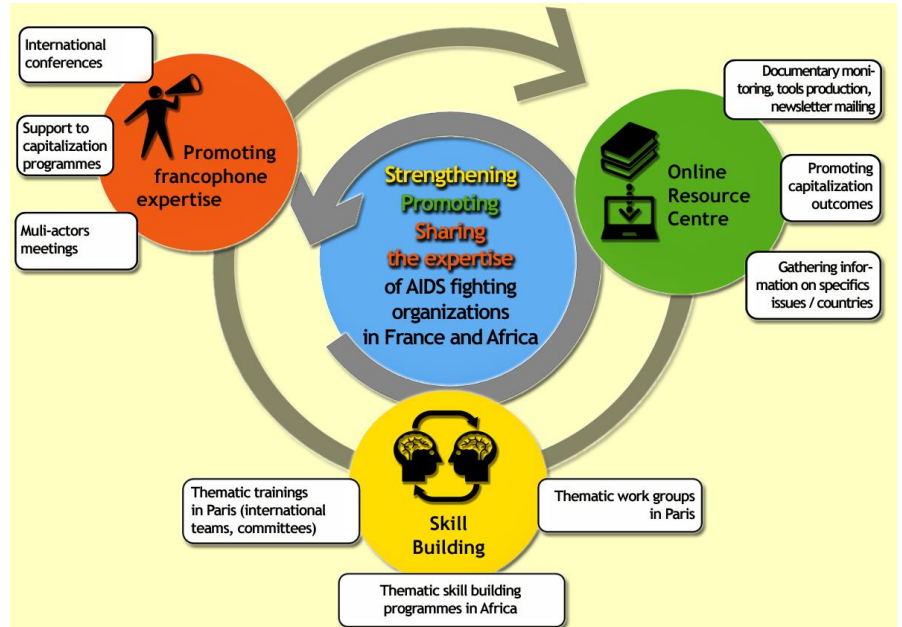




Ensemble Luttons contre le Sida en Afrique (ELSA) Together, Fighting AIDS in Africa

A framework for sharing experiences, coordinating efforts and pooling resources

Created in 2002, ELSA Platform is a pool of French NGOs involved in the fight against AIDS in Africa. In 2016, the members of the ELSA Platform are: the French Movement for Family Planning, Sidaction, SIS Association, Solidarité Sida and Solthis. Their respective partners in Africa form ELSA partners' network, being 65 associations in 16 francophone countries in Africa. ELSA facilitates the sharing of information and experience between French actors (North-North co-operation), but also between French and African actors (North-South and South-North co-operation), and between African actors (South-South co-operation).



In this way, the Platform is based on pooling the experiences and the expertise of member and partner associations, and helps them capitalizing good practices experienced by civil society.

- A unique co-operation framework between AIDS fighting associations in France and Africa
- An on-line resource centre in French open to all actors of the fight against AIDS in Africa
- Capacity building opportunities for the French and African associations

ELSA's spaces for discussion are developed according to the needs of its members and partners, and to the evolutions in the issues of the epidemic. The coordination staff handles organization, secretariat and facilitation of these spaces, potentially with the help of experts depending on the thematics.

Activities	Objectives	With who? At which frequency?
Executive Committee Meetings	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - ELSA's activities follow-up - ELSA's projects strategic decisions - Sharing information on the member associations' support programmes with their African partners - Sharing views on strategic issues of the epidemic 	1 representative for each member association / monthly meetings
Thematic Workgroups	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Sharing information on one thematic - Collective skills building - Collective tools building <p>* objectives can vary from one group to another according to the thematic and the needs of the participants</p>	Every staff of member associations interested in the thematic / frequency can vary according to the needs
Thematic Meetings /Country Meetings	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Sharing views and information in order to get a broad picture of a specific issue or country - Sharing and potentially co-ordinating the different actors' interventions 	All French structures dealing with the specific issue or country / quarterly meetings – or according to the needs
Seminars	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Strengthening the member associations' knowledge on specific issues through an expert intervention 	Every staff of member associations interested in the thematic / 3 days of training per year

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The support programme for capitalization

Skills building programmes aim at supporting the member and partner associations on specific issues related to the fight against AIDS. The thematic are chosen based on the needs expressed by French and African associations, they match the epidemic's strategic evolutions, and they foster added value due to collective work (issues that are newly raised, or not tackled yet by other actors).

The field of capitalization was chosen in accordance with the evolution of community-based organizations in the fight against AIDS : they have built up real expertise, but they fail in making it visible. Working as a pool of organizations in this field is particularly relevant because capitalization allows sharing practices, and thus improving everyone's work. Moreover, it is consistent with another objective of ELSA Platform which is the development of the online resource centre : the outcomes of the capitalization process are immediately showcased on the website.

- **Main objective :** strengthen the staff capacities in conducting a capitalization process and producing material.
- **Secondary objectives :** train 3 staff members for each association in conducting the capitalization process ; support the process in their associations ; showcase the material produced in the process, as well as the « good practices » of the process itself.

Ways and means in supporting the partners' capitalization process :

- Facilitation of a training session for 3 staff members of each association
- Distance follow-up and support : mails, phone calls, Facebook instant messages
- Projects follow-up tools : action plans, dashboards, schedules, terms of reference, etc.
- Various forms of support can be mobilized according to the needs :
 - ✓ Reviewing the data collection,
 - ✓ Supporting the data collection,
 - ✓ Supporting the data analysis,
 - ✓ Defining the support materials and their contents,
 - ✓ On-field visits and discussions with other partners involved in the issue,
 - ✓ Training in documents layout and computer graphics,
 - ✓ Supporting the writing of contents,
 - ✓ Layout proposals,
 - ✓ Completing and printing the material

Main Outcomes :

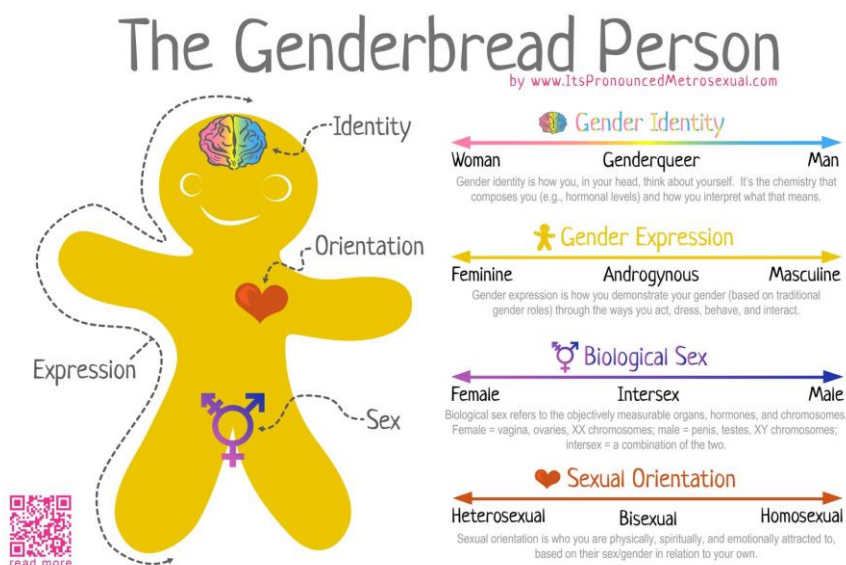
- Applications : 16 partners from 9 countries
- Selection : 5 selected from 5 countries
- 1 training session : 15 people (3 persons x 5 associations)
- 4 support missions
- 4 sets of capitalization material (technical sheets, training supports, communication supports, reports...)



The support programme for integrating gender issues into HIV programmes

Stereotypes attached to femininity and masculinity norms and gender roles are keys to analyse the epidemic and adapt HIV prevention and care strategies. Biological, social, cultural, economical and legal factors make women more vulnerable than men to HIV. On the other side, men are under the influence of masculinity norms and assignments that promote the multiplicity of sexual partners and risk-taking in general. Moreover, the patriarchal system based on heterosexual norms often leads to rejecting alternate sexual practices or gender identities (homosexual, bisexual, transgender people), thus pushing the people concerned away from prevention and care services.

At the instigation of the French Movement for Family Planning, supported by the development of internal expertise at the ELSA Platform, we provide since 2010 skill building programmes in integrating gender issues into HIV prevention and care programmes to both our members and partners.



- **Main objective** : support organizations in the integration of gender issues into their HIV prevention and care programmes, and/or into their internal governance.
- **Secondary objectives** : train 3 staff members for each association in understanding the concepts and tools of the gender approach; support the elaboration and implementation of an action plan through mail/telephone advice, and through opportunities for internships and/or support missions; capitalize and promote good practices in integrating gender issues in fighting HIV programmes.

Ways and means in supporting the partners' programmes integrating gender issues :

- Training session on the concepts and tools of the gender approach + support in drafting action plans
- Remote follow-up and technical support : action plans reviews, execution planning, missions and internships terms of reference
- Various forms of individual support

	Structures	Training session	Remote support	South-south internships	Support missions	Support in project writing	Support in taking part in international conferences
PHASE 1	REDS Cameroun	X	X		X	X	X
	Alternatives Cameroun	X	X		X	X	X
	SOS Sida Congo	X	X		X	X	
	ALAVI Burkina Faso	X	X		X		
	CERADIS Bénin	X	X		X		X
PHASE 2	AFIA Santé Congo	X	X	X			
	Femmes Plus Congo	X	X		X	X	
	SWAA Burundi	X	X	X	X		
	MAS Burkina Faso	X	X	X			
	Alternatives Côte d'Ivoire	X	X	X	X	X	

Main Outcomes :

- 2 training sessions positively evaluated by the participants
- 8 support missions, led mainly by local experts
- 8 individual internships in African partner organizations
- Involvement of participants from phase 1 into phase 2 as resource persons (participation in the selection committee, co-facilitation of the workshops, support missions as experts, interns' mentors)
- 10 structures applied to the « Gender and HIV » call for proposals from the Fondation de France ; 5 were granted funding
- 1 training guide was written following the 2 first training sessions and promoted through the online resource centre.

The online francophone resource centre on HIV/AIDS in Africa

The 2012-2015 project displayed a major evolution with the construction of an online resource centre meeting the needs of the community of HIV/AIDS actors working in French-speaking African countries. ELSA was indeed actively developing since 2009 opportunities of accessing, sharing, and promoting experiences of French organizations working in African countries through various means (spreading information by email, facilitating work groups, thematic or country meetings...). It appeared necessary to make information accessible to a wider audience through an online francophone resource centre on HIV/AIDS in Africa.

- **Main objective :** Provide visibility to francophone community-based expertise, primarily ELSA's partners and members.
- **Secondary objectives :** provide resources about processes, tools, methodology...; produce documentary files and update the knowledge on specific thematics ; promote innovative experiences.

Contents of the online resource centre

- 16 thematic files composed of :
 - ✓ Situation analysis
 - ✓ Programme reports
 - ✓ Intervention tools and methodology
 - ✓ Training modules and guides
 - ✓ Institutional documents
 - ✓ Capitalization products
 - ✓ Academic research papers
 - ✓ Audio and video reports
- 26 country reviews with epidemiological information, local actors' contacts, and the list of ELSA local partners
- Over 900 documents to date
- 85 pages dedicated to African partner associations
- An increasing number of visitors : over 32 000 people, one quarter of whom being returning users
- A Facebook page getting more dynamic and boosting the website : 400 people « like », 5 to 15 posts per month, each post reaching over 300 people.

Coïnfections	Plaidoyer
Enfants	Populations clés
Financement de la lutte contre le sida	Prévention
Formation	Prise en charge médicale
Genre	Prise en charge psychosociale
Mobilisation des ressources	Relation d'aide à distance
Observatoires d'accès aux soins et aux droits	Santé sexuelle et reproductive
Pharmacie	Structuration associative



The francophone resource centre is a free opportunity of online technical support :

- ✓ With the essential available knowledge in the different fields of the fight against AIDS in Africa,
- ✓ Allowing everyone to share their own resources,
- ✓ Promoting community-based expertise,
- ✓ Based on experience pooling and sharing.