

2024 HIGHLIGHTS

NATIONAL AIDS COUNCIL



DIRECTOR GENERAL'S MESSAGE

Over the past year, our organization has strengthened its coordination and management response to HIV, ensuring that prevention, treatment, and support services reach the most vulnerable communities. Through a multi-sectoral approach, we have enhanced collaboration between government agencies, healthcare providers, civil society organizations (CSOs), and international partners. This coordinated effort has enabled us to expand access to antiretroviral therapy (ART), Pre-Exposure Prophylaxis (PrEP) and other interventions to improve early diagnosis, and enhance community-based interventions. By integrating HIV programmes with broader healthcare services, we have not only increased efficiency but also reduced stigma and promoted a holistic approach to patient care.

Effective management and data-driven decision-making have been key pillars of our response. Strengthening monitoring and evaluation (M&E) systems has allowed us to track progress, identify gaps, and adapt strategies to emerging needs. Capacity building initiatives for healthcare workers, combined with innovative outreach programs, have improved service delivery and patient retention. Looking ahead, we remain committed to scaling up evidence-based interventions, strengthening community systems, and mobilizing resources to sustain the progress made this far. Together, through collective action and strategic partnerships, we can move closer to achieving the goal of ending HIV as a public health threat.



DR KEBBY .C. MUSOKOTWANE



The 2024 Annual Report provides a comprehensive review of our organisation's progress in implementing the Annual Work Plan and Budget. This document highlights key achievements, challenges, financial expenditures, and strategic adjustments made throughout the year. Our primary focus remained on governance and leadership, strategic information management, and policy implementation in alignment with our mission

JIC Runs with adolescents



Supervisory visits to SGR districts

During the reporting period, NAC conducted field visits to provide technical support in JIC Runs, M&E, and stakeholder engagement initiatives. These visits included the re-orientation of DACAs and Adolescent Health Focal Point Persons (FPPs) on data collection tools, NACMIS data entry, and report writing. Additionally, meetings were held with District Health Directors (DHDs), Principal Officers from Local Authorities, and stakeholders implementing Adolescent Health Programmes in project sites.

Convened quarterly PACA/DACA review meetings



Southern Province PACA/DACA Planning and Review Meeting

The PACA/DACA Meetings are held quarterly to review the performance of the previous quarter and plan for upcoming quarters. Through these meetings, all provinces develop work plans and review their performance as required by their terms of reference. In 2024, all planned meetings were held in the three provinces. Membership comprised respective PACAs and their DACAs

Backstopping for the Lusaka Fast Track City Action Plan

With support from UNAIDS and the Lusaka City Council (LCC), NAC actively participated in developing the draft Fast Track City's Initiative Strategic Plan 2025 -2027. The final document is expected to be endorsed by the full Council Meeting in 2025.



Capacity building of senior staff members from local authorities in Lusaka Province



Following an assessment of selected local authorities' capacity to mobilise local resources for HIV community management and coordination, a training programme on resource mobilisation was conducted at Chalimbana Local Government Training Institute (CLGTI).

Participants included Town Clerks, Council Secretaries, and Directors of key departments such as Human Resources, Planning, Finance, and Engineering along with District AIDS Coordination Advisors (DACAs). The training aimed to strengthen local authorities' capacity to manage HIV and AIDS programmes effectively within the decentralisation framework.

Capacity building of civic leaders in community management of HIV coordination

In collaboration with the Copperbelt Provincial AIDS Coordination Office, an orientation workshop was conducted for all councillors, including Mayors and Council Chairpersons. The workshop aimed to achieve outcomes, such as

Strengthening collaboration and engagement between civic leaders and stakeholders in the health sector.



Civic Leaders from the Copperbelt during the orientation

Last Mile condom distribution Initiative

As part of the Global Fund Cycle 7 (GC7) rollout, Zambia implemented key preparatory activities to support last-mile condom distribution (LMD) in Southern, Copperbelt, North-western, and Central provinces targeting Livingstone, Kazungula, Chirundu, Monze, Solwezi,

Kitwe, Kapiri Mposhi and Kafue.

Significant progress was also made in strengthening the District Condom Technical Working Group (TWG) committees, which are now operational with approved terms of reference and active stakeholder engagement.



These committees reviewed roadmaps, coordinated roles, and facilitated logistical arrangements to ensure the successful implementation of the LMD mechanism.

The assessments confirmed adequate storage facilities and suitable locations for installing condom dispensers, some of which are already operational, particularly in Monze. Most hotspots were equipped with smartphones to support real-time tracking of condom distribution using tools such as LoCo and NACMIS.

Transformative Leadership Development Training for AMICAALL Executive Steering Committee



The AMICAALL workshop, sponsored by UNAIDS and executed by NAC, AMICAALL, and UNAIDS, aimed to strengthen the capacity of local leaders and municipal officials to respond effectively to the HIV and AIDS epidemic at the community level. By focusing on leadership development, governance enhancement, and community-driven solutions, the workshop empowered participants to address challenges in underserved communities. It facilitated collaboration among local councils, fostered community engagement, and emphasised sustainable, impactful responses to HIV and AIDS within municipalities.

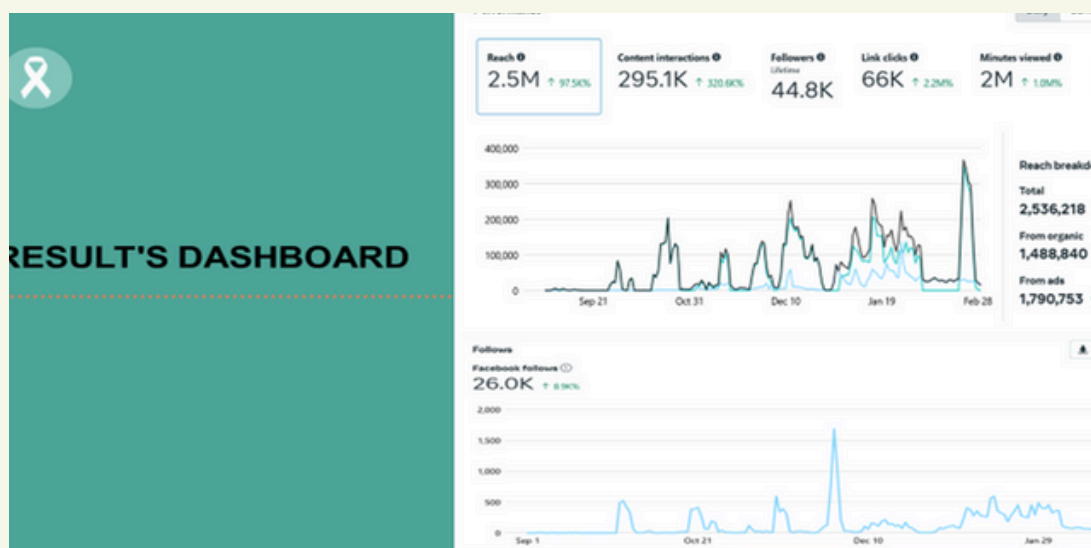
Demand creation through TV and Radio

To create awareness on different HIV prevention services NAC, with support from ILO, WHO and UNICEF coordinated Our Health Zone, a 40 minutes live phone-in programmes on ZNBC TV1 and Radio 2 and 4. A total of 20 programmes were aired. The lessons learnt are that TV and radio are still effective channels of communication especially for rural areas, as evidenced by the number of callers. The programme also gave an opportunity to understand the knowledge gaps in HIV programming.



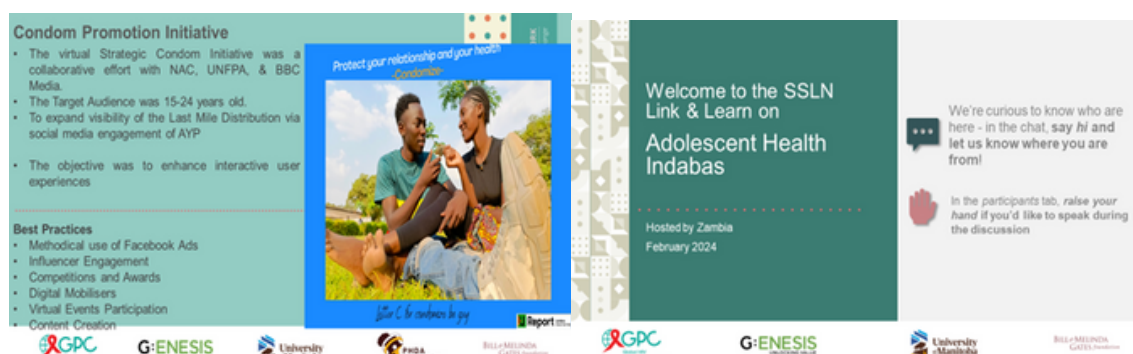
Demand Creation through Social Media

Demand creation through social media has continued to show that a high number of young people can be reached as demonstrated by the analytics on the Zambia U-Report page below. During the period under review, the Zambia U-Report page reached 2.5 million users with messages on condoms. It is hoped that the number of people reached will result in an increased uptake of condoms. In view of these results, the country team was invited to share lessons learnt from the Condom Strategic Initiative (CSI) on the South-to-South Learning Network Prevention Platform through a presentation. The lessons learnt were shared on the SSLN webinar hosted on 18 April, 2024.



Link and Learn Session on Adolescent Indabas and Creating Condom Demand using Social Media

Zambia is a member of the UNAIDS South-South Learning Network (SSLN). The SSLN is a platform where member states share learning and promising practices with the aim of improving HIV prevention programmes in countries heavily affected by HIV. The SSLN currently supports 15 African countries. During the period under review, Zambia hosted two sessions on adolescent indabas and creation of condom demand using social media. Adolescent Indabas demonstrated how indabas have been used as a channel to collect information on issues that affect adolescents, get recommendations on solutions to adolescent challenges as well as offer AYP an opportunity to add a voice to policy issues that affect them. On the other hand, condom demand creation using social media showcased how information easily reaches young people through social media where they are mostly found. The presentation further indicated that young people preferred getting information from social media influencers and animated spots. The Zambian team comprised the MOH, NAC and civil society.

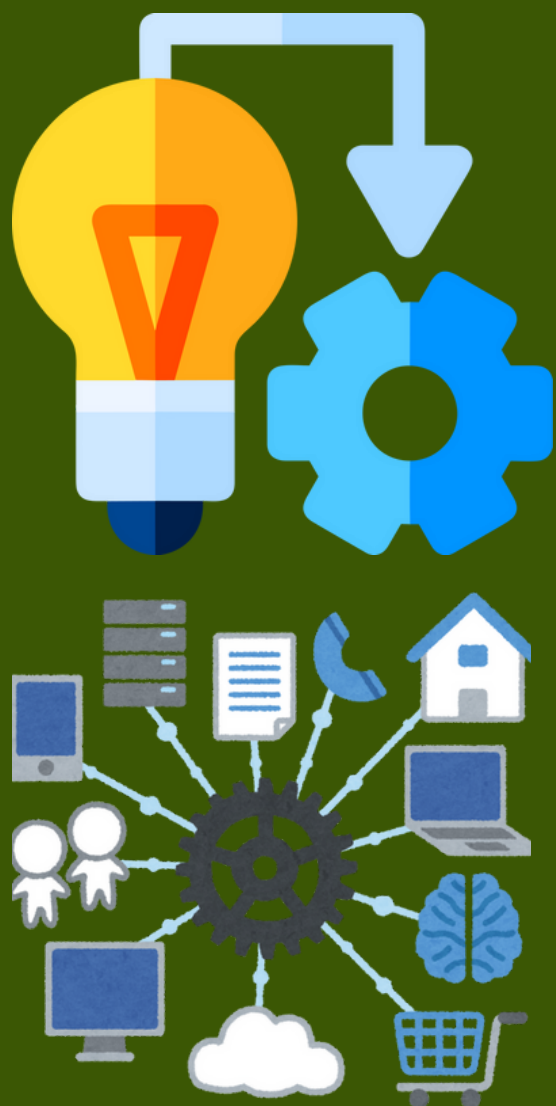


Medically Assisted Therapy (MAT) Civil Society Learning Tour

Zambia has embarked on a mission of establishing Medically Assisted Therapy clinics to help people who inject drugs to be weaned off drug use. In order to achieve this objective, Zambia visited Kenya on a learning tour during the period 16 - 20 September 2024 to learn the processes of establishing such a facility.

The team focused on Observing and learning how mobilisation of PWIDs is conducted., Identifying key indicators and data monitoring tools used for MAT and Observing coordination of MAT activities between the community, partners and MOH.

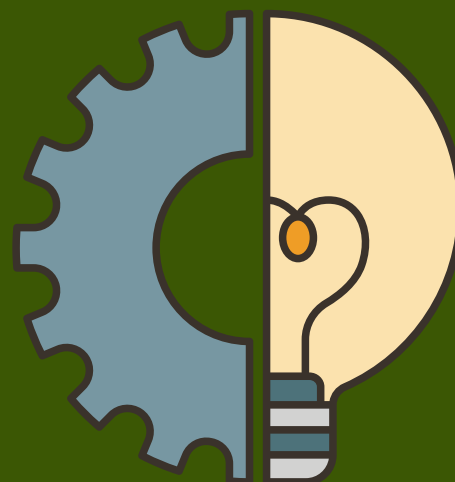




Challenges and Lessons Learned

During the year 2024, we had faced some challenges, learnt lessons and had key recommendations on how we can do things better. Some of the challenges faced include; delayed policy approvals, budget constraints as well as data collection. The lesson learnt is stakeholder engagement; extensive consultations with stakeholders are critical to enabling policy and legal environment for HIV and AIDS. Key recommendations are; to conduct capacity building, continuous orientation for district level stakeholders on SARF for NACMIS reporting process as well as cost efficiency thereby collaborating with MOH IT to host NACMIS on their servers.

Challenges faced with the communications included delayed approval of the Annual Work Plan affected the implementation of activities scheduled for quarter 1 and part of quarter 2.

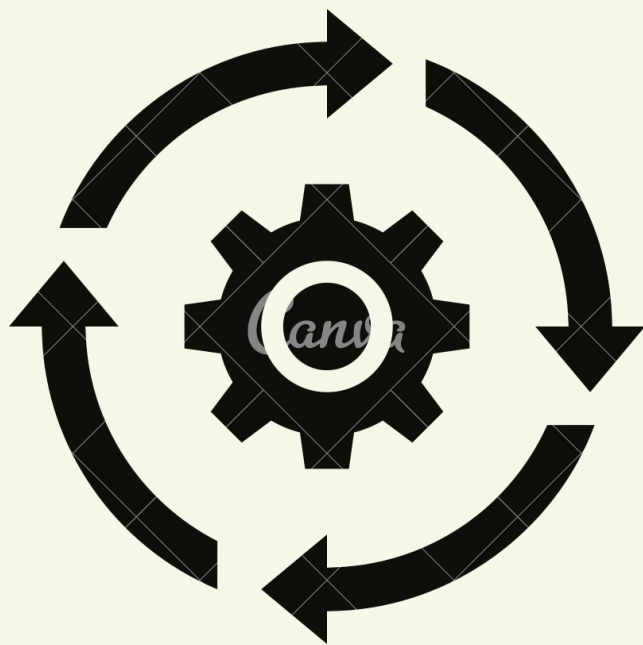


we learnt that digital platforms provide convenience for young people to access information, education and services,

Link and learn sessions and exchange of information through learning platforms like webinars have continued to be a cheaper avenue of capacity building and staff development.

Digital platforms can be used in integration with other approaches to address the Last Mile Distribution of condoms.

IMPLEMENTATIONS



in the year 2025 we have taken key steps to implement and we plan to increase advocacy efforts to fast track policy approvals and legislative reviews, we'll work with KP partners to harmonize KP reporting systems as well as to improve data analytics capabilities to enhance strategic decision making.

we have proposed to facilitate the hosting of a national HIV and AIDS conference, coordinate national participation in the ICASA , promote condom and lubricant through demand creation activities as well as to facilitate the scale up of health services for KPs.



With the response coordination and management we proposed to support districts document their practices in HIV and AIDS, facilitate hosting of the annual SBC retreat as well as organize and facilitate the 2025 WAD.



NAC 2024 IN PICTURES

