

## PLACE READINESS ASSESSMENT TOOL

Adapt the study protocol in response to the findings from the following readiness assessments before submitting it to the appropriate ethical review committee in the country for review and approval.

### Readiness Assessment for Key Populations

The readiness assessment for key populations asks stakeholders from the key population community to provide the following support:

- Describe the legal environment for each key population as well as any police harassment.
- Assess the acceptability of the protocol among key populations.
- Review the terminology in the protocol for each key population and improve the terminology where warranted.
- Assess the risks of implementation and advise on strategies to reduce risk and ensure safety.
- Encourage engagement of key populations in the design and implementation of the study.
- Review, adapt, and improve the generic venue typology to reflect the country setting.

The readiness assessment involves focus group discussions with key population groups. If the PLACE readiness assessment finds that key populations oppose the study or that the study cannot be implemented safely, then the study must be discontinued.

### Readiness Assessment for Service Delivery Providers

The readiness assessment for service delivery providers asks these stakeholders to provide the following support:

- Describe the standard package of HIV prevention interventions.
- Describe outreach efforts to high-risk venues.
- Describe condom promotion strategies, educational programs, and peer education.
- Describe any efforts to estimate the size of key populations from routine data.
- Describe the most important program coverage indicators.
- Identify how they will use the findings from PLACE to improve HIV prevention and treatment programs.
- Describe any division of the country among donors for key population programming.
- Describe their efforts to engage key populations in programming efforts.
- Describe their efforts to reduce police interference.