

CAMEROON

STRATEGIC FOCUS

Optimizing Collaborative Relationships with the Ministry of Health (MOH): The U.S. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) began work in Cameroon in 1998 as an HIV laboratory and research program and established a partnership with the Government of the Republic of Cameroon in 2008 to strengthen disease control efforts and develop sustainable public health capacity through its technical expertise and financial assistance.

Strengthening Public Health Systems: CDC provides technical and financial assistance to Cameroon’s Ministry of Health to deliver clinical services in more than 300 health facilities across all ten regions of the country through implementing partners. Health systems strengthening efforts include building epidemiology, surveillance, laboratory, research, and workforce capacity, and supporting HIV and TB prevention and treatment programs along the clinical cascade to support the country towards HIV epidemic control.

KEY ACTIVITIES AND ACCOMPLISHMENTS

HIV Prevention and Treatment Scale Up: As a key implementing agency of the President’s Emergency Plan for AIDS Relief’s (PEPFAR) in Cameroon, CDC has scaled up HIV prevention, case finding, linkage and retention in care and treatment services for people living with HIV (PLHIV) in all ten regions of the country with the aim of achieving HIV epidemic control in Cameroon by the end of 2022 and the UNAIDS 95-95-95 targets, 95% diagnosed among all people living with HIV (PLHIV), 95% on antiretroviral therapy (ART) among diagnosed, and 95% virally suppressed (VS) among treated, by 2030 across all age groups, sex, and sub-populations in Cameroon.

Tuberculosis (TB) Prevention and Treatment: TB is a major cause of mortality among PLHIV, and Cameroon ranks among the top 30 countries with the highest burden of HIV and TB co-infection globally. CDC Cameroon supports the National TB Control Program for the integration of HIV services in TB settings and integration of TB services in HIV services. For TB prevention, CDC is currently supporting scale up of active TB screening among PLHIV on antiretroviral therapy (ART) and provision of TB preventive treatment (TPT); CDC also supports TB infection prevention and control activities.

Laboratory System Strengthening: CDC’S contribution to developing the laboratory landscape in Cameroon has led to implementation of the first national proficiency testing program to ensure quality and reliable results; the roll out of the Strengthening Laboratory Improvement Process Towards Accreditation (SLIPTA), a framework for evaluating progress of laboratories toward international accreditation. Through CDC’s support, laboratory capacity has been strengthened across the country, including national reference laboratories for Early Infant Diagnosis, HIV viral load and COVID-19 testing. Over 1,100 laboratories are participating in the HIV rapid testing proficiency testing program, five ISO-15189 accredited laboratories – the first ISO-Accredited laboratories in Cameroon and Central Africa region; and the first blood bank in Cameroon, West and Central Africa region to receive International Certification.

Strategic Information: CDC supports strengthening health information and disease surveillance systems. CDC provides technical and financial assistance to support Cameroon’s national HIV monitoring and evaluation system and continues to strengthen the District Health Information System at national, regional, and district levels. CDC is building capacity of health facility staff on the use of site-level data to identify gaps and drive continuous quality improvement activities for remediation and overall program improvement towards achieving the UNAIDS 95-95-95 targets in Cameroon by the end of 2022, eight years ahead of the UNAIDS goal.

Key Country Leadership

President:
H.E. Paul Biya

Minister of Health:
Dr. Manaouda Malachie

U.S. Ambassador:
Christopher Lamora

CDC/DGHT Director:
Dr. Emily Kainne Dokubo

Country Quick Facts

worldbank.org/en/where-we-work

Per Capita GNI:
\$1,500 (2020)

Population (millions):
26.55 (2020)

Under 5 Mortality:
75/1,000 live births (2019)

Life Expectancy:
59 years (2019)

Global HIV/AIDS Epidemic

aidsinfo.unaids.org

Estimated HIV Prevalence (Ages 15-49): 3.0% (2020)

Estimated AIDS Deaths (Age ≥15): 11,000 (2020)

Estimated Orphans Due to AIDS: 390,000 (2020)

Reported Number Receiving Antiretroviral Therapy (ART) (Age ≥15): 355,854 (2020)

Global Tuberculosis (TB) Epidemic

who.int/tb/country/data/profiles/en

Estimated TB Incidence: 179/100,000 population (2019)

TB Patients with Known HIV-Status who are HIV-Positive: 27% (2019)

TB Treatment Success Rate: 84% (2018)

Estimated TB Mortality: 48/100,000 population (2019)

DGHT Country Staff: 28

Locally Employed Staff: 23
Direct Hires: 3
Fellows & Contactors: 2

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

