



USAID
FROM THE AMERICAN PEOPLE



FAST FACTS HIV/AIDS

November 2010

Highlights of the U.S. Global HIV/AIDS Response Led by the U.S. President's Emergency Plan for AIDS Relief (PEPFAR)

In fiscal year (FY) 2009...

- **2.4 million** individuals received antiretroviral treatment.
- **11 million** were provided with HIV/AIDS care and support.
- **29 million** received HIV counseling and testing.
- **77.7 million** benefited from PEPFAR's comprehensive HIV prevention strategies.

The Global Impact of HIV/AIDS

At present, there is no known cure for HIV/AIDS. Worldwide, an estimated 33.4 million people are living with HIV, and 2.7 million were newly infected in 2008. Sub-Saharan Africa remains the epicenter of the pandemic. With more than 22 million people infected, this region accounts for 67 percent of all HIV/AIDS cases.

Reversals in economic development. As seen in countries within sub-Saharan Africa, HIV/AIDS can reduce productivity and economic growth. The U.N. Food and Agriculture Organization has estimated that by 2020, HIV/AIDS will have claimed the lives of at least one-fifth of agricultural workers in southern Africa. In addition, caring for an individual with HIV/AIDS in sub-Saharan Africa can take up as much as one-third of a family's monthly income.

Shortages in the health care workforce. In many countries, HIV/AIDS has reduced the supply of skilled health workers while simultaneously increasing the demand for them. This dual trend has negatively affected scale-up of antiretroviral treatment and other HIV/AIDS services.

Generations of orphaned and vulnerable children. Millions of children have lost one or both parents to HIV/AIDS, and their numbers are expected to rise. Support for orphaned and vulnerable children is critical, as they are at an increased risk of psychological distress, economic hardships, exploitation, trafficking, and HIV infection.

U.S. Government Leadership

Leading the world in responding to the global AIDS crisis. Since its launch in 2003, PEPFAR has expanded access to HIV prevention, care, and treatment in low-resource settings throughout the world. It is the largest effort ever by any country to combat a single disease. PEPFAR is also the cornerstone of the new U.S. Global Health Initiative (GHI). Announced in May 2009, GHI will draw on the successes of PEPFAR as it supports partner countries to strengthen health systems and improve health outcomes, particularly among women, newborns, and children.

Continuing the commitment. Now in its second five-year phase, PEPFAR is transitioning away from an emergency response to promote sustainable country programs. As part of this shift, it is focusing on the following goals: strengthening the capacity of partner governments to lead the response to HIV/AIDS and other health demands; expanding prevention, care, and treatment in both concentrated and generalized epidemics; integrating and coordinating HIV/AIDS programs with broader global health and development programs; investing in innovation and operations research to evaluate impact, improve service delivery and maximize outcomes.

The U.S. Agency for International Development (USAID) is a key PEPFAR partner. It is anticipated that USAID will manage an estimated \$3.3 billion of PEPFAR allocations for FY 2010. Approximately 50 percent of PEPFAR's FY 2010 allocations thus far have been directed to USAID.

USAID'S HIV/AIDS Programs

Through PEPFAR, USAID takes a comprehensive and balanced approach to combating the HIV/AIDS pandemic and tailors programs, activities, and interventions appropriately for the country context. USAID-supported HIV/AIDS programs fall into the broad categories of prevention, care and support, treatment, sustainability and systems strengthening, and research.



PREVENTION

USAID focuses on the balanced promotion of all three behaviors of the “ABC” approach: “A” for abstinence (or delayed sexual initiation among youth); “B” for being faithful (or reducing the number of sexual partners); and “C” for correct and consistent condom use, especially in high-risk situations. USAID also implements PEPFAR programs to provide services for safe male circumcision, prevention of mother-to-child transmission, and reduction of HIV-related morbidity and mortality among mothers, their children, and other family members.



CARE AND SUPPORT

Care and support of people living with and affected by HIV/AIDS covers a broad spectrum of clinical, psychological, and nutritional services, including diagnosis, treatment (curative and palliative), and acute and chronic care management. USAID activities include establishing HIV testing sites, training and supporting counselors, promoting outreach to enhance community acceptance of HIV/AIDS activities, counseling HIV discordant couples, providing succession planning, and administering pediatric care and support. Other important areas of assistance include routine facility, community, and home-based HIV clinical monitoring; diagnosis, prevention, and treatment of tuberculosis and other opportunistic infections; and assessment, counseling, and treatment of nutritional deficiencies.



TREATMENT

USAID is committed to improving access to antiretroviral drugs for the treatment of HIV/AIDS. The Agency supports a range of programs to increase the availability of treatment. For example, USAID administers the PEPFAR Supply Chain Management System project, which assists in the delivery of safe and reliable HIV/AIDS medicines and supplies to programs around the world. In addition, there are USAID initiatives that train health care providers and establish programs for clinical services, including screening and treatment for opportunistic infections such as tuberculosis.



SUSTAINABILITY AND SYSTEM STRENGTHENING

To achieve universal access to comprehensive HIV prevention, treatment, and care and support services, health systems must be strong and sustainable. To these ends, USAID supports efforts to improve health systems: financing, service delivery, institutional capacity building, human resources development, monitoring and evaluation, health information collection and analysis, pharmaceutical management, procurement, health governance, and public-private partnerships.



RESEARCH

USAID supports research on the development of products to prevent HIV infection and transmission, including vaccines and microbicides. The Agency was the major funder of the landmark CAPRSIA trial, which provided the first proof that a microbicide can be effective in preventing male-to-female sexual transmission of HIV. USAID also conducts research in such areas as HIV prevention among youth, prevention of mother-to-child transmission, and treatment of pediatric HIV infections.

Photos courtesy of USAID