

MEETING CONCEPT NOTE

Works in Progress: Transforming the HIV Response in a Time of Change

Location: Nairobi, Kenya (Movenpick Hotel)

Dates: 20-22 April 2026 (registration and opening dinner on 19 April)

Background: Since its launch in 2017, the [HIV Coverage, Quality, and Impact Network \(CQUIN\)](#) has advanced high-impact, innovative HIV services in its 21 member countries. Convened by ICAP at Columbia University with support from the Gates Foundation and in close partnership with Ministries of Health, global stakeholders and recipients of care, CQUIN supports countries to expand the coverage, quality and impact of HIV programs.

2025 was a year of extraordinary change for the global HIV response. Cuts in official development assistance for health, the closure of USAID, and the issuance of stop-work orders disrupted HIV programs and services throughout the network. Nearly half of CQUIN member countries experienced cuts of more than 50% in health aid from the United States government and Global Fund awards to network members were reduced by an average of 11% (range 7-16%). As a result, many HIV services were disrupted, as was program monitoring and evaluation (M&E).

In response, the CQUIN network pivoted from its emphasis on differentiated service delivery to support country teams to prioritize, plan and adapt HIV programs to the current context. Strategic planning, cross-country exchange and learning, co-creation of practical tools, and targeted technical assistance are positioning member countries to optimize their HIV programs in the context of lower budgets, new donor agreements, and new partners.

CQUIN will continue this work at a three-day in-person meeting for Ministries of Health, recipients of care and other stakeholders from April 20-22, 2026. Entitled *Works in Progress: Transforming the HIV Response in a Time of Change*, the meeting will focus on the exchange of practical lessons, tools and strategies. It will also aim to support countries in shaping their sustainability and transition planning. In response to country priorities, the **four focal areas** will include:

- Integration of HIV programs into routine health systems
- Adapting M&E programs and mitigating M&E system vulnerability
- Ensuring HIV service coverage and quality for key and vulnerable populations
- Prevention and treatment of advanced HIV disease

Participants

The meeting will convene approximately 260 participants primarily drawn from Ministries of Health and other key government departments involved in the HIV response, emergency response coordination and integration initiatives, and other stakeholders as well as members of the Community Advocacy Network to ensure that person-centered care remains core to all strategies.

Agenda Framework

- **Registration and Opening Dinner:** Sunday, April 19 (afternoon/evening)
- **Meeting Dates:** Monday, April 20 to Wednesday, April 22

- **Sessions:** The meeting will include plenary presentations, panel discussions, breakout sessions, a Tools Lab, and single-country action planning sessions.

Expected Deliverables

- Updated country action plans, including plans for implementing the integration CMM and an updated M&E vulnerability assessment incorporating input from country pilots
- Updated CQUIN meeting website page, with slides and resources
- Contributions to donor agreement implementation planning, ensuring meeting outputs inform the processes and planning efforts

Contact Information

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