

ANNEX 2
NATIONAL COMPOSITE POLICY INDEX QUESTIONNAIRE

Strategic plan

1. Has your country developed multisectoral strategies to combat HIV/AIDS? (Multisectoral strategies should include, but not be limited to, the health, education, labour, and agriculture sectors)

Yes (X)	No	N/A
Comments: Multi-sectoral National Strategic Plan 2002-06 developed and approved by government. National Implementation Plan 2003-04 completed; sectoral implementation plans are being developed, resource mobilisation efforts ongoing.		

2. Has your country integrated HIV/AIDS into its general development plans (such as its National Development Plans, United Nations Development Assistance Framework, Poverty Reduction Strategy Papers and Common Country Assessments)?

Yes (X)	No	N/A
Comments: HIV/AIDS recognised as impediment to development, included in Poverty Reduction Strategy, funding available under PRSC.		

3. Does your country have a functional national multisectoral HIV/AIDS management/coordination body? (Such a body must have terms of reference or equivalent, defined membership, action plans and staffing support, and should have met at least once in the last 12 months.)

Yes (X)	No	N/A
Comments: NAC to be further expanded to reflect strategic partnership alliances, eg, Private Sector Commission, University of Guyana. Absence of action plan and staffing support. NAC meets quarterly with Regional (District) AIDS Committees to discuss policy reform and implementation of activities.		

4. Does your country have a functional national HIV/AIDS body that promotes interaction among government, the private sector and civil society? (Such a body must have terms of reference or equivalent, defined membership, action plans and staffing support, and should have met at least once in the last 12 months.)

Yes (X)	No	N/A
Comments: The responsible body is the NAC but has not been functioning in this capacity. To an extent this is promoted through the expanded Theme Group on HIV/AIDS.		

5. Does your country have a functional HIV/AIDS body that assists in the coordination of civil society organizations? (Such a body must have terms of reference or equivalent, defined membership, action plans and staffing support, and should have met at least once in the last 12 months.)

Yes (X)	No	N/A
Comments: The responsible body is the National AIDS Programme Secretariat (NAPS), however, the office is severely understaffed.		

6. Has your country evaluated the impact of HIV/AIDS on its socioeconomic status for planning purposes?

Yes	No (X)	N/A
Comments: This process has been initiated in January 2003 and activities are ongoing. Is being undertaken by the University of the West Indies in collaboration with a number of governmental and civil society agencies and UNAIDS Guyana office.		

7. Does your country have a strategy that addresses HIV/AIDS issues among its national uniformed services, including armed forces and civil defence forces?

Yes	No (X)	N/A
Comments: This is included in general terms in the NSP. Sectoral plans are currently being developed to specifically address HIV/AIDS in the uniform services.		

Prevention

1. Does your country have a general policy or strategy to promote information, education and communication (IEC) on HIV/AIDS?

Yes (X)	No	N/A
Comments: Contained in NSP. Comprehensive Communication Strategy to be developed.		

2. Does your country have a policy or strategy promoting reproductive and sexual health education for young people?

Yes (X)	No	N/A
Comments: The Ministry of Health is currently piloting its Health and Family Life Education programme for in-school youths. Out of school youths are serviced through a targeted interventions implemented by a number of NGOs funded by USAID.		

3. Does your country have a policy or strategy that promotes IEC and other health interventions for groups with high or increasing rates of HIV infection? (Such groups include, but are not limited to, IDUs, MSM, sex workers, youth, mobile populations and prison inmates.)

Yes (X)	No	N/A
Comments: Presently there are interventions for youths and CSW. Interventions targeting mobile populations, prison inmates and MSM are contained in the NSP, but have to be developed. IV drug use is not a problem in Guyana.		

4. Does your country have a policy or strategy that promotes IEC and other health interventions for cross-border migrants?

Yes	No (X)	N/A
Comments:		

5. Does your country have a policy or strategy to expand access, including among vulnerable groups, to essential preventative commodities? (These commodities include, but are not limited to, condoms, sterile needles and HIV tests.)

Yes (X)	No	N/A
If yes, please list		
Groups:		Commodities:
Youths		HIV tests; Condoms; ARVS
CSW		“ “ “
Pregnant women		“ “ “
MSM		“ “ “
Comments: There is policy for universal access to care and treatment.		

6. Does your country have a policy or strategy to reduce mother-to-child HIV transmission?

Yes (X)	No	N/A
Comments: One year pilot programme completed, evaluation ongoing, plans for national expansion completed and submitted a part of President Bush Initiative for PMTCT.		

Human rights

1. Does your country have laws and regulations that protect against discrimination of people living with HIV/AIDS (such as general non-discrimination provisions and those that focus on schooling, housing, employment, etc.)?

Yes	No (X)	N/A
Comments: The Guyana Constitution guarantees against discrimination of all forms. However, there is no specific legislation to protect against discrimination against PLWA. A national policy document on HIV/AIDS exists and addresses these issues; this document is still to be enacted into legislation and regulations.		

2. Does your country have laws and regulations that protect against discrimination of groups of people identified as being especially vulnerable to HIV/AIDS discrimination (i.e., groups such as IDUs, MSM, sex workers, youth, mobile populations, and prison inmates)?

Yes	No (X)	N/A
If yes, please list groups:		
Comments: Same as above.		

3. Does your country have a policy to ensure equal access, for men and women, to prevention and care, with emphasis on vulnerable populations?

Yes (X)	No	N/A
Comments: Policy exists that guarantees universal access to prevention and care.		

4. Does your country have a policy to ensure that HIV/AIDS research protocols involving human subjects are reviewed and approved by an ethics committee?

Yes (X)	No	N/A
Comments: There is no established ethics committee. In practice the CMO reviews and approves all research proposals.		

Care and support

1. Does your country have a policy or strategy to promote comprehensive HIV/AIDS care and support, with emphasis on vulnerable groups? (Comprehensive care includes, but is not limited to, VCT, psychosocial care, access to medicines, and home and community-based care.)

Yes (X)	No	N/A
If yes, please list		
Groups: Universal	Commodities: VCT, psychosocial care, access to medicines, home-based and community care, condoms and other forms of contraception	
Comments: Access is universal for all commodities through the public sector and no discrimination exists.		

2. Does your country have a policy or strategy to ensure or improve access to HIV/AIDS-related medicines, with emphasis on vulnerable groups? (HIV/AIDS-related medicines include antiretrovirals and drugs for the prevention and treatment of opportunistic infections and palliative care.)

Yes (X)	No	N/A
If yes, please list		
Groups: Universal	Commodities: Same as above	
Comments: Access is universal for all commodities through the public sector and no discrimination exists.		

3. Does your country have a policy or strategy to address the additional needs of orphans and other vulnerable children?

Yes	No (X)	N/A
Comments: Efforts are being made to define the extent of the problem and to develop the appropriate interventions.		