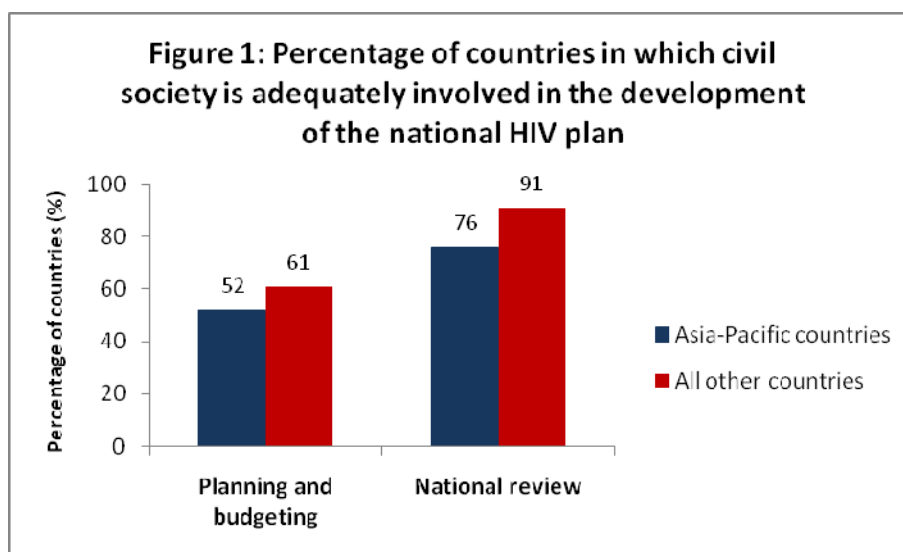


**Civil society involvement in the national HIV response  
in Asia-Pacific countries: Analysis of UNGASS progress reports**

This analysis was done of the National Composite Policy Index (NCPI) data that 136 countries submitted as part of the 2008 UNGASS reporting round. The NCPI, one of the standardized UNGASS indicators, is an extensive questionnaire that focuses on the strategic, policy and legal frameworks of national HIV responses. It includes questions about civil society involvement, and part of the questionnaire is intended to be completed by nongovernment representatives, including civil society. Data was compiled from all NCPI reports submitted – including 22 from countries in the Asia-Pacific region. In summary, civil society respondents in the Asia-Pacific region were less satisfied with their involvement in their country’s national response to HIV and AIDS as compared to their global counterparts for each indicator assessed.

In particular, civil society respondents in 52% of Asia-Pacific countries ranked their involvement in the planning and budgeting of the National Strategic Plan as either “good” or “very good” – as compared to 61% in all other countries (Figure 1)<sup>1</sup>. Similarly, civil society in 76% of Asia-Pacific countries and 91% of all other countries was included in a national review of the National Strategic Plan<sup>2</sup>.



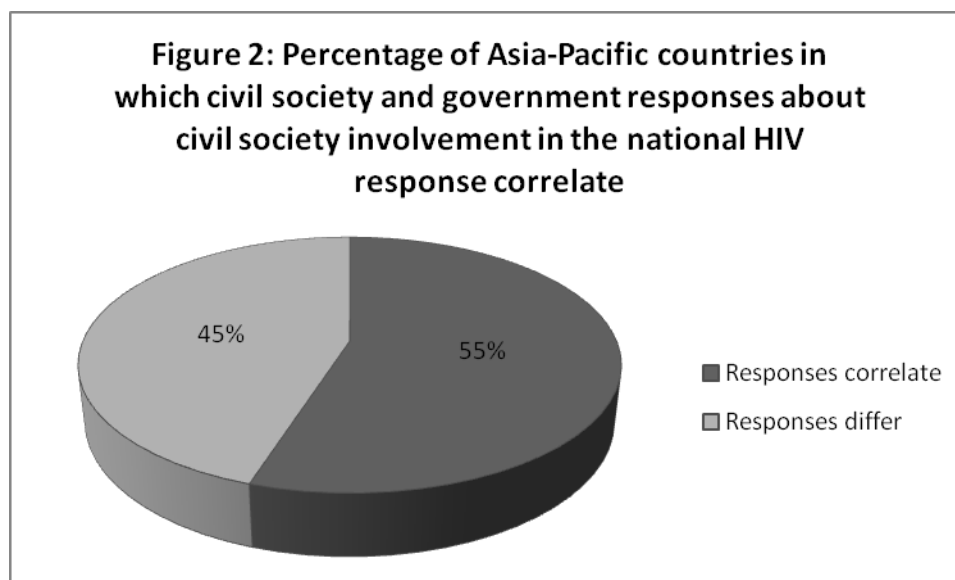
Notes:

- Planning and budgeting: rating 4 (good) or 5 (very good) on a 5-point scale; N=21 for Asia-Pacific countries, N=111 for all other countries, according to the number of NCPI responses received.
- National review: answered “yes”; N=21 for Asia-Pacific countries, N=106 for all other countries, according to the number of NCPI responses received.

<sup>1</sup> Part B, Question 2: To what extent have civil society representatives been involved in the planning and budgeting process for the National Strategic Plan on AIDS or for the current activity plan (e.g. attending planning meetings and reviewing drafts)?

<sup>2</sup> Part B, Question 4: Has the country included civil society in a National Review of the National Strategic Plan?

Of note, civil society and governments differ widely in their opinions about civil society involvement in key aspects of the national HIV response<sup>3</sup>. Indeed, when civil society responses are compared to government responses, answers correlate in only 55% of countries (Figure 2).



Notes:

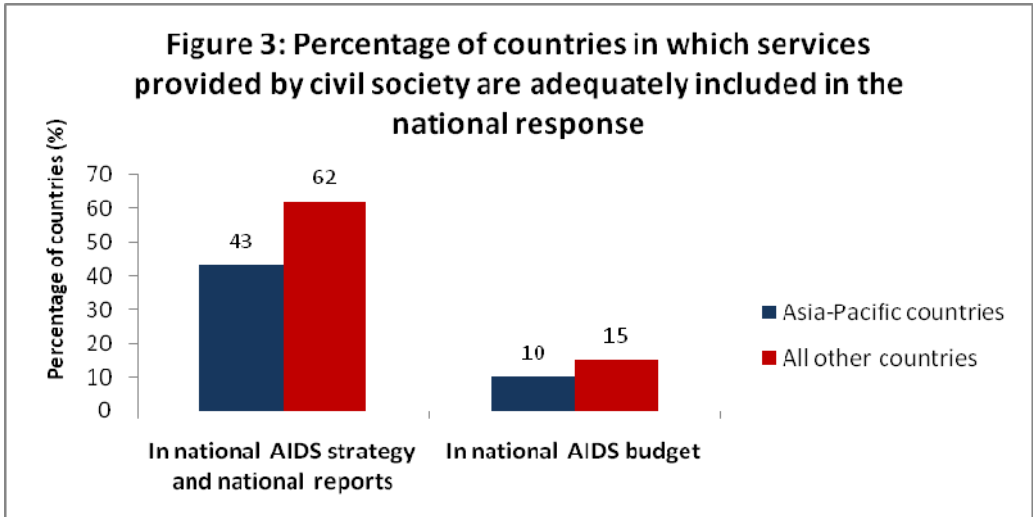
- Countries in which civil society and government responses correlate: India, Papua New Guinea, Tuvalu, Bangladesh, Cambodia, Lao PDR, Marshall Islands, Mongolia, Nepal, Pakistan, Palau.
- Countries in which civil society and government responses differ: Malaysia, Philippines, Singapore, Sri Lanka, Thailand, Vietnam, China, Indonesia, Fiji. Responses were not received from civil society in Myanmar and government in Japan.

Civil society in 43% of Asia-Pacific countries and 62% of all other countries were satisfied that the services they provide in areas of HIV prevention, treatment, care and support were included in the national budget (Figure 3)<sup>4</sup>. Correspondingly, only 10% of Asia-Pacific countries versus 15% of all other countries were ranked as having captured civil society in both national strategic plans and national reports<sup>5</sup>.

<sup>3</sup> Questions compared are: Part B, Question 2, as cited in note 1; and Part A, Question 1.8: Has the country ensured “full involvement and participation” of civil society in the development of the multisectoral strategy/action framework? Countries in which civil society and government responses correlate: India, Papua New Guinea, Tuvalu, Bangladesh, Cambodia, Lao PDR, Marshall Islands, Mongolia, Nepal, Pakistan, Palau. Countries in which civil society and government responses do not correlate: Malaysia, Philippines, Singapore, Sri Lanka, Thailand, Vietnam, China, Indonesia, Fiji. Responses were not received from civil society in Myanmar and government in Japan.

<sup>4</sup> Part B, Question 3a: To what extent are the services provided by civil society in areas of HIV prevention, treatment, care and support included in both the National Strategic plans and national reports?

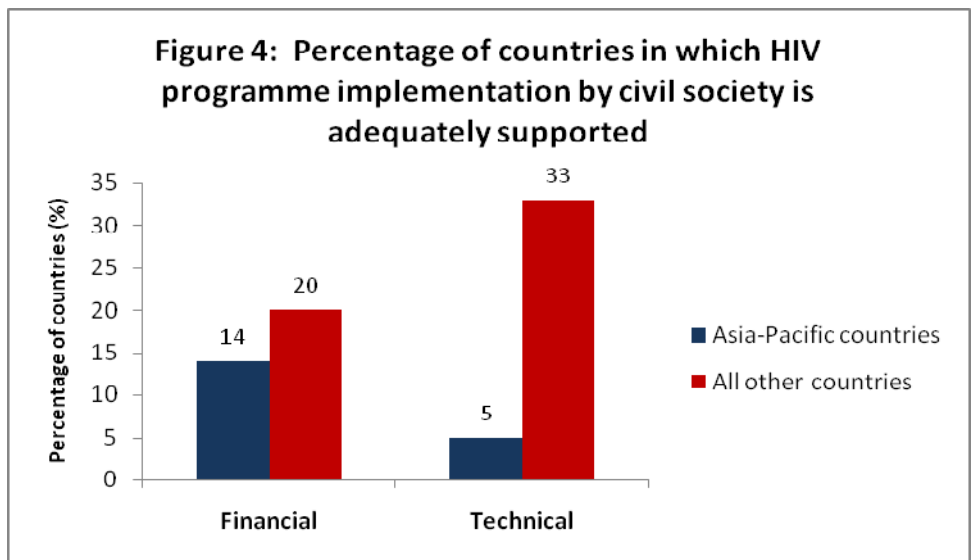
<sup>5</sup> Part B, Question 3b: To what extent are the services provided by civil society in areas of HIV prevention, treatment, care and support included in the national budget?



Notes:

- Rating 4 (good) or 5 (very good) on a 5-point scale.
- In national AIDS strategy and national reports: N=21 for Asia-Pacific countries, N=108 for all other countries, according to the number of NCPI responses received.
- In national AIDS budget: N=21 for Asia-Pacific countries, N=107 for all other countries, according to the number of NCPI responses received.

Civil society in 14% of Asia-Pacific countries (versus 20% in all others) was satisfied with the financial support they are provided towards implementing HIV programmes<sup>6</sup> (Figure 4). Only 5% in the region (compared to 33%, globally) were similarly satisfied in terms of technical support for these endeavors<sup>7</sup>.



Notes:

- Rating 4 (good) or 5 (very good) on a 5-point scale.
- Financial: N=21 for Asia-Pacific countries, N=110 for all other countries, according to the number of NCPI responses received.
- Technical: N=21 for Asia-Pacific countries, N=107 for all other countries, according to the number of NCPI responses received.

<sup>6</sup> Part B, Question 6a: To what extent is civil society able to access adequate financial support to implement its HIV activities?

<sup>7</sup> Part B, Question 6b: To what extent is civil society able to access adequate technical support to implement its HIV activities?

These findings highlight the fact that civil society in the Asia-Pacific region is not being adequately included in national responses to HIV and AIDS, especially when analyzed on an international scale. According to civil society respondents, lack of involvement occurs at all levels of the response – from the development and review of national plans to support for both service provision and programme implementation.

## **Appendix: Data tables**

**Table 1: Percentage of countries in which civil society is adequately involved in the development of the national HIV plan**

<b>HIV response component</b>	<b>Asia-Pacific Countries</b>	<b>All other Countries</b>
Planning and budgeting <sup>1,2</sup>	52	61
National review <sup>3,4</sup>	76	91

<sup>1</sup> Rating 4 (good) or 5 (very good) on a 5-point scale.

<sup>2</sup> N=21 for Asia-Pacific countries, N=111 for all other countries, according to the number of NCPI responses received.

<sup>3</sup> Answered "yes".

<sup>4</sup> N=21 for Asia-Pacific countries, N=106 for all other countries, according to the number of NCPI responses received.

**Table 2: Percentage of countries in which services provided by civil society are adequately included in the national response**

<b>HIV response component<sup>1</sup></b>	<b>Asia-Pacific Countries</b>	<b>All other Countries</b>
In national AIDS strategy and national reports <sup>2</sup>	43	62
In national AIDS budget <sup>3</sup>	10	15

<sup>1</sup> Rating 4 (good) or 5 (very good) on a 5-point scale.

<sup>2</sup> N=21 for Asia-Pacific countries, N=108 for all other countries, according to the number of NCPI responses received.

<sup>3</sup> N=21 for Asia-Pacific countries, N=107 for all other countries, according to the number of NCPI responses received.

**Table 3: Percentage of countries in which HIV programme implementation by civil society is adequately supported**

<b>HIV response component<sup>1</sup></b>	<b>Asia-Pacific Countries</b>	<b>All other Countries</b>
Financial <sup>2</sup>	14	20
Technical <sup>3</sup>	5	33

<sup>1</sup> Rating 4 (good) or 5 (very good) on a 5-point scale.

<sup>2</sup> N=21 for Asia-Pacific countries, N=110 for all other countries, according to the number of NCPI responses received.

<sup>3</sup> N=21 for Asia-Pacific countries, N=107 for all other countries, according to the number of NCPI responses received.