

Strengthening the participation of women living with HIV and female sex workers in the process of the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women (CEDAW) and other international instruments.



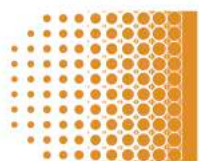
ICW Latina



Comunidad Internacional de Mujeres viviendo con VIH SIDA



Red de Mujeres Trabajadoras Sexuales de Latinoamérica y el Caribe



Development Connections

Hivos
people unlimited

Background

The participation of women living with HIV and female sex workers in processes related to the CEDAW is essential for facilitating dialogue and collaboration with other social institutions. This has the purpose of highlighting the discrimination that these women in all their diversity face in the different areas of their lives. In the majority of the countries in Latin America and the Caribbean, both of these groups are still not prioritized in current public policies on gender equality and development, despite the fact that they are the victims of continued violations of their fundamental human rights.

In the last few years, organizations representing women living with HIV and female sex workers have contributed to the preparation of the shadow reports for CEDAW at national (Guatemala and Panama) and regional levels.

Taking into account that Paraguay, Costa Rica, El Salvador and Barbados were assigned to submit reports to CEDAW in 2017 while Mexico, Chile and Suriname are responsible for preparing reports for this process in 2018, there is a need to systematize these experiences by documenting best practices and lessons learned and strengthening the capacities of social networks and organizations working in the areas of health, violence against women and gender equality in the context of HIV to have a meaningful participation in CEDAW processes at national and regional levels.

This knowledge will serve as a foundation for their greater involvement in the preparation of the report submitted to CEDAW, as well as other international and regional instruments (for example, MESECVI led by CIM/OAS).

Objectives and activities

UNAIDS, ICW Latina, RedTraSex, Positive LAC Youth, Development Connections and HIVOS will work together from January - July 2018 to achieve two objectives:

1. Systematize the experiences of participation of regional networks and civil society organizations at country level of women living with HIV and female sex workers in the preparation of CEDAW reports.
2. Strengthen the capacities of regional networks and other women's civil society organizations to participate in the preparation of national CEDAW reports and other international instruments.

The products and activities that will be implemented include:



a. Report on the systematization of practices and lessons learned

- Individual and group interviews conducted via web-conferences with organizations from Latin American countries that have participated in this process in 2017 and those that will participate during 2018.
- Meetings held via web-conferences for the review of preliminary drafts and the final version of the systematization report.
- Regional repository of documents and other resources on the participation of women living with HIV and female sex workers in CEDAW processes.

b. A series of regional web-conferences on CEDAW addressing key issues such as:

- Contents, history and reports of CEDAW, and the General Recommendation No. 15 (ninth session, 1990) on “Avoidance of discrimination against women in national strategies for the prevention and control of HIV/AIDS”.
- Processes for preparing regional and national CEDAW reports and the review process carried out by the CEDAW Committee.
- Report on the systematization of best practices and lessons learned from experiences of participation of regional networks and civil society organizations at country level of women living with HIV and female sex workers in the preparation of CEDAW reports.



c. Development of a Checklist on key components to address the perspectives, needs and rights of women living with HIV in all their diversity and female sex workers in the CEDAW reports and other international instruments.

d. Virtual training on the Checklist to strengthen the capacities of members of regional networks and other civil society organizations to have a meaningful participation in the development of reports for CEDAW, MESECVI and other international instruments.



| | | |
|--|---|--|
| <p>UNAIDS – Latin America and Caribbean Webpage: http://onusidalac.org/1/index.php Email: carrascoe@unaids.org Tel. (507) 301 4619</p> | <p>ICW Latina Webpage: http://icwlatina.org Email: info@icwlatina.org</p> | <p>RedTraSex Webpage: http://www.redtralsex.org Email: secejecutiva@redtralsex.org</p> |
| <p>Positive LAC Youth Facebook: https://www.facebook.com/jovenesposlac/ Email: jovenesposlac@gmail.com</p> | <p>Development Connections Webpage: www.dvcn.org Email: info@dvcn.org</p> | <p>HIVOS Webpage: https://latin-america.hivos.org/ Email: ameralatina@hivos.org</p> |