Effective civil society

We know that civil society is vital to the HIV response. While more and more people can access digital information, many young people still have to rely on peer educators and other more traditional sources of information to get the knowledge they need to take control of their sexual health.

We engage with a range of partners across the HIV response, and invest in digital communication projects with local and national organisations in areas hard hit by HIV.

Supporting community health workers

Community health workers support millions of with, or at risk of HIV in Southern Africa. They are often people’s first point of contact with the health system and play a pivotal role as advocates and change agents in the HIV response. To play an effective role, they need access to up-to-date, clear, accessible, and accurate information on HIV.

Our new mobile resource, Boost, is a tailored digital knowledge platform designed to support community health workers as they work with their clients. Boost has a range of materials and resources, filling current information gaps, to improve community health workers’ knowledge and ability to support individuals in their communities.

Supporting community-based organisations

We have also worked with community-based organisations in Malawi, Lesotho and Zambia to assist young people to develop knowledge and skills, and increase HIV testing and uptake of services. Through this support we enabled over 9,000 young people to access HIV services in 2019-20 and over 10,000 people to get tested for HIV.

Find out more about our work in Malawi, Lesotho and Zambia.