

MSMGF Quarterly Report

*First Quarter: January – March
2013*

POLICY

Supporting Grassroots Advocacy

Speaking Out Initiative

Honduras

Speaking Out Honduras received funding from the HIVOS Latin American Office to expand and continue Speaking Out in Central America for 2013. The MSMGF and partner organization Kukulcan held a regional Speaking Out training from February 4 – 8 in La Ceiba, Honduras. More than 70 MSM and transgender advocates submitted letters of interest to participate. Due to budget limitations, only 28 MSM and transgender advocates were invited to participate: 5 from El Salvador, 5 from Guatemala, 12 from Honduras, 5 from Nicaragua, and 1 from Panama.

During the 5-day training, participants identified issues salient to the lives of gay men, other MSM, and transgender people in Central America. They also identified advocacy campaigns to address issues of stigma and discrimination, human rights violations, lack of access to HIV services for MSM and transgender people, and lack of funding for HIV services for MSM and transgender people. Participants were encouraged to develop their own advocacy campaigns based on the outcomes of the training and to submit proposals to the Speaking Out Initiative for funding support. As part of the second phase of the project, a total of three advocacy campaigns will be funded and will receive technical assistance from the MSMGF and Kukulcan.

Vietnam

The MSMGF is supporting G-Link, the MSMGF's local partner in Ho Chi Minh City, to develop and strengthen an MSM national network as a follow up of the 2011 Speaking Out training in Vietnam. G-Link has conducted needs assessments of small MSM-led groups and has consulted with MSM advocates and experts to create an advisory board for the MSM network.

Global Toolkit

A new training module was added to the global Speaking Out toolkit, focused on the documentation of human rights abuses. This new chapter is being translated and included in the Spanish and French adapted toolkits for Central America and the Middle East / North Africa, respectively.

Video Testimonials

Four more video testimonials were recorded at the Speaking Out training in Honduras in February. The video testimonials feature the advocates experiences with advocacy, activism, family support, and challenges they face as a gay men, other MSM, or transgender activists. The video testimonials will be available at the Speaking Out website.

Support for Grassroots Attendance at Inter-American Commission Hearing

The MSMGF supported Amaranta Gomez Regalado, President of Colectivo Binni Laaun A.C. in Mexico and head of the Secretariat for Indigenous People and HIV for Latin America, to present at a public hearing at the Inter-American Commission on Human Rights to discuss LGBTI people in the Americas. Mrs. Regalado attended the hearing on March 16th in Washington DC.

Direct High-Level Advocacy

United Nations

Post-2015 Millennium Development Goals

The MSMGF submitted two statements as part of official eDiscussions sponsored by the United Nations on the Post-2015 Millennium Development Goal (MDG) debate. The [first submission](#) focused on the need to include HIV and health as goals in the Post-2015 MDGs, with the MSMGF submission being referenced in the eDiscussion's final [final paper](#). The [second submission](#) focused on the implications of HIV among MSM for the Post-2015 MDG debate, as part of an eDiscussion feeding into a Health Thematic Session of the High Level Panel. The MSMGF also participated in a Civil Society Community Consultation on HIV and Health in the Post-2015 MDG Debate in Amsterdam in January 2013.

Global Fund

Technical Partners Meeting

The MSMGF participated in a meeting for technical partners convened by the Global Fund Secretariat in January to discuss the roll out of the new funding model. Global Fund Secretariat staff discussed such issues as the country dialogue process, development of a concept note, and full implementation of the Global Fund's new funding model later this year. The MSMGF also participated in side meetings focused on the incorporation of human rights and SOGI strategies into the new funding model.

Connecting Grassroots Activists with the Global Fund Secretariat

In anticipation of new funding model's launch, the Global Fund approached the MSMGF to help develop a list of contacts of key MSM and transgender advocates in countries receiving Global Fund grants. The MSMGF reached out to our constituents to develop a list of more than 100 MSM and transgender advocates working in Global Fund countries who were interested in participating in the Global Fund country dialogue process.

El Salvador: Dialogue on New Funding Model

The MSMGF organized a meeting with MSM and transgender advocates in El Salvador, a pilot country for the new funding model, to discuss the engagement of MSM and transgender advocates in the writing of El Salvador's Global Fund concept note. MSM and transgender advocates who participated were highly knowledgeable about Global Fund processes and were involved in the development of the country's concept note, working to provide recommendations for MSM, transgender people, and sex workers.

Bridging the Gaps

Global Partners Meeting

The MSMGF participated in a meeting of global key population networks who are working as partners within the Dutch "Bridging the Gaps" project. In addition to discussing reporting requirements under this project, the global networks discussed and strategized about common issues we could work on together. Such issues include the Global Fund's new funding model and the Post-2015 MDG debate, among many others.

Policy Analysis and Advocacy Decision Model

Technical Review Panel

The MSMGF served on the technical review panel for the *Policy Analysis and Advocacy Decision Model for Services for Males who have Sex with Males, Transgender, and Sex Workers*, developed by the Health Policy Project, USAID, and AMSHeR. Over a two day meeting, the panel discussed the content, clarity, structure, qualitative questions, and training of this new Advocacy Decision Model. The model will be piloted by AMSHeR in 10 countries in sub-Saharan Africa over the coming year.



Public Policy Statements

- **The MSMGF Lauds PACHA Resolution Calling to End Laws Criminalizing HIV Exposure in the US**

After hearing testimony that included four advocates supported by the MSMGF, the Presidential Advisory Council on HIV/AIDS (PACHA) passed a resolution recommending that government agencies provide clear guidance to state officials and public health departments on the need to eliminate laws that criminalize HIV transmission and exposure. The MSMGF issued a [statement](#) commending PACHA for passing the resolution and calling on the relevant agencies to implement these recommendations by eliminating laws that criminalize HIV transmission and exposure to protect human rights and enable a more effective HIV response.

TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE

Bridging the Gaps

Work Planning and Contract Negotiations

During the first quarter in 2013, the MSMGF supported in-country partners in the development of project plans. The MSMGF has worked to ensure that partner-led project plans are well-designed from a public health perspective, linked closely to local capacities and strengths and aimed at obtaining measurable results. Pursuant to completion of contract negotiations with all partners, the MSMGF will monitor and support the implementation of these project plans in subsequent months.

Technical Assistance for In-Country Partners

At the request of in-country partners engaged in the Bridging the Gaps LGBT program, the MSMGF provided numerous examples of technical assistance, including:

- Increasing partners' capacity to identify and articulate sexual health needs based on community input
- Increasing partners' capacity to develop competitive funding proposals to regional donors
- Strengthening partners' strategies for training healthcare providers by linking and synergizing efforts led by local partners

Global Fund

At the request of local organizations, the MSMGF has provided technical assistance to advocates in the Democratic Republic of Congo, El Salvador, and Myanmar. Technical assistance has focused on: (1) facilitating the meaningful inclusion and participation of MSM within Global Fund Country Coordinating Mechanisms in El Salvador and Myanmar; and (2) educating Ministry of Health officials around relevant health issues of concern to MSM in the Democratic Republic of Congo.

Webinars

Tuberculosis and Co-Infection with HIV

On March 21, 2013, the MSMGF delivered a webinar entitled "Tuberculosis and Co-Infection with HIV." Timed to coincide with World TB Day, the webinar sought to raise awareness about the relationship between HIV and tuberculosis and the implications for gay men and other MSM. The presentation reached advocates and health care providers in Jamaica, Nepal, Nigeria, Peru, Portugal, Saint Lucia, Turkey and the United States.



RESEARCH

2012 GMHR Fact Sheets

The MSMGF published fact sheets in [Chinese](#), [English](#), [French](#), [Russian](#), and [Spanish](#) summarizing findings of the 2012 Global Men's Health and Rights study. The fact sheets feature information on access to HIV services among MSM globally, as well as details on barriers and facilitators that were found to impact access to HIV services for MSM, offering potential targets for interventions to increase access to services.

MSM in African National AIDS Plans

MSMGF Program Associate Keletso Makofane's article in Global Health Journal, entitled "Men who have sex with men inadequately addressed in African AIDS National Strategic Plans," was featured in [UNAIDS Science Now](#). UNAIDS Science Now is a platform for sharing the most recent HIV research appearing in scientific journals, aiming to support all of UNAIDS Geneva and field staff, co-sponsor organization staff, national AIDS offices, research institutions and university students with an interest in HIV.

Analysis of Gender-based Violence Prevention Materials

In March, 2013, the MSMGF partnered with the International HIV/AIDS Alliance to conduct an analysis of training and programmatic materials designed to address gender-based violence (GBV) against gay men and other MSM. The analysis reviewed dozens of materials from around the world, including community-based publications, posters, online campaigns, strategies for documenting human rights abuses, and guidelines for addressing domestic/intimate partner violence. The analysis suggests that while there are some valuable materials in circulation, there is a strong need for additional materials that are context-specific and culturally tailored, particularly for MSM and advocates living in the global south.

PUBLICATIONS

SENSE

In February, the MSMGF launched the third edition of [SENSE](#), the MSMGF's publication by and for MSM living with HIV. Four contributors from Vietnam, Guyana, Nigeria, and the United Kingdom submitted original pieces focused on MSM living with HIV and their personal reasons for working on advocacy to improve the health and wellbeing MSM living with HIV.

Curriculum on MSM Health for Healthcare Providers

The MSMGF has partnered with the School of Public Health at Johns Hopkins University to develop a globally relevant curriculum for training healthcare providers in resource-constrained clinical settings on the needs of MSM. Adapted from existing curricula from around the world, the curriculum aims to increase relevant clinical knowledge, initiate an examination of providers' personal attitudes around homosexuality, and provide necessary skills to manage the unique health needs of MSM effectively. A final version of this curriculum will be made publicly available later in 2013.

The MSMGF has assembled a Technical Advisory Board of 15 experts from around the world to provide feedback and guidance at critical stages of the curriculum development process. Currently serving members of the Technical Advisory Board include:

George Ayala, Global Forum on MSM & HIV, USA
Chris Beyrer, Johns Hopkins University, USA
Carlos Caceres, Universidad Peruana, Peru
Venkatesan Chakrapani, Center for Sexual Health Research and Policy, Uganda
Martin Choo, University of Malaya, Malaysia
Kevin Rebe, Anova Institute, South Africa
James Robertson, Alliance India, USA



Ken Mayer, Fenway Institute, USA
Rafael Mazin, Pan American Health Organization, USA
Billy Pick, United States Agency for International Development, USA
Eduard Sanders, Kenya Medical Research Institute, Kenya
Paul Semugoma, Frank and Candy, Uganda
Igor Toskin, World Health Organization, Switzerland
Rodney Vanderwarker, Fenway Institute, USA
Frits Van Griensven, University of California, San Francisco, Thailand

CONVENING STAKEHOLDERS

MSMGF Gains 57 New Members

From January through March 2013, the MSMGF gained 57 new members from 35 different countries, bringing total membership up to 2907. Of the new members who joined during this period, 57% are from the Global South and 43% are from the Global North. Segmenting by region, the majority of new members are from Western Europe, Northern Europe, and North America (21); Asia (12); Sub-Saharan Africa (8); Latin America (5); the Caribbean (5); Oceania (3); the Middle East & North Africa (2); and Eastern Europe & Central Asia (1). In terms of language, 79% of new members use the Web site in English and 31% use the Web site in non-English languages. The breakdown by language is as follows: English (45), followed by Spanish (6), Chinese (2), French (2), and Portuguese (1).

COMMUNICATIONS

MSMGF Collaborative Blog

The MSMGF collaborates with MSMGF members around the world to produce reports on recent developments concerning the health and human rights of MSM for circulation on the MSMGF Blog. The reports are meant to share insights on MSM health and rights in different regions, as well as increase awareness within our global community about who our members are and the work they do.

- [Four Letters of the Alphabet Soup](#)
March 18, 2013
- [Adonis Tchoudja on Fighting HIV among Male and Transgender Sex Workers in Cameroon](#)
February 11, 2013
- [Selected Works of Original Poetry and Painting by Omar Baños](#)
January 14, 2013
- [We can change this](#)
January 7, 2013

MSMGF Discussion Forums Facilitate Information Exchange and Collaboration

There were 27 posts on the MSMGF English Discussion Forum this quarter, with topics including: advocacy strategies to address LGBT rights in Cameroon; online resources for LGBTI refugees; updates on MSM network development in Eastern Europe; grassroots advocacy for young MSM awareness in the United States; discussion of Canadian legislation concerning LGBT populations; connecting transgender activists between Uganda and Jamaica; anti-homosexuality legislation in Uganda; and desk research on MSM and PLHIV in the Middle East and North Africa.



MSMGF Facilitates Global Information Exchange

Over the last quarter, the MSMGF identified 333 new articles on the health and human rights of MSM around the world and uploaded them to the MSMGF's searchable online database. These articles were circulated through the MSMGF's e-blast and the MSMGF's Twitter channels.

Visits to MSMGF.org Increase by 15%

From January – March, the MSMGF Web site received a total of 17,087 visits, of which 12,420 were absolute unique visitors. This constitutes a 15% increase over total visits in the previous quarter. During the current quarter, the single country with the highest number of visits was the United States (4,816), followed by Saudi Arabia (853), Canada (672), United Kingdom (592), Brazil (420), Egypt (397), Mexico (373), India (372), and Australia (313). Segmenting by language, 56% of visits occurred in English and 44% of visits occurred in non-English languages.

Direct Information Support

The MSMGF is contacted on a regular basis by advocates, service providers, funders, networks, multilateral agencies, and other individuals and organizations for direct information support. The MSMGF provides this information support as a triage service, with types of information support including: resources on funding; resources on capacity building; consultation opportunities; connecting journalists with informants; connecting refugees with support resources; providing information on specific topics related to MSM health and human rights; circulating information on MSM projects; connecting advocates with relevant funders; connecting organizations with relevant partners; and technical support on communications initiatives.

This past quarter, the MSMGF provided over 60 instances of tailored information support to individuals and organizations in Burkina Faso, Cambodia, Canada, China, Democratic Republic of Congo, Guyana, Italy, Jamaica, Kenya, Myanmar, Nepal, Netherlands, New Zealand, Philippines, South Africa, Tanzania, Uganda, Ukraine, United States, Vietnam, and Zambia.

MSMGF Gets Media Coverage

In the first quarter of 2013, the MSMGF issued 2 statements and 12 global network communications. In total, the MSMGF was cited in 11 reports and articles. All materials are listed below.

Statements

- [The MSMGF Lauds PACHA Resolution Calling to End Laws Criminalizing HIV Exposure in the US](#)
February 8, 2013
- [David Kato Remembered](#)
January 26, 2013

Global Network Communications

- [The MSMGF Welcomes 8 New Members to the MSMGF Steering Committee!](#)
March 26, 2013
- [The Global Fund's New Funding Model: Answers to Frequently Asked Questions](#)
March 11, 2013



- [Upcoming Webinar: Tuberculosis and Co-infection with HIV](#)
March 7, 2013
- [Opportunity! Participate in New Global Fund Country Dialogues](#)
March 4, 2013
- [The MSMGF's 2012 Annual Report](#)
February 14, 2013
- [Fact Sheets from the Global Men's Health and Rights Study: Chinese, English, French, Russian, & Spanish](#)
February 11, 2014
(Chinese, English, French, Russian, Spanish)
- [New Issue! SENSE – The Online Magazine by and for MSM Living with HIV](#)
February 4, 2013
(English, French, Portuguese, Spanish)
- [Let your voice be heard on HIV and the Post-2015 development agenda!](#)
January 18, 2013
- [Expressions of Interest Sought for 6 Positions on the MSMGF Steering Committee](#)
January 9, 2013
- [Webinar: Shaping the Post-2015 Development Goals](#)
January 4, 2013
- [Convocatoria Para Presentar Expresión De Interés Para Participar En Taller De Incidencia Política](#)
January 2, 2013
- [Your Input Requested on Post-2015 Development Framework](#)
January 2, 2013

Media Coverage and Other Citations

- [Briefing for the House of Lords Debate: The adverse impact of criminalising homosexuality in Commonwealth countries on global efforts to halt the spread of HIV/AIDS](#)
Human Dignity Trust
March 13, 2013
- [Regional Feature: Youth Voices Count](#)
AFAO
March, 2013
- [Sikker sex i mange u-lande mangler én bestemt ting....](#)
U-landsnyt.dk
February 22, 2013



- [Lack of “lube” hurts HIV prevention](#)
IRIN PlusNews
February 21, 2013
- [Improve Access To HIV Services For Gay, MSM, Global Report Recommends](#)
Identity Kenya
February 12, 2013
- [President's AIDS council calls on feds and states to repeal HIV criminalization laws](#)
AIDSMap
February 12, 2013
- [Addressing Sex Work, MSM and Transgender People in the Context of the HIV Epidemic: Information Note](#)
The Global Fund
February, 2013
- [David Kato Remembered: A Hero Then and a Hero Now](#)
O-blog-dee-o-blog-da
January 25, 2013
- [Jamaica: Treatment of sexual minorities, including legislation, state protection and support services \(2009-December 2012\)](#)
Immigration and Refugee Board of Canada
January 11, 2013
- [Wat er is bereikt op het gebied van LHBT-rechten in 2012](#)
Aids Fonds
January 2, 2013
- [Feature: Emerging LGBTI Activists And Leaders In Kenya](#)
Identity Kenya
January 1, 2013