Sophie Dilmitis, Zimbabwe

Sophie Dilmitis has lived with HIV for 25 years, and her work in HIV, grounded in human rights, has extended beyond founding an NGO in Zimbabwe to regional and international levels. In 2001, Sophie founded the youth-led Choose Life. She developed a comprehensive sexuality education and HIV training programme, implemented in 30 schools and reaching over 7,000 young people. Regionally, Sophie trained young people living with HIV to facilitate workshops on stigma and disclosure and built capacity to deliver prevention programmes. From 2006 to 2011, Sophie worked for the World YWCA and developed and implemented its global strategy on SRHR and HIV. Since 2012, her work has focused on the rights of women living with HIV and how funding supports progress toward gender equality. Sophie is the Global Coordinator for Women4GlobalFund, uniting diverse women’s rights advocates, women living with HIV and women directly affected by TB and malaria to advance gender equality through the Global Fund.