

International
Network of People
Who Use Drugs
Strategic Plan
2017-2020

The International Network of People who Use Drugs (INPUD) Strategic Plan 2017-2020

INPUD's Strategy for 2017-2020 outlines how the organisation will build on past achievements and lessons learned to take the global network forward into the next phase of its development. Further, it sets out how the network will be strengthened to respond to the changing environment and to confront new political challenges.

The Strategy was developed following consultation with key stakeholders from UN and multilateral agencies, drugs civil society networks, key population networks, and INPUD members. INPUD's Board Members and Secretariat came together at a five-day workshop in Delhi, India in December 2016 to review organisational progress and to define INPUD's strategic priorities and pathways for 2017 to 2020.

The strategic planning process signalled a period of internal reflection for INPUD. This strategy was informed by the earlier work of two additional consultants who carried out an environmental scan and a network audit of the organisation.

INPUD: Who we are

INPUD is the international organisation representing issues of global significance for people who use drugs (PWUD). Over the last eight years, we have grown significantly and now have a global Secretariat of seven staff.

The Secretariat is largely based in London, while a minority of staff work remotely from other countries. INPUD's core team works across management, policy and advocacy, programmes, finance and administration.

INPUD is governed by the Board of Directors, which represents the eight regional drug user networks and INWUD. These Directors are elected by the regions, are responsible for the stewardship of INPUD, and accountable to the Boards or Steering Committees of their respective networks.

INPUD was first conceived at the International Harm Reduction Conference (IHRC) in Belfast in 2005. At the IHRC in Vancouver in 2006, drug user activists developed the founding statement of INPUD – the Vancouver Declaration, which emphasises self-empowerment, self-representation, and the need for the meaningful input of people who use drugs into the decisions that affect our lives. In 2015, a review recommended a shift to a membership and governance structure based on regional organisations and networks. Later that year INPUD held an AGM in Kuala Lumpur to formally adopt this change.

Current INPUD members are regional drug user networks from the following regions: Asia, Eurasia, Europe (EU+), Latin America, Middle East and North Africa, North America, the Pacific, and Sub-Saharan Africa, alongside the International Network of Women who use Drugs (INWUD). All member organisations are required to endorse and support the values and principles within the [Vancouver Declaration](#) and our [Consensus Statement on Drug Use under Prohibition – Health, Human Rights and the Law](#).

Under its new membership and governance structure INPUD will work with, and through, regional networks and INWUD to achieve our common aims and objectives. The regional networks are the Asian Network of People who use Drugs (ANPUD), European Network of People who use Drugs (EuroNPUD), Eurasian Network of People who use Drugs (ENPUD), African Network of People who use Drugs (AfricaNPUD), Latin American Network of People who use Drugs (LANPUD), Australia & Oceania Network of People who use Drugs (PasifikaNPUD), North American Network of People who use Drugs (NANPUD), and the Middle East and North African Network of People who use Drugs (MENANPUD).

See diagram on page 3.

“ ... people who use drugs have the right to be treated with dignity and respect and to live their lives free from discrimination ...”

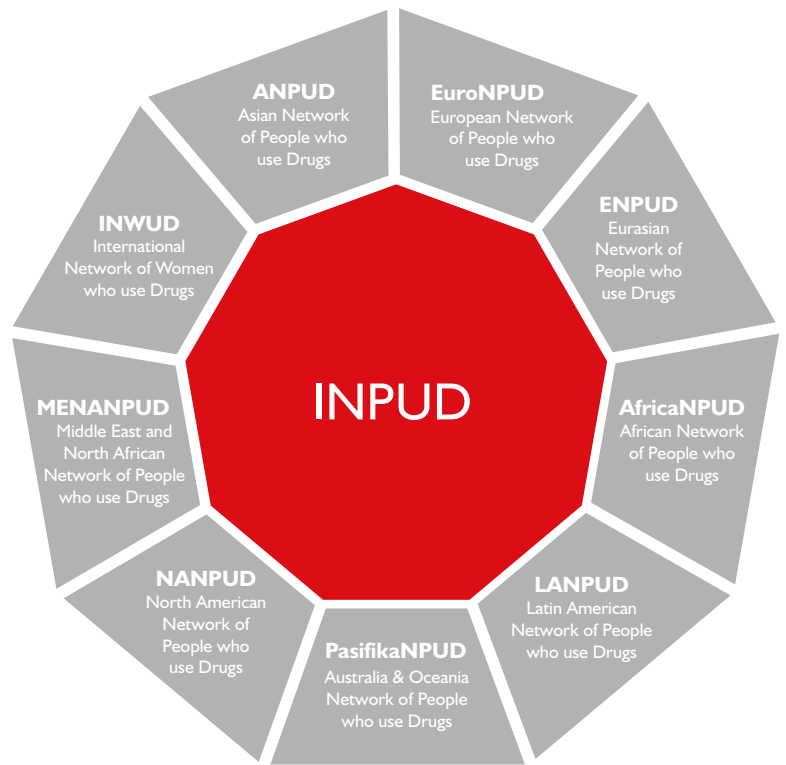
Mission

INPUD is a global peer-based organisation that seeks to promote the health and defend the rights of people who use drugs by highlighting and challenging stigma, discrimination, and the criminalisation of PWUD through processes of empowerment and advocacy at the international level, while supporting empowerment and advocacy at community, national, and regional levels.

Principles

INPUD's work is underpinned by the following key principles:

- **Pro drug user rights:** people who use drugs have the right to be treated with dignity and respect and to live their lives free from discrimination, stigma, and health and human rights violations
- **Pro self-determination and self-organising:** people who use drugs are best placed to represent their own interests and the network will champion the prioritisation of people who use drugs in consultation and advocacy processes
- **Pro harm reduction and safer drug use:** Harm reduction services should be available and accessible to all people who use drugs, which includes information on safer drug use strategies
- **Respecting the right of individuals to take drugs:** We take a non-judgemental, value-neutral approach to drug use, and believe people who use drugs have the right to be treated with dignity and respect
- **Anti-prohibitionist:** We are committed to achieving fundamental drug policy reform, including the full-scale decriminalisation of drug use, and supporting intermediate reforms to drug laws
- **Pro equality:** INPUD's organisational philosophy is based on the principles of self-determination, equity, and social justice



Goals

1. To advocate for intermediate reforms to drug laws in order to end the criminalisation and combat the stigmatisation of people who use drugs, while striving in the longer term for an end to prohibition
2. To promote effective prevention, treatment, care and support for people who use drugs who are living with and affected by HIV, hepatitis, TB and other relevant health issues
3. To promote and advocate harm reduction as a means of supporting safer drug use and reducing drug-related harm among people who use drugs
4. To support and seed the development of self-determining networks of people who use drugs that advocate for their own health, citizenship and human rights
5. To advocate and lobby at the international level for the human rights of people who use drugs
6. To build alliances with like-minded organisations and broader civil society to further the aims of INPUD
7. To maintain an organisation that is effective, transparent and accountable to its membership

“ ... we are also witnessing a fierce escalation of the drug war set against the backdrop of the rise of populism and social conservatism.”

Achievements

INPUD has worked to champion the rights and promote the health of people who use drugs, and has made concrete achievements in empowering people who use drugs.

Achievements at the global policy level include:

- Progress in global understandings of drug use and people who use drugs in UN and global forums
- Ensuring meaningful involvement of people who use drugs in the development of the guidelines on *Implementing comprehensive HIV and HCV programmes with people who inject drugs: practical approaches from collaborative interventions* (2017). Also known as the Injecting Drug Users Implementation Tool (IDUIT), the guide was produced by INPUD, UNODC, UNAIDS, UNDP, UNFPA, WHO, USAID, and PEPFAR
- Ensuring meaningful involvement of women who use drugs in the development of a UN policy brief and practical guidance on addressing the specific needs of women who inject drugs through gender-responsive HIV services
- Ensuring that the voices and priorities of women who use drugs were visible at the United Nations General Assembly Special Session (UNGASS) on drugs in 2016

INPUD's efforts and achievements have also resulted in the following:

- Publishing of a wide range of advocacy tools, including global consultations, advocacy briefs, and statements in line with member priorities
- Increased representation of people who use drugs in international policy forums
- Supporting the strategic development of regional drug user networks in the Eastern Europe and Central Asian region, as well as the African region
- Supporting the seeding and strengthening of national drug user networks across East Africa and Asia, as well as supporting emerging drug user leaders

- Enhanced programmatic work of drug user networks through the provision of technical assistance, as well as small grant initiatives
- Increased capacity of drug user advocates to engage in Global Fund to Fight AIDS, Tuberculosis and Malaria processes and procedures, with a view towards greater drug user visibility and representation
- Enhanced public awareness of the human rights violations that impact people who use drugs

Over the period of INPUD's growth as an organisation, key developments have included the growing extent and deepening nature of drug user participation in multi-lateral bodies and international development forums. This has been the result of the growing capacity of drug user-led organisations with INPUD and its regional and national partners becoming recognised and established stakeholders in the global response to the rights and health of people who use drugs. Over the next three years, INPUD will continue to develop and build the capacity of its Secretariat, Board, and network of advocates to deliver INPUD's complex and challenging advocacy, partnership, programming, and network development agenda.

Issues

The INPUD 2017-2020 Strategy responds to the problems experienced by PWUD around the world. Under the current prohibitionist system PWUD are denied human rights in the face of punitive laws, policies, and practices. The negative impacts of the war on drugs are set to worsen during 2017-2020. Despite the promise of a revitalised dialogue about drug policy, with a number of countries either decriminalising drug use, or at least some types of drug use, or championing harm reduction and rights-based approaches, we are also witnessing a fierce escalation of the drug war set against the backdrop of the rise of populism and social conservatism.

¹ UNAIDS, 2016, Prevention Gap Report, available at <http://www.unaids.org/en/resources/documents/2016/prevention-gap>

² Harm Reduction International, 2016, The Global State of Harm Reduction, available at https://www.hri.global/files/2016/11/14/GSHR2016_14nov.pdf

“ Globally, oppressive legal environments against drug use are upheld and mandated under the three UN drug control treaties.”

Globally, oppressive legal environments against drug use are upheld and mandated under the three UN drug control treaties. Criminalisation and the underlying rationales that justify it have resulted in the rights of people who use drugs being systemically violated, where experiences of stigma, violence, and discrimination are endemic in the lives of people who use drugs. There is often a lack of access to comprehensive and evidence-based health and social support services. This has significant consequences on the lives of people who use drugs. For instance, evidence shows that people who inject drugs are 24 times more likely to acquire HIV than the general population.¹ Other issues that face the community include the death penalty, extrajudicial killings, an epidemic of overdose deaths, compulsory drug detention, and disproportionate rates of incarceration. These are just some of the mutually compounding health and human rights issues facing the community.

Additionally, we are operating within an ever-changing and complex environment, where the world has moved from the Millennium Development Goals (MDG) to the Sustainable Development Goals (SDG). Target 6 of the MDGs to halve HIV infections among people who inject drugs (PWID) was missed by 80%.² Whilst UNAIDS embarks on ‘fast track’ strategy, with a pledge to leave no one behind, no parallel commitments have been made to fund the response. On the contrary, donor funding, including from multilateral agencies such as the Global Fund – the single largest donor for harm reduction – is being withdrawn from middle-income countries where epidemics of HIV among people who inject drugs are concentrated.³ It is critical that the global community does not leave behind countries and marginalised communities.

In 2017-2020, INPUD aims to address these multiple challenges through realising our four strategic directions. These provide a broad framework under which INPUD, as a global network, will advocate for the rights and needs of people who use drugs.

Our Strengths

Whilst INPUD faces a complex array of challenges, people who use drugs also bring critical resources. Drug user networks and organisations are made up of a diverse, dynamic, and devoted community of drug user activists who bring their voices and lived experience, as well as knowledge about drug use, harm reduction, drug policy, and human rights. As the global network of people who use drugs, INPUD gathers experiences of community to inform policy development, define good practices, influence normative guidelines, and shape technical and advocacy resources. We will continue to champion the place of evidence-based and rights-based policies and programming, meaningful participation, and community mobilisation – both in drug user organising and in global and regional forums – as an integral part of the HIV, harm reduction, and drug policy response.

INPUD may also benefit from donors that are willing to invest in community-led advocacy and programmes, as well as high-level political commitment from some quarters, including UN and multilateral agencies, in respecting and promoting policies and conventions that uphold the rights of people who use drugs.

Core foundation documents and normative guidance

Between 2017 and 2020, INPUD will continue to develop and strengthen the policy, technical and advocacy resources that support network development, partnership development, programming and technical support, and advocacy and campaigning.

Important documents have been developed and endorsed by INPUD and these will inform INPUD’s work going forward. They include:

The Consensus Statement on Drug Use under Prohibition – Human Rights, Health and the Law, produced by INPUD following a global consultation with members. This addresses ten fundamental rights

³ International Harm Reduction Association, 2014, The Funding Crisis for Harm Reduction: Donor Retreat, Government Neglect and the Way Forward, available at https://www.hri.global/files/2014/09/22/Funding_report_2014.pdf

- ▶ A rights-based approach to programming for people who use drugs should include these five components



of people who use drugs and 24 demands that must be met if the harms and rights violations experienced by people who use drugs are to be ended.

The Injecting Drug User Implementation Tool (IDUIT), developed jointly by INPUD and UNODC, in close collaboration with WHO, UNAIDS, UNFPA, UNDP, USAID and PEPFAR. The IDUIT provides practical advice on implementing HIV programmes for and with people who inject drugs. The publication sets out five components, placing community empowerment at the center of a comprehensive, rights-based, and evidence-based approach to programming for people who inject drugs.

Consolidated Guidelines on HIV Prevention, Diagnosis, Treatment and Care for Key Populations, produced by WHO, which aggregates existing guidance across the five key populations.

Policy Brief on Women who Inject Drugs and HIV, produced by UNODC, UN Women, WHO, and INPUD. This document promotes the realisation of gender equality and human rights in terms of effective harm reduction responses to HIV for women who inject drugs in community and prison settings.

Addressing the Specific Needs of Women who Inject Drugs: Practical Guide for Service Providers on Gender-Responsive HIV Services, an accompaniment to the above policy brief which provides practical guidance for government and NGO services on interventions addressing the specific needs of women who inject drugs.

Achieving Impact

INPUD's Strategy 2017-2020 is expected to impact the lives of people who use drugs in the following ways:

- Increased recognition and respect for the human rights and freedoms of people who use drugs, and concomitantly a decrease in the human rights violations perpetrated against the community
- Increased recognition that the criminalisation of people who use drugs undermines health, human rights, and development needs and priorities
- Decreased experiences of violence, stigma, and discrimination that are commonly experienced by people who use drugs
- Enhanced access of people who use drugs to quality, comprehensive, and affordable services and programmes, including for HIV and harm reduction
- Increased meaningful involvement of people who use drugs in all areas of decision making that affect their lives, including in local, national, and global policy making
- Greater resources and investments, including financial, political, and social in the lives of and issues facing people who use drugs
- Better laws, policies, and practices centred on evidence-based and rights-based responses
- Better outcomes in health, equity, social inclusion, and wellbeing for people who use drugs

“ To effectively mobilise the drug-using community in response to multiple challenges, INPUD is organising its work around four strategic directions ...”

Strategic Directions, Outcomes and Impacts

Strategic Directions

INPUD is the global network of regional drug user networks and their national member organisations. To effectively mobilise the drug-using community in response to multiple challenges, INPUD is organising its work around four strategic directions:

- Network Development
- Partnership Development
- Programming and Technical Support
- Advocacy and Campaigning

These were agreed upon by consensus of the Board and Secretariat. This framework allows coordinated action to be taken around the broad range of thematic issues that impact the health and human rights of PWUD.

Strategic Direction I Network Development

Convening and strengthening drug user networks by sharing ideas, lessons, resources, and experiences in order to build a common movement that upholds and promotes the self-determination and self-representation of people who use drugs

Outcome 1:

Strong regional and global drug user networks which are effectively run, accountable, participative, well-governed, and have enhanced capacity to influence political changes in order to realise the human rights of people who use drugs

This strategic direction will be achieved through the following activities:

1.1 Membership

- Strengthening the systems for Board members to consult with and provide feedback to member networks
- Developing a directory of drug user groups and networks that map core features, functions, and needs

- Maintaining strong linkages between INPUD and its regional members, and in turn fostering strong relations between the local, national, and regional networks
- Better articulating the benefits of membership so that regional members remain active and engaged

1.2 Governance

- Organising annual Board Meetings where the Board approves annual work plans aligned with the three-year strategy
- Organising a biennial General Meeting with INPUD members attending the International Harm Reduction Conference
- Strengthening the function of the INPUD Board through improved induction, and skills and knowledge building on effective governance.
- The Executive Director and Deputy Director will interact with the INPUD Executive to review operational progress and guide the network between Board Meetings

1.3 INPUD Secretariat

- Maintaining robust and comprehensive systems, policies, and protocols covering membership, operational management, and programme management
- Developing an organisational and operational handbook that outlines organisational procedures on structure and governance, communications, rules, and management
- Developing and monitoring individual staff work plans in accordance with annual work plans
- Establishing a programme of constructive supervision for INPUD staff that encourages professional development and supports the wellbeing of staff

1.4 INPUD Members

- Supporting peer-led audits of the member networks to map needs and priorities
- Continuing to build the capacity of community leaders and emerging drug user networks focusing on organisational infrastructure, management and governance, membership structure, resource mobilisation, donor stewardship, and alliance building

“Increased recognition and respect for the human rights and freedoms of people who use drugs.”

- Supporting grassroots and national networks by leveraging our influence in regional and international policy platforms

1.5 Communications

- Developing and maintaining a multi-lingual website, listservs, and active social media channels
- Developing thematic communications forums for members, across areas of relevance and interest
- Producing Annual Progress Reports that map and communicate achievements to members, partners, and the general public
- Developing and implementing an internal and external communications strategy
- Systematically disseminating INPUD publications amongst members, donors, partners, decision makers, and influencers
- Promoting the consistent use of non-stigmatising language, in line with INPUD’s [Position Statement on Language, Identity, Inclusivity, and Discrimination](#)
- Ensuring that issues of importance to people who use drugs are made visible by consistently referencing INPUD publications and tools

Progressing Change:

By strengthening the capacity and organisational development of drug user networks, and ensuring a feedback loop from the national, to regional, to global levels, individuals and networks will be stronger and more able to advocate for, and support the implementation of, evidence-based and rights-based policies and programming. This will lead to more enabling political, social and legal environments for people who use drugs.

Achieving Impact:

Strategic Direction One will contribute to INPUD having an impact on the lives of people who use drugs in the following ways:

- Increased recognition and respect for the human rights and freedoms of people who use drugs
- Decrease in violence, stigma, and discrimination commonly experienced by people who use drugs
- Increased meaningful involvement of people who use drugs in local, national and global policy making

- Greater resources and investments, including financial, political, and social
- Better laws, policies and practices
- Better outcomes in health, equity, social inclusion, and wellbeing for people who use drugs

Strategic Direction II Partnership Development

Developing meaningful and effective partnerships that enhance the reach and impact of INPUD’s work, and facilitate the sharing of strategic information amongst like-minded organisations and networks in order to work collaboratively and cohesively towards shared and common goals

Outcome 2:

A well-developed network of strategic alliances that understand and promote INPUD’s principles and issues of relevance. This will lead to undertaking joint work that catalyses opportunities to achieve INPUD’s goals and objectives

This strategic direction will be achieved through the following activities:

2.1 Partnership Priorities

- Developing a partnership approach that builds common platforms and strategies of collaboration across areas of advocacy and campaigning, and programming and technical support
- Mapping and conducting a stakeholder analysis that results in a shared database of partner profiles, skills, and expertise
- Identifying shared priorities across our consortia of drug user networks that drive future collaboration and work plans
- Building strong and proactive working relationships with allies and partners, particularly global networks representing sex workers, men who have sex with men, transgender people, and people living with HIV
- Engaging with, and developing alliances with, social movements and non-traditional allies, such

as black and ethnic minorities, women's and labour movements to construct a broader base of support

- Developing shared outputs, such as the publication of common products and coordinating on advocacy, campaigning, and programming activities

2.2 Partnership Standards

- Entering into standardised agreements that obtain commitments for the meaningful participation of people who use drugs from wider civil society organisations working on drug policy, human rights, harm reduction, and related issues
- Promoting standards for the meaningful participation of people who use drugs within the relevant divisions of the UN and other multilateral agencies such as the Global Fund to support partnerships at the country, regional, and global levels
- Monitoring the quality of partnerships and identifying and documenting good practice examples of meaningful partnerships

Progressing Change:

By developing meaningful partnerships and alliances, a movement that is built on shared understandings and common goals and strategies will be created. Within meaningful partnerships the voice, visibility, and acceptance of people who use drugs will be more widely respected thereby increasing the influence of people who use drugs to make changes in regards to HIV and human rights.

Achieving Impact:

Strategic Direction Two will contribute to INPUD having an impact on the lives of people who use drugs in the following ways:

- Increased recognition and respect for the human rights and freedoms of people who use drugs
- Decrease in violence, stigma, and discrimination commonly experienced by people who use drugs
- Increased recognition that criminalisation undermines health, human rights, and development
- Increased meaningful involvement of people who use drugs in local, national and global policy making
- Greater resources and investments, including financial, political, and social
- Better laws, policies and practices
- Better outcomes in health, equity, social inclusion, and wellbeing for people who use drugs

Strategic Direction III Programming and Technical Support

Developing and supporting regional drug user networks and emerging leaders through technical support to promote and advocate for the design and development of evidence-based and rights-based policies and programming

Outcome 3a:

Regional networks will have enhanced capacity in protecting the health and human rights of people who use drugs by advocating and delivering upon evidence-based and rights-based policies and programming at the regional, and by extension national, levels

Outcome 3b:

Emerging leaders will have improved leadership skills and become effective representatives in national, regional and global forums

This strategic direction will be achieved through the following activities:

3.1 Building Drug User Advocates

- Developing thematic expert groups, e.g. for HIV and human rights, whose members are drawn from peer networks or individual peers, as well as from other partners and allies
- Training and advising regional networks and leaders on the delivery of peer-led programmes, so that they in turn can provide technical support to national and local networks and leaders
- Establishing a Strategy Steering Committee comprised of representatives from the regional networks, as well as partners with specific areas of expertise
- Building peer capacity in the quality monitoring and control of service delivery projects, as well as evaluation of outcomes

3.2 Peer Technical Support Hubs

- Building, reviewing, and updating skills audit in order to match requests from drug user leaders, groups, and networks with peer technical support providers
- Identifying where technical resources are required on community mobilisation, and developing, commissioning, or endorsing high-quality technical support resources
- Facilitating the sharing and dissemination of information, technical resources, and learning exchanges, with a focus on ensuring that peer-developed or peer-endorsed good practice is shared, documented, and disseminated
- Providing technical training on a face-to-face and/or virtual basis to ensure that drug user activists on the frontlines have access to high-quality technical resources and training

Progressing Change:

Building the capacity of drug user networks and their emerging leaders through providing and facilitating the exchange of knowledge, technical and programming skills will enhance opportunities for drug user networks to successfully engage in policy and advocacy, and programming which, in turn, strengthens the drug user movement as a whole.

“ ... to raise awareness and understanding of the rights violations that affect people who use drugs.”

Achieving Impact:

Strategic Direction Three will contribute to INPUD having an impact on the lives of people who use drugs in the following ways:

- Increased recognition and respect for the human rights and freedoms of people who use drugs
- Increased recognition that criminalisation undermines health, human rights, and development
- Decrease in violence, stigma, and discrimination commonly experienced by people who use drugs
- Enhanced access to high-quality services and support, including for harm reduction and health
- Increased meaningful involvement of people who use drugs in local, national and global policy making
- Greater resources and investments, including financial, political, and social
- Better laws, policies and practices
- Better outcomes in health, equity, social inclusion, and wellbeing for people who use drugs

Strategic Direction IV Advocacy and Campaigning

Focusing on strategic advocacy and targeted campaigning in order to raise awareness and understanding of the rights violations that affect people who use drugs

Outcome 4a:

Improved and effective engagement in global, regional, and national policy-making forums, leading to fundamental and systemic changes at the global, regional, and national levels

Outcome 4b:

Policy makers, programme managers, and the wider public will have a better understanding of the rights and needs of people who use drugs, creating a more enabling environment for the development and implementation of rights-based policies, programmes, and services

This strategic direction will be achieved through the following activities:

4.1 Advocacy Planning

- Systematically referring to the Consensus Statement on Drug Use under Prohibition to ensure advocacy priorities are aligned with the needs of the drug-using community
- Organising consultations amongst the drug-using community to document good practices across thematic areas of drug user advocacy
- Developing an advocacy plan – reviewed annually by members – that sets out priorities commensurate with the needs and priorities of the drug-using community
- Supporting drug user networks to run coordinated campaigns at the national and regional levels, aligned with advocacy priorities or in response to crises faced by people who use drugs.

4.2 High-Level Advocacy

- Influencing the development and implementation of global policies and guidelines through global-level engagement with the UN, the Global Fund, and INGOs
- Ensuring the representation of people who use drugs in Global Fund forums, both at the global level through the Communities Delegation and the Community, Rights and Gender Advisory Group, and at the national level through the Country Coordination Mechanisms
- Continuing as the global representative voice for people who use drugs in civil society consultations and advocacy engagements within the UN, multilateral and INGO agencies
- Supporting drug user advocates to plan, deliver, and give feedback on advocacy engagements in order to track and monitor global advocacy engagement

4.3 Advocacy Briefs and Toolkit

- Developing policy and advocacy briefs in support of advocacy priorities
- Endorsing technical resources that support advocacy and campaigning for the rights and health of people who use drugs
- Improving upon the systematic distribution, dissemination, and promotion of INPUD's publications such as reports, position papers, and technical briefs amongst members, partners and decision makers

“ The goal is to promote high-quality, tailored provisions for women ... ”

- Developing a dissemination plan and supporting regional networks in the uptake and promotion of INPUD’s advocacy publications and tools

4.4 Coordinated Campaigns

- Coordinating and facilitating global and national campaigns in support of international campaigns and events relevant to upholding the rights of people who use drugs
- Leading advocacy campaigns in response to crisis situations facing people who use drugs, in order to support regional and national networks in high-risk contexts
- Publicising and amplifying the impact of national and regional coordinated campaigns through media channels, video and photo advocacy, and social media engagement

Progressing Change:

Undertaking strategic advocacy and targeted campaigning that is well informed by the community will lead to the development and implementation of policies and programmes that are grounded in evidence, lived experience, and the protection of human rights.

Achieving Impact:

Strategic Direction Four will contribute to INPUD having an impact on the lives of people who use drugs in the following ways:

- Increased recognition and respect for the human rights and freedoms of people who use drugs
- Increased recognition that criminalisation undermines health, human rights, and development
- Decrease in violence, stigma, and discrimination commonly experienced by people who use drugs
- Enhanced access to high-quality services and support, including for harm reduction and health
- Increased meaningful involvement of people who use drugs in local, national and global policy making
- Greater resources and investments, including financial, political, and social
- Better laws, policies and practices
- Better outcomes in health, equity, social inclusion, and wellbeing for people who use drugs

Gender Mainstreaming as a Strategic Priority

INPUD is committed to championing self-organisation, community advocacy, and the identification and promotion of good practice in regard to women who use drugs. The International Network of Women who use Drugs is a sub-network of women who use drugs, and was established in order to promote the above. A gender audit will be included in the planned review of drug user networks (see section on Network Development) ensuring that gender-specific community mobilisation is actively championed. INPUD will also build the capacity of women drug user activists through network building, technical assistance and linking with partners to call attention to and coordinate on issues relating to women who use drugs. We will continue to support and give input to the development and promotion of existing technical resources that empower and address the specific needs of women who use drugs. Technical resources will also be developed to support the gender audit of harm reduction and wider health and social care services for women who use drugs. The goal is to promote high-quality, tailored provisions for women and gender mainstreaming in policy, programmes, and community mobilisation.

Reflecting and Learning

The INPUD Strategic Plan 2017–20 will be supported by a Monitoring and Evaluation Framework and Annual Operational Plans. This will allow INPUD to step out targets, review progress against defined indicators, and refine strategies where necessary to achieve the desired results. The Monitoring and Evaluation Framework will include indicators for measuring impact and outcomes across the four strategic directions. It will also include in-depth case studies to make evident the impact of INPUD’s work on the lives of people who use drugs. The Monitoring and Evaluation Framework is being developed by INPUD’s Monitoring and Evaluation Officer.

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