Communities first

Our vision is a world without AIDS

We strive for a world where there are no longer any deaths from AIDS and where people enjoy good sexual health. A world where everyone can love freely and fearlessly. We accomplish this by working together with the people who are hit hardest by HIV, STIs, discrimination and exclusion in the Netherlands and globally. We amplify their voice and support them with information, expertise and funding. For all that is love.
**What we do**

Working with communities as equals is at the heart of all our work. Together, we innovate and develop solutions for some of the most stubborn challenges facing the HIV and AIDS response. As a bold and courageous funder, we mobilise our own and other funders’ resources to effectively fund community-led responses. We fund interdisciplinary research aiming to find a cure for HIV available for all. Moreover, we serve as a microphone, amplifying the voices of those who must be heard, but are too often muted.

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**Why it works**

**We believe in local community solutions**

People in a community know what works in practice and are aware of local needs, sensitivities, and challenges. This is why we always put local communities of people vulnerable to HIV and most affected at the heart of our programmes.

**We fund community responses and advocacy worldwide**

Participatory grantmaking and co-decision making on all our funding decisions not only shifts power to those who matter most, but also that it yields the best results. Every year, we award around 30 million euro to community-led responses and advocacy.

**We kick-start innovation**

We boldly experiment, tackle challenges that others are reluctant to address, test our solutions and help governments to roll out the results of our pioneering work.

**We are pragmatic**

To respond to AIDS in all diverse ways, we strategically fund interventions and develop innovative programmes and models co-funded by other donors.

**We leverage our expertise**

We have over 30 years of experience in the AIDS response and reaching and involving groups and communities. In the Netherlands we support the public, policy makers and professionals to prevent, detect and treat HIV and other STIs. We do this by bringing together knowledge, research, policy, lobbying and practice. Globally, we work with our partners to build their capacity.

**We mobilise forces for change**

Engagement to end AIDS is required at all levels, from individuals and countries to global organisations. We advocate through our communities and as Aidsfonds to put AIDS, gender equality and sexual and reproductive health and rights high on the agenda and to ensure it receives sufficient funding, and we share any insights we gain. This empowers and strengthens our partners and gives people the opportunity to stand up for their rights.
People living with HIV often have poor access to effective treatment and prevention options. HIV impairs the livelihoods of people living with HIV which can exacerbate poverty and reduce adherence to HIV treatment.

Young people, including young people living with HIV, lack access to sexuality-related information and services. Frequently, policies are often not well-aligned with the realities of young people.

Gender inequality increases the risk of HIV infection among adolescent girls and young women.

Specifically for women, a lack of economic opportunities increases the risk of contracting HIV.

Children are easily left behind. Without treatment, 50% of infants born with HIV would die before their second birthday, and 80% will die before their fifth birthday.

Lesbian, gay, bisexual, and transgender people are frequently stigmatised. This not only results in human rights violations, but also impedes access to life-saving HIV services.

Violence is one of the most important factors affecting the vulnerability of sex workers to HIV. It frequently results in inconsistent condom use and prevents sex workers from gaining access to essential legal support and health care.

People who use drugs face severe stigma. They fear imprisonment and human rights abuses when seeking healthcare services.
We are proud of:

✔ Reaching 3.9 million young people in the Netherlands annually on sexual health and reproductive rights
✔ Channelling 60% of our Love Alliance strategic partnership grant from the Dutch Foreign Ministry through participatory grantmaking
✔ Being of the largest funders of key populations communities and programmes (PITCH, Bridging the Gaps, Love Alliance) We are proud to have awarded over 500 grants to community-led organisations since 2011
✔ Having made 16 million euro available in Dutch scientific research on HIV cure since 2018, through our own grants and by matching grants of partners
✔ Locating 250,000 children living with HIV and supporting 4,000 mothers and babies with HIV to start treatment through our Kids to Care program (2018-2021)

Where we work

Let’s connect

Aidsfonds is part of Aidsfonds – Soa Aids Nederland, a non-governmental organisation based in the Netherlands and with advocacy staff in Washington, Geneva and Brussels. We work in the Netherlands and internationally with an annual budget of approximately €50 million.

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