

## 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 (MSM) and transgender women in 13 high HIV burden provinces. In fiscal year 2022, CDC-Thailand is focused on and aims to:

- 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 use of pre-exposure prophylaxis (PrEP) 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 MSM for linking to testing and treatment.
- Promote same-day 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 care delivery process and outcomes.
- Strengthen national surveillance of recent infections and use results to improve HIV response.
- Strengthen strategic information capacity to monitor and evaluate the national HIV program.
- Expand data-driven, quality improvement programs and coaching to enhance HIV services.
- Develop community-led monitoring activities to provide feedback on HIV service gaps.
- Integrate HIV coaching and Disease Specific Certification into routine hospital accreditation coaching and certification system.
- Develop HIV stigma and discrimination (S&D) reduction e-learning for medical and nursing students and promote the use of HIV S&D e-learning for health care providers.
- Collaborate with GFATM and 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 through integration of HIV self-test and SNS into index testing service using a digitalized coupon as a recruitment tool.
- Contributed to national ART guidance through manual development and implementation of “same-day/rapid ART,” differentiated service delivery, treatment literacy, 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 S&D reduction intervention program to 50 health facilities in 13 provinces and disseminated these experiences to international audiences.
- Implemented electronic VL data exchange and alert system to provide timely VL data for HIV clinical management.
- Supported differentiated ART service delivery to PLHIV during COVID-19, including ART delivery via postal service, and track and trace activities to ensure continuity in treatment.

### 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.
- 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.

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

September 2022 | The CDC Division of Global HIV & TB activities are implemented as part of the U.S. President's Emergency Plan for AIDS Relief (PEPFAR); non-HIV related TB activities are supported by non-PEPFAR funding

## Key Country Leadership

Prime Minister:  
Prayut Chan-o-cha

Minister of Public Health:  
Anutin Charnvirakul

U.S. Chargé d'Affaires:  
Michael G. Heath

CDC Country Director:  
James Heffelfinger

DGHT Program Director:  
Sanny Northbrook

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

Per Capita GNI:  
\$7,260 (2021)

Population (millions):  
69.95 (2021)

Under 5 Mortality:  
8.7/1,000 live births (2020)

Life Expectancy:  
77 years (2020)

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

Estimated HIV Prevalence  
(Ages 15-49): 1.0% (2021)

Estimated AIDS Deaths  
(Age ≥15): 9,200 (2021)

Estimated Orphans Due to  
AIDS: 180,000 (2021)

Reported Number Receiving  
Antiretroviral Therapy (ART)  
(Age ≥15): 445,562 (2021)

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

Estimated TB Incidence:  
150/100,000 population (2020)

TB Patients with Known HIV  
Status who are HIV-Positive:  
9.4% (2020)

TB Treatment Success Rate:  
85% (2019)

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

