

**Cross-Country Initiatives**  
**Funding the fight against HIV/AIDS in Southern Africa and Latin America**

**Fourth International Budget Conference**  
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**HIV Crisis**

The HIV crisis has become an issue of public interest all over the world. As a reflection of this, during the XXVI special session of the UN's General Assembly, in June 2001, a declaration was issued specifying the need to establish a global commitment to solving a crisis that has reached pandemic dimensions in some regions of the planet. At the end of the year 2000, 36.1 million people in the world lived with HIV/AIDS, 90% in developing countries and 75% in sub-Saharan Africa.

**The Project**

This project, which is financed by the Sweden International Development Agency, is an international study on HIV/AIDS and budgeting in 5 Latin American and 5 African countries- coordinated by the Budget Information Service in South African and Fundar in Mexico. The research compares how these governments are funding the fight against HIV/AIDS and builds capacity analysis of HIV/AIDS and government budgets in these countries, as well as of the fulfillment of human rights and economic, social and cultural rights by Latin American countries.

<b>Country</b>	<b>Organization</b>
Argentina	Centro de Estudios Legales y Sociales, CELS
Chile	Hexagrama Consultoras
Ecuador	Centro de Derechos Económicos y Sociales, CDES
Mexico	Fundar, Centro de Análisis e Investigación
Nicaragua	Centro de Información y Servicios de Asesoría en Salud, CISAS
Botswana	Botswana Institute for Development Policy Analysis
Kenya	Institute of Policy Analysis and Research, IPAR
Mozambique	Southern Africa Research and Documentation Center
Namibia	Namibian Economic Policy Research Unit, NEPRU
South Africa	Idasa Budget Information Service

## **Objectives**

1. Contribute to the improvement of national policy to mitigate the impact of HIV/AIDS by sharing information between Latin American and African countries on HIV/AIDS budgeting and programming and making that information available to policy-makers and government officials.
2. Improve capacity of partner NGOs and journalists in these countries to analyze government budgets on HIV/AIDS.
3. Increase public awareness of government programmes' to combat HIV/AIDS, the amount budgeted to them, and how those programmes function.
4. Improve the work of the involved organizations by sharing information on research methodologies, shaping particular outputs, and distributing budget analysis.

## **Research Questions and Rationale**

How is the fight against HIV/AIDS funded in our countries? What can we learn from these African and Latin American countries about the different ways of funding, formulating policies and providing HIV/AIDS related services? Do policies and budgets adequately promote, protect and prioritize HIV/AIDS?

### **How are we going to work?**

The project will begin with a workshop in each region. The reunion for Africa will be held on March and Latin America's will be held on April. The purpose of these workshops is to discuss and establish a joint methodology for the follow-up of HIV/AIDS budgets. They will also work to train people involved in the skills that are required by the study.

An intermediate workshop will be held between August and September to share preliminary results, the progress made so far, and discuss problems and questions that may have arisen.

### **Expected results**

A study of each country based on the methodology agreed on during the workshops, which will allow us to make comparisons between countries and regions. Results will be presented between April and June 2004.

### **What are we going to do with the results?**

Present them to the media, to public officials, and to other organizations through workshops or seminars. The objective is to presents key aspects of the study, as well as to share information related to mechanisms for the improvement of HIV/AIDS budgets, and to the fulfillment of human rights in Latin America.