



The International AIDS Conference

The International AIDS Conference is by far the largest conference on HIV related issues. This prestigious conference is the premier gathering for those working in the field of HIV, as well as policymakers, people living with HIV and others committed to ending the epidemic.

The International AIDS Conference is a tremendous opportunity for researchers from around the world to share the latest scientific advances in the field, learn from one another's expertise, and develop strategies for advancing all facets of our collective efforts to treat and prevent HIV.

The conferences also provide an opportunity to intensify political and financial commitments to AIDS, and include the largest international conference scholarship programme in HIV.

Conference Principles

- Be inclusive of people living with HIV and key affected populations, and optimize mechanisms for meaningful participation.
- Be transparent in the way that the conference is planned and implemented.
- Ensure gender equality in representation at all levels of the planning and in the implementation of the conference.
- Develop a robust, comprehensive programme to present the most current science, best medical practice information, and community experience.

Conference Overview

The International AIDS Conference Programme seeks to promote scientific excellence and inquiry, encourage individual and collective action, foster multi-sectoral dialogue and constructive debate, and reinforce accountability amongst all stakeholders.

Sessions will focus on the latest issues in HIV science, policy and practice and will also seek to share key research findings, lessons learned, best practices, as well as identify gaps in knowledge.

The conference will feature abstract-driven sessions, a daily plenary session, a variety of symposia sessions, professional development workshops, and independently organized satellite meetings. In addition, the conference programme will include a number of programme activities, such as the Global Village and the Youth Programme, which are an integral aspect of the International AIDS Conference.

Daily Plenary Sessions

The daily plenary sessions feature some of the world's most distinguished HIV scientists, policy specialists and community leaders. Plenary sessions will bring together all conference delegates at the first session of every morning.

Non-Abstract driven Sessions

In addition to Abstract driven sessions, the International AIDS Conference features a number of different sessions such as Symposia Sessions, Bridging Sessions and Special Sessions addressing a variety of current viewpoints and issues.

The Global Village

The Global Village is a diverse and vibrant space where community gathers from all over the world to meet, share and learn from each other. It is a space for community to demonstrate the application of science and good leadership. It is also a space that invites conference participants to see how science translates into community action and intervention. The Global Village promotes networking between north and south, east and west and provides a space for displays, discussions and performances from throughout the world. The Global Village is open to the general public and conference delegates and admission is free.

Youth Programme

Almost half of all new HIV infections in the world are among people under 25. Estimates show that more than 7,400 people become infected with HIV daily, 3,300 of whom are young people. Globally, 5.4 million young people are living with HIV. Young women under age 25 are at an even greater risk for HIV infection and comprise 57.4% of infected youth. Young people remain the most vulnerable group to HIV infection due to many factors, including lack of information, education, societal influences, and inability to access healthcare services.

The aim of the Youth Programme at the International AIDS Conference is to work to strengthen the participation of young people and the profile of youth issues at AIDS 2014.

AIDS 2014 organizers want young people to be a visible presence at the conference, not only as delegates, but also as organizers, speakers, leaders and peers. Young people will have their own areas at the conference, but will also be encouraged to take part in the larger discussions.

Our aim is to advocate for current and critical issues affecting young people worldwide, and further pinpoint current strategies for effective change. Building youth leadership is crucial to an effective AIDS response among young people and by young people, especially for key affected populations. This includes, but is not limited to, young people living with HIV, young people who use drugs, young sex workers, young men who have sex with men, young women, young migrants, and youth in prisons.

For more information about youth and HIV please see: www.unaids.org/learnmore/en/index.html and www.youthaidscoalition.org/page/ypdata.