Applying for an International or Media Scholarship

Applications were accepted from 6 December 2012 to 24 January 2013. All scholarship applicants were notified of their applications status in April.

Types of Support

Applicants were able to request a full or partial scholarship through the online application system.

A full scholarship includes:
- Registration fee for the conference (includes access to all sessions and exhibitions);
- Travel (pre-paid airfare at the lowest fare available, from the nearest international airport);
- Accommodation (shared in a budget hotel for the days of the conference);
- Modest daily living allowance for the duration of the conference (30 June-03 July 2013, USD 30 per day).

A partial scholarship includes any combination of the above.

Applications Criteria

Applications were open to anyone working in the field of HIV and AIDS. All applications were made on the same online, profile-linked application form, available in English.

Most of the questions asked on the application form were related to personal details and work experience. There were also other questions which ask for further details regarding the applicant's organization, occupation or involvement in the HIV and AIDS field, motivation to attend the conference and how the applicant's organization or community would benefit from the applicant's attendance at the conference.

International scholarship applicants were asked to submit a letter of recommendation after completing the scholarship application. No international application was accepted without submission of the letter of recommendation.

Abstract presenters were also asked to link the application to the submitted abstract(s). Instructions on how to do this were detailed within the application.

Media scholarship applicants were asked to provide media accreditation and supporting documents, along with the letter of recommendation. No media application was accepted without submission of the required supporting documents.

Overview of Scholarship Statistics

More than 1,200 applications were received from 113 countries, representing the scientific, medical, community and media disciplines.

All applications were thoroughly reviewed by the International Scholarship Department according to a scoring system that ensures objectivity and neutrality.

A total of 118 scholarship recipients were awarded from the pool of applicants based on recommendations and criteria established by the IAS 2013 Conference Coordinating Committee (CCC), the Scientific Programme Committee (SPC) and the Community Advisory Group (CAG).

The majority of scholarships were offered to delegates who would directly contribute to the conference programme through presentation of their abstracts at an oral session, oral poster discussion session or poster exhibition. Scholarships were also granted to a number of healthcare professionals, researchers and community representatives. A small number of media representatives were funded to attend both the conference and a pre-conference training.

In addition to these groups, many aspects were taken into account when allocating these scholarships, including personal profile (gender, age, etc…), occupation, type of organization and experience in the field.

We would like to thank the members of the Conference Coordinating Committee, Scientific Programme Committee and Community Advisory Group who helped shape the scholarship programme this year.

The following is a breakdown of how the scholarship budget was allocated.

Figure 1. Scholarship Budget Allocation by Geographic Region
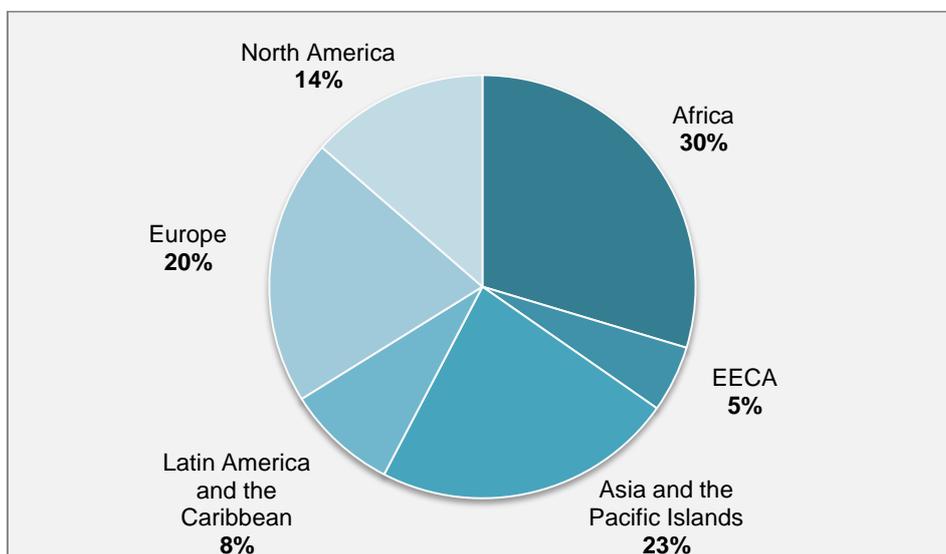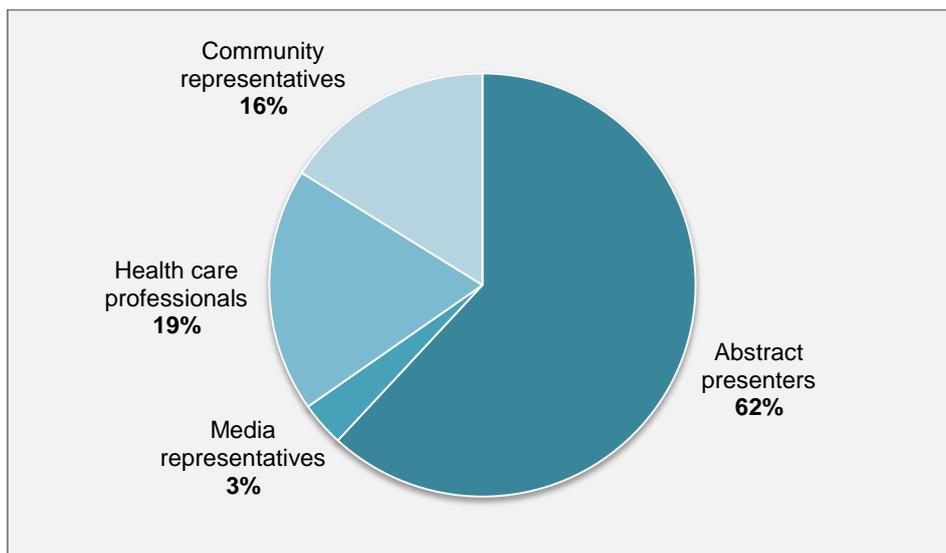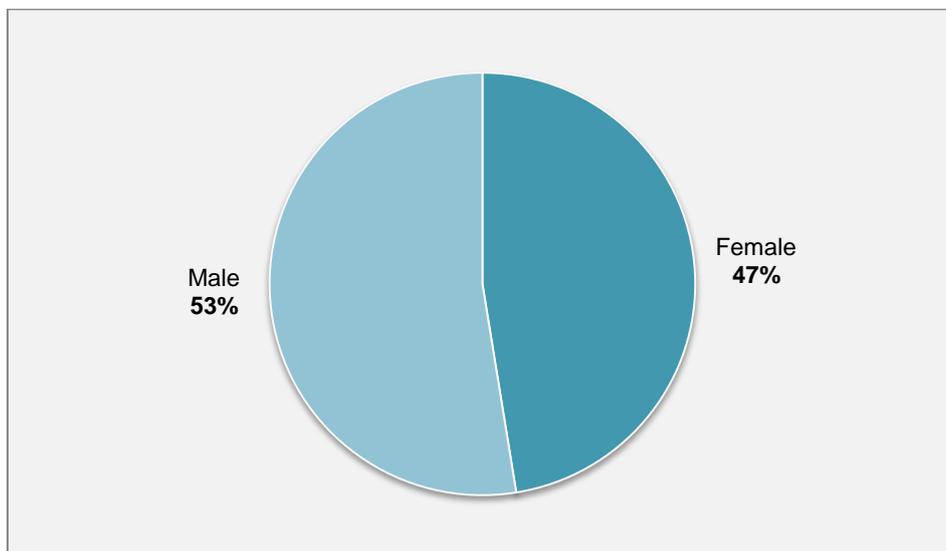

Figure 2. Scholarship Budget Allocation by Type

The following is a breakdown of awarded scholarships by gender, age, and experience in the field of HIV and AIDS.

Figure 3. Awarded Scholarships by Gender

Transgender did not receive a scholarship for IAS 2013, as few applications were received (0.3%, n=5) and these did not meet the criteria.
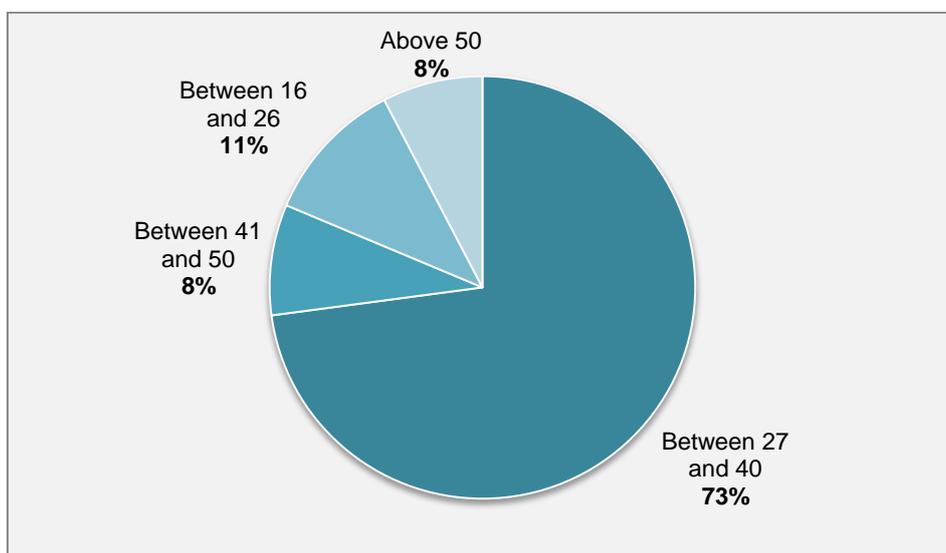
Figure 4. Awarded Scholarships by Age

Figure 5. Awarded Scholarships by Experience in the HIV and AIDS Field