

HIV AIDS

What Are You Doing About It?

Community Mobilizer's Guide

A step by step guide to help you mobilize your
community to prevent HIV from spreading

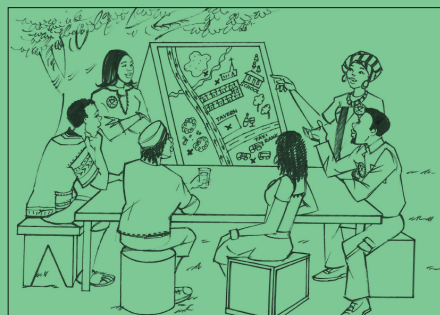
Steps to Mobilizing your Community

These cards outline a step-by-step process to help you mobilize your own community to prevent HIV from spreading.

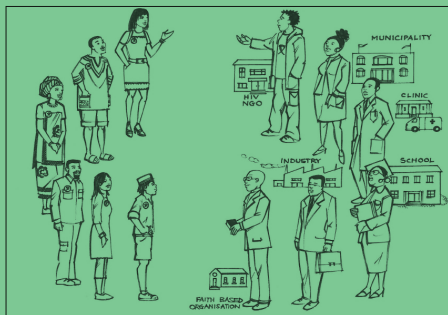
Step 1: Forming an Action Group



Step 2: Understanding the Situation



Step 3: Consulting the Community Together



Step 4: Finding the Information We Need



Step 5: Developing HIV Action Plans



Step 6: Present the Action Plan to the Community

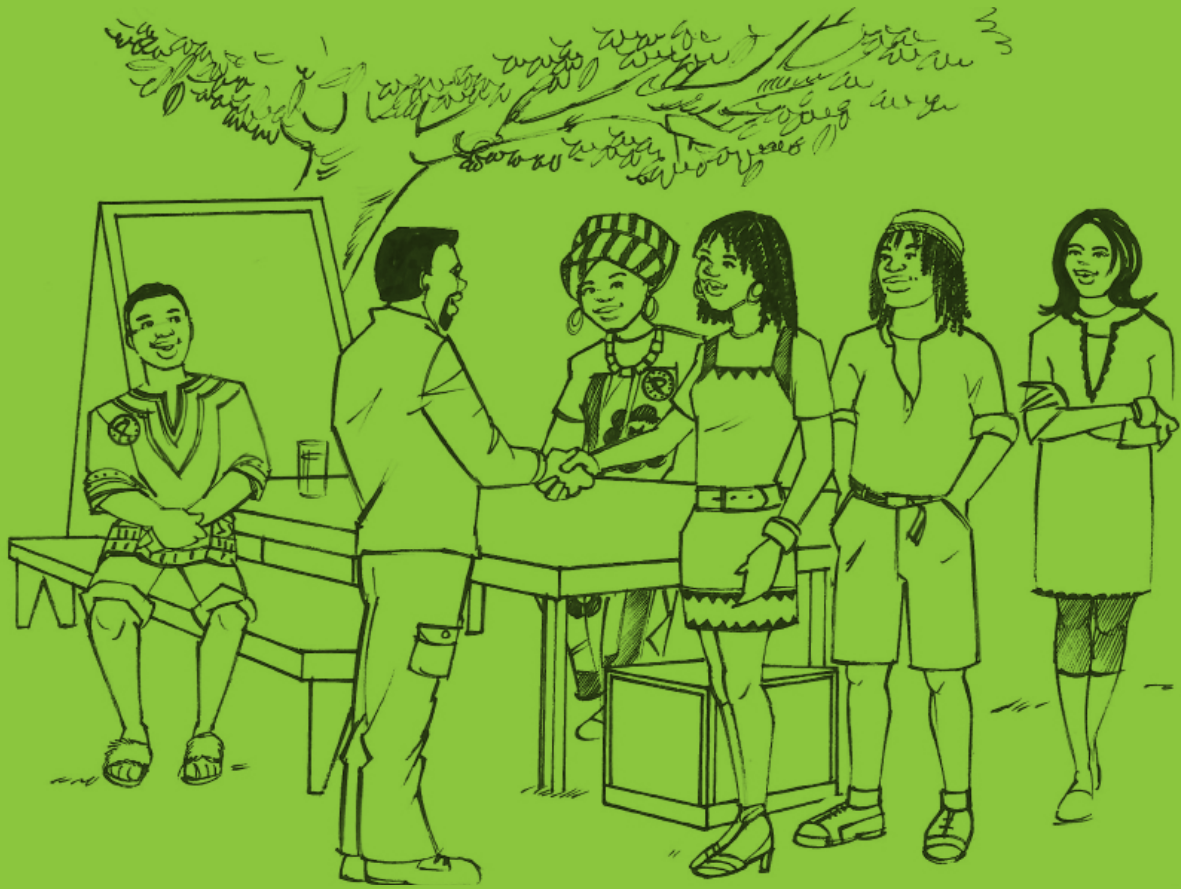


Step 7: Using the Toolkit to Implement Your HIV Action Plan



Step 8: Reflecting on Your Community's HIV Actions





Step 1: Forming an Action Group

Find people who will volunteer their time to join an HIV Action Group.

At your first action group meeting agree on your group objectives.

For example:

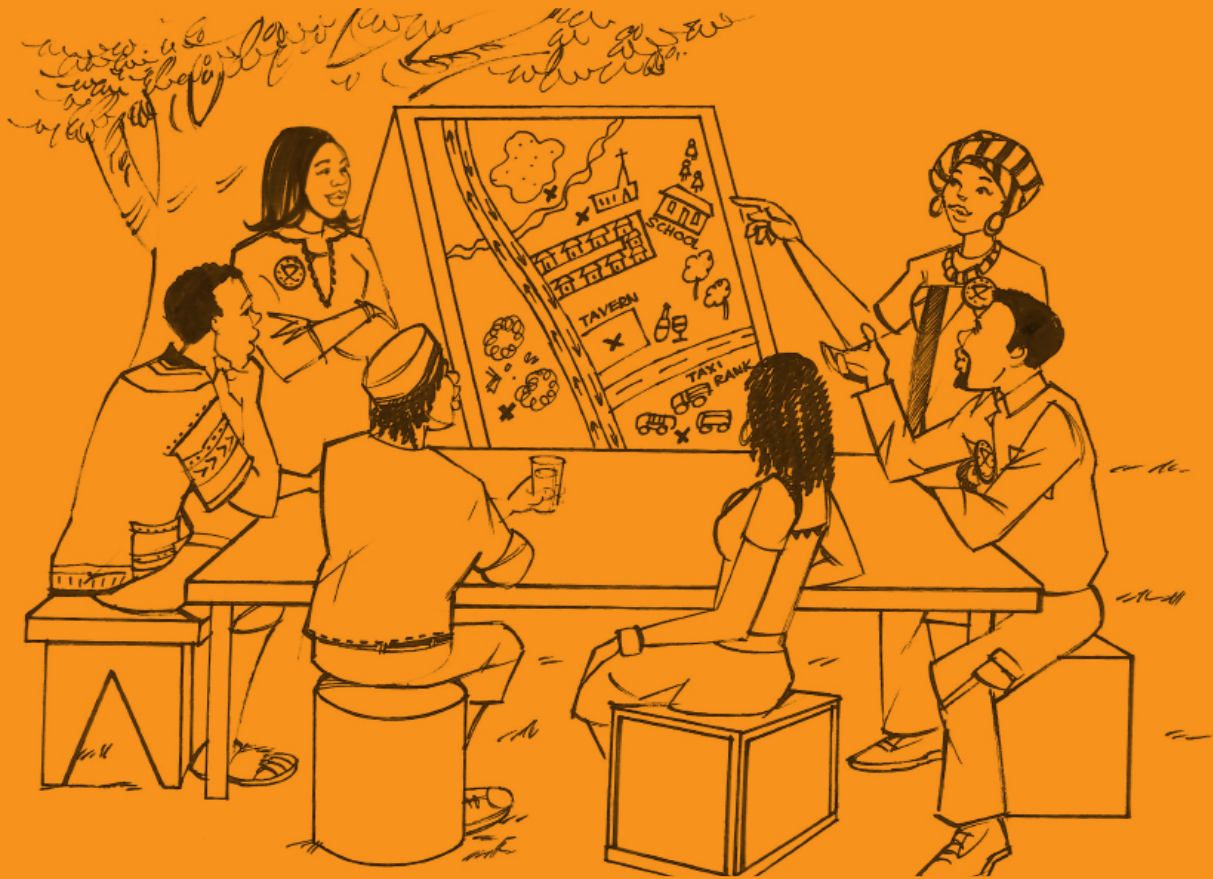
The Action Group commits to:

- helping the community mobilize to prevent HIV from spreading
- consulting community members
- gathering people's ideas and writing an HIV action plan
- holding an event to build community support for the action plan
- using the materials in this toolkit to support the plan.

Then make a date for the next meeting. Here are some tips to make the most of the meetings:

- Decide the best time and place for each gathering.
- Set clear goals and objectives for each gathering.
- Mobilize the same individuals at least 3 times (this is more effective than a onetime event).
- Make sure there are no more than 25 people per activity to ensure in-depth discussion.





Step 2: Understanding the Situation

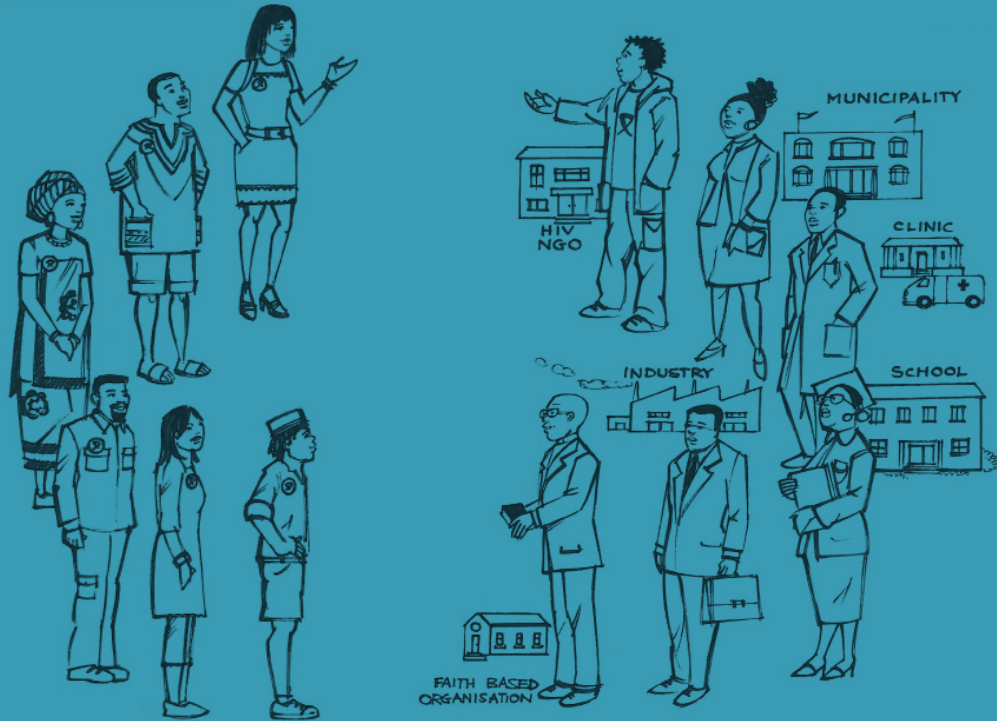
At the next action group meeting ask where in our community are we at risk of spreading HIV?

Draw a map of the community that shows the places where HIV is spread. You may want to include:

- the roads and open spaces
- homes, schools and other meeting places
- Xs on the map where the risk of spreading HIV is high.

This map tells you about where to focus your action group activities and what groups might be most at risk.





Step 3: Consulting the Stakeholders

Identify people in your community who you will consult about developing your HIV Action Plan.

You can meet with:

- district health, education and welfare managers
- health workers
- traditional leaders
- community organizations
- school teachers and parents
- taxi drivers
- church members and leaders
- youth (in and out of school)
- elderly

Plan when you will hold meetings with these people in your community.





Step 4: Finding the Information We Need

Hold meetings with the people in your community you identified in Step 3.

Start each meeting by sharing your Action Group Objectives.

Then ask people:

- How is HIV and AIDS a problem in our community?
- How are people dealing with HIV and AIDS in the community?
- What do you not understand about HIV and AIDS? Make a list.
- What are some ideas for prevention activities?
- What can you do at home, work or in the community?

Tell community members that the Action Group will draft an HIV Action Plan.

Take notes and bring them back to the next action group meeting.





Step 5: Developing HIV Action Plans

At your next Action Group meeting report back on the meetings with community members.

Discuss the following questions:

- How can we help people make sense of HIV & AIDS information?
- What ideas have community members given us to prevent the spread of HIV?
- List the roles that community members want to play to prevent HIV in our community.
- Draft an HIV Action Plan.





Step 6: Present the Action Plan to the Community

The Action Group can now plan an event so that all members of the community are invited to discuss and adopt the HIV Action Plan.

Here is a check list of questions to ask:

- Why do we want to host an event for the community?
- When will the event take place?
- Where will we hold the event?
- What will happen at the event?
- Who will attend?

How are we going to organize the event?

- What role will each Action Group member play in organizing the event?
- How will we ensure that community members attend?
- How will we present the HIV Action Plan?
- How do we get people to discuss the Action Plan and commit to it?



HIV/AIDS
What Are You Doing About It?

Condom Use

How to learn and practice putting on a condom correctly every time

Reason

Using condoms can be daunting and require preparation.

Risk

Without using a condom you cannot protect yourself and your loved ones from HIV, STIs or pregnancy.

Right

You and your partner have the right to be protected from HIV, STIs and unwanted pregnancy; so talk and share safer sex.

Responsibility

You are responsible to protect yourself and others from harm. Practice and make sure the condom is on before you have sex.

Condom Use



Step 7: Using the Toolkit to Implement Your HIV Action Plan

Think about how you can use the materials in this toolkit to implement your HIV Action Plan.

Organize regular gatherings where community members can use the:

1. Community Mobilization Cards
2. Role-play Concertina Cards
3. Storytelling Puppets
4. Promotional Proverbs and Best Kept Secrets Throw Boxes
5. Promotional Playing Cards
6. Dialogue Buttons

Again, here are some tips to hold the meetings:

- Decide the best time and place for each gathering.
- Set clear goals and objectives for each gathering.
- Mobilize the same individuals at least 3 times (this is more effective than a one-time event).
- Make sure there are no more than 25 people per activity to ensure in-depth discussion.
- Decide who will make up the groups for each activity (e.g. set an age range, gender)





Step 8 Reflecting on Your Community's HIV Actions

Make sure that your Action Group members meet regularly to discuss your HIV prevention efforts.

At the meeting ask:

- How have we been doing?
- How are we measuring our continuing HIV actions?
- How can we provide more support to HIV actions?
- What is working? What is not working?
- How can we share our successes with the community?
- What else can we do to prevent HIV from spreading?



HIV AIDS

What Are You Doing About It?



USAID
FROM THE AMERICAN PEOPLE



C-CHANGE 
COMMUNICATION FOR CHANGE

Developed by C-Change with support from USAID