



DURBAN 2016 Scorecard—How did it deliver?

Durban 2000 was a high point of global solidarity. In 2016, will AIDS activism be rekindled and reinvigorated leading to massive mobilization for decisive action on ending the epidemic?



The answer is an energetic, innovative, youth-led Yes! Highlights included a massive march focused on the funding gap for the global AIDS response to small, smart strategic actions demanding human rights and respect for sex workers, to strategy sessions laying the groundwork for new and stronger coalitions in the months and years to come.

The 2000 conference saw the first meeting by and for women living with HIV—*Women at Durban*—which became the Women’s Networking Zone. Will 2016 bring breakthroughs in effective, comprehensive women-centered services for HIV prevention, treatment and reproductive health?



Not so much. The women’s agenda was complicated but not completely revamped in Durban. New data on vaginal bacteria that might impact risk of HIV and efficacy of tenofovir gel (which isn’t moving forward in trials) left many confused. Additional data on the dapivirine ring show that it worked better in women who used it. Sadly, ART expansion is still ignoring the wisdom and life experience of women—though AVAC was proud to be part of a coalition that produced the first Global Review of women’s access to ART.

In 2000, the question regarding ART became “not if, but how” would treatment reach people in low-income countries. Will 2016 be the year that this question is answered for comprehensive prevention?



Signs are hopeful but not conclusive. Durban saw more attention to non-ART prevention than previous meetings—lots of love for PrEP and recognition of the need for combination prevention. Now’s the time to turn talk into action.

Is the world on track to 90-90-90 and fewer than 500,000 new infections by 2020?



No way. Incidence has plateaued globally and soared in some settings, as documented in a UNAIDS report released just before Durban kicked off. Now’s the time to get serious about prevention.