

Thirty years into the epidemic – and despite substantial progress – the number of people newly HIV-infected continues to outstrip the number entering treatment. Social factors shape HIV vulnerability and hamper both prevention and treatment efforts. They include gender inequality and violence; limited livelihood options; stigma, discrimination and criminalisation; and alcohol availability and drinking norms. The importance of addressing these "structural drivers" of HIV is increasingly recognised, but the evidence, will and funding to push for structural interventions is still lacking.