

The Country Scorecard Development Process

AIDS Accountability International

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This text presents a summary of the process of developing the *AIDS Accountability Country Scorecard*. The step-by-step description of the process is followed by an Annex listing the people who have been involved in one way or another.

Developing the AIDS Accountability Country Scorecard

The Country Rating Initiative

AIDS Accountability International (AAI), an independent non-profit organization, was established in 2005 to increase accountability and inspire bolder leadership in the response to the AIDS epidemic. In its first year, AAI consulted with various stakeholders in the global HIV/AIDS community about the need for a country rating and what such a rating should look like. AAI concluded that a rating was indeed needed and that it was appropriate that an independent organization would develop it. As a result of these consultations, in 2006, the AAI Country Rating Initiative was launched.

The Country Rating Pilot Study: The Relative Response

In 2006, AAI initiated a process to pilot a method for the rating. AAI commissioned a series of background papers reviewing existing indicators and methodologies used in other ratings. A suggested scenario was presented in August 2006 at the International AIDS Conference in Toronto. A diverse group of advisers were consulted to help identify the first *Country Rating Development Team* (for members, see Annex).

In 2007 the Development Team presented a Country Rating pilot study. This model focused on rating countries with an HIV prevalence of more than 0.2% on three different aspects of service delivery in relation to a set of context variables. We called it the "Relative Response Model".

In January 2008, an independent reviewer and members of the AAI's *Country Rating Advisory Group* (CRAG) – a global panel of close to one hundred representatives of civil society, bilateral and multilateral agencies, academia, government and the private sector (see Annex) – were invited to give feedback on the Relative Response Model. Most CRAG members believed the country rating to be a potentially powerful advocacy tool at both local and national levels that would spark debate and dialogue. AAI's consultative approach to developing the tool was also appreciated and considered a good way of creating buy-in for the rating. However, CRAG members had two general criticisms of the Relative Response Model: 1) with a focus on developing countries, the rating was not inclusive enough in terms of countries included in the analysis, and; 2) the model was not sufficiently comprehensive in that it covered only three aspects of the very complex reality that is the response to AIDS. In response to this critique, AAI decided to adopt a more comprehensive scorecard approach that would include virtually all countries and that would cover a more comprehensive range of elements of the response to AIDS.

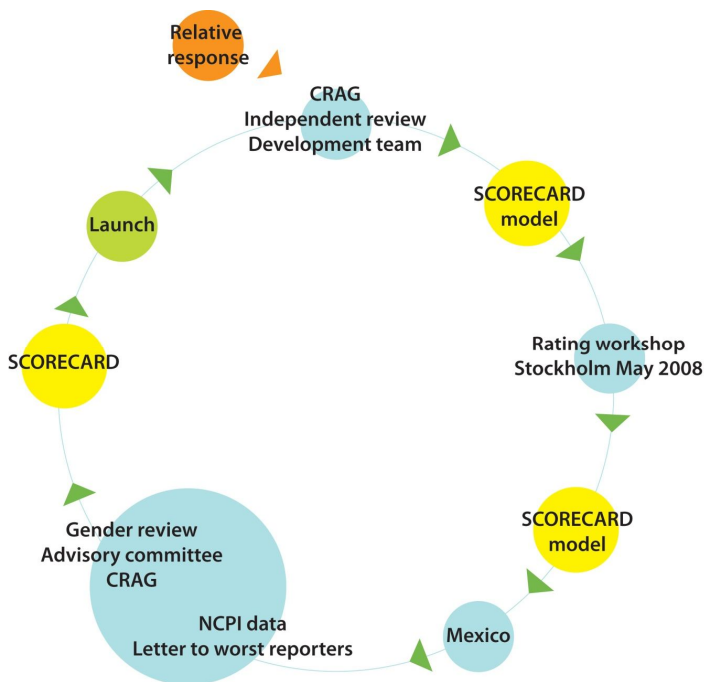
The Scorecard Model

The development of the scorecard model was undertaken by *the Country Scorecard Development Team* (for members, see Annex), led by Dr. Jaran Eriksen. A first draft of the scorecard model was presented at AAI's first Rating Workshop in May 2008.

Based on the feedback received at the workshop the scorecard model was updated and again reviewed by the *AAI Advisory Committee* (see Annex), as well as the CRAG, before being

presented at a technical session at the XVII International AIDS Conference in Mexico City in August 2008. Simultaneously, a web-based scorecard evaluation tool was placed on the AAI website. In addition, a gender review of the proposed scorecard was commissioned from an external reviewer, Chiseche Mibenge at the Netherlands Institute for Human Rights, University of Utrecht. The scorecard was subsequently updated twice after additional evaluation of the AAI Advisory Committee and upon receiving further data from UNAIDS.

Fig. 1. The AIDS Accountability Country Scorecard Development Process



The AIDS Accountability Country Scorecard, which will be launched on World AIDS Day 2008, is the version that has been developed through the consultation process detailed above (see figure 1). Although we have already improved the scorecard in several ways on the basis of comments and suggestions received through the consultative process – which we feel allows us to present a uniquely relevant, politically legitimate and methodologically rigorous monitoring tool – the Country Scorecard will be improved further during 2009, mainly in terms of validity and comprehensiveness.

The 2008 version of the Country Scorecard builds exclusively on the self-reported data that countries submit to UNAIDS through

the UN monitoring process. AAI's intention with this strategy is to simply reflect the national report back to country stakeholders and the public more broadly so as to inspire a process of discussions and demands for accountability that will lead to a better response. The 2009 version of the Country Scorecard will, to some extent, build on data that has been validated independently by a panel of experts and civil society stakeholders. This second version of the scorecard will also address the main gaps that have been identified in the consultation process: gender, human rights, children, and care and support. While the current set of eight elements – data collection, focus on most-at-risk populations, prevention, treatment, coordination, civil society, financing and human rights mainstreaming – are all central aspects of a successful response, so are the extent to which responses take sufficient account of gender and youth in developing and implementing the response to AIDS. In addition to these two elements we will also complement the self-reported data with other existing data with relevance to one or more of the elements. The 2009 version of the scorecard will be even more comprehensive and valid as an assessment of the quality of country responses to AIDS.

It is AAI's ambition that, by the current UN target date of 2010, the Country Scorecard will be widely recognized as a valid and comprehensive monitoring tool and rating of country responses to AIDS that will help ensure that governments and political leaders can be held accountable for their performance in responding to AIDS, also beyond the current UN deadline. The AIDS Accountability Country Scorecard will thereby contribute towards sustained political mobilization for effective country responses to AIDS.

Annex: People Involved in the AIDS Accountability Country Scorecard Development Process

This annex lists those who have been more or less closely involved in developing or commenting on various drafts of the Country Scorecard, or assisting AAI in other ways. It is essential to point out that the final content of any of AAI's publications, strategies or ratings, including the AIDS Accountability Country Scorecard, do not necessarily reflect their views or opinions, and has not been explicitly certified by any of these individuals or the institutions they represent.

AAI Board of Directors

- Lars O. Kallings, MD PhD, UN Special Envoy to the Secretary General for HIV/AIDS in Eastern Europe and Central Asia
- Gustaaf Wolvaardt, MD, Executive Director, Foundation for Professional Development, South Africa
- Carl-Olof Bouveng, Partner at Law firm Lindahl KB, Sweden.
- Rodrigo Garay, Founder & Executive Director of AAI, former CEO, International AIDS Society

Advisers

AAI is proud to have interacted with and received the advice of the following leading global experts in the field of HIV/AIDS, as well as global public health and development more broadly, on different strategic issues:

- Tony Barnett, Professor, London School Of Economics, UK
- Alvaro Bermejo, Executive Director, International HIV/AIDS Alliance, UK
- Nils Daulaire, President and CEO of The Global Health Council, USA
- Paul De Lay, Director, Epidemic Monitoring and Prevention Department, UNAIDS, Geneva
- Bo Ekman, Chairman, Tällberg Foundation, Sweden
- Minou Fuglesang, PhD, Director Femina-HIP, Tanzania
- Ophelia Haanyama-Orum, Senior Advisor, Global Partnership on HIV and AIDS, Sweden
- Anders Milton, Former Chairman, Council Of The World Medical Association, Sweden
- Christopher Murray, Professor, Institute Director, Institute for Health Metrics and Evaluation, University of Washington, USA
- Hans Rosling, Professor, Karolinska Institute and Founder of Gapminder, Sweden
- Mary Ann Torres, Senior Policy Advisor, ICASO, Canada
- Thomas Tufte, Professor in Communication, Roskilde University, Denmark
- Stefano Vella, Research Director, Department Of Drug Research And Evaluation, Istituto Superiore di Sanità, Italy
- Senator Mechai Viravaidya, UNAIDS Special Representative, Chairman, Population & Community Development Association, Thailand
- Anders Wijkman, Swedish Member of The European Parliament and the Committee on the Environment, Public Health and Food Safety, Brussels
- Anne Winter, Advocacy and Communications Consultant, Geneva
- Paul Zeitz, Executive Director, Global AIDS Alliance, USA

AAI Rating Development Teams

Each of AAI's rating initiatives has consisted of a Development Team of 4-8 people. The teams were commissioned to write proposals for new rating instruments, which were reviewed by the Expert Panel and the AAI Advisory Committee.

The Country Rating: Relative Response Development Team

Coordinator: Chris Desmond, Research Associate, Harvard School of Public Health, USA

- Anita Alban, Executive Director, EASE International, Denmark

- Anna-Mia Ekström, Researcher, Division of International Health (IHCAR), Department of Public Health, Karolinska Institute, Sweden
- Evan S. Lieberman, Associate Professor of Politics & Richard Stockton Bicentennial Preceptor, Princeton University, USA

The Country Scorecard Development Team

- Coordinators: Jaran Eriksen, researcher, Karolinska Institute, Sweden and Per Strand, Research Fellow, University of Cape Town, South Africa
- Joseph Decosas, Regional Health Advisor, PLAN International, Ghana
 - Roger Drew, Health and Development Consultant, UK
 - Ulrich Laukamm-Josten, WHO Regional Office for Europe, Denmark
 - Marcel van Soest, Executive Director, World AIDS Campaign, The Netherlands
 - Jerome Uher, Communications Director, Corporation for Enterprise Development

The Business Rating Development Team

- Pamela Bolton, Associate Vice President, Knowledge, Evaluation & Performance, Global Business Coalition on HIV/AIDS, Tuberculosis, and Malaria, United States
- Gavin George, Research Fellow at the Health Economics and HIV/AIDS Research Division at the University of KwaZulu-Natal, South Africa
- Brad Mears, CEO, South African Business Coalition on HIV/AIDS, South Africa
- Alyson Slater, Independent Communications and Sustainability Consultant, The Netherlands

The AAI Advisory Committee

The members of this advisory committee provided feedback on the rating initiatives on a regular basis and advised AAI on the design and content of future rating workshops and on potential activities that could further strengthen the impact of our rating initiatives.

- Priscilla Akwara Advisor, Statistics and Monitoring, UNICEF, New York
- Laura Ferguson, Research Manager, Program on International Health and Human Rights, Harvard School of Public Health, USA
- Marianne Flink, Independent Consultant, Former CEO, Standard & Poor's Scandinavia, Sweden
- Michael Hammer, Executive Director, One World Trust, UK
- Stuart Kean, Senior HIV and AIDS Policy Adviser, World Vision UK
- Khadija Moalla, Regional HIV/AIDS Practice Leader & Programme Coordinator for Arab States, UNDP HIV/AIDS Regional Programme in the Arab States, Egypt
- Gcebile Ndlovu, Regional Coordinator Southern Africa, International Community of Women Living with HIV and AIDS, Swaziland
- Carol O'Brien, Executive Director, American Chamber of Commerce in South Africa, South Africa
- Warren Parker, Executive Director Centre for AIDS Development, Research and Evaluation

The Expert Panel

During 2009, AAI will establish an HIV/AIDS expert panel to assist in the validation of the self-reported data for the Country Scorecard. The panel will consist of international interdisciplinary HIV/AIDS experts including representatives from civil society, private sector, the UN system, donors, academia, media and people living with HIV/AIDS. Panel membership will be representative in terms of area of expertise, gender and geography. The expert panel will also be used as a critical mass of expert opinion on AIDS that will be surveyed through recurrent opinion polls of the whole panel or of sub-groups on specific matters. The panel will also be provide feedback to AAI on the rating mechanisms and serve as a key channel for the dissemination of ratings and information from AAI.

The Country Rating Advisory Group

To date, AAI has created the Country Rating Advisory Group (CRAG) to review the country rating. Specific advisory groups will also be formed for other ratings, such as the donor and private sector rating. The recruitment of members to the different advisory groups is an ongoing activity. For more information please visit www.aidsaccountability.org.

Current members of the CRAG are:

- Zackie Achmat, Activist, Founder of Treatment Action Campaign, South Africa
- Munir Ahmed, Team Leader-UNICEF-HAPP HIV Program, Bangladesh
- Dennis Altman, Professor, La Trobe University, Australia
- Joe Amon, Director HIV/AIDS Program, Human Rights Watch, USA
- Vardan Babayan, Programme Director Armenian National AIDS Foundation, Armenia
- Syed Mohammad Baqar, Consultant in community work, workplace responses, training of PLWA, India
- Alvaro Bermejo, Executive Director AIDS Alliance, UK
- Karoline Beronius, Adviser, The Swedish Program for Information and Communication Technology in Developing Regions, Sweden
- Mabel Bianco, President and Coordinator, Fundacion para Estudio e Investigacion de la Mujer, Argentina
- Pedro Cahn, Director, Fundación HUESPED, Assistant Professor of Infectious Diseases at the Buenos Aires, Argentina
- Edgar Carrasco, Regional Secretary of the Latin American and the Caribbean Council of AIDS Service Organizations (LACCASO), Venezuela
- Dani Ceuninck, Attaché AIDS, Federal Public Service Foreign Affairs, Belgium
- Nada Chaya, Metrics Manager, Research & Metrics Population Services Int., USA
- Susan Chong, APCASO, the Coalition of Asia Pacific Regional Network on HIV/AIDS (the Seven Sisters), Malaysia
- Nick Corby, ActionAid's HIV/AIDS policy officer, UK
- Naina Dhingra, Director, Advocates For Youth, Washington, USA
- Evelyne Sylvia Ehua, Directeur de la Coordination et des Appuis Techniques au Ministère chargé de la Lutte contre le SIDA, Cote d'Ivoire
- Mziwethu Faku, District Organizer, Treatment Action Campaign, South Africa
- Claudio Fernandes, AIDS activist, designer and filmmaker, GESTOS, Brazil
- Susan Fox, Project Manager, International Federation of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies, Geneva
- Lynde Francis, Founder and Director of The Centre, Harare, Zimbabwe
- Mariangela Galvao Simao, Co-Director, National AIDS Program, Brazil
- Gregg Gonsalvez, AIDS Coalition to Unleash Power (ACT UP) AIDS and Regional Coordinator, Rights Alliance for Southern Africa, South Africa
- Reverend Christo Greyling, Global Adviser on HIV & AIDS and Church/FBO Partnerships HIV/AIDS, World Vision International, South Africa
- Jill Hanass-Hancock, Post-Doc fellowship at HEARD, University of Kwa-ZuluNatal, South Africa
- Lee-Nah Hsu, Strategic planning, policy advocacy, programme management, monitoring and - evaluation, transdisciplinary research and training, USA
- Mark Ishaug, Board Member, Funders Concerned About AIDS, USA
- Bobby John, Principal Partner & President, Global Health Advocates, India
- Inoussa Kabore, Acting Director of Evaluation, Surveillance and Research, Family Health International, US/Burkina Faso
- Mohga Kamal Yanni, Health Policy Adviser, Oxfam, UK
- Andreas Kyriacou, Associate Professor Department of Economy University of Girona, Spain
- Innocent Laison, Senior Program Manager of the African Council of AIDS organizations, Senegal

- Chewe Luo, Senior Programme Adviser , HIV and Health, Health Section, Program Division, UNICEF, Zambia
- Ron MacInnis, Director of Policy and Programmes, International AIDS Society, Geneva
- Elizabeth N. Mataka, Global Fund Board: Developing Countries Delegation, Zambia
- Elaine McKay, Independent Consultant, South Africa
- Sam McPherson, Associate Director of Planning, Analysis & Learning, International HIV/AIDS Alliance, UK
- Brad Mears, CEO South African Business Coalition On HIV/AIDS, South Africa
- Sisonke Msimang-White, Open Society Initiative Southern Africa, South Africa
- Teymur Noori, Scientific Officer, European Centre for Disease Prevention and Control, Sweden
- Rafael Ohanyan, Head of Prevention Department of National Center for AIDS Prevention, Armenia
- Alena Peryshkina, Director, AIDS Infoshare, Russia
- John Rock, National Portfolio Convener NAPWA and member of APN+, Australia
- Thomas Scalway, Consultant in Communication and Mobilisation for HIV/AIDS, South Africa
- Lakshmi Sundaram, Associate Director, Global Health Initiative, World Economic Forum, Geneva
- John Tomaro, Director, Health Programme, Aga Khan Development Network, Geneva
- Göran Tomson, Professor of International Health System Research, Karolinska Institute, Sweden
- Stefaan Van der Borght, Director Health Affairs, Heineken, The Netherlands
- Regina Wenzel, Project Manager, Global Health Initiative, World Economic Forum, Geneva



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