



COMPASS MONDAY MIRROR



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COMPASS Africa



Advancing Sustainable Health Financing Through Social Contracting in Zimbabwe

Stakeholders from across Zimbabwe's HIV response ecosystem recently gathered for a multi-stakeholder dialogue convened by SAfAIDS Zimbabwe, in partnership with ZiCHIRe-BC and the United for Prevention (U4P) Coalition, under the Transition Initiative supported by Frontline AIDS.

The dialogue brought together representatives from the National AIDS Council (NAC), Ministry of Health and Child Care, UNAIDS, the Country Coordinating Mechanism (CCM), the US Embassy, ACT, key population-led organisations, and other civil society partners. The meeting provided an opportunity to reflect on Zimbabwe's social contracting journey, examine progress made, share lessons learned, and identify solutions to strengthen community-led HIV services through sustainable financing mechanisms.

A central theme of the discussions was the importance of ensuring that communities and key populations remain at the heart of Zimbabwe's HIV response. Participants emphasized that social contracting must be inclusive, equitable, and responsive to the needs of those delivering critical services at community level.





The dialogue also resonated strongly with ongoing conversations around Domestic Resource Mobilisation (DRM). As development financing landscapes continue to evolve and donor resources become increasingly constrained, stakeholders highlighted the need for Zimbabwe to strengthen domestic financing mechanisms that can sustain health and HIV programmes in the long term. Discussions reinforced the growing call for innovative financing approaches and greater government investment to ensure community-led responses remain effective and resilient.

Key recommendations emerging from the dialogue included:

- Strengthening social contracting to ensure it is equitable, inclusive of key population organisations and organisations of persons with disabilities, and broad enough to support prevention, treatment, and care services.
- Establishing sustainable financing mechanisms for key population programmes, including dedicated funding streams, resource mobilisation strategies, and diversified domestic funding sources.
- Enhancing domestic resource mobilisation and accountability through innovative financing mechanisms such as the sugar tax and mining levy, while improving coordination, transparency, and efficiency in the use of resources.

The engagement underscored that sustainable health financing goes beyond mobilising resources. It requires meaningful investment in community systems, stronger accountability frameworks, and deliberate efforts to ensure key populations have access to the resources needed to lead and sustain HIV interventions.



Zimbabwe Launches Key Health Financing and Accountability Frameworks

Zimbabwe's health sector reached a significant milestone during the Ministry of Health and Child Care (MoHCC) Annual Review and Planning Meeting with the launch of three key instruments: the National Health Accounts (2021-2024), the Health Financing Strategy (2026-2030), and the MoHCC Enterprise Risk Management Policy. Together, these frameworks provide a stronger foundation for a more sustainable, transparent, and accountable health system.



The release of the National Health Accounts 2021-2024 marks an advocacy win for the COMPASS 2.0 coalition. Through sustained engagement led by the Zimbabwe Civil HIV and AIDS Response Effort (ZiCHIRE), coalition partners advocated for the publication of the accounts to strengthen transparency, accountability, and evidence-informed decision-making in health financing. The availability of this data is expected to support more strategic planning and resource allocation across the health sector.





Pangaea Zimbabwe and the Advocacy Core Team (ACT) also played a pivotal role through their active participation in the Health Financing Technical Working Group, contributing to the development of the Health Financing Strategy (2026-2030). Their engagement helped shape discussions on sustainable health financing, domestic resource mobilisation, and approaches to improving equitable access to quality healthcare for all Zimbabweans. The strategy comes at a critical time as the country seeks to strengthen health system resilience and reduce reliance on external funding.

The launch of these policy instruments reflects the value of sustained collaboration between government, civil society, development partners, and community stakeholders. It also demonstrates how evidence-based advocacy can contribute to meaningful policy outcomes that advance national health priorities.



While the launch represents a major achievement, stakeholders acknowledged that the real work lies ahead. A recurring message throughout the meeting was that policy development is only the first step; successful implementation, monitoring, and accountability will determine the impact of these frameworks on people's lives. Emphasising this point, the Minister of Health and Child Care, Hon. Dr. Douglas Mombeshora, urged stakeholders to move swiftly from policy to action, stating, *"Now that the policy frameworks are in place, let's not wait; let's begin implementing."*

As Zimbabwe moves forward, the same collaborative platforms that informed the development of these frameworks will remain essential in driving implementation and ensuring that investments in health translate into improved health outcomes, stronger health systems, and progress towards universal health coverage.



COMPASS Launches it's websites

On the 24th of September, COMPASS proudly launched its new website, creating a vibrant digital hub for partners, stakeholders, and communities. The platform brings together programme news, success stories, resources, and updates, making it easier than ever to connect with and learn about COMPASS initiatives.

The website launch marks an exciting step forward in strengthening visibility, showcasing impact, and fostering collaboration across the coalition.

Visit the website: <https://compassafrica.org>

