



**Mary Ann Torres, Canada**

*International Council of AIDS Service Organizations  
(ICASO)*

With over two decades of experience in the field of human rights and AIDS policy, Mary Ann Torres has worked at ICASO in a number of capacities over the past eighteen years, most recently as its Executive Director.

Mary Ann is a lawyer and former Professor of Law from the Universidad Católica Andrés Bello in Caracas, Venezuela and holds a Masters in international law and health from Indiana University and a Masters in gender, women's rights and health from the University of Toronto.

She has served on several global advisory bodies including the UNAIDS Reference Group on Human Rights and the UNAIDS Monitoring and Evaluation Reference Group (MERG) and the WHO Civil Society Reference Group.

Most recently, ICASO is co-leading efforts to address the health crisis in Venezuela, in particular supporting Venezuelan NGOs to document the health crisis in the country and has released a report entitled Triple threat: Resurging epidemics, a broken health system, and global indifference to Venezuela's crisis, drawing on interviews with Venezuelan people living with HIV, TB and malaria. doctors, advocates, academics and United Nations representatives to document the health emergency. ICASO was instrumental in the successful advocacy that pushed the Global Fund to fight AIDS, TB and malaria to agree with an exceptional request to provide funding to respond to the health and economic crisis in Venezuela, in line with the Board-approved approach to non-eligible countries in crisis.