



# Civil Society Action Team

Improving the performance of Global Fund grants



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A new civil society-led global initiative has been launched - the Civil Society Action Team (CSAT). It coordinates, brokers, and advocates for technical support to civil society organizations implementing or seeking grants from the Global Fund to Fight AIDS, TB and Malaria (Global Fund).

The Global Fund is one of the largest funding mechanisms supporting health projects in developing countries. As more Global Fund supported projects are implemented, some are experiencing bottlenecks and delays. Under-performing projects require technical support and capacity strengthening. However, civil society organizations have not been receiving sufficient support - which is why CSAT was launched.



CSAT helps civil society organizations with project proposals and implementation - through brokering technical support and coordinating advocacy nationally, regionally and globally.

## CSAT Coordination

CSAT operates through existing civil society organizations that have been selected through an open call for proposals and transparent selection process. The International Council of AIDS Service Organizations (ICASO), whose International Secretariat is based in Canada, was selected as a global host.

The regional hosts have been chosen as follows:

- Middle East and North Africa: Association de lutte contre le sida (ALCS), Morocco, coordinator Nadia Raffif (alcsmarrakech@gmail.com)
- West and Central Africa: African Council of AIDS Service Organizations (AfriCASO), Senegal, coordinator Kibibi M. Thomas Mbwavi (tmkibibi@africaso.net)
- East and Southern Africa: AfriCASO/Southern Africa Network of AIDS Service Organizations (SANASO), Namibia, coordinator Tongayi Mangisi (tongayi@sanaso.na)
- Eastern Europe and Central Asia: Eurasian Harm Reduction Network (EHRN), Lithuania, coordinator Gennady Roschupkin (gennady@harm-reduction.org)
- Asia Pacific: Asia-Pacific Network of People Living with HIV/AIDS (APN+)/7 Sisters, Thailand, coordinator Vince Crisostomo (coordinator@7sisters.org)
- Latin America and the Caribbean: AID FOR AIDS (AFA), Peru, coordinator Pablo Anamaria Cardenas (Pablo.Anamaria@aidforaids.org)

## CSAT Priorities

- Mobilizes civil society organizations to engage with Global Fund opportunities
- Improves access of community organizations to technical support and capacity building
- Advocates for participation of key affected populations in HIV and AIDS programs funded by the Global Fund

### Most common challenges in Global Fund project implementation:

- Lack of capacity for effective proposal development to access funding.
- Lack of adequately trained project managers to implement programs.
- Inadequate management, finance and reporting capacity.
- Limited technical capacity in hard-to-reach areas.
- Lack of comprehensive representation of all stakeholders on Country Coordinating Mechanisms (CCMs).
- Delays in getting funding to civil society organizations serving as sub-recipients.



### CSAT helps to:

- Identify civil society technical support needs related to Global Fund project implementation.
- Identify appropriate technical support providers and link them with civil society organizations that need support.
- Identify possible sources of funding for technical support to civil society organizations.
- Advocate among providers for expanded availability of more appropriate technical support.
- Provide civil society input into the Global Implementation Support Team (GIST), Global Fund Secretariat, UNAIDS, UNITAID and other coordinating mechanisms.
- Promote the inclusion of marginalized groups in all aspects of Global Fund grants from proposal development to implementation.

## For more information about CSAT contact:



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AIDS Service Organizations

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