



Regional Platform
for Communication and Coordination
on HIV/AIDS, Tuberculosis and Malaria
For Anglophone Africa

**THE GLOBAL FUND CIVIL
SOCIETY AND COMMUNITY
GROUPS REGIONAL
COMMUNICATION AND
COORDINATION PLATFORM
FOR ANGLOPHONE AFRICA**



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EANNASO HOSTS THE GLOBAL FUND CIVIL SOCIETY AND COMMUNITY GROUPS REGIONAL COMMUNICATION AND COORDINATION PLATFORM FOR ANGLOPHONE AFRICA

WHO WE ARE

The Eastern Africa National Networks of AIDS Service Organization (EANNASO) is a regional umbrella body bringing together civil society voices to inform policies and improve programming on HIV and health. Our aim is to have a regional response that contributes to effectively halting and eventually reversing the trends of the AIDS epidemic, as well as other health-related issues. In our coordinating role at the regional level, we work closely with the Global Fund Secretariat to ensure civil society and community groups have their voices heard and their issues included in decision making spaces, concept notes and program implementation.

WHAT WE DO



Through its work, EANNASO strives to ensure that civil society and community groups are empowered to effectively contribute to the reduction of new HIV infections, through the strengthening of institutional and programmatic capacities and promoting sharing of information and experiences. To fulfill its work, capacity building is at the centre of the day-to-day business of EANNASO, enabling civil society and community group engagement at national, regional and global levels.

We work closely with many partners to provide opportunities for civil society and community engagement. One of the most important partners is the Global Fund to Fight AIDS, Tuberculosis and Malaria (The Global Fund), one of the largest funding partners of the three diseases globally, with a strong investment focus in affected African countries.

The Global Fund Secretariat works to Increase Community Engagement and Promote Human Rights and Gender Equality under the New Funding Model. Most of the activities involving community's engagement are implemented by the Community Rights and Gender Department (CRG) within the Global Fund. The focus of the CRG Initiative is to enable civil society and community groups to participate in country dialogues, concept note development and support the long-term capacity development of civil society and community groups including key population groups.



WHY A REGIONAL PLATFORM?

Under this mandate the CRG department initiated a special initiative to provide technical assistance (TA) to civil society organizations so as to enable them to participate in country dialogue and concept note development processes. This initiative has three components;

1. Short-term Technical Assistance for Civil Society and Communities aiming at strengthening the engagement of Civil Society and Communities during Country Dialogue and Concept Note development through grant making;
2. Partnership with Robert Carr Civil Society Networks Fund (RCNF) aiming at long-term capacity building of global and regional key population networks to strengthen their engagement in Global Fund processes at the country level; and,
3. Regional Communication and Coordination Platforms aiming at enhancing Global Fund knowledge among civil society and community groups, improving the understanding of TA needs and coordinate with other TA initiatives, including bi and multi-laterals; and Strategic civil society and community capacity development initiatives.

In 2014, EANNASO was pre-selected by the Global Fund as a Technical Assistance provider to support civil society and community groups' engagement in concept note development processes. As of June 2015, EANNASO was selected to host the Regional Coordination and Communication Platform (Regional Platform, for short) for Anglophone Africa. There are currently six platforms, two of which are in Africa - one for Anglophone Africa, hosted by EANNASO, and another for Francophone Africa, hosted by Réseau Accès aux Médicaments Essentiels (RAME).

The Regional Platform represents a significant commitment by EANNASO towards addressing the needs of civil society and community group to ensure human rights and gender inclusive programming approaches in global health financing in the region.



HOW THE REGIONAL PLATFORM SERVES YOU

As the Regional Platform, EANNASO will promote and provide opportunities for community groups and civil society to engage in structured dialogue, to share strategic and key information, produce calendars of events at country and regional levels, share experiences in Global Fund processes and promote access to technical support by civil society and community groups.



THE OBJECTIVES OF THE PLATFORM INCLUDE:

- Enhance knowledge of civil society and community groups on the Global Fund and access to TA
- Coordinate with other TA initiatives addressing the needs of civil society and community group
- Improve understanding of TA and capacity development gaps for civil society and community groups
- Strategic capacity development initiatives

The project will be implemented in 2015 and 2016. EANNASO has brought together a reference team comprised of members of the Regional Africa NGO networks on AIDS and Health (RAANGO) and from the African CSO Platform for HIV and Health. The reference group will form a technical working group to support EANNASO and ensure effective coordination of the platform. The reference team is comprised of members of regional organizations, representatives of key populations' networks, civil society and community group CCM members and civil society Global Fund grant implementers.

