

Evaluation Completed

Yes No Date: *dd.mm.yyyy*

Evaluation Report - Attached

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The Scientific Planning Meeting brought together an interdisciplinary group of more than thirty basic scientists, clinicians, social scientists and policy makers to share background information, related published research, and to identify priority research questions and explore the physiological co-factors of sexual violence that increase the risk of HIV acquisition and progression among women and girls. A major outcome of the meeting was the production of the Greentree White Paper on Sexual Violence Genito-Anal Injury and HIV which sets out priorities for research, policy and practice and will be published in the November Special Issue of AIDS Research and Human Retroviruses, the very first AIDS publication in the field over 25 years ago. Recommendations from the paper have already been taken up and implemented in United States Government policies on addressing the AIDS epidemic.

The Meeting drew attention to the cluster of physiological variables that place young adolescent women at disproportionate risk, and that are further augmented by the social factors that determine the type of relationships they have and their likelihood of experiencing forced and early sex. There is an emerging consensus among science and policy actors that, after nearly three decades of the AIDS pandemic, it is time to shift from biomedical and behavioral interventions aimed at individuals to comprehensive, strategic “combination prevention” in which social/structural approaches become a core element. Epidemic modeling of incidence and transmission dynamics need to be able to translate social factors into variables that can be simply and directly associated with HIV outcomes, particularly HIV incidence. Achieving this will require more systematic collaboration across clinical, basic science and social science research.