STRATEGIC FOCUS

The U.S. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) has collaborated with the Government of Angola in the fight against HIV/AIDS since 2004. Over the past 15 years, CDC’s global HIV/AIDS focus has transitioned from an emergency response approach to one of sustainability and shared responsibility for HIV epidemic control. In support of the Angolan First Lady’s commitment to the Free to Shine initiative and the political will she created around preventing mother-to-child transmission of HIV, CDC’s Angola HIV program has evolved into a family-focused prevention of mother-to-child transmission (PMTCT) program. PMTCT’s family focus reaches the pregnant woman’s entire family and recent sexual contacts with HIV testing, and offers people found to be living with HIV lifelong antiretroviral treatment (ART).

CDC Angola is the lead agency for the implementation of the U.S. President’s Emergency Plan for AIDS Relief (PEPFAR). In this role, CDC provides technical assistance to Angola aimed at strengthening HIV care and treatment services, and building laboratory capacity. CDC also leads strategic information activities, including efforts to improve the capability to collect and analyze data across the HIV Cascade (testing, initiation of treatment, and suppression of viral load (VL)). CDC assists with drafting and implementing policies adhering to the World Health Organization guidelines to achieve HIV epidemic control.

KEY ACTIVITIES AND ACCOMPLISHMENTS

Laboratory:
- CDC Angola provides technical assistance and mentorship training on viral load (VL) monitoring, assists Angola’s expansion of VL testing through creation of a sample transport system, and implements provincial-level quality assurance programs.
- CDC Angola provides trainings and supportive supervision for point-of-care VL monitoring, early infant diagnosis (EID), and TB diagnostics using GeneXpert.

Health Information Systems/Data Collection:
- Working closely with the National AIDS, Maternal and Child Health, and TB Programs, CDC provides support for developing and implementing the District Health Information System2 (DHIS2) for program data collection, monitoring, and ultimately decision-making.
- CDC Angola provides technical assistance to implement the VL Monitoring System in the National AIDS Program’s central and regional laboratories.

HIV Care and Treatment:
- In 2017, CDC provided technical assistance to develop the Test and Start policy and implementation strategy. Test and Start was initiated in three provinces in 2018 and CDC Angola will continue to provide technical and financial support for expanding Test and Start into the remaining 15 provinces during Fiscal Year 2019.
- CDC is working with Angola to update the national guidelines for ART to align with current World Health Organization recommendations.

Family-Focused PMTCT:
- CDC Angola is expanding the HIV program into four priority provinces through technical assistance at the provincial, municipal, and facility levels. The program’s aim is to increase HIV testing of pregnant women by 50% and intensify efforts to introduce index case testing which reaches beyond the clinic to offer HIV testing services and referral into high-quality care and treatment to high-risk family members and associates.
- Newly-diagnosed patients, through the Test and Start program, will receive ART for life.

TB/HIV:
- CDC Angola supports implementation of integrated HIV/TB care to enhance linkage between HIV and TB treatment facilities through the One Stop model.
- CDC Angola provides technical assistance for the implementation and scale up of TB preventive treatment (TPT) among people living with HIV.

Our success is built on the backbone of science and strong partnerships.

Key Country Leadership

President:
João Manuel Gonçalves Lourenço

Minister of Health:
Dr. Sílvia Lutucuta

U.S. Ambassador:
Nina Maria Fite

CDC/DGHT Director:
Alean Frawley, DO, MPH

Global HIV/AIDS Epidemic
(aidsinfo.unaids.org)

Estimated HIV Prevalence:
(Ages 15-49): 2.0% (2018)

Estimated AIDS Deaths:
(Age ≥15): 8,600 (2018)

Estimated Orphans Due to AIDS: 160,000 (2018)

Global Tuberculosis (TB) Epidemic
(who.int/tb/country/data/profiles/en/)

Estimated TB Incidence: 359/100,000 population (2017)

TB patients with known HIV status who are HIV positive: 11% (2017)

TB Treatment Success Rate: 27% (2016)

TB Mortality: 67/100,000 population (2017)

DGHT Country Staff: 5
Locally Employed Staff: 4
Direct Hires: 1
Fellows & Contactors: 0