



Consultation on differentiated ART delivery in West and Central Africa

Friday, 17 May 2019, [Mövenpick Ambassador Hotel Accra](#), Accra, Ghana

BACKGROUND

Major progress has been made globally to move towards the UNAIDS 90-90-90 targets by 2020, but countries in West and central Africa (WCA) are lagging¹. In 2016, UNAIDS launched a WCA catch-up plan to set the 25 countries in the region on the fast track to achieving the 90-90-90 targets by 2020². Barriers to scale up in this region remain complex. The lack of political commitment and funding, high levels of stigma and health systems prioritizing services associated with user fees work together to deprioritize effective resource allocation and focused management of the HIV epidemic. Planning HIV service delivery in these contexts poses specific challenges. Within the WCA region, there are low- and high-prevalence settings and, within a country, prevalence can vary dramatically from region to region and by population. Providing HIV care within weak health systems that are often struggling in situations of post or active conflict or recovering from the devastating Ebola epidemic adds further complexity.

The World Health Organization (WHO) recommends a differentiated service delivery (DSD) approach to meet the diverse needs of people living with HIV³. This includes providing differentiated ART delivery to clinically stable clients. There has been a growing interest in DSD globally with many examples of policy support and scale up of differentiated ART delivery in sub-Saharan Africa. Differentiated ART delivery is also part of the *West and Central Africa Catch up plan* but to date, progress in the region on differentiated ART delivery has not been shared.

The [Differentiated Service Delivery](#) (DSD) initiative of the International AIDS Society (IAS) will convene a half-day consultation on differentiated ART delivery in WCA on 17 May 2019 in Accra, Ghana, following the INTEREST conference.

OBJECTIVES

The key objectives of this consultation meeting are to:

- Share five priority actions and a supplement to the Decision Framework for ART delivery specific to WCA to facilitate implementation and scale up of differentiated ART delivery models in WCA for clinically stable clients on ART,
- Promote examples from the region, both related to policy and implementation,
- Advocate for and support the development of national DSD policies and/or the inclusion of DSD policies in national HIV strategic plans and
- Assess the level of differentiated ART delivery implementation in specific countries in the region,
- Identify and connect key regional and national stakeholders (implementers, ministries of health, community) to foster intra-regional exchange and learning.

FORMAT

¹ UNAIDS. [Miles to go: Closing gaps, breaking barriers, righting injustices](#). 2018.

² UNAIDS. [The western and central Africa catch-up plan: Putting HIV treatment on the fast-track by 2018](#). 2016.

³ WHO. [Consolidated guidelines on the use of antiretroviral drugs for treating and preventing HIV infection: recommendations for a public health approach – 2nd ed.](#) 2016.



The consultation will include a mix of session formats including plenary and best practice examples, panel discussions and group work.

LOGISTICS

The consultation is being held at the [Mövenpick Ambassador Hotel Accra, Ghana](#) in Ballroom 2. The hotel is located on Independence Avenue and [800 metres to walk](#) from the INTEREST conference venue, [Kempinski Hotel Gold Coast City Accra](#).

For any other logistic enquiries, please contact Lina Golob (lina.golob@iasociety.org) or Anna Grimsrud (anna.grimsrud@iasociety.org).


AGENDA

TIME	SESSION AND PRESENTERS	CHAIRS
12h00-13h00	<i>Lunch buffet and registration</i>	
13h00-13h15	SESSION 1: Introductions and overview <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Introductions and overview of key priorities for differentiated ART delivery in WCA- Anna Grimsrud (IAS, South Africa) 	Dr Ndougou Salla Ba (WHO, Burkina Faso) and Dr Stephen Ayisi Addo (NACP, Ghana)
13h15-13h35	SESSION 2: The differentiated ART delivery framework approach <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Overview of ART delivery framework approach – situational analysis, challenges, elements, adapt or build + what are the building blocks- Lynne Wilkinson (IAS, South Africa) • The experience of Sierra Leone, Samuel Massaquoi (NACP, Sierra Leone) and Martin Ellie (NETHIPS, Sierra Leone) 	
13h50-14h35	SESSION 3: Best practice examples from the region <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Implementing multi-month scripting (MMS) for ART refills in Nigeria, Matthew Attah (USAID Global Supply Chain Program, Nigeri) • Providing ART refills outside of a clinic setting to men who have sex with men in Ghana, Henry Nagai (JSI, Ghana) • Leveraging support groups and offering fast track refills in Côte d'Ivoire, Franck Euloge Boraud (ICAP, Côte d'Ivoire) • Utilizing community pharmacies for ART refills in Nigeria, Yohanna Kambai Avong (Institute of Human Virology, Nigeria) 	Lina Golob (IAS, Switzerland), Kafui Senya (WHO, Ghana)
14h35-14h55	<i>Coffee break</i>	
14h55-15h25	SESSION 4: Putting clients at the centre (Panel discussion) Panellists - Jonathon Tetteh-Kwao (ITPC, Ghana), Martin Ellie (ITPC, Sierra Leone), Mahawa Sylla (Guinea), Clarisse Mawika (RNOAC, DRC), Gazalima Bienvenu Erlet (CAR)	Chris Akolo (Linkages/FHI 360, USA), Esther Casas (MSF, South Africa)
15h25-15h55	SESSION 5: Perspectives and insights on funding decisions and what's needed from key country stakeholders (Panel discussion and Q&A) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Perspective from the Global Fund: Quality, implementation and impact, Annette Reinisch (Global Fund, Switzerland) Panellists - Meg Doherty (WHO, Switzerland), Annette Reinisch (Global Fund), Angela Trenton-Mbonde (UNAIDS Ghana)	Alison Wringe (LSHTM, France)



15h55-16h35	<p>SESSION 6a: Country priorities and challenges (Group work)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">➤ <i>Three priority actions for differentiated ART delivery</i>➤ <i>Three main challenges for differentiated ART delivery policy development, implementation of differentiated ART delivery pilots or scale-up</i> <p>Group work country focal points: CAR: Laurent Mukota (MSF, CAR) DRC: Didier Kamerhe (PATH, DRC) Ghana: Dr KK (NACP, Ghana) Guinea: Foromo Guilavogui (MoH, Guinea) Nigeria: Nwakaego Chukwukaodinaka (MoH, Nigeria) Sierra Leone: Martin Ellie (ITPC, Sierra Leone) Regional: Maureen Syowai (ICAP, Kenya) & Oussen Tientore (ICI-Sante, Burkina Faso)</p>	Renicha McCree (UNAIDS, Ghana) and Aji-Mallen Sanneh (Global Fund, Switzerland)
16h35-17h00	SESSION 6b: Country discussion report back	
17h00-17h15	<p>SESSION 8: Discussion of next steps and close</p> <p>Anna Grimsrud and Lynne Wilkinson (IAS, South Africa)</p>	
17h15-18h15	<i>Reception</i>	



List of participants

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