

GHANA

STRATEGIC FOCUS

The partnership between the U.S. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) and the Government of Ghana (GOG) began in 2008 with the goal of strengthening HIV prevention and treatment towards epidemic control. Over the past 13 years, CDC's focus has transitioned from an emergency response approach to one of sustainability under the U.S. President's Emergency Plan for AIDS Relief (PEPFAR). The CDC Ghana program has moved from focusing mainly on prevention of HIV in key populations (KP) to a significant role in supporting Ghana's national and regional laboratory and strategic information capacity.

CDC is PEPFAR Ghana's lead agency for laboratory technical assistance which aims to improve the skills of laboratorians and efficiency of laboratory services. CDC, together with the GOG, assesses the laboratorian skills in real-world settings and addresses any identified gaps and challenges.

CDC leads PEPFAR Ghana's strategic information activities, including efforts to improve national and sub-national estimates of people living with HIV (PLHIV) and the capability to collect and analyze data across the HIV cascade (testing, initiation of treatment, and viral load suppression) to inform evidence-based decision-making. CDC assists in developing and conducting data collection on key populations (female sex workers [FSW] and men who have sex with men [MSM]). Together these efforts provide PEPFAR Ghana with the tools and data needed for strategic planning to best address and achieve goals.

CDC Ghana is also the hub of PEPFAR's West Africa Region and supports laboratory and strategic information capacity in Mali, Senegal, Sierra Leone, Liberia, Burkina Faso, Benin, and Togo.

KEY ACTIVITIES AND ACCOMPLISHMENTS

- CDC led the implementation of an innovative national system for transporting blood and specimen samples to centralized laboratories for processing. In addition to supporting HIV testing, this sample transport system will support all diseases relying on laboratory analyses.
- CDC Ghana works closely with the Ghana Ministry of Health (MOH), Ghana Health Service (GHS), and the National AIDS/Sexually Transmitted Infection Control Program (NACP) to successfully develop and implement the e-Tracker HIV Module. The e-Tracker system enhances GOG's capacity to monitor the HIV cascade by providing a common platform for tracking and providing case management services for PLHIV.
- CDC Ghana supports the Ghana AIDS Commission (GAC) to develop and launch the Ghana Key Population Unique Identifier System. This unique identifier, developed for privacy and improve continuity of services, will help enhance HIV service delivery by allowing the MOH to provide targeted services.
- CDC Ghana supports GAC to develop annual, sub-national estimates for PLHIV that are used for program planning, supply forecasting, and setting national and PEPFAR targets.
- CDC Ghana supported GAC to conduct an Integrated Biological and Behavioral Surveillance Survey (IBBS) of MSM in Ghana in 2017.
- CDC Ghana provides technical assistance for an ongoing IBBS of FSW, funded by the Global Fund to Fight AIDS, Tuberculosis, and Malaria.
- CDC Ghana provides direct technical assistance and financial support to the GOG to develop policies that strengthen laboratory systems and services, improve the national HIV testing algorithm, and implement differentiated service delivery.
- CDC Ghana's laboratory support activities have helped to increase HIV rapid test proficiency from 27% to 91% [*GHS/NACP Dried Tube Specimen Proficiency Testing Round 5 Report, Feb 2018*].

Key Country Leadership

President:
Nana Addo Dankwa Akufo-Addo

Minister of Health:
Kwaku Agyeman-Manu

U.S. Ambassador:
Stephanie S. Sullivan

CDC/DGHT Director:
Trong Ao

Country Quick Facts
worldbank.org/en/where-we-work

Per Capita GNI:
\$2,230 (2020)

Population (millions):
31.07 (2020)

Under 5 Mortality:
46/1,000 live births (2019)

Life Expectancy:
64 years (2019)

Global HIV/AIDS Epidemic
aidsinfo.unaids.org

Estimated HIV Prevalence
(Ages 15-49): 1.7% (2020)

Estimated AIDS Deaths
(Age ≥15): 9,800 (2020)

Estimated Orphans Due to
AIDS: 240,000 (2020)

Reported Number
Receiving Antiretroviral
Therapy (ART) (Age ≥15):
199,267 (2020)

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

Estimated TB Incidence:
144/100,000 population
(2019)

TB patients with known HIV
status who are HIV-positive:
21% (2019)

TB Treatment Success Rate:
84% (2018)

Estimated TB Mortality:
50/100,000 population
(2019)

DGHT Country Staff: 7
Locally Employed Staff: 6
Direct Hires: 1
Fellows & Contactors: 0

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

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