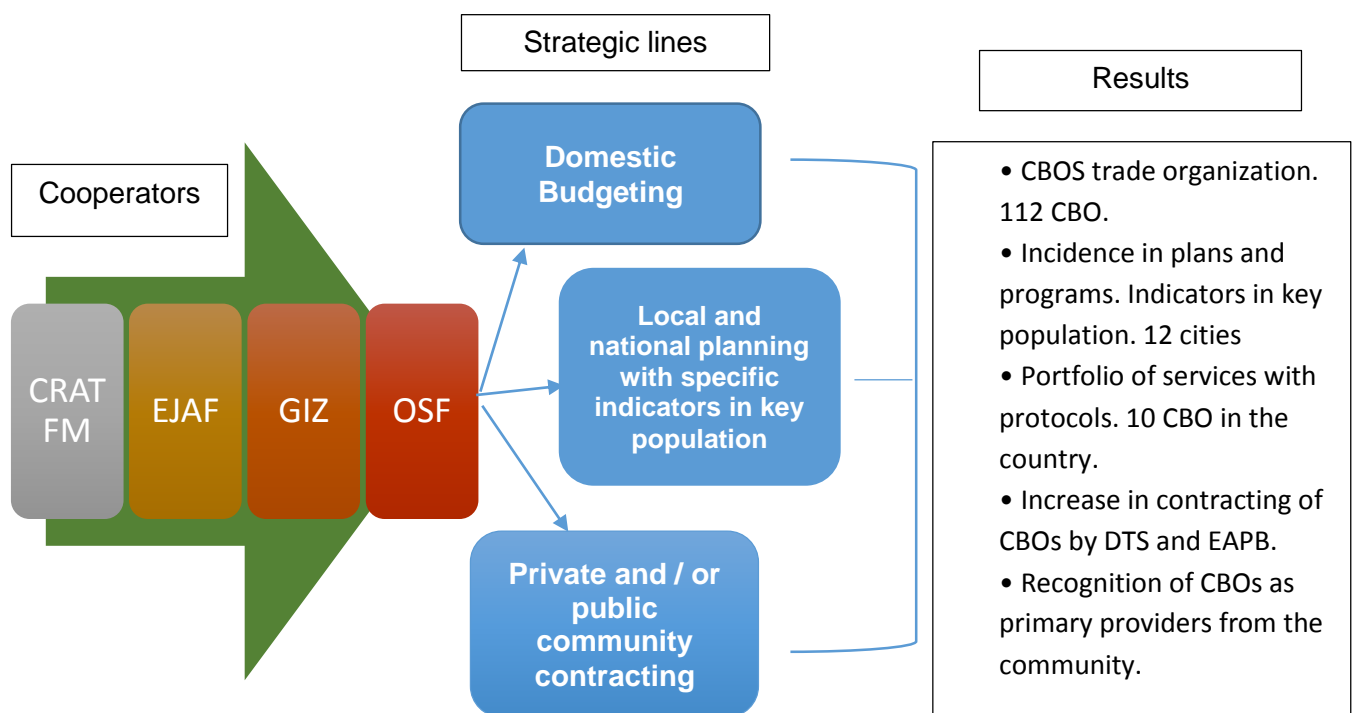


Participate to Impact-Sustainability Strategy in the national response to HIV from civil society's perspective

1. Summary:

The strategy of sustainability in the national response to HIV from a community perspective is a bet energized by the Corporación Red Somos that aims to articulate different actions in a concrete, measurable and possible response. Community sustainability is then the center where advances in domestic budgeting, local and national planning and community contracting around the HIV response converge.



Strategy of sustainability of the response to HIV from the community perspective - Red Somos. 2017

2. Why did we do it? - Background.

Colombia is a middle-high income country with an HIV epidemic concentrated among the main key populations. It has the third largest HIV epidemic in Latin America, after Brazil and Mexico, with an average of eight thousand new cases of HIV reported each year (UNAIDS, 2014).

The budget for the response in VIH-SIDA is immersed in the sexuality policy and the sexual and reproductive health program, which makes it difficult to define a direct and specific budget in the allocation and monitoring of spending processes. The domestic budget for HIV-AIDS is given by public sources. The remaining 90% of the expenditure goes to the care (service packages, antiretroviral treatment) executed by the health providers (private insurers where the citizen is a taxpayer) within the mandatory health plan (POS). The resources of the global fund represent 1% of the total, however, it is the largest investment focused on key groups.

In Colombia there are a significant number of civil society organizations (112 identified), leaders and activists working from different actions as part of the response to the HIV / AIDS epidemic in the country, 7 national networks where they have PLWHA representation, women with HIV, sex workers, transgender people and organizations working on HIV.

3. How did we do it? - Participants.

- Civil Society Organizations working on HIV and LGBTI
- Institutions of the state: Direction of promotion and prevention of the ministry of health. Territorial health directions in Ibagué, Manizales, Pereira, Cali, Medellín, Bogotá, Barranquilla and Cartagena. Other related directions (population, gender equity, among others). Adding with EJAF the cities of Bucaramanga, Cúcuta, Santa Marta / Montería and Villavicencio.
- Elton John Foundation, CRAT Via Libre FM, GIZ and Open Society Foundation.
- FM: FONADE (PR 2017-2019) and CCM

4. What we achieve? - Concrete results of the project.

Global Results

- Articulation of different local, national and international cooperation actors around the response to HIV in Colombia. Resources Mobilization
- Advocacy, oversight, social control in investing on HIV at the national level by the territorial health directions and / or directing actions to key populations.
- Greater possibilities for community contracting (CBOs and community leaders) by the SGSSS (Territorial directors and benefit plan management entities EAPB)

Community results

- Increase in the competence (in knowledge, analysis and negotiation capacity and in management and proactive agreements) of civil society to participate in the construction and implementation of actions within the HIV responses from national and local levels, based on the four priority objectives of the Programmatic Management Model on HIV.

- Increase in competition (in knowledge, capacity for analysis, monitoring and evaluation, in management and proactive agreements) of civil society in the follow-up and monitoring of HIV spending and in the promotion of governmental and community accountability.
- Increase in community services within the CSA National Platform structured and enabled to perform as primary providers in sexual and reproductive health within the SGSSS of Colombia.
- Development of a portfolio of community services with quality protocols that generate greater possibilities for social contracting.
- National Association of CBOs in SRH legally constituted and built as a valid interlocutor with the different entities involved in the response.

5. How do we sustain it? - Sustainability.

From the programmatic sustainability in “Red Somos” participative processes are carried out that involve the community in the formulation, execution and monitoring of the processes. In this sense, it is necessary to take into account that the choice of activities is based on local conditions and capacities and the different needs of the beneficiaries from a previously documented demand (HIV budgeting, community services, among others.)

Therefore, the programmatic design contemplates the generation of new knowledge, skills, aptitudes or practices (innovation) in public and private institutions, in CBOs and in general in HIV work in the country. The learnings, knowledge or tools of the project will be systematized and transferred to civil society. There is a dissemination plan for the socialization of experiences and knowledge and participation instances are representative of the key population groups.

In addition, national, local and institutional policies have been considered relevant to the community sustainability strategy that, in advancing the actions, contribute to the country's installed capacity. Technical advances, recognition of CBOs as primary providers in health, portfolio of community services with protocols, among others.

6. What did we learn? - Experiences and lessons learned.

The development of these joint actions at the national level, has allowed to Red Somos to generate understanding on the following lessons:

- Changes in paradigms in Civil Society are required in relation to sustainability that transcends the fact that it is limited to resources for organizations through projects. Elements such as the provision of community services and the sale of them, must be positioned as key elements of sustainability.
- The need for a better institutional understanding of the actions developed by the CBOS is evident. These are: social monitoring, political advocacy and the provision of complementary services. These actions are not mutually exclusive, nor do they go against the mission of the CBOS.
- It is necessary to build a different relationship between CS and public and private institutions of health system that favors articulated work to really integrate all parts of the HIV response.



- The CS requires fostering and encouraging a technical discourse to achieve alliances with cooperators, decision makers, among others.
- The development of technical, political and strategic alliances favors the impact of work in terms of sustainability. Therefore, it is essential to articulate different initiatives, projects and actors towards sustainability (GF-PR-Cooperators- Ministry of Health-Civil Society)
- It will always be necessary to generate documentation, systematization and publication of the results of actions from civil society as evidence for political advocacy.
- Finally, recognition of the CBOS as primary health provider from the community as part of sustainability is required.