

Tool 3

Section Two

HIV/AIDS impact assessment decision matrix

Description and purpose of the tool

When embarking on an HIV/AIDS impact assessment, critical issues, such as the size and capacity of your LA, need to inform the type of impact assessment selected. Options range from an informal information gathering process at a consultative workshop to a basic but formal impact assessment, involving data collection and analysis, to a much more extensive or full-scale impact assessment, which generates models and costs aspects of the impact of the epidemic on your LA. This tool can be used to guide your decision as to what form of impact assessment is best suited to your LA.

Estimated time to use the tool



2hrs

Instructions for using the tool

1. Ensure that the team members making the decision represent a wide range of view points.
2. Discuss:
 - ▶ The perceived severity of the HIV/AIDS epidemic in the LA; and
 - ▶ The commitment and capacity (human, financial and material) available in the LA to support an HIV/AIDS response.
3. Then discuss and decide into which part of the matrix your LA fits and then agree on the form of impact assessment for your LA.
4. Finally, take note of the important actions linked to the form of impact assessment that you have selected and ensure that consideration of these is integrated into your strategic planning process.

It is important to remember that, even in instances where HIV prevalence is still low, early, effective responses by a LA will mitigate future impact.

HIV/AIDS impact assessment decision matrix

HIV/AIDS impact assessment for the LA of

Perceived severity of HIV/AIDS in the LA		LOW	MODERATE	HIGH
		LOW	MODERATE	HIGH
Level of commitment and capacity for an HIV/AIDS response	LOW	<p>Assessment: None or informal impact assessment</p> <p>Rationale: Difficult to mobilise support for larger impact assessment; unlikely to be capacity to implement impact assessment recommendations</p> <p>Important actions:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▶ Advocacy for support for any response activities 	<p>Assessment: Informal impact assessment</p> <p>Rationale: Difficult to mobilise capacity and support for larger or more formal impact assessment despite recognition that HIV/AIDS is a problem</p>	<p>Assessment: Basic formal impact assessment</p> <p>Rationale: Difficult to mobilise capacity and support for full scale impact assessment despite evidence that HIV/AIDS is a severe problem and needs urgent attention</p>
	MODERATE	<p>Assessment: None or informal impact assessment</p> <p>Rationale: Some existing or emerging capacity to an HIV/AIDS response</p> <p>Important actions:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▶ Advocacy for implementation of recommendations ▶ Gather information, such as from consultative workshops, to inform LA's HIV/AIDS response 	<p>Assessment: Basic formal impact assessment</p> <p>Rationale: Supplement existing capacity with technical assistance</p> <p>Important actions:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▶ Advocacy for implementation of recommendations ▶ Use information from impact assessment to inform LA's HIV/AIDS response 	<p>Assessment: Full-scale impact assessment</p> <p>Rationale: Supplement existing capacity with technical assistance</p>
	HIGH	<p>Assessment: Basic formal impact assessment</p> <p>Rationale: Rely on high levels of internal capacity to conduct the impact assessment</p> <p>Important actions:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▶ Advocacy for implementation of recommendations ▶ Use information from impact assessment to inform LA's HIV/AIDS response ▶ Use information from impact assessment to inform LA's HIV/AIDS response 	<p>Assessment: Full-scale impact assessment</p> <p>Rationale: Rely on high levels of internal capacity, supplemented by technical assistance to conduct the impact assessment</p> <p>Important actions:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▶ Advocacy for implementation of recommendations ▶ Use information from impact assessment to inform LA's HIV/AIDS response ▶ Build capacity to minimise future reliance on technical assistance 	<p>Assessment: Full-scale impact assessment</p> <p>Rationale: Rely on high levels of internal capacity, supplemented by technical assistance to conduct the impact assessment</p>