



XIX INTERNATIONAL AIDS  
CONFERENCE JULY 22 - 27  
WASHINGTON DC USA

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

**Leading scientists, community leaders and policy makers to come together to discuss challenges and new developments at the XIX International AIDS Conference (AIDS 2012) in Washington, D.C.**

**Conference Theme, *Turning the Tide Together*, highlights the importance of collective and decisive action to change the course of HIV**

**27 January 2012 (Washington, D.C., – United States)** Organizers of the XIX International AIDS Conference (AIDS 2012) – to be held in Washington, D.C., United States from 22 to 27 July 2012 – today announced 15 major plenary presentations, focusing on the primary issues facing the global response to HIV and AIDS. Plenary speakers will open each day of the conference, which is expected to convene more than 20,000 participants from over 200 countries.

Years of advocacy to end the nation's entry restrictions on people living with HIV (PLHIV) allowed the conference to return to the United States after 22 years of absence. This return represents a huge success for human rights and will have a positive impact on the response to HIV and AIDS both at a national and international level. The conference will also highlight the state of the epidemic in the United States, with a focus on Washington, D.C., where the impact of the disease is particularly high (in Washington, D.C., an estimated 3% of the population is living with HIV versus a U.S. percentage of 0.35%) especially within the African-American and other minority communities.

The theme of AIDS 2012, *Turning the Tide Together*, has been selected to emphasize how a global and decisive commitment is crucial to change the course of the epidemic now that science is presenting promising results in HIV treatment and biomedical prevention.

"In the last few years various trials, including HPTN 052, TDF2, Partners PrEP, and iPrEx have demonstrated with solid evidence the efficacy of treatment as prevention, while other studies are currently investigating the possibility of a cure for HIV," said Elly Katabira, International Chair of AIDS 2012 and President of the International AIDS Society (IAS). "Thanks to these scientific advances, for the first time we have a real opportunity to put a major dent on the epidemic".

"AIDS 2012 represents a unique occasion to mobilize policy makers, governments, NGOs, scientists, people living with HIV and civil society to join forces," said AIDS 2012 US Co-Chair Dr. Diane Havlir. "Even though we are currently going through a global turbulent economic climate we cannot miss this historic moment, and it is vital to continue to attract funding and promote programmes based on effectiveness and efficiency in order to optimize the use of resources".

**Conference Programme**

The following plenary themes and topics will set the tone for the conference programme (presentation titles are subject to change).



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**Monday, 23 July: Ending the Epidemic: Turning the Tide**

*Ending the HIV Epidemic: From Scientific Advances to Public Health Implementation*

Anthony S. Fauci, the National Institute of Allergy and Infectious Diseases (NIAID), United States

*The US Epidemic*

Phill Wilson, Black AIDS Institute, United States

*Turning the Tide in Affected Countries: Leadership, Accountability and Targets*

Sheila Tlou, UNAIDS

**Tuesday, 24 July: Challenges and Solutions**

*Viral Eradication – the Cure Agenda*

Javier Martinez-Picado, AIDS Research Institute – IrsiCaixa, University Hospital “Germans Trias i Pujol”, Spain

*Implementation Science: Making the New Prevention Revolution Real*

Nelly Mugo, University of Nairobi and Kenyatta National Hospital, Kenya

*What Will It Take to Turn the Tide?*

Bernhard Schwartländer, UNAIDS

**Wednesday, 25 July: Turning the Tide on Transmission**

*Vaccines*

*Bart Haynes, Duke Human Vaccine Institute, United States*

*Turning the Tide for Women and Girls*

Geeta Rao Gupta, UNICEF

*Turning the Tide for Children and Youth*

Chewe Luo, UNICEF

**Thursday, 26 July: Dynamics of the Epidemic in Context**

*Turning the Tide for MSM and HIV*

Paul Semugoma, Global Forum on MSM and HIV, Uganda

*The Tide Cannot Be Turned without Us: HIV Epidemics amongst Key Affected Populations (Public Health, Human Rights and Harm Reduction)*

Cheryl Overs, Monash University, Australia

*Expanding Testing and Treatment*

Gottfried Hirsenschall, WHO

**Friday, 27 July: HIV in the Larger Global Health Context**

*TB and HIV – Science and Implementation to Turn the Tide on TB*

Anthony Harries, International Union Against Tuberculosis and Lung Disease, France

*Intersection of Non-Communicable Diseases and Ageing in HIV*

Judith Currier, University of California, Los Angeles, United States

*Optimization, Effectiveness and Efficiency of Service Delivery – Integration of HIV and Health Services*

Yogan Pillay, National Department of Health, South Africa

**Other Sessions to Highlight Key Topics**

The selected plenary topics and speakers will set the tone for a wide range of other sessions organized around three components: Science, Community, and Leadership and Accountability. The full programme is now under development, including the selection of scientific abstracts from and selection of workshops and other programme activities. Full programme details will be available on the conference website, [www.aids2012.org](http://www.aids2012.org) in the coming weeks, with the full programme, including all confirmed speakers, available in June.



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### **Programme Activities for Delegates and the General Public**

AIDS 2012 will feature a variety of activities, including many planned by and for young people as part of the official Youth Programme. Open with free admission to general public and conference delegates, the AIDS 2012 Global Village will be a space for community to meet, share lessons learned and build coalitions. It is also a space that invites conference participants to see how science translates into community action and intervention.

### **About AIDS 2012**

The International AIDS Conference is the largest gathering of professionals working in the field of HIV, including people living with HIV and other leaders in the HIV response. It plays a fundamental role in shaping the global response to HIV and in keeping HIV and AIDS on the international political agenda.

### **Conference Organization**

AIDS 2012 is convened by the International AIDS Society and the conference's international partners: the Global Network of People Living with HIV (GNP+); the International Council of AIDS Service Organizations (ICASO); the International Community of Women with HIV/AIDS (ICW) and the United Nations Joint Programme on HIV/AIDS (UNAIDS); the Caribbean Vulnerable Communities Coalition (CVC); Sidaction.

The U.S.-based Black AIDS Institute; the District of Columbia Department of Health (DOH); the HIV Medicine Association (HIVMA) of the Infectious Diseases Society of America (IDSA); the National Institutes of Health (NIH); the Office of National AIDS Policy (ONAP) at the White House; and the U.S. Positive Women's Network (USPWN) are serving as local partners.

### **AIDS 2012: Join the conversation**

Get the latest conference updates and share your thoughts and ideas through the Conference Facebook and Twitter. We are tweeting – [@aids2012](https://twitter.com/aids2012) – and hope many of you will tweet along with us, using #AIDS2012 to keep the conversation going. Become a fan of AIDS 2012 on Facebook and stay in touch with the latest conference updates and developments. Please visit [www.facebook.com/aids2012](https://www.facebook.com/aids2012) to become a fan. If your group or organization is participating in AIDS 2012, we welcome posts of photos and videos of your work on this page. Tell us why you are coming to Washington and what you hope to gain from AIDS 2012.

### **About the IAS**

The International AIDS Society (IAS) is the world's leading independent association of HIV professionals, with over 16,000 members from more than 196 countries working at all levels of the global response to AIDS. Our members include researchers from all disciplines, clinicians, public health and community practitioners on the frontlines of the epidemic, as well as policy and programme planners. The IAS is the custodian of the biennial International AIDS Conference and lead organizer of the IAS Conference on HIV Pathogenesis, Treatment and Prevention, which will be held in Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia from 30 June– 3 July 2013. [www.iasociety.org](http://www.iasociety.org) | [www.ias2013.org](http://www.ias2013.org)



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