented the invited-speaker and abstract-driven programme.

A total of 6,900 abstracts were submitted to AIDS 2022, including 652 late-breaker abstracts. Of these, 2,846 were selected for presentation in sessions and the poster exhibition – an acceptance rate of 41%. More than half (55%) of accepted abstracts had a female lead author, around one in three accepted abstracts came from North America and Mexico (35% of accepted abstracts) and Africa (31%), and Asia and the Pacific Islands and Europe each accounted for 14% of accepted abstracts.



In numbers

- Almost **13,000 delegates** from **173 countries** participated in AIDS 2022
- Just **over half** (52%) of delegates at AIDS 2022 were based in low- or middle-income countries. **More than one in three** (35%) were based in Africa
- **56%** of participants attended AIDS 2022 **in person** in Montreal, with 37% of in-person attendees coming from low- and middle-income countries.
- **56%** of delegates were aged **45 years or younger**.
- AIDS 2022 awarded **1,602 in-person and virtual scholarships**, including 1,224 people from low- and middle-income countries; 42% of scholarships were awarded to participants from Africa
- **92%** of delegates agreed that the conference objectives were met
- **Over 600 original news stories** were generated
- **46 million people** were reached through **91,478 social media posts** from AIDS 2022



Media highlights from AIDS 2022

Oldest patient yet cured of HIV after stem cell transplant - researchers

Reuters

Exclusive: IAS President 'very upset' over AIDS 2022 visa denials

Devex

H.I.V Infections remain persistently high, U.N report

The New York Times

Global AIDS fight at crossroads after setbacks during COVID

AP

How Russian war battered Ukraine's health system and HIV services overnight

Sunday Times

WHO approves use of a new HIV prevention drug

BBC

Global monkeypox vaccine race sparks fears that poorer nations will lose out

The Guardian

Health Minister brushes off outrage over visa denials for AIDS conference in Montreal

The Globe and Mail

Global HIV Vaccine Enterprise

The Global HIV Vaccine Enterprise hosted a series of virtual and in-person events focusing on [experimental medicine](#) and its potential to accelerate the development of safe and effective HIV vaccines. The Enterprise also held its annual stakeholder meeting, "[Accelerating early phase HIV vaccine clinical research](#)", aimed at building a consensus on efficient ways to prioritize and advance vaccine product development that encompasses design, clinical testing and funding to accelerate the development of an HIV vaccine.

A [two-part webinar series](#), highlighting the key ethical aspects of engaging adolescent girls and young women in HIV prevention research and sexual and reproductive health programming, was organized to reflect on future design engagement strategies.

Journal of the International AIDS Society

JIAS is a multidisciplinary, peer-reviewed, open-access PubMed and Medline-indexed journal that publishes the latest HIV research. It generates and disseminates quality academic publications on a variety of topics, ranging from social, behavioural, political and economic research to biomedical and clinical research, and leads the way in implementation and operational research. In addition to publishing special thematic supplements, JIAS provides capacity-building opportunities for early-career researchers in low- and middle-income countries. This year, JIAS held capacity-building workshops on manuscript and scientific abstract writing that attracted over 1,000 participants.



www.jiasociety.org

In 2022, JIAS launched a new article category, called "Field Notes", and published the first two articles of the category. Field Notes stimulate further sharing of new insights garnered from creative responses to local epidemic challenges to deepen our understanding of contemporary challenges in HIV public health practice.

JIAS published four special issues:

1. "Getting to the heart of stigma across the HIV continuum of care"
2. "Approaches to enhance and accelerate investigation of new HIV drugs in pregnancy"
3. "Growing older with HIV in the Treat-All Era"
4. "Improving the HIV response for transgender populations: evidence to inform action"

Impact factor

6.707

Immunology

Ranked
47 out of 162

Infectious diseases

Ranked
23 out of 95

Journal Citation Reports (Clarivate, 2022)

Corporate Partnership Programme

The [Corporate Partnership Programme](#) successfully expanded its membership through the addition of six new sponsors. Focused activity in each of its three pillars – Towards an HIV Cure Industry Collaboration Group, HIV Vaccine Enterprise Partnership, and Industry Liaison Forum – promoted HIV cure and vaccine research and highlighted the power of industry engagement.

Several events were held, including a [roundtable](#) on monitoring HIV viral load during analytical treatment interruptions, a [workshop](#) on non-invasive measurement of HIV reservoirs, and a [workshop](#) on biomarkers and clinical trial design. on biomarkers and clinical trial design.

In addition, a number of sessions at AIDS 2022 reiterated the importance of industry engagement in clinical research for HIV cure and vaccine.

The Industry Liaison Forum focused on long-acting treatment at AIDS 2022. Building on its roundtable series, the Forum's [satellite session](#) was very well-attended; almost 3,600 individuals accessed the resources.

IAS Educational Fund

The IAS Educational Fund continues to provide inclusive educational opportunities for key stakeholders in the HIV response to facilitate bridging the gap between science, policy and action. Through its regional meetings and partnerships, the IAS Educational Fund encourages healthcare workers, researchers, community actors and policy makers to collaborate and catalyse action at global, regional, country and community levels on key recommendations presented and discussed during the meetings. The meetings aim to improve strategies, policies and HIV clinical practice at local and national levels. Over the past year, the IAS resumed its regional meetings in person to reach over 780 HIV professionals.

Tanzania

12-13 October 2022

Science and community in the HIV response: the next priorities for Tanzania

Partner organization: Ariel Glaser Pediatric AIDS Healthcare Initiative (AGPAHI), Tanzania Commission for AIDS (TACAIDS) and Tanzania Health Summit (THS)

Chile

27 October 2022

Todos Unidos en la respuesta al VIH: Ciencia, gobierno y sociedad civil

Partner organization: Sociedad Chilena de Infectología (SOCHINF), Chile

Indonesia

9-10 November 2022

Going beyond: Advancing HIV prevention, testing, and treatment in Indonesia through science and community involvement

Partner organizations: Indonesia AIDS Coalition (IAC) and AIDS Research Center at Atma Jaya Catholic University of Indonesia (PDPAl), Indonesia

Eastern Europe and central Asia

14-15 December 2022

Moving Forward: how to keep the HIV response strong in the EECA region through science and community involvement

Partner organization: EECA Interact, Latvia

Algeria

18-19 March 2023

Accélérer la mobilisation de la science sur le VIH au service des populations clés et vulnérables en Algérie

Partner organization: Association de Protection Contre le SIDA – APCS Algérie, Algeria

Kyrgyzstan

25-26 May 2023

HIV science and community: Progress and challenges in Central Asia

Partner organization: Kyrgyz Indigo, Kyrgyzstan

Democratic Republic of the Congo

22-23 June 2023

Science et communautés dans la réponse au VIH en République Démocratique du Congo

Partner organization: Fondation Femme Plus, DRC

The IAS Educational Fund, with local partners, focused on follow-up activities to sustain the benefits of 2021 and 2022 meetings. Activities completed over the past year include:

- Science promotion took place through webinars and the development of learning resources. The GHESKIO Centres (Haiti) held sessions, titled "Lessons learned on maintaining care and services while facing a humanitarian crisis in Haiti". The American University of Beirut focused on the theme, Tackling structural barriers in the MENA: HIV prevention and treatment. ALCs (Morocco) coordinated the development of a report on HIV self-testing pilot experiences in Morocco and Mauritania.
- Advocacy was driven by a social media campaign against stigma and discrimination by the Makerere University and Johns Hopkins University research collaboration in Uganda.



Examples of social media messages created by Mu-JHU

- Learning exchange took place with the launch of intergenerational dialogues to reduce stigma associated with HIV and AIDS among key and vulnerable populations in Tanzania with the Young and Alive Initiative and Key and Vulnerable Populations Forum.
- Regarding capacity building, to strengthen prevention in Mauritania, IAS partner ALCs Morocco coordinated an internship focusing on PrEP programme implementation in collaboration with SOS Pairs Educateurs in Mauritania.

The IAS Educational Fund also provides [digital resources](#) for HIV professionals to access the latest scientific evidence. Among these are selected sessions from AIDS 2022 that were translated into [Arabic](#), [French](#), [Portuguese](#), [Russian](#) and [Spanish](#). The IAS continued promoting best practices and strategies from HIV experts around the world through key webinars on topics requested by IAS Members. More than 2,000 HIV professionals participated in these live sessions, titled "Making PrEP accessible: Updates on long-acting injectable options" and "HIV and TB co-infections: Latest updates and innovations".

Find out more: iasociety.org/educationalfund

We support action

IAS statements

In the past 18 months, the IAS published seven institutional position statements to influence the public and policy debate.



1 June 2023:

🔗 The US must heed the lessons of PEPFAR

17 May 2023:

🔗 Europe must not abandon the quest for an effective HIV vaccine

17 May 2023:

🔗 Abolishing anti-gay law supports the HIV response and champions human rights

31 March 2023:

🔗 Extend gender-affirming care to all

22 March 2023:

🔗 Ugandan anti-gay law threatens human rights and progress in the HIV response

25 January 2023:

🔗 Halted HIV vaccine trial offers important lessons

14 July 2022:

🔗 PrEP is the key to turning the HIV tide in MENA

HIV unmuted

HIV unmuted, the award-winning IAS podcast, talks to the global HIV change makers who have shaped the response and asks what we must do to end the HIV pandemic. Each episode unites scientists and community activists with policy makers to take an in-depth look at diverse themes, delivering a comprehensive analysis of each issue.

Opening with an episode on Ukraine, the 2022 season included episodes examining the intersection of mpox, COVID-19 and HIV and addressing the scientific breakthroughs and controversies discussed at AIDS 2022. The season closed with a special episode for World AIDS Day, calling individuals and organizations to action – to *Put people first* to tackle the persisting inequalities that fuel the HIV pandemic.

HIV unmuted, episode #6, **"Ukraine and HIV: Health on the Frontlines"**, won two awards this year.

The episode was honoured with the **Bronze Anthem Award**. The Anthem Awards recognize purpose- and mission-driven work and are run by The Webby Awards, which *The New York Times* hails as the "Internet's highest honor".

BRONZE WINNER
2ND ANNUAL
ANTHEM AWARDS



This episode was also recognized with a **Communicator Award**. Chosen from more than 5,000 entrants, this episode was also selected as a **staff pick** and highlighted on the Communicator Awards' homepage.



Person-centred care

The IAS Person-Centred Care programme advocates for a multidisciplinary, integrated and long-term approach to care for people living with and affected by HIV that is responsive to their evolving needs, priorities and preferences.

The IAS convened a [stakeholder consultation series](#) between July 2022 and June 2023 to provide a platform for exchange on the concept of person-centred care in the HIV response. The discussions, learnings and recommendations from the series will form the basis of a joint commentary article to build consensus on the concept of person-centred care. In May 2023, the IAS published an [advocacy brief on person-centred HIV care for people experiencing homelessness](#). This brief explores the intersections between HIV and homelessness, social determinants of mental and physical health, and layered identities. It includes recommendations for policy makers, service providers, surveillance teams, researchers and advocates for involving "experts by experience" at all stages.

Differentiated Service Delivery

The IAS Differentiated Service Delivery (DSD) programme aims to ensure the scale up of DSD for HIV to improve access to and quality of prevention, testing, treatment and care services for people living with and affected by HIV.

To facilitate increased access and uptake of PrEP, the IAS, in collaboration with WHO, supported the development and [dissemination](#) of [updated WHO guidance for differentiated PrEP delivery](#) and published the country policy development brief, "[Key considerations in developing policy guidance for differentiated PrEP service delivery](#)".

The [DSD for HIV treatment online course](#), designed to support increasing knowledge around DSD, was expanded and continues to draw strong interest from partners, including through promotion by regional networks.

The DSD programme began working with partners implementing community-led monitoring (CLM) of HIV programmes. To ensure inclusion and funding for CLM in the next round of funding applications to The Global Fund to Fight AIDS, Tuberculosis and Malaria, the IAS published "[Community-led monitoring of programs and policies related to HIV, tuberculosis and malaria. A guide to support inclusion of CLM in funding requests to the Global Fund](#)".

Heart of Stigma

The IAS Heart of Stigma programme consolidates and enhances existing knowledge on HIV-related stigma in an effective, scalable and catalytic manner. This year featured the publication and dissemination of research on stigma and HIV supported through the programme.

In July 2022, Heart of Stigma published a [systematic review of frameworks and measures for HIV-related internalized stigma, stigma and discrimination in healthcare and in laws and policies](#) in the JIAS special issue, "[Getting to the heart of stigma across the HIV continuum of care](#)", funded by the programme.

The "Getting to the Heart of Stigma" pre-conference was a hybrid AIDS 2022 event consisting of three sessions: "[Leadership](#)", followed by "[State of the field evidence review](#)" and finally, "[Uniting for a common vision and acknowledging local realities](#)".



World AIDS Day 2022: Call to action

Putting people first and why it matters

On 1 December 2022, the IAS launched a public call to action to all organizations involved in the HIV response to closely examine how well their strategies and programmes put people living with and affected by HIV first at all stages of their work.

To end HIV as a threat to public health and individual well-being, we must urgently address the social, cultural, economic and legal inequalities to get back on track.

From politicians to researchers, from community healthcare providers to grassroots advocacy organizations, we must all do our part to eradicate inequalities.

We empower people

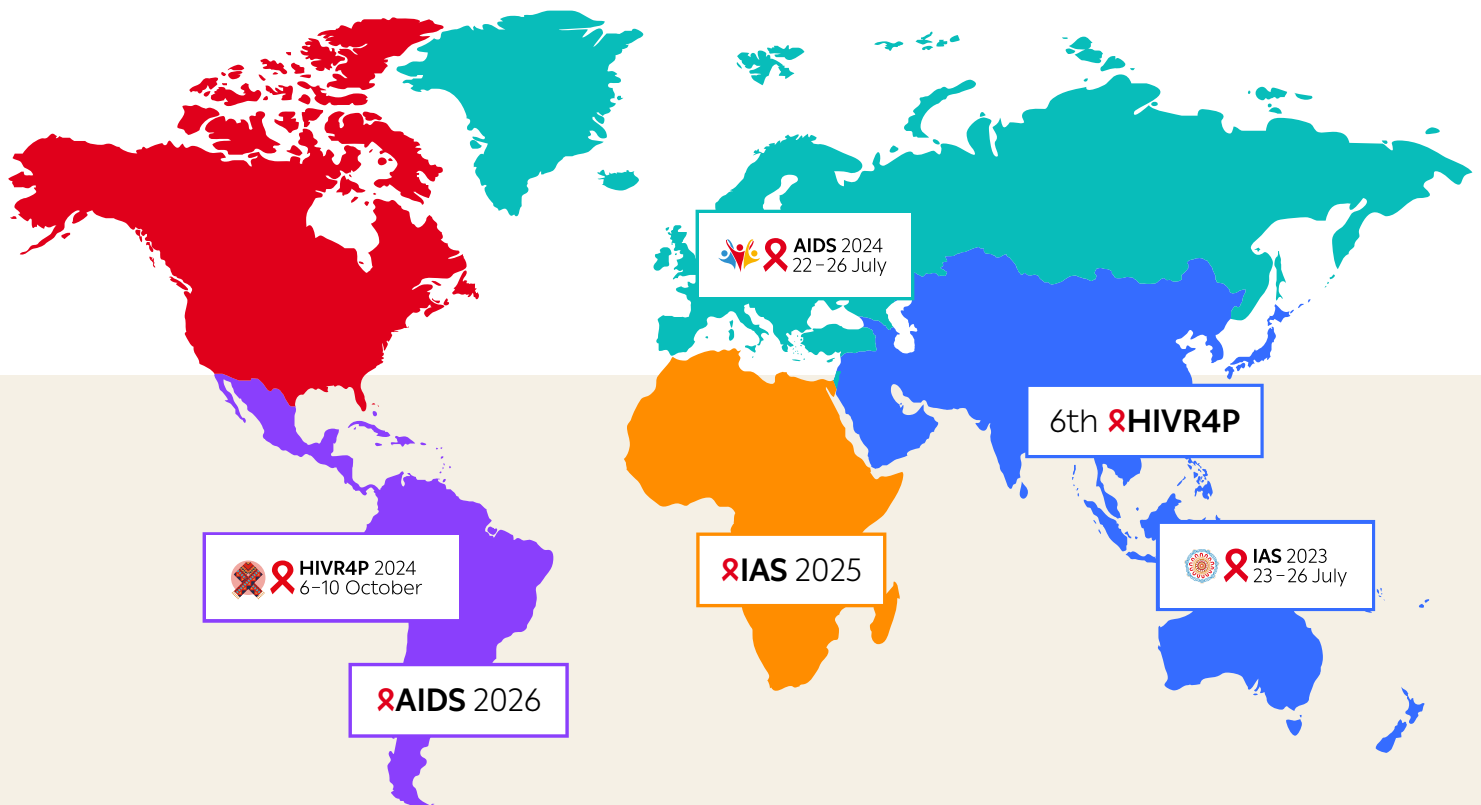
IAS General Members' Meeting

To build a strong, informed and connected IAS membership body, the IAS convenes the annual IAS General Members' Meeting. On 1 August 2022, the IAS General Members' Meeting took place during AIDS 2022. More than 180 IAS Members attended the in-person meeting, which was chaired by IAS President Adeeba Kamarulzaman. For the second time, this session was also broadcast on the IAS YouTube channel, which allowed IAS Members not attending the conference to participate. The full meeting can be viewed [here](#).

Equity and inclusion

An important decision the IAS took in 2022 was to follow a regional rotation plan for the International AIDS Conference, the IAS Conference on HIV Science and the HIV Research for Prevention Conference. To ensure equity and inclusion, the in-person component of IAS conferences will rotate among five world regions – Africa, Asia and the Pacific, Europe, Latin America and the Caribbean, and the US and Canada – and will not take place consecutively in any region. Additionally, all conferences will offer virtual participation.

Upcoming conferences



Capacity building

HIV science evolves rapidly, requiring constant interpretation, translation and knowledge exchange. This year, the IAS committed to promoting greater understanding of HIV science and policy to build the skills and resources that are needed to end the pandemic – retaining a global perspective that is relevant at a local level. As part of this commitment, the IAS published the seventh edition of the knowledge toolkit series developed in collaboration with NAM aidsmap exclusively for IAS Members. The toolkits highlight important scientific advancements and innovative research presented at IAS-convened conferences.

The AIDS 2022 Knowledge Toolkits offer adaptable PowerPoint presentations with an easy navigation system covering six thematic areas presented at AIDS 2022. This series will continue with the IAS 2023 Knowledge Toolkits providing more research and tools for IAS Members. For open-access toolkits from AIDS 2016, IAS 2017, AIDS 2018, IAS 2019, AIDS 2020 and IAS 2021, visit [the knowledge toolkits archive](#).



#IASONEVOICE

The **#IASONEVOICE** membership campaign continued for the fifth year. It highlights the key topics most important to IAS Members, sharing their personal perspectives from working and volunteering on all fronts of the HIV response.

In 2022-2023, the **#IASONEVOICE** campaign featured five personal stories and opinions covering stigma and discrimination, as well as young people and female scientists engaged in the HIV response. The stories were diverse, addressing a variety of themes, genders, professions, ages and regions. They highlighted how tirelessly people throughout the world are working to improve the lives of people living with HIV.



Mildred's story

"Facilitating collaboration through a data-sharing platform will lay the groundwork for more efficient and effective research that can lead to new discoveries and hopefully an effective HIV vaccine."

Mildred Obare

Physician, human rights activist & IAS Member

Alegra's story

"As a trans woman in healthcare, I learned to use evidence-based information to highlight the inequalities we face as human beings. Through science, I am able to support those who are marginalized due to their gender, sex, sexuality, race, ethnicity, economic status, disability or any other condition. After all, what is the purpose of life if not to help others?"

Alegra Wolter, Indonesia

Doctor and IAS Member



Chloe's story

"As an infectious disease researcher, a person living with an invisible disability and a woman in medicine who is part of the LGBTQI+ community, I focus on improving health outcomes by tackling inequities and stigma and empowering people who are marginalized or minoritized, including women, trans and non-binary people.."

Chloe Orkin, United Kingdom

Physician, IAS Member and
IAS Governing Council member



Supporting IAS change makers

IAS change makers are carefully selected HIV researchers, advocates, healthcare providers and others we support through a range of fellowship, grant, mentorship and scholarship programmes.

IAS Educational Fund Scholarships

For AIDS 2022, the IAS Educational Fund provided support to 245 scholarship* recipients (187 clinicians and HIV service providers and 58 advocates) from 47 countries. These were in addition to the over 1,600 scholarship recipients who received support through the conference scholarship programme.

IAS Mentorship Programme

Following the success of the first two editions of the IAS Mentorship Programme*, 20 mentors and mentees from 17 countries were selected for the 2023 round. The impact of the programme is strong, with recipients reporting on changing their medical practices thanks to an increased awareness of the importance of community involvement, study and career progression, and ambitious projects being planned for others, such as the establishment of a healthcare clinic.



"The IAS Mentorship Programme supported me in discovering more about myself and how to pursue the career trajectory I aspire to have. It also gave me the opportunity to build friendships with other young and experienced professionals."

Gabriela Toledo,
IAS Member and mentee from the 2022 programme

Mark Wainberg Fellowship

The IAS started the sixth round of the Mark Wainberg Fellowship Programme* for clinicians in central, eastern, western and southern Africa and launched the programme in the Asia and Pacific Islands region during the IAS Members' Meeting at AIDS 2022.

Towards an HIV Cure

Towards an HIV Cure change makers benefitted from ongoing learning and engagement opportunities. Thirty individuals were supported to attend AIDS 2022; 41 advocates participated in two Advocacy-for-Cure Academies (22 in person, 19 virtually); five Advocacy-for-Cure grants were awarded; and 24 researchers attended a virtual Research-for-Cure Academy.

* Find out more about change maker opportunities available through the Educational Fund at iasociety.org/educationalfund.

Youth Hub

The Youth Hub, an online networking platform that empowers young advocates living with and affected by HIV to lead the HIV response, was launched on 31 July 2022 at AIDS 2022. It has three key components:

- **Youth Co-Lab** – a dynamic, collaborative, shared space where young people can exchange ideas and solve problems on their needs in the HIV response with the aim of facilitating innovation, networking, peer mentorship, project collaboration and access to funding
- **Youth Academy** – a selection of online courses providing bespoke capacity building in core skills aimed at strengthening youth leadership and engagement in the HIV response to amplify their voices
- **Youth Library** – a carefully curated library enabling access to educational resources and useful information personalized to users' needs

Ten Young Leaders were supported to attend AIDS 2022 through the AIDS 2022 Scholarship Programme where they undertook a "Youth Hub world tour" to sensitize other young people to opportunities provided by the Youth Hub platform.

As part of the AIDS 2022 Young Leaders Programme, five teams were selected to pitch innovative solutions during a Global Village main stage activity entitled "Pitch perfect: Young Leaders take the mic to showcase youth-led innovation #YouthCoLab".

"Supporting young people in the HIV response to successfully engage is an important step to ensuring their priorities, voices and experiences inform, shape and direct policies and programmes aimed at improving their health, rights and well-being. The Youth Hub has the potential to build capacity and empower young people to take control of their health and well-being by facilitating easy access to opportunities such as mentorship and networking."

Paul Ndhlovu,
Young Leader, Africaid Zvandiri, Zimbabwe

AIDS 2022 Young Leaders Programme

The seventh Young Leaders Programme brought together 32 young people (aged 21-26) of 22 nationalities to participate in a capacity-building and engagement curriculum comprising tailored interactive sessions, networking opportunities and workshops. The vast majority of surveyed Young Leaders reported: high satisfaction with the sessions; excellent support from IAS staff; increased motivation to collaborate with other young researchers and advocates; new collaborations as a result of the programme; and intention to contribute to future conferences.

Youth Hub Seed Grant Programme

Four innovative projects from Kenya, Malaysia, Nigeria and Uganda were selected for the Youth Hub Seed Grant Programme. Grantees receive financial and project support from the IAS to implement, grow and showcase unique initiatives that respond to the priorities of young people.

Me and My Healthcare Provider

The IAS Me and My Healthcare Provider Campaign recognizes frontline healthcare workers who deliver quality HIV prevention, treatment and care for key populations, often in the face of stigma and discrimination. In 2023, the IAS awarded sub-grants to four partner organizations that identified and celebrated 18 healthcare providers from Brazil, Hong Kong, Mexico and Taiwan who offer stigma-free services to members of key populations. Four pairs of awardees and nominators will be recognized at the global level during IAS 2023, the 12th IAS Conference on HIV Science. Additionally, 14 Me and My Healthcare Provider champions from Kenya, Malawi, South Africa and Zambia were honoured for getting to the Heart of Stigma and providing stigma-free services. Among these champions, four were showcased in a [video campaign](#).

The IAS Me and My Healthcare Provider initiative also developed the "[Stigma-free services cookbook](#)", which was published on Zero Discrimination Day 2023 (1 March).

Vaccine Enterprise Mentorship Programme and HIV Vaccine Science Academy

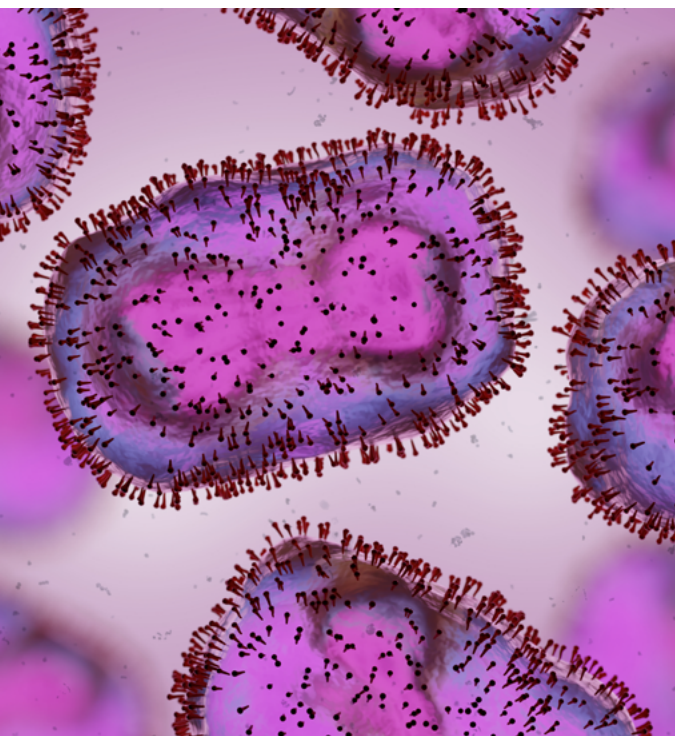
The Vaccine Enterprise African Research Network (EARN) supports African researchers in their ongoing efforts to mobilize, advocate and coordinate action towards an increased role in HIV vaccine R&D and shaping the research agenda.

Between July 2022 and June 2023, the EARN Mentorship Programme brought together 10 mentor and mentee pairs from central, eastern, southern and western Africa, providing learning and networking opportunities. In March 2023, 15 early- to mid-career African researchers attended the first edition of the HIV Vaccine Science Academy in South Africa.

Collaborative Initiative for Paediatric HIV Education and Research

Through the Collaborative Initiative for Paediatric HIV Education and Research (CIPHER), the IAS has been awarding up to USD 150,000 each to early investigators. This year, the programme sought applications from early-career researchers working to adapt and enhance approaches to paediatric and adolescent HIV with a strategic focus on mental health. Mental health is crucial at every stage of life, in particular for children and adolescents living with or affected by HIV.

Our response to mpox and our continuing response to COVID-19



Mpox

In July 2022, WHO declared mpox (formerly known as monkeypox) a global public health emergency after an outbreak in more than 70 countries, most of which were non-endemic.

The outbreak disproportionately affected people living with HIV who account for up to 48% of diagnoses globally. Studies show that people living with HIV with a weakened immune system might experience worse mpox outcomes.

This is of particular concern because some of the populations most vulnerable to HIV are also greatly affected by the mpox outbreak, which deepens stigma and LGBTQ-phobia.

Keeping abreast of the developments as they happened, the IAS moved quickly to update its members, sharing the latest clinical science and introducing a people-first approach to communicating about the outbreak.

These are some of the ways in which the IAS addressed the outbreak during the past 12 months:

We promote science

◦ Webinar: **Mpox under the spotlight**

This webinar featured four experts discussing the latest information on the epidemiology of mpox in non-endemic countries and prevention options, as well as updates on clinical presentation and treatment. Community perspectives brought focus to the best ways of reaching those most impacted to prevent a rapid spread of the virus at large-scale gatherings.

◦ Webinar presentation: **Clinical presentation of mpox occurring outside endemic areas: What is different in the current worldwide outbreak**

This presentation by former IAS Governing Council Member Marina Klein (McGill University Health Centre) examined the difference in clinical presentation of mpox in non-endemic countries.

We support action

- **Webinar presentation: [Clinical research networks: Rapid mobilization](#)**

IAS Governing Council Member Chloe Orkin (Queen Mary University of London) discussed a novel collaboration between clinical research networks to share case series, increase the size of data sets and amplify the voices of individual physicians.

- **Podcast episode: [Mpox, COVID-19 and HIV](#)**

This episode of HIV unmuted, the award-winning IAS podcast, investigated unfair healthcare access in parallel epidemics and looked at the mpox outbreak to assess whether we have learnt critical lessons from the COVID-19 and HIV pandemics.

We empower people

- **Webinar presentation: [Latest global updates on the mpox outbreak including implications for people living with HIV](#)**

Delivered by Meg Doherty (Director, Global HIV, Hepatitis and STI Programmes, WHO HQ), this presentation provided a global overview of current mpox epidemiology and response.

- **Information portal**

Through its [dedicated webpage for mpox and HIV](#) updates, the IAS ensures that its members and the public have access to evidence-based information, advice, resources and guidance on the mpox outbreak for people living with HIV.

- **AIDS 2022**

In addition to including [sessions on mpox](#), the IAS worked with local and federal public health authorities in Canada to offer immunization to vulnerable conference delegates.



COVID-19

Although WHO has officially declared that COVID-19 is no longer a public health emergency of international concern, the burden of COVID-19 continues to impact people around the world, including people living with and affected by HIV. The IAS continued to address COVID-19 over the past year:

We promote science

- **Report: Lessons from the structural innovations catalysed by COVID-19 for the HIV response**

This IAS report examined some of the structural innovations catalysed by COVID-19 to assess possible lessons for the HIV response.

We empower people

- **Information portal**

Maintaining the [dedicated webpage for COVID-19 and HIV](#) updates, the IAS kept its members and the public informed of latest developments, including vaccines and impact on people living with HIV.



"COVID-19 has proven that preparedness, scientific innovation and collaboration between public health experts, researchers, governments and community are all crucial components of the response to a pandemic."

Sharon Lewin, IAS President

Who we are

IAS – the International AIDS Society – convenes, educates and advocates for a world in which HIV no longer presents a threat to public health and individual well-being.

After the emergence of HIV and AIDS, concerned scientists created the IAS to bring together experts from across the world and disciplines to promote a concerted HIV response. Today, the IAS and its members unite scientists, policy makers and activists to galvanize the scientific response, build global solidarity and enhance human dignity for all those living with and affected by HIV.

The IAS is also the steward of the world's most prestigious HIV conferences: the International AIDS Conference, the IAS Conference on HIV Science and the HIV Research for Prevention Conference.



Our governance

IAS Governing Council

The IAS Governing Council, the thought leadership body of the IAS, guides and contributes to the thematic work of the IAS, and this informs all strategic actions taken in service of our organizational mission. In addition, the Governing Council ensures compliance with the IAS Bylaws and IAS internal rules and regulations and election procedures. It also represents the interests of IAS Members. The Nomination and Election Committee and the Thematic Working Groups support the Governing Council in its functions.

The IAS Governing Council is composed of 20 elected members and three officers (the President, President-Elect and Treasurer), plus two non-voting members (the Immediate Past President and the Executive Director). The Governing Council for July 2022-July 2024 took office at the closing of AIDS 2022 on 2 August 2022.

IAS officers



President

Sharon Lewin



President-Elect

Beatriz Grinsztejn



Treasurer

Jennifer Kates

Non-voting members



Immediate Past President

Adeeba Kamarulzaman



Executive Director

Birgit Poniatowski

Africa



Patrick Bitangumutwenzi



Josephine Nabukenya



Kenneth Ngure



Susan Shumba

Asia and the Pacific Islands



Ishwar Gilada



Andrew Grulich



Shuzo Matsushita



Nittaya Phanuphak

Europe



Andriy Klepikov



Cristina Mussini



Chloe Meave Orkin



Bruno Spire

Latin America and the Caribbean



Claudia Cortes



Brenda Crabtree Ramirez



Omar Sued



Mónica Thormann

United States and Canada



Susan Buchbinder



Renata Sanders



Darrell Tan



Mitchell Warren

IAS Executive Board

The IAS Executive Board acts on behalf of the IAS Governing Council and provides effective oversight and review of IAS operations, risks and finances. The Executive Board also approves the annual plan and budget and initiates the policy direction of the IAS.

The Executive Board consists of the three officers (the President, President-Elect and Treasurer), two non-voting members (the Immediate Past President and the Executive Director) and three appointed individuals with specific competencies relevant for the IAS as defined in the IAS internal rules and regulations. The three appointed individuals are selected by and from within the Governing Council via a separate appointment process. They can be co-opted from within the membership and/or external to the IAS if the candidate pool is insufficient to fulfil the required competencies as determined by the Governing Council. The three appointed members for July 2022-July 2024 are Andriy Klepikov, Kenneth Ngure and Ricardo Rubio.

The Governance and Membership Committee and the Finance Committee support the Executive Board in its functions.

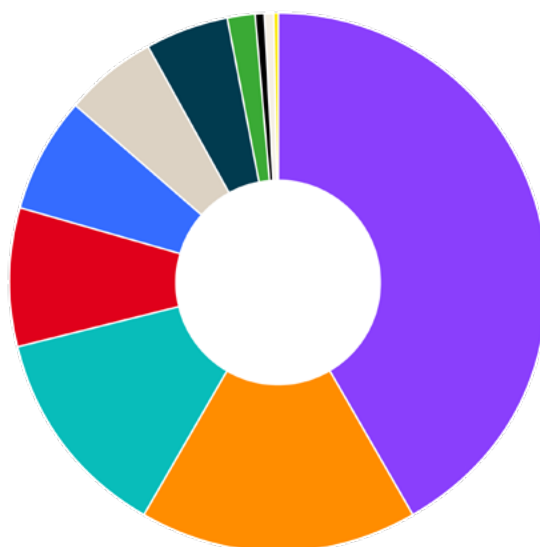
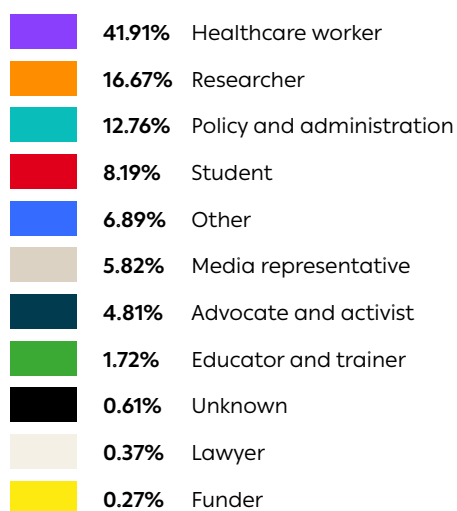
The heart of our work takes place at the intersection of science, policy and activism because that's where progress happens.

Our members

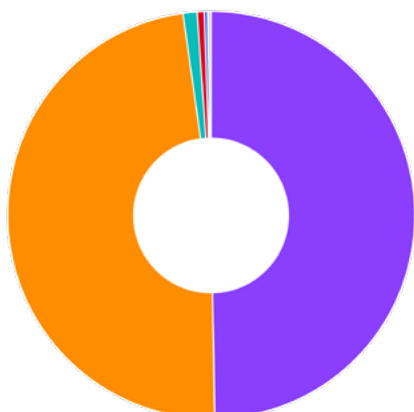
The IAS is the world's largest association of HIV professionals with members in over 180 countries. IAS Members work at all levels of the global HIV response, and they include researchers, clinicians, service providers, policy makers, people living with HIV and community advocates. Between July 2022 and June 2023, the IAS counted 15,821 members.

Membership by the numbers

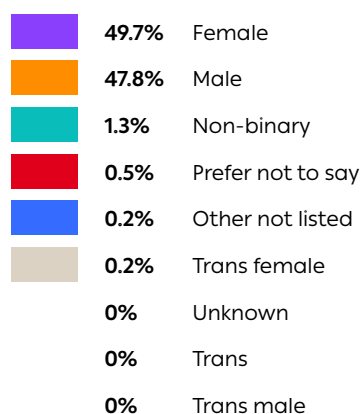
Members by profession



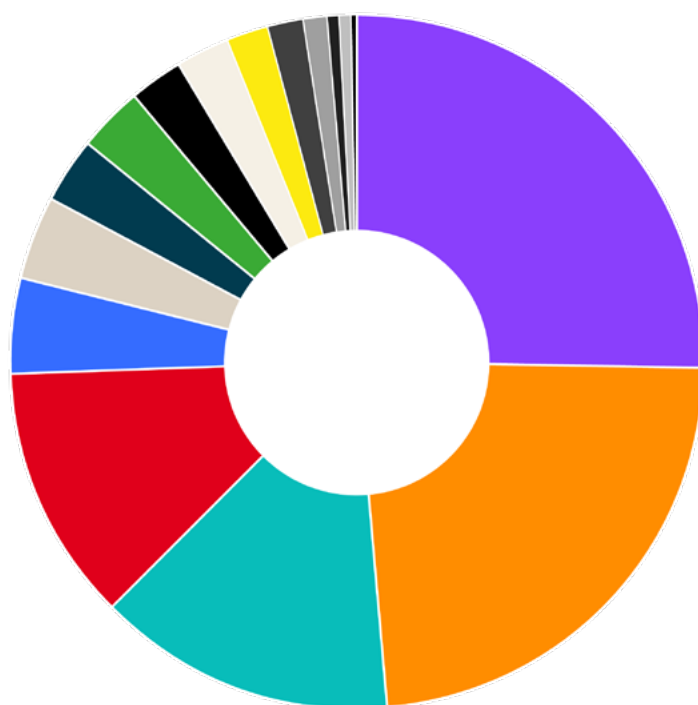
Members by region



Members by gender



Members by sector



25.28%	Academia
23.44%	Non-governmental organization
13.95%	Hospital/clinic
11.77%	Government
4.5%	Pharmaceutical company
3.83%	Media organization
3.26%	People living with HIV
3.1%	Grassroots community-based organization
2.46%	Other organization affiliation
2.35%	Private sector
2.01%	Intergovernmental organization
1.73%	Self-employed consultant
1%	Charitable foundation
0.67%	Faith-based foundation
0.45%	Unknown
0.12%	Cooperative
0.06%	Trade union

Top 10 member countries



Our core values

Put people first

- We are independent and ultimately accountable to people living with and affected by HIV
- We weigh and measure our actions against their impact on people's lives
- We champion an environment that empowers all to be part of the conversation
- We respect the lived experiences of all and foster a diversity of perspectives

Build bridges & collaborate

- We unite disciplines, sectors and people at all levels to drive progress in the HIV response
- We build trust by sharing knowledge and being transparent
- We hold ourselves individually responsible for the collective excellence of our work

Be evidence-based & open-minded

- We follow the science and promote evidence-based dialogue
- We intentionally seek out data to inform our attitudes, decisions and actions
- We evolve by challenging our biases and encouraging curiosity

How we do what we do

Promote Science

The IAS pursues and supports scientific advancements that positively alter the course of the HIV pandemic and promotes greater understanding of these discoveries. The organization pushes for the full spectrum of scientific achievement – from basic science to implementation research – and uses the visibility of its meetings to highlight dynamic, innovative work.

Support Action

The IAS uses its scientific authority to move science into policy and policy into tangible impact against the pandemic. It advocates for sustained global leadership and increased investment while keeping the fight against stigma and discrimination at the heart of its work.



Empower People

The IAS invests in professionalizing and promoting the HIV workforce – particularly the next generation of HIV professionals – to build the skills and resources that are needed to end the pandemic. As a membership body, the IAS understands and represents the interests of its members in all of its work, retaining a global perspective that is relevant at a local level. The IAS 2021-2025 Organizational Strategy is our roadmap to achieving a resilient, science-based, adequately funded HIV response that respects human rights and responds to the varied needs of people living with and affected by HIV.

For more information, read the [IAS 2021-2025 Organizational Strategy](#).

With gratitude

We would like to thank our funders who contributed to IAS activities implemented between 1 July 2022 and 30 June 2023.

Abbott Laboratories

AbbVie

AccuBio

Aurobindo

Beckman Coulter

Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation

Brad Jones & Shy Genel

Global Affairs Canada (GAC)

The Public Health Agency of Canada (PHAC)

Chevron Corporation

Ford Foundation

ANRS – Maladies infectieuses émergentes

Gilead Sciences

Global Fund to Fight AIDS, Tuberculosis and

Malaria

Hetero Labs Limited

ImmunityBio

International AIDS Vaccine Initiative

International Maternal Pediatric Adolescent AIDS

Clinical Trials (IMPAACT) Network

Janssen Global Services

Joint United Nations Programme on HIV/AIDS
(UNAIDS)

Laurus Labs

Magellan Rx Management

Malaika Vx

Mass General Hospital

Merck Sharp & Dohme

Open Society Foundations (OSF)

Pediatric HIV/AIDS Cohort Study (PHACS)

Palais des congrès de Montréal

Roche

Sanofi

Simons Foundation

Tourisme Montréal

United Nations Children's Fund (UNICEF)

United Nations Development Programme
(UNDP)

National Institutes of Health (NIH)

United States Agency for International Development
(USAID)

Viatris (Mylan)

ViiV Healthcare

Vir Biotechnology

Worcester HIV Vaccine (WHV)

World Health Organization (WHO)

Financial reports

The audited financial statements of the IAS have been prepared in accordance with Swiss GAAP.

The IAS accounting policies and the format used for the presentation of its financial statements are designed to accurately present its conferences, programmes and other activities.

Read the [reports](#)* of the Auditor on the consolidated financial statements for 2022 and on the statements of income and expenditures of AIDS 2022, the 24th International AIDS Conference.

* The financial report will be made publicly available via the link above following approval at the IAS Members' Meeting on 24 July 2023.

Become a member

Join the collective voice of policy makers, researchers, scientists and community members to shape the global HIV response. Visit iasociety.org/join-us to learn more about our work and the benefits of becoming an IAS Member.

Listen to HIV unmuted, the award-winning IAS podcast



Hear from the global HIV change makers who have shaped the response and ask what we must do to end the AIDS pandemic. HIV unmuted was awarded the "[Best Association Podcast / Audio Series](#)" of 2021 and is in the top 5-10% of podcasts worldwide.

Join the conversation



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