STRATEGIC FOCUS

The U.S. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) office was formally established at the U.S. Embassy in Yangon, Myanmar in January 2015.

CDC supports Myanmar’s focused approach to achieving its 95-95-95 targets by 2030: 95% of people with HIV are diagnosed, 95% of them receive ART, and 95% of them are virally suppressed. Through the U.S. President’s Emergency Plan for AIDS Relief (PEPFAR), CDC supports the National AIDS Program, the National Health Laboratory, and other partners to develop strategies and operational guidelines for HIV/AIDS prevention and treatment and to strengthen surveillance systems and laboratory systems.

In addition to strengthening Myanmar’s national HIV programs, CDC supports Myanmar in its efforts to address its tuberculosis (TB) epidemic, and in strengthening its weak health systems through critical initiatives such as the upcoming launches of the Field Epidemiology Training Program and the Myanmar-CDC.

KEY ACTIVITIES AND ACCOMPLISHMENTS

HIV

- CDC PEPFAR support in Myanmar focuses on technical assistance and targeted support to improve the clinical cascades for HIV prevention, testing, and treatment of key populations affected by high HIV prevalence, ongoing high-risk behaviors, and limited access to HIV services.
- Working in close collaboration with the Ministry of Health and Sports and other partners, CDC provides technical assistance to develop national strategies to increase the yield of HIV testing (number of cases detected) to increase early enrollment in treatment, and to achieve high rates of retention in treatment services including ensuring viral load suppression and TB prevention, diagnosis, and therapy.
- CDC has provided technical support to develop the HIV Testing Guidelines and update the HIV Treatment Guidelines in Myanmar, including the transition to Test and Start for all persons living with HIV (PLHIV) in 2017.
- CDC-Myanmar is working with key partners (National AIDS Program, National Health Laboratory) to strengthen HIV testing quality control systems and to build capacity for national scale-up of routine HIV viral load testing, through training on viral load testing and monitoring to optimally curb the transmission of HIV from PLHIV on antiretroviral treatment (ART).
- CDC is providing technical assistance to support key populations surveillance, and collection and use of data to inform program monitoring and planning at national and sub-national levels.

Tuberculosis

CDC is working with the Japan International Cooperation Agency (JICA), CDC-Vietnam and the Ministry of Health and Sports (MoHS) to help build capacity for a national GeneXpert quality control program.

CDC is providing technical support to the MoHS and implementing partners for the design of the protocol and data collection tools, as well as on-site support for implementation of the national tuberculosis prevalence survey.