Shifting the Landscape and What it Means to our Work on Vertical Transmission

Community Action Related to the Global Plan
Key principle of the Global Plan

• Women living with HIV at the centre of the response in preventing vertical transmission and keeping mothers alive
ICW activities

• Only International Network by, for and of WLHIV
• On the Global Steering Group
• Co-Lead IATT monitoring and accountability work stream
• Development of ICW reference group of WLHIV
• Ongoing consultation with WLHIV, eg. ‘Vital voices’, ICASA, ICW reference group
ICW vision for national level action

- Representatives on Technical Working Groups on PMTCT
- Implementers of services (peer support, community education)
- Demand creation/community mobilization through health promotion, mass media, etc
- Key role in monitoring and accountability
- Community driven participatory research
ICASA consultation: Barriers Top Down

• Tunnel vision – knowing what to say about WLHIV, but not really what to do
• Engagement of women on Advisory Groups in some cases but tokenistic – no real capacity building or involvement
ICASA consultation: Barriers bottom up

• Lack of capacity to meaningfully engage
  – Lack of resources and time

• Lack of awareness of the plan or their role within it

• Gender inequality, eg. Men living with HIV representing women’s issues on technical groups

• Lack of male involvement in programmes
Recommendations from consultations of WLHIV at ICASA

• Capacity-building for WLHIV to take part in decision-making, eg. Technical working groups at national level
• Governments and implementers should ensure better integration between HIV and SRH services.
• Service providers should deliver services with an unbiased attitude.
• Through networks, and peer support, empowering women and couples to know SRH-rights and seek redress when rights are violated.
Questions

• How are you able to support WLHIV to monitor developments at country level?
• How are working with WLHIV and communities at national level?