



Blueprint for Action on Women & Girls and HIV and AIDS

Report Card: ZIMBABWE, August 2008

www.womensblueprint.org

OVERALL: We demand adequate, appropriate and sustained resources for improved programming and policies.

Strategic Area	Grade	Comment
Legal, ethical and human rights issues	D-	<p>Well done on the various laws enacted. Need to harmonise the laws and repeal those which are discriminatory. Need to also operationalise the laws through ensuring that structures are available for translating aspirations protection of women's rights into reality. Currently 11% of women between 45 -49 are in polygamous marriages, need to sensitise men on the risks of Multiple Concurrent partnerships.</p> <p>Despite evident political will, conditions on the ground continue to negate the gains made over the past years for full attainment of human rights for women and girls. Need to adopt a broad based approach to the attainment of the fundamentals of human rights. Women's rights continue not to be recognised in customary practice and male-based values in statutory law undermine the intended protection. The broader macro-economic condition of Zimbabwe characterised by declining economic growth poses grave challenges to the protection and fulfilment of women's (human) rights including the right to health. Frequent periods of intense political activity find women and girls subjected to gross human rights violation</p>
Research	C	<p>Well done on extensive researches being carried out both for prevention and therapeutic advances. However, more effort should be taken to include positive women in particular and women in general in the formulation and design of the research. Need to link research outcomes with practical responses in a sustainable way.</p>
Stigma and Discrimination	C	<p>Well done - Protection of the rights of positive people provided for in the national HIV policies and statutory instrument: Labour Relations (HIV and AIDS) Regulations 1998, SI 202 Of 1998 - but there is need for more intensive attitude change through use of right language in knowledge and information products. Need to increase target men more actively to raise their awareness. Need to ensure laws meant to protect positive women do not end up further marginalising them as in the wilful transmission clause.</p>
Diagnosis and Treatment	C-	<p>Almost universal knowledge of VCT, wide coverage of services in urban areas but need to increase coverage in rural areas. Need to invest in increasing treatment options to encourage voluntary testing</p> <p>Although programmes and targets exist, the prevailing economic difficulties in the country have eroded the little progress made; need to address the national macro-economic frameworks to ensure universal access to treatment.</p>
Prevention and Health Education	B	<p>Adequate investment in information sharing based on national plans and targets however need to ensure that language used is appropriate and does not further marginalise positive women and girls. Ensure wider knowledge among those in rural areas; adopt innovative strategies to reach youths, particularly girls, and women with disabilities.</p>
Care and Support	D	<p>Wide coverage particularly through service of women and girls, encourage more male caregivers, address additional burden on women already having multiple responsibilities, adopt strategies for the care of those providing care, practical and strategic.</p> <p>Health infrastructure and services not adequately resource. Legal and administrative frameworks not adequately resourced. Demotivation as a result of poor remuneration, shortages of equipment and staff and brain drain. Inadequate sensitisation of law enforcement agencies. Burden on women and girls as carers and use positive women and girls as active agents rather than beneficiaries. Need to address human resource retention plans.</p>

A excellent B Satisfactory C Fair D Poor F Fail



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