

STRATEGIC FOCUS

Located in the Thailand Ministry of Public Health (MOPH) in Nonthaburi since 2001, the U.S. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) collaborates with government and non-governmental partners, including civil society organizations and multilateral organizations, to scale up and evaluate effective approaches to reach, test, treat, and retain persons living with HIV (PLHIV) with a focus on men who have sex with men and transgender women in 14 high HIV burden provinces. Specific aims include:

- Promote timely diagnosis and linkage to treatment and care services through a combination of case finding strategies, including index testing, HIV self-testing, and social network strategies.
- Promote pre-exposure prophylaxis (PrEP) use to prevent new HIV infections in the highest-risk populations through targeted campaigns and by strengthening public PrEP services.
- Develop a model for adolescents and young men who have sex with men for linking to testing and treatment.
- Promote same-day/rapid antiretroviral therapy (ART) for newly diagnosed individuals to ensure treatment initiation and prevent further transmission.
- Scale-up enhanced adherence counseling, treatment literacy, multi-month dispensing of ART for stable patients, and differentiated service delivery to ensure treatment continuity.
- Increase access to viral load (VL) testing, develop automatic detectable VL alerts, and strengthen sustainable VL networks to improve patient outcomes.
- Develop digital health platforms to improve coordination between laboratory and HIV teams to advance the care delivery process and outcomes.
- Strengthen strategic information systems and human resource capacity to monitor and evaluate the national HIV program.
- Establish the national quality improvement committee, promote data use to identify annual national quality improvement themes and poor performance sites, and conduct coaching to enhance HIV services.
- Develop community-led monitoring activities to provide feedback on HIV service gaps.
- Develop HIV stigma and discrimination reduction e-learning for medical and nursing students and promote HIV stigma and discrimination e-learning for health care providers.
- Collaborate with the Global Fund to Fight AIDS, TB and Malaria, and other tuberculosis (TB)/HIV partners to implement TB preventive therapy among PLHIV and pilot new TB diagnostic method for advanced HIV disease.

KEY ACTIVITIES AND ACCOMPLISHMENTS

Introduction and expansion of HIV prevention, care, and treatment services:

- Trained staff at 122 hospitals in 18 provinces on PrEP and assisted MOPH in establishing a unified PrEP data monitoring system.
- Developed a combination of case-finding models by integrating HIV self-test and SNS into index testing service using a digitalized coupon as a recruitment tool.
- Contributed to national ART guidance and national TB/HIV guidelines through manual development and implementation of “same-day/rapid ART,” differentiated service delivery, treatment literacy, TB preventive treatment implementation, and introduction and implementation of a novel TB urine test to assist with TB diagnosis among PLHIV.
- Supported the decentralization of ART to 20 primary health care centers and PrEP services to 7 health centers in Bangkok, resulting in expanded access to life-saving ART and preventive services.
- Expanded stigma and discrimination reduction intervention program to 50 health facilities in 13 provinces and disseminated these experiences to international audiences.
- Designed and built the “Medical Appointment Notification Assistance (MANA)” application to notify healthcare providers and clients about their upcoming VL and drug appointments.
- Developed and implemented an Application Programming Interface that enables the seamless exchange of HIV lab results from hospital databases to the National AIDS Program.

Strategic information and planning at national and sub-national levels:

- Updated and maintained HIV-Info Hub to be the national data dissemination platform for monitoring the HIV epidemic, program response, morbidity, and mortality.
- Develop monitor and evaluation (M&E) training course for health care workers and public health officers to capacitate local capacity for M&E and data use.
- Developed a national system for recent HIV infection (recency) surveillance.

Health system strengthening and policy development:

- Implemented and established new regulations and a certification program for non-healthcare community-based staff and community-based organizations to provide HIV services.
- Implemented National Operational Guidelines for Viral Load Network and Services to improve VL coverage in pilot sites.
- Collaborated with Thailand Network of People Living with HIV and MoPH to develop community-led monitoring activity in 3 hospitals in 3 provinces.

Key Country Leadership

Prime Minister:
Prayut Chan-o-cha

Minister of Public Health:
Anutin Charnvirakul

U.S. Ambassador:
Robert F. Godec

CDC Country Director:
James Heffelfinger

DGHT Program Director:
Sanny Northbrook

[Country Quick Facts](https://worldbank.org/en/where-we-work)
(worldbank.org/en/where-we-work)

Per Capita GNI:
\$7,230 (2022)

Population (millions):
71.69 (2022)

Under 5 Mortality:
8.3/1,000 live births (2021)

Life Expectancy:
78.7 years (2021)

[Global HIV/AIDS Epidemic](https://aidsinfo.unaids.org)
(aidsinfo.unaids.org)

Estimated HIV Prevalence
(Ages 15-49): 1.1% (2022)

Estimated AIDS Deaths
(Age ≥15): 11,000 (2022)

Estimated Orphans Due to
AIDS: 190,000 (2022)

Reported Number Receiving
Antiretroviral Therapy (ART)
(Age ≥15): 455,849 (2022)

[Global Tuberculosis
\(TB\) Epidemic](https://who.int/tb/country/data/profiles/en)
(who.int/tb/country/data/profiles/en)

Estimated TB Incidence:
143/100,000 population (2021)

TB Patients with Known HIV
Status who are HIV-Positive:
8.8% (2021)

TB Treatment Success Rate:
83% (2020)

DGHT Country Staff: 33
Locally Employed Staff: 30
Direct Hires: 3
Fellows & Contractors: 0

