

WOMEN WITH DISABILITIES, HIV AND SEXUAL VIOLENCE: DATA TELL US THEY ARE STILL LEFT BEHIND



Fonds mondial
de lutte contre le SIDA, la tuberculose et le paludisme



The figures presented here are taken from two studies carried out in Burkina Faso and Guinea Bissau in 2017. These studies are part of the West Africa regional "HIV & Disability" project in Burkina Faso, Senegal, Mali, Niger, Cape Verde and Guinea Bissau, which is implemented with funding from the Global Fund to Fight AIDS, Tuberculosis and Malaria and in partnership with the West African Federation of Persons with Disabilities (WAFOD).

This leaflet intends to underline the existence of **intersectional factors of vulnerability** amongst Women with Disabilities with respect to HIV/AIDS and sexual violence in Burkina Faso and Guinea Bissau.

The study in Burkina Faso was commissioned by Humanity & Inclusion; it was carried out by the Institute for Research in Health Sciences (IRSS), under the supervision of a Steering Committee made up of HI, governmental structures including the CNLS (Conseil National de Lutte contre le VIH) and Disabled People's Organizations (DPOs).

The study in Guinea Bissau was also commissioned by Humanity & Inclusion; it was carried out by the Bandim Health Project – a health and demographic surveillance system site in Guinea Bissau – under the supervision of a similar steering committee.

Methodology

In Burkina Faso, **28,667 people** were interviewed in total, among whom **978 identified themselves as persons with disabilities** (using the Washington Group Short Set of Questions). For the bio-behavioral study in Guinea Bissau, **17,110 people** were interviewed in total, among whom **1,147 identified themselves as persons with disabilities**.

Complete results can be obtained at:
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Women with disabilities are significantly more affected by HIV/AIDS than the general female population *

In Burkina Faso

5.4% of interviewed women with disabilities live with HIV against

1.1% for the general female population

In Guinea Bissau

8.9% of interviewed women with disabilities live with HIV against

3.8% for the general female population

* General female population, according to UNAIDS 2016: women aged from 15-49

5.4% In Burkina Faso prevalence of HIV for women with disabilities is equivalent to the prevalence of Female Sex Workers *

* See Burkina Faso, CNLS, Cartographie Programmatique, estimation de la taille et enquête bio-comportementale parmi les populations clés (PS, HSH, UD) au Burkina Faso, December 2017

Women with disabilities are under-informed on HIV risks and protection

More women with disabilities than men with disabilities deny the existence of HIV

♀ **5.3%** ♂ **4.4%**

Fewer women with disabilities believe it is possible to protect themselves from HIV than men with disabilities

♀ **68.7%**
♂ **71.5%**

Women with disabilities are more than twice as likely to experience sexual violence compared to men with disabilities

5.8% of interviewed women with disabilities declare having experienced sexual violence compared to **2.7%** of interviewed men with disabilities

6.7% of interviewed women with disabilities did not consent to their first sexual intercourse compared to **3.4%** of interviewed men with disabilities