True to the community-based approach that guides all of its actions, Coalition PLUS develops and coordinates a set of networks to promote synergies and the exchange of best practices between structures in order to better respond to the challenges encountered by the populations most affected by HIV/AIDS and viral hepatitis. Today, Coalition PLUS deploys linguistic, thematic and geographic networks around the world. In particular, its geographic networks currently take the form of 6 sub-regional Platforms on the African continent, in Europe and in the Americas-Caribbean area. In cooperation with the other networks and with the support of the French Development Agency (AFD), these Platforms now aim to strengthen and capitalize on community-based expertise in the fight against HIV/AIDS through capacity-building, support for advocacy and the structuring of community-based research in the Global South.

The Platforms, Coalition PLUS geographic networks

PILS (Prévention Information Lutte contre le Sida) is a community-based structure created in 1996, at the initiative of its current Executive Director, Nicolas Ritter. For over 20 years, the association has fought for the rights of PLWHA and key populations in Mauritius, while at the same time providing prevention and psychosocial support services. A member of Coalition PLUS since 2013, PILS is strengthening its community-based approach through advocacy for greater inclusion of people living with HIV within its projects and programs. Its expertise, field knowledge and its actual commitment make PILS a key player in the response to the HIV/AIDS and viral hepatitis epidemics in the region. A Principal Recipient of the Global Fund to Fight AIDS since 2012, the association also meets the efficiency and good management criteria required by multilateral donors.

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PARTNER ASSOCIATIONS OF THE COALITION PLUS INDIAN OCEAN PLATFORM (PFOI)

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An international union of community-based NGOs in the fight against AIDS and viral hepatitis founded in 2008, Coalition PLUS now operates in 52 countries and works with some one hundred associations. Through its principle of shared governance, our union involves 16 organizations from the Global North and South in its strategic decision-making.

Promoting the community-based approach, led by the heart of our unions actions, and requiring the systematic involvement of people infected with, affected by or-Mayorily vulnerable to HIV and viral hepatitis at the very core of decision-making processes and the implementation and evaluation of health programs concerning them.

Find out more at: www.coalitionplus.org

4 Sub-regional platforms on the African continent

In 2014, with the support of the French Development Agency (AFD) and the French member of Coalition PLUS, AIDES, four sub-regional Platforms for the capacity building of civil society were established in the Maghreb, West Africa, Central and East Africa and the Indian Ocean. They are respectively led by the ALCs (Morocco), ARCAD-SIDA (Mali), the AIDES/MAD-AIDS network (Mauritius) and the COALITION PLUS members. These four African Platforms act in complementarity with all the COALITION PLUS networks, and in particular with the Luxpop network, coordinated by GAT, the Portuguese member of the coalition.

Although Réunion is a successful example in terms of care, Madagascar is one of the countries with the lowest level of antiretroviral coverage (ARV) in the world according to UNAIDS, only 27% people living with HIV (PLWHIV) out of 100 are on ARV therapy.

Through the principles of civil society leadership and shared governance, these Platforms unite civil society leadership and shared governance, these Platforms unite community-based actors around a common aim: to bring together all stakeholders in the fight against AIDS, with the goal of improving the living conditions of Key Populations.

These Platforms support over 50 associations in the fight against AIDS spread across 24 African countries. The technical assistance they provide to their partners covers technical operations (screening, care, population mobilization, follow-up/evaluation).

The PFOI encourages a community-based approach in its projects and programs by giving a sense of commitment to all stakeholders in the community for the right to health, social justice, solidarity, autonomy and respect. It works closely and for a better response with the following stakeholders in the fight against AIDS in the 5 countries in the Indian Ocean Zone: associations, governments and donors, including the World Fund, international organizations and the private sector.

Launched in 2014, the PFOI is led by the PLS association based in Mauritius. To date, it provides support for 18 community-based associations in the fight against HIV/AIDS in 5 countries (Comoros, Madagascar, Mayotte, Rodrigues, Seychelles), Madagascar, the overseas departments of Mayotte and Réunion) in building their capacities and developing national and regional synergies in terms of funding and advocacy.

With the support of:

A solidarity-based, public financial institution, AFD is the central stakeholder in France’s development projects that tangibly improve the daily lives of populations in developing and emerging countries, in 109 countries and territories. Present in 109 countries and territories, AFD currently supports over 4,000 development projects. In 2018, it committed 11.4 billion euros in funding to these projects. Find out more at www.afd.fr

With the support of:

The PFOI firmly believes in the vital role of civil society in challenging public policies regarding the AIDS response and contributing to social change. This PFOI propensity to over 50 countries, primarily French-speaking, to help develop and implement Global Fund projects.

The 5% Initiative started in 2017 with the mission of accelerating the contribution to the Global Fund by 5% (from 50% to 55) in 2020 in the 5 countries in the Indian Ocean Zone: associations, governments and donors, including the World Fund, international organizations and the private sector.

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This Lusophone network is present across 23 African countries. The technical assistance they provide to their partners covers technical operations (screening, care, population mobilization, follow-up/evaluation).

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