

# Annual Report 2020–2021

## WHO WE ARE

IAS – the International AIDS Society – leads collective action on every front of the global HIV response through its membership base, scientific authority and convening power. Founded in 1988, the IAS is the world's largest association of HIV professionals, with members in more than 170 countries. Working with its members, the IAS advocates and drives urgent action to reduce the impact of 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.

## HOW WE DO IT

**Promote Science.** The IAS pursues and supports scientific advancements that positively alter the course of the HIV epidemic 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 epidemic. 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 epidemic. 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](#).

## OPENING LETTER: FOLLOW THE SCIENCE

This year marks 40 years since AIDS was first reported. The decades-long response saw the creation of a resilient, global HIV community and a network of IAS Members in more than 170 countries who advocate and drive urgent action to reduce the impact of HIV.

Yet despite scientific advances and worldwide efforts, the reality is that about 37.6 million people are living with HIV today. In 2020 alone, 1.5 million people were newly infected and 690,000 died from AIDS-related causes.

And in late 2019, a new pandemic, COVID-19, emerged, disrupting essential health services across the world. Many of our members who usually work on the frontlines of HIV are now on the frontlines of COVID-19. Others are struggling to keep HIV programmes running smoothly as attention, expertise and resources are diverted.

While this focus is necessary to save lives and stop the spread of COVID-19, it also interrupts access to vital HIV treatment and prevention services.

For both HIV and COVID-19, lasting progress demands addressing deep-seated structural inequalities to protect the most marginalized. This is no easy task and will require trust and collaboration uniting scientists, policy makers, frontline health workers and affected populations.

Our work remains as critical as ever. As outlined in our 2021-2025 strategy, the IAS strives to:

- **Promote Science** to ensure that effective and acceptable prevention technologies are widely accessible, treatment is optimized, and we forge towards an HIV vaccine and cure.
- **Support Action** to articulate laws and policies that are evidence-based and person-centred.
- **Empower People** by ensuring that people most affected by HIV have agency, the latest information and are included in all processes.

The IAS found new ways of working in the COVID-19 era. These include moving quickly to holding virtual conferences, providing the latest COVID-19 information through webinars and our information portal, and sharing best practices for innovating HIV services during the pandemic.

COVID-19 is a stark reminder that following the science is as important as ever and is an inherently political decision. We must heed critical lessons from the HIV response to address inequities in access to COVID-19 vaccines across the world.

The greatest victories in the HIV response over the past 40 years have not been from HIV scientific breakthroughs alone, but from forming a common front that united scientists, activists and policy makers.

Together, we must call for the world to follow the science and work with the global HIV community in continuing to innovate and follow the science of tomorrow.



Birgit Poniatowski  
Executive Director

## OUR RESPONSE TO COVID-19

The IAS has had to pivot and adapt to new ways of working in response to the COVID-19 pandemic. These are our highlights from the past 12 months:

### Promote Science

- Convened two international virtual conferences exclusively dedicated to COVID-19, which featured leading voices in SARS-CoV-2 virology, immunology, vaccines, clinical care and therapeutic guidelines and trials.
- Hosted two webinars to build on the COVID-19 and HIV series conducted at the start of the pandemic: "COVID-19 and HIV: Latest updates and guidance"; and "Addressing the TB screening, prevention and treatment needs of people living with HIV in the era of COVID-19". Around 300 people participated in these webinars, which reached close to 1,000 online views.
- Launched the Global Differentiated Service Delivery (DSD) Research Collaborative to review evidence on DSD adaptations made in response to COVID-19, assess the strength of the available evidence, review the adaptations that should be continued, identify gaps in evidence on what worked and what did not, and collaboratively work to fill these gaps.
- Led an investigation on the enabling role of HIV vaccine research and development for SARS-CoV-2 vaccines. This work highlights the contribution of 40 years of HIV vaccine research to the COVID-19 vaccine R&D effort.
- Published, in the *Journal of the International AIDS Society* (JIAS), a standalone [virtual issue](#) on COVID-19 and HIV.
- Contributed to a virtual conference, HIV in the Time of COVID-19: Focus on the MENA, organized in collaboration with the Continuing Medical Education Office and American University of Beirut Medical Center.

### Support Action

- Hosted nine virtual sessions on COVID-19 and its impact on HIV services and programme implementation at a local level. These sessions were attended by more than 1,700 HIV professionals and stakeholders in Senegal and West and Central Africa, Latin America, Eastern Europe and Central Asia, the Southeast Asia region (Malaysia, Thailand, the Philippines), Lebanon and the Middle East and North Africa (MENA).
- Convened a multidisciplinary committee of experts to provide guidance and key considerations for the safe management of clinical trials involving people living with HIV during the COVID-19 pandemic.
- Rewarded best-practice examples of adaptations to HIV service delivery in response to COVID-19 through a small grants programme with 12 organizations in eight countries.
- Developed, through the IAS Industry Liaison Forum and based on advances made during the COVID-19 pandemic, 10 principles to support the implementation of digital innovations across the HIV prevention to care continuum.
- Co-convened a scientific and community consultation on innovations and efforts to prevent service disruption for harm reduction during COVID-19 to inform a [statement](#) presented by IAS President Adeeba Kamarulzaman in plenary at the 64th Commission on Narcotic Drugs.
- Organized three media briefings focusing on HIV and AIDS and the ongoing impact of COVID-19 in Latin America and Southeast Asia.





### Empower People

- Developed the COVID-19 information portal on [iasociety.org](https://iasociety.org) to share the latest guidance for people living with HIV and answer pertinent questions related to HIV and COVID-19.
- Awarded three grants of US\$150,000 each through the 2021 Collaborative Initiative for Paediatric HIV Education and Research (CIPHER) Grant Programme. This year's strategic focus was on HIV co-infections, including COVID-19, and community interventions.
- Produced an educational video with COVID-19 tips for young people for International Youth Day 2020.
- Promoted an **#IASONEVOICE** series on COVID-19 and HIV to highlight the stories, opinions and perspectives of IAS Members at the frontlines.

**"Never would I have imagined that the lessons we learned from HIV/AIDS research and implementation of programmes would help us as it has thus far in addressing COVID-19, the most extraordinary outbreak of a respiratory-borne illness that we have faced in over 100 years." – Dr Anthony Fauci, NIAID, United States, speaking at HIVR4P // Virtual**

## MEMBERSHIP

The IAS is the world's largest association of HIV professionals, with members in more than 170 countries. Together, we advocate and drive urgent action to reduce the global impact of HIV. Between July 2020 and June 2021, the IAS membership base reached 13,648 individuals working on all aspects of the global HIV response. IAS Members include researchers, clinicians, service providers, policy makers, people living with HIV and community advocates.

### IAS General Members' Meeting

To build a strong, informed and connected IAS membership body, the IAS convenes the annual IAS General Members' Meeting. In 2020, due to the COVID-19 pandemic, the meeting took place virtually during AIDS 2020: Virtual and more than 246 IAS Members attended. Anton Pozniak, IAS President, chaired the meeting and Sharon Lewin, IAS Governing Council member and Director of the Peter Doherty Institute for Infection and Immunity, presented "HIV Cure and COVID-19: Lessons learned for both viruses". View the full meeting in the IAS Members' Area: [member.iasociety.org/page/ias-members-meeting-2020](https://member.iasociety.org/page/ias-members-meeting-2020)

### Capacity development

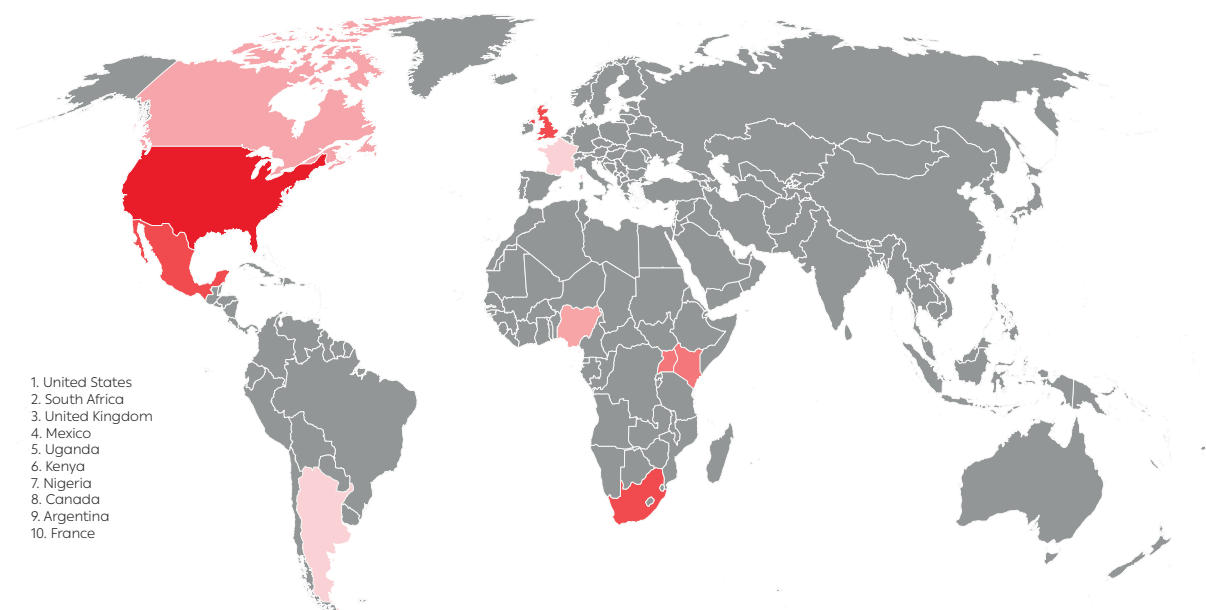
HIV science evolves rapidly, requiring constant interpretation, translation and knowledge exchange. This year, the IAS committed to promoting greater understanding of HIV science and policy to build the skills and resources needed to end the epidemic.

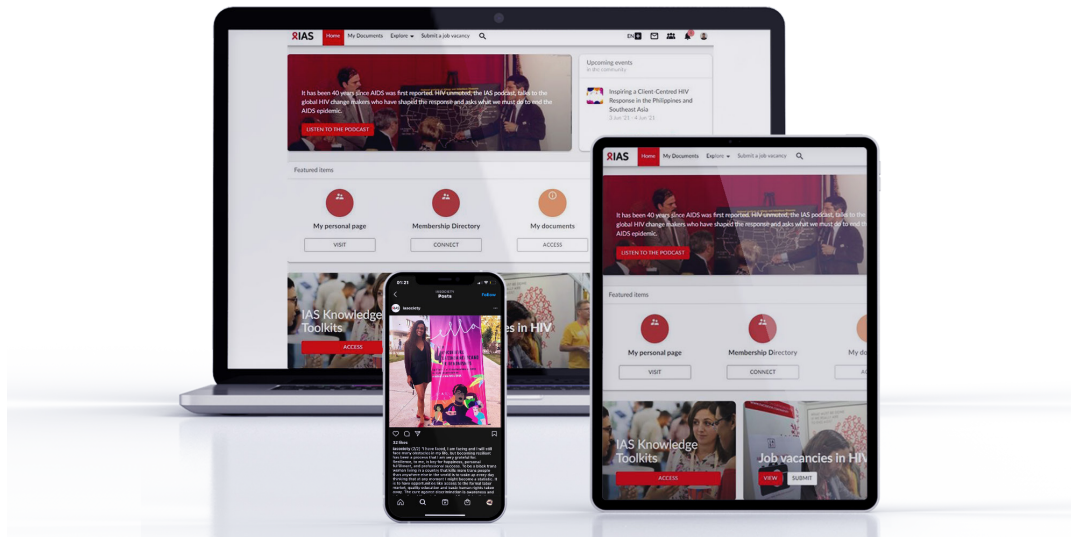
As part of this commitment, the IAS published the fifth edition of the knowledge toolkits series developed exclusively for IAS Members, highlighting important scientific advancements and innovative research presented at its conferences. The [AIDS 2020 Knowledge Toolkits](#) offer adaptable PowerPoint presentations with an easy navigation system covering 18 thematic areas presented at AIDS 2020: Virtual. For the second time, the IAS Knowledge Toolkits were translated into [Arabic](#), [French](#), [Portuguese](#), [Russian](#) and [Spanish](#).

This series will continue with the IAS 2021 Knowledge Toolkits providing more research and tools for IAS Members. For open-access toolkits from AIDS 2016, IAS 2017, AIDS 2018 and IAS 2019, visit the [knowledge toolkits archive](#).

Discover other exclusive IAS Member benefits here: [iasociety.org/Membership](https://iasociety.org/Membership)

### Top 10 member nations





## #IASONEVOICE

The IAS continued its #IASONEVOICE membership campaign, featuring 20 personal stories and opinions. These included the voices of sex workers living with HIV, scientists dedicated to finding an HIV vaccine and healthcare workers discriminated against due to their HIV status. The stories were diverse in theme, gender, profession, age and region, and reflected how people are working and volunteering tirelessly to improve the lives of people living with HIV throughout the world. A dedicated COVID-19 and HIV series was published throughout the year.

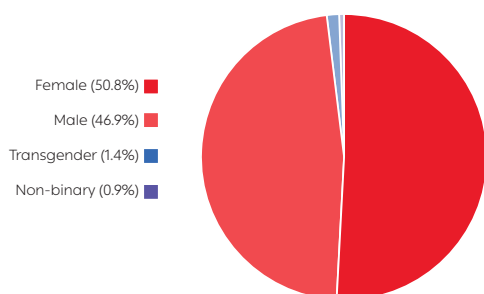
Learn more about the #IASONEVOICE campaign here:

[iasociety.org/Membership/IASONEVOICE](https://iasociety.org/Membership/IASONEVOICE)

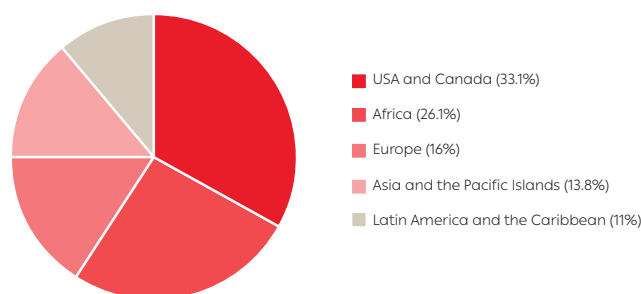
## New in the IAS Members' Area

New features have been added to the IAS Members' Area. These provide opportunities for IAS Members to view and submit HIV-related job vacancies, find out about [upcoming events](#) and [share events](#) happening in their communities. In addition, IAS Members are now able to translate content in the IAS Members' Area into Arabic, French, Portuguese, Russian and Spanish.

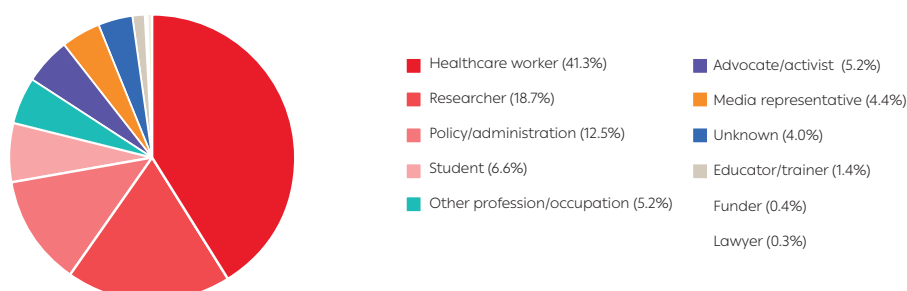
### Members by gender



### Members by region



### Members by profession





### AIDS 2020: VIRTUAL

On 6-10 July 2020, AIDS 2020: Virtual – the 23rd International AIDS Conference – made history by being the first completely virtual global AIDS conference. Amid the still-expanding crisis of the COVID-19 pandemic, the IAS took the decision to forge into uncharted territory by taking the AIDS conference to participants instead of bringing them to the conference.

The conference organizers provided 24-hour access for all participants. This not only helped overcome the challenge of differences in time zones, but also enhanced reach and participation. The conference featured 57 invited-speaker sessions, 62 abstract sessions, 27 workshops, 10 pre-conferences and more than 70 satellite sessions.

The conference highlighted, among other things: studies on pre-exposure prophylaxis

(PrEP) uptake among women in US President's Emergency Plan for AIDS Relief (PEPFAR) countries and the US; the real-world impact of PrEP use in East Africa; health outcomes of HIV-exposed but uninfected children in South Africa; weight gain and HIV; recent research on the global gag rule and its impact on communities most affected by HIV; and the latest findings on HIV vaccines and cure research.

The vivacity with which the HIV field embraced AIDS 2020: Virtual represents the resolve of scientists, researchers, policy makers, implementers and, especially, the people who are directly or indirectly affected by HIV to stand united in endeavours to reduce the transmission and burden of HIV. While world attention was focused on the COVID-19 pandemic, the conference drove home the message that the other pandemic of our times, HIV, must not be forgotten if all the gains made to date are not to be lost.

**"These are remarkable times – and defining times – for the global HIV movement and for the world. Every conversation we have now sits at the confluence of the COVID-19 pandemic and a new global reckoning with systemic racism." – Anton Pozniak, IAS Immediate Past President and AIDS 2020: Virtual International Scientific Chair**

#### IN NUMBERS

**13,000+** participants from **176** countries

**54%** of delegates were women

**55%** of delegates were younger than **45** years

**2,000** scholarship recipients

Almost **50%** of speakers represented key and vulnerable populations

**50 million+** people were reached through **8,294** social media posts

**600+** media stories

#### MEDIA HEADLINES

**AIDS 2020: Researchers describe a possible case of HIV remission and a new method to prevent infection – [CNN](#)**

**International AIDS Conference 2020: How the coronavirus crisis is hitting the fight against HIV/AIDS – [Euronews](#)**

**Patient Is Reported Free of H.I.V., but Scientists Urge Caution – [New York Times](#)**

**Global AIDS Conference, overshadowed by a new pandemic, returns to SF – virtually – [San Francisco Chronicle](#)**

**The global AIDS meeting, the Woodstock of science gatherings, goes virtual amid COVID-19 – [sciencemag](#)**

**"Even before the onset of COVID-19, the new UNAIDS Global Report shows that the world was not on track to reach its goal of ending AIDS as a public health threat by 2030. We cannot drop the ball on HIV. We must double down and increase our efforts to hold governments and policy makers to account. Epidemics run along the fault lines of inequalities and we can and must close the gaps." – Winnie Byanyima, UNAIDS Executive Director**



#### **4TH HIV RESEARCH FOR PREVENTION CONFERENCE**

HIVR4P // Virtual – the 4th HIV Research for Prevention Conference – took place on 27-28 January and 3-4 February 2021, bringing together over 1,800 delegates from 92 countries to critically discuss the latest research in HIV prevention science. HIVR4P // Virtual replaced the planned HIVR4P 2020 Conference, scheduled to take place in Cape Town, South Africa, in October 2020.

HIVR4P // Virtual took place at a time of enormous challenges for HIV prevention. COVID-19 has affected major HIV prevention clinical studies and slowed down access to prevention, treatment and care for HIV and many related conditions. The conference showed the enormous contribution that HIV research has made to the development of COVID-19 treatments and vaccines, building on prior HIV research and existing trials infrastructure. The conference also showed that despite the challenges arising from the COVID-19 pandemic, HIV prevention research has continued to advance, bringing greater choice of prevention methods closer for millions.



**"I was absolutely thrilled with this year's HIVR4P – really, really well done. It far exceeded my expectations – the best part was realizing how much HIV science got done during a year (2020) that I thought might really be a dud." – Survey respondent**

#### IN NUMBERS

**1,800** participants from **92** countries

**57%** of delegates were women

**25%** of delegates were younger than **36** years

**61%** of survey respondents said this was their first HIVR4P Conference

**382** scholarship recipients

**263** media stories

#### MEDIA HEADLINES

**Funding for COVID-19 overshadows HIV/TB research expense** – [The News International](#)

**Promising breakthroughs in HIV prevention** – [Africa News](#)

**Nearly a million have started taking PrEP worldwide – only a third of UNAIDS' 2020 target** – [aidsmap](#)

**Labmade antibodies can prevent HIV infection—but only if they match the virus** – [Science](#)

**Injection every two months protects women from HIV, SA study finds** – [Sunday Times](#)

**"As an advisor to policy makers, the discussion and findings around PrEP highly interested me. I found most of the findings very compelling, especially on factors that deter uptake or continuance of oral PrEP. These discussions have given me a new scope to look at in my country, Zambia, with regards to how we administer PrEP." – Survey respondent**



## IAS COVID-19 CONFERENCES

In response to the urgent need to analyse research, review policy and exchange frontline experiences related to the COVID-19 pandemic, the IAS hosted the inaugural virtual COVID-19 Conference on 10-11 July 2020. Attended by more than 10,000 delegates from 150 countries, this conference shone a spotlight on the latest science, policy and practice of the pandemic.

The second IAS COVID-19 Conference: Prevention in February 2021 featured the latest in COVID-19 prevention science, policy and practice. More than 2,000 delegates from over 90 countries attended this one-day conference.

Programmes of both conferences were designed to include the latest science on COVID-19 and its impact on health and beyond – with perspectives on the environmental, societal and political impacts – in addition to deliberations on how to join forces for tomorrow.



**"I want to thank everyone at the IAS for organizing this virtual conference. Whether it's AIDS or COVID-19, global cooperation to invent the tools and get them to where they're needed most is critical." – Bill Gates, Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation, speaking at the IAS COVID-19 Conference in July**

#### MEDIA HEADLINES

##### JULY 2020

HCV drugs sofosbuvir, daclatasvir show promise as potential COVID-19 treatment – [Infectious Disease News](#)

COVID-19 is public health official's 'worst nightmare,' Fauci says – [NBC News](#)

Scientists call for more research as another study shows mothers can give Covid-19 to unborn babies – [The Telegraph](#)

##### FEBRUARY 2021

Experts split on delaying Covid-19 vaccine second doses. Here's why – [CNN](#)

First-in-human clinical trial confirms new HIV vaccine approach – [Health24](#)

Fauci: Wealthy countries have a 'humanitarian obligation' to equitable distribution – [The Telegraph](#)

**"As multiple vaccine trials are being conducted globally, it is essential to take stock, scrutinize efforts to date for their scientific validity, be clear about what works and what doesn't, and deduct the implications for policy makers around the world." – Linda-Gail Bekker, IAS Past President and IAS COVID-19 Conference: Prevention Co-Chair**

The IAS Educational Fund provides inclusive educational opportunities for key stakeholders in the HIV response to facilitate bridging the gap between discovery, policy and action. Now in its fifth year, the IAS Educational Fund is consolidating its activities and launching new opportunities for HIV professionals in line with the IAS 2021-2025 Organizational Strategy to further Promote Science, Support Action and Empower People.

### Promote Science

The IAS provides multiple free and open-source avenues to HIV professionals to access the latest evidence. Among these are selected sessions from AIDS 2020: Virtual that were translated into Arabic, French, Portuguese, Russian and Spanish and are available along with the full conference sessions in English. The revamped IAS Knowledge Toolkits and materials from country and regional meetings are also still available to IAS Members in multiple languages.

In addition, the IAS continued promoting the latest science and best practices from HIV specialists around the world through focused webinars on topics called for by IAS Members. Over 1,200 HIV professionals participated in these live sessions. This past year's topics included: the latest updates on COVID-19 and HIV; family planning and HIV integration; paving the way for an HIV cure; how to better monitor progress against structural barriers in the HIV response; HIV and health for all; tackling stigma and discrimination in the HIV response; and addressing the TB screening, prevention and treatment needs of people living with HIV in the era of COVID-19.

### Support Action

Through its regional meetings, the IAS encourages healthcare workers, researchers, community actors and policy makers to action the key recommendations presented and discussed to improve programme implementation and policies at local and regional levels. Over the past year, five regional meetings have taken place through virtual sessions that reached over 1,700 HIV professionals.

#### Senegal – West and Central Africa region – 11-12 November 2020

##### How to reach key populations during the COVID-19 pandemic in West and Central Africa

Partner organization: Réseau Africain des Praticiens assurant la prise en charge globale des personnes vivant avec le VIH/SIDA

#### Eastern Europe and Central Asia – 19 November 2020

##### HIV in Eastern Europe and Central Asia during the COVID-19 pandemic: Looking to the future

Partner organization: European AIDS Clinical Society and the Alliance for Public Health, Ukraine

#### Argentina – Latin America region – 26 November 2020

##### Science and community in the response to HIV and co-infections in Latin America

Partner organization: Argentinian Society for Infectious Diseases (SADI) Congress 2020

#### Southern Africa – 25-26 March 2021

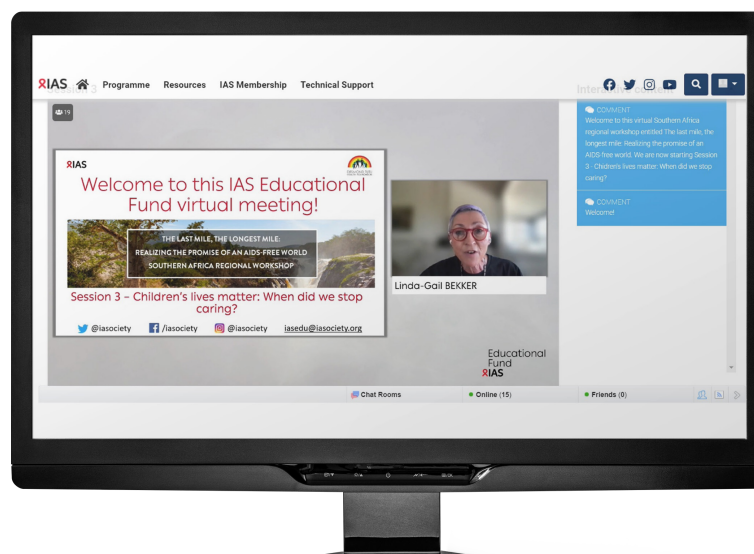
##### The last mile, the longest mile: Realizing the promise of an AIDS-free world

Partner organization: Desmond Tutu Health Foundation

#### The Philippines and Southeast Asia – 3-4 June 2021

##### U matter: Inspiring a client-centred HIV response in the Philippines and Southeast Asia

Partner organization: LoveYourself



Scientific publishing and writing online workshops remained very popular among both early-career and more experienced HIV researchers. Since July 2020, more than 1,250 researchers were able to strengthen their skills in writing and submitting abstracts for international conferences, as well as increase their chances of being accepted to publish their findings in international peer-reviewed journals.

## Empower People

In 2020, the IAS launched its new IAS Mentorship Programme under the umbrella of the IAS Educational Fund to help develop the next generation of HIV professionals. This exciting new programme, involving 40 mentors and mentees from 26 countries, will further complement existing capacity development initiatives targeting key stakeholders. For AIDS 2020: Virtual, the IAS Educational Fund provided support to 443 scholarship recipients (326 clinicians and HIV service providers and 117 advocates) from 72 countries. The IAS is also starting the fourth round of the Mark Wainberg Fellowship Programme for clinicians in sub-Saharan Africa and a series of press fellowship for journalists.

Find out more: [iasociety.org/educationalfund](https://iasociety.org/educationalfund)



IAS 2021-2023 Mark Wainberg Fellows

Bruce Wembulua Shinga



Elizabeth Senkoro



Jamila Bathy

**"I believe that strong leadership in health is needed to address HIV in the context of Guinea-Bissau. This fellowship will allow me to access opportunities to influence the approach to HIV in different ways on a larger scale." – Jamila Bathy, IAS 2021-2023 Mark Wainberg Fellow**

## HIV PROGRAMMES AND ADVOCACY

The IAS HIV Programmes and Advocacy department promotes the implementation of evidence-informed and human rights-based strategies for improving the lives of people living with and most vulnerable to acquiring HIV. Through its programmes, the department harnesses research, shapes the evidence base and amplifies the voices of communities living with and affected by HIV to influence policy across and beyond the HIV prevention to care continuum. The department works to Promote Science, Support Action and Empower People by undertaking advocacy, enabling capacity building and engaging with strategic and collaborative partners, including civil society, industry, academia, political and community leaders around the world.

Across its broad platform of work, the IAS HIV Programmes and Advocacy department maintains a focus on three cross-cutting issues: human rights, gender and youth. Each of the department's programmes purposely incorporates and mainstreams these issues into its activities.

### Promote Science

The **Collaborative Initiative for Paediatric HIV Education and Research (CIPHER)** convened the 6th Workshop on Children and Adolescents HIV-exposed and Uninfected in July 2020 in collaboration with WHO, the Pediatric HIV/AIDS Cohort Study, the United Nations Children's Fund and Massachusetts General Hospital. This forum has become the main platform for science and policy related to children and adolescents who have been HIV-exposed in utero and remain uninfected.

**The Global HIV Vaccine Enterprise**, in partnership with the HIV Vaccine Trials Network, the HIV Prevention Trials Network and the Forum for Collaborative Research, hosted a workshop series titled "[Clinical Trial Designs of the Future](#)". The series will generate three manuscripts and continued discussions in 2022.

### FOLLOW THE SCIENCE

The UN High-Level Meeting (HLM) on HIV and AIDS took place on 8-10 June 2021. IAS engagement was centred on a core message: follow the science. This message is the focus of the [IAS Annual Letter 2021](#), as well as guidance shared with the Advisory Group of the Multi-Stakeholder Civil Society Taskforce. Through its advocacy work with partners in specific countries, the IAS also specifically called upon UN Member States to show leadership and encourage other Member States to ensure that human rights are realized for all, science informs policy and stakeholders are engaged, not marginalized.

IAS President Adeeba Kamarulzaman was an invited panellist in the main programme of the HLM. This panel discussed how to reach a fully funded response to HIV in a challenging environment for health and development resources, and she emphasized the importance of investing in and being informed by science.

In addition, the IAS supported and co-convened side events at the HLM, including:

- **Science, HIV and Covid-19** – Where are we headed? with UNAIDS, WHO, World Bank and Africa CDC

- **Addressing the needs of women who use drugs**, with INPUD, UNODC, UNAIDS and WHO

- **Impact of the COVID-19 pandemic on the delivery of HIV prevention, treatment, care and support among people who use drugs and people in prisons**, with INPUD, UNODC, UNAIDS and WHO

- **Human rights and harm reduction**, with INPUD, UNODC, UNAIDS and WHO

The **IAS-Lancet Commission** on Health and Human Rights was launched on 24 March 2021. The Commission seeks to interrogate the key questions facing both global health and human rights in a world of complex transnational threats and challenges, from climate change to COVID-19, equity in access to healthcare and ways to address the many communities excluded from current health and development debates.

The **Towards an HIV Cure** programme published the 2020 edition of the "Global Investment in HIV Cure Research and Development" tracking paper, now in its eighth year. It estimated that in 2019, US\$328.2 million was invested in cure research, representing a 272% increase since 2012.

**"I got into HIV because I wanted to use my science brain in a manner that could make real societal change. I've been fighting to work with communities and make changes throughout my PhD but haven't been able to get far, likely as I am seen as a 'baby' in the field. However, being a Youth Ambassador has really invigorated my passion and made me want to fight to keep working towards my goal of bridging science and communities." – AIDS 2020: Virtual Youth Ambassador**



AIDS 2020: Virtual Youth Ambassador Programme



## Support Action

The **Differentiated Service Delivery (DSD)** programme supported the World Health Organization (WHO) in the development of its ["Updated recommendations on service delivery for the treatment and care of people living with HIV"](#). DSD is cited in the guidelines and presented at a dissemination event in March 2021.

The **Heart of Stigma** programme was launched at an IAS symposium at the INTEREST conference in December 2020. This new programme is consolidating the evidence base and enhancing knowledge on HIV-related stigma in an effective, scalable and catalytic manner.

The **Me and My Healthcare Provider** campaign [amplified the leadership of three young healthcare providers](#) from previous cohorts of the campaign who are delivering stigma-free services to key populations in Argentina, Nigeria and Kenya. Their work was also celebrated in an awards ceremony that took place during the virtual Intergenerational Summit organized by the Adolescent HIV Treatment Coalition.

On World AIDS Day 2020, the [multi-stakeholder consensus](#) on a target product profile led by the **Towards an HIV Cure** programme was published in *Lancet HIV*. It defines the characteristics for eventual HIV curative interventions to align interested parties around a clear set of goals for a cure applicable to all countries and income settings.

At the World Health Assembly, the IAS read a [statement](#) in support of a new WHO strategy for HIV, viral hepatitis and STIs, and advocated for an enhanced definition of person-centred care.

### Empower People

Six Youth Advisors supported through **CIPHER** are working with the IAS to develop roadmaps on how the IAS can improve its meaningful engagement of young people living with HIV.

The **2020 Research-for-Cure and Advocacy-for-Cure Academies** were held virtually and 56 people attended. Supported by academy alumni, online training provided a deeper understanding of the HIV cure field. The academies also included opportunities

for fellows to share strategic ideas on how to collaborate and advance HIV cure research in their regions.

The IAS convened the **AIDS 2020: Virtual Youth Ambassador Programme**, comprising 11 workshops, sessions and networking events, as well as 21 one-on-one individual careers forums. Thirty-five young leaders from 27 countries took part.



### JOURNAL OF THE INTERNATIONAL AIDS SOCIETY

The *Journal of the International AIDS Society* (JIAS) is a peer-reviewed and PubMed- and Medline-indexed journal that publishes the latest HIV research online. It is free to readers. As a multidisciplinary journal, 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 leading the way in implementation and operational research. In addition to publishing special thematic supplements, JIAS invests in strengthening the capacity and confidence of early-career researchers in low- and middle-income countries.

[jiasociety.org](https://jiasociety.org)

### FEATURED WORK

From July 2020 to June 2021, the journal published special issues titled: ["Integrating services for HIV and related comorbidities: modelling to inform policy and practice"](#); ["Men & HIV: Insights from sub-Saharan Africa"](#); ["Data-driven HIV prevention: the HIV prevention cascade and beyond"](#); ["Shifting paradigms: holistic and empowering approaches for adolescent HIV"](#); and ["Engagement of African men and transgender women who have sex with men in HIV research"](#).

# GOVERNANCE

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 2020-July 2022 took office at the closing of AIDS 2020: Virtual on 10 July 2020.

Following a comprehensive review of the IAS governance in 2018-2020 and revision of the IAS Bylaws, the Governing Council shifted towards a thought leadership role to guide and contribute to the thematic work of the IAS. In addition, the IAS Governing Council ensures compliance with the IAS Bylaws, IAS internal rules and regulations and election procedures, and represents the interests of IAS Members. Part of the Governing Council's executive functions were transferred to the IAS Executive Board as of 10 July 2020. The Nomination and Election Committee and the Thematic Working Groups support the Governing Council in its functions.

## IAS Officers



**President**  
Adeeba  
Kamarulzaman



**President-Elect**  
Sharon Lewin



**Treasurer**  
Jennifer Kates



**Immediate Past President**  
Anton Pozniak



**Executive Director**  
Birgit  
Poniatowski

## Africa

Serge Paul Eholié  
Keletso Makofane  
Josephine Nabukenya  
Kenneth Ngure

## 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  
Beatriz Grinsztejn  
Omar Sued  
Mónica Thormann

## United States and Canada

Adaora Adimora  
Susan Buchbinder  
Renata Sanders  
Darrell Tan

## IAS Executive Board

The IAS Executive Board acts on behalf of the IAS Governing Council and provides effective oversight and review of the IAS's 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 President, President-Elect and Treasurer, the Immediate Past President and the Executive Director (non-voting members), 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 the Governing Council via a separate voting process. They can be co-opted from within the IAS membership or be external to the IAS if the candidate pool is insufficient to fulfil the required competencies determined by the Governing Council. For July 2020-July 2022, Kenneth Ngure (Governing Council member), Linda-Gail Bekker (IAS Past President) and Ricardo Rubio (finance expert) joined the Executive Board.

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

## DONORS AND SPONSORS

The IAS would like to thank our dedicated donors and sponsors\*, without whom we could not realize the impact of our work.

Abbott Molecular	Luxembourg – Ministry of Foreign and European Affairs
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\*Donors and sponsors that funded activities from July 2020 to June 2021

## FINANCIAL REPORTS

The financial statements of the IAS have been prepared in accordance with the provisions of the Swiss Code of Obligations and the Swiss GAAP, including Swiss GAAP FER 21.

The IAS's 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 2020](#) and on the [Statement of Income and Expenditures of AIDS 2020: Virtual](#).



# ANNEX

## About HIV Programmes and Advocacy

### **Collaborative Initiative for Paediatric HIV Education and Research (CIPHER)**

The IAS accelerates an evidence-informed, human rights-based and integrated HIV response for infants, children, adolescents and young people living with and affected by HIV.

### **Differentiated Service Delivery (DSD)**

The IAS supports the scale up of DSD to improve access to and quality of prevention, testing, treatment and care services for people living with and affected by HIV.

### **Heart of Stigma**

The IAS consolidates the evidence base through a global systematic review linked with national reviews to document emerging best practice to reduce stigma in Kenya, Malawi, South Africa and Zambia. The Me and My Healthcare Provider campaign falls within this area of work.

### **Global HIV Vaccine Enterprise**

The IAS unites stakeholders to share knowledge, foster collaboration, enable solutions and expand support critical to the development of – and future access to – an HIV vaccine.

### **IAS Corporate Partnership Programme**

The IAS Corporate Partnership Programme promotes and facilitates the full contribution of the biomedical industry to the global HIV response by catalysing multi-stakeholder dialogue, engagement and action to address barriers along the HIV prevention, diagnosis and care continuum. It includes the Industry Liaison Forum (ILF), Industry Cure Group (ICG) and new Global HIV Vaccine Enterprise Industry Partnership Programme (eVIP).

### **Journal of the International AIDS Society (JIAS)**

JIAS is a peer-reviewed, PubMed- and Medline-indexed journal that provides an open-access platform for the generation and dissemination of evidence from a wide range of HIV-related disciplines. JIAS encourages research from resource-limited settings and organizes skills-building workshops on scientific writing and publishing for young and inexperienced researchers.

### **Person-centred, inclusive and quality healthcare**

This new IAS initiative refocuses previous work on HIV co-infections and co-morbidities, as well as key populations, to reflect comprehensive, inclusive and quality approaches for people living with and vulnerable to HIV. Priorities are to refine concepts and approaches to ensure universal healthcare for people in all our diversity. Specific focus areas include harm reduction and ageing with HIV.

### **Towards an HIV Cure**

The IAS works to drive concerted efforts to accelerate global scientific research and engagement towards a cure for HIV.

### **Youth Hub**

The Youth Hub is a digital space to support youth leadership across all aspects of the HIV response. Launched at IAS 2021, the Youth Hub has grown from the IAS's Youth Voices campaign and annual Youth Ambassador Programme. It amplifies the voices of young people in order to influence policy makers, funders and healthcare providers to improve youth HIV services.

## BECOME A MEMBER

Join the collective voice of policy makers, researchers, scientists and community members to shape the global HIV response. Visit [iasociety.org/membership](https://iasociety.org/membership) to learn more about our work and the benefits of becoming an IAS Member.

## JOIN THE CONVERSATION



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