

ANNOUNCEMENT BRIDGING THE GAPS THE LEARNING INSTITUTE 2017

Bridging the Gaps will hosts the 3-day “**Bridging the Gaps Learning Institute**” in Nairobi Kenya. Bridging the Gaps funded partners are asked to nominate one (1) staff member per organization/network. Each year the BtG Learning Institute will bring together country, regional and alliance partners, to learn, share and discuss on the year’s thematic area. Graduates of the Learning Institute will share their learning, and work with other key population-led and serving organisations and networks in the 14 countries in efforts to improve SRHR and HIV programming.

Theme of Bridging the Gaps learning Institute 2017:	Nothing about us without us: Claiming health and human rights through community empowerment and meaningful involvement of key populations’.
Location	Nairobi, Kenya
Dates:	25 – 27 April 2017 (3 days)
Number of scholarships	20 scholarships (covers all costs)
Deadline (call of application)	10 th February 2017

1. ABOUT THE BRIDGING THE GAPS LEARNING INSTITUTE

The Learning Institute aims to strengthen SRHR and HIV related interventions through building the capacity of key population-led and -serving organisations and networks. The 2017 Learning Institute will focus on the annual theme: ‘**Nothing about us without us: Claiming health and human rights through community empowerment and meaningful involvement of key populations**’.

The Learning Institute has been developed as a learning platform to build the capacity of BtG partners and improve SRHR- and HIV-related interventions. This year’s Learning Institute will involve **20 staff members** of local and regional partners of the BtG programme during a 3-day workshop in Nairobi, Kenya.

Objectives of the Learning Institute are:

- **Increase capacity** of alliance, local and regional partners on community mobilization and meaningful involvement of key populations in SRHR and HIV programmes.
- **Inspire strong partnerships and collaboration** within and across key population projects.
- **Share lessons learnt and best practices** in and across projects and partners.
- **Improve interventions** and the capacity to implement evidence-based programmes. This will be facilitated by transforming the knowledge gained at the Learning Institute into concrete action.
- **Develop an [action plan](#)** (categorized using the essential elements of the roadmap) to capture lessons learnt and improvements for programming. This will be used to inspire the work planning of 2018.

2. ABOUT THE LEARNING INSTITUTE PARTICIPANTS

All participants require a high level commitment to the key populations’ rights movement in their respective country/region.

Requirements for applying:

- Applicant is a staff members of a Bridging the Gaps partner organization/network
- Applicant should be familiar/ know about the Bridging the Gaps projects
- Applicants should have a desire to learn about the annual theme and improve interventions in their own organisation/network.
- Applicants must be willing to share lessons learnt, best practices or brilliant failures related to the annual theme.

- All applicants should submit a letter of support from the organization/network: All applicants must have the support of the organization/network they are affiliated to, including time off to attend the Learning Institute, and to implement lessons learnt following their graduation from Learning Institute.

We encourage both English and non-English speakers to apply, translation is possible. We will strive for gender, key population, KPLHIV and geographic balance. The Learning Institute will reflect the partners we have in Bridging the Gaps programme (local, regional and global partners). In addition, we will ensure applicants will represent a diversity of approaches, expertise and types of organisations. Applicants are encouraged to submit their applications as early as possible. All successful applications will be reviewed by an action group consisting of representatives of Aids Fonds, AFEW International, ITPC, GNP+ and MSMGF.

Costs

The scholarship covers all costs including: flight, visa, accommodation, per diem and transportation to field visits.

3. THE LEARNING INSTITUTE DATES FOR 2017 ARE AS FOLLOWS:

Academy dates

- Start of call: 13th December 2016
- DEADLINE FOR APPLICATIONS: 10th February 2017
- Announcement scholarships: 24th February 2017
- BtG Learning Institute 2017: 25 - 27 April 2017

4. VISA INFORMATION

Applicants are requested to check relevant Kenya visa requirements as soon as possible. It is the applicant's responsibility to investigate visa requirements and to apply for a visa, if necessary. We recommend **visa applications to be made by the beginning of March 2017**.

For more information please click [here](#).

General information about Kenyan visas

The visa process for Kenya is easy. Citizens from most countries can obtain e-visa, which only takes 2 working days. People from Uganda, Tanzania, South Africa, Zimbabwe and Botswana are exempted. The rest can obtain e-visa except for those from Tajikistan which is listed a 'category 3 country': those have to apply to the director of immigration services.

5. APPLICATION FORM

Please send the completed form (see next page) and a letter of support of your organization/network to Lynn Werlich, programme officer Bridging the Gaps: Lwerlich@aidsfonds.nl, by **12:00 CET on the 10th of February 2017**.

BRIDGING THE GAPS

Health and rights  for key populations

APPLICATION FORM: BRIDGING THE GAPS THE LEARNING INSTITUTE – 2017

Nothing about us without us: Claiming health and human rights through community empowerment and meaningful involvement of key populations’.

25 – 27 April 2017 (3 days)

1. Country :	
2. Name of Applicant:	
3. Organisation / network:	
4. City/Town/Province:	
5. Phone number:	
6. Email:	
7. List all the key population-led and -serving organisation(s) and network(s) that you are affiliated with and your role in the organisation/network (as staff, member, board member, volunteer, advisor, etc.):	
8. Translation is possible during the Learning Institute for non-English speakers: Which language do you speak and need translation for?	
9. Which of these groups are you comfortably identifying yourself with (Please note that this question is not required and that your privacy is ensured. Information will be used for application process only):	I identify myself as (multiple responses possible):
	<input type="checkbox"/> LGBTI person
	<input type="checkbox"/> PWUD
	<input type="checkbox"/> Sex worker (female/male/transgender)
	<input type="checkbox"/> PLHIV
	<input type="checkbox"/> Other (please specify):
10. Applicant is available from 24-28 April 2017:	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes
11. Applicant is in possession of a national passport:	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes
12. Applicant has a letter of support of the organisation/network (please include as appendix).	

Template or video:

Please note that questions 11 – 13 can be submitted using the template (see below) or by submitting a small video. The video should not exceed 10 minutes and should be clear and audible. It is helpful to repeat the question before your response. Please send the video file through Wetransfer or Dropbox to Lwerlich@aidsfonds.nl

13. Current practice

Explain how you interpret the theme: 'Nothing about us without us: Claiming health and human rights through community empowerment and meaningful involvement of key populations'.by explaining what your organization or network currently does on community empowerment or meaningful involvement of key populations. Include one example in your response (*Maximum one page*).

Hyperlinks to additional information or resources may be included.

14. Learn and reflect

Explain what you need to learn on community empowerment or meaningful involvement of key populations and how you will use the new knowledge and capacities in your organisation's current work on community empowerment or meaningful involvement of key populations (*Maximum ½ page*)

15. Facilitate and share

Describe how you could facilitate a session during the Bridging the Gaps Learning Institute related to the annual theme: Claiming health and human rights through community empowerment and meaningful involvement of key populations' making use of your organisation's or network's current experience. (*Maximum ½ page*) *Include: goal, proposed format and abstract.*

Please send the completed form to Lynn Werlich, programme officer Bridging the Gaps:
Lwerlich@aidsfonds.nl on **12:00 CET on the 10th of February.**