

# GLOBAL HIV AND TB: HOW CDC WORKS OVERSEAS

## OVERVIEW

The U.S. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) works in more than 50 countries to support the U.S. President's Emergency Plan for AIDS Relief's (PEPFAR) efforts in the fight against HIV and tuberculosis (TB) globally. CDC carries out this mission primarily through:

- Expert U.S. and local staff assigned to CDC offices at U.S. Embassies or ministries of health;
- Technical assistance provided by CDC headquarters in Atlanta and by CDC regional offices; and
- Financial resources provided strategically to partners to achieve the U.S. Government's mission, while helping strengthen the capacity of partner countries to manage these epidemics in the future.

## CDC'S ROLE

CDC is the United States public health and disease prevention agency and has an unparalleled staff of technical experts in HIV and TB in the United States and globally, as well as deep expertise in the public health application of laboratory science, disease surveillance, and infectious disease control and prevention. Through PEPFAR, the U.S. Government has deployed CDC expertise in response to the global HIV epidemic in an expanded and strategic way to complement the traditional Foreign Service agencies in the largest global health initiative ever launched. To ensure a sustainable effort, CDC is strengthening country partnerships by empowering ministries of health and finance with the data and expertise necessary for evidence-based decision-making. The CDC global program model involves direct technical assistance by CDC staff and substantial funding support for partner-nation organizations. CDC works especially closely with national governments, civil society, and other development partners in long-term sustainability, through capacity building in technical and programmatic areas, as well as management and operations. As partner nations strengthen their economies and require fewer financial resources, CDC remains a key collaborative technical assistance partner on critical health issues, such as disease surveillance, quality services, and treatment activities.

## ACCOMPLISHMENTS / RESULTS

- As part of the CDC strategy to provide greater funding support to partner nation organizations relative to international partners, the proportion of funding to partner-country organizations has increased substantially.
- Through PEPFAR, CDC and partners have led the implementation of Population-based HIV Impact Assessments, which have demonstrated that more than a dozen high-HIV-burden countries are poised for epidemic control by 2020, with continued focus and support.
- As of September 2017, CDC-supported, life-saving antiretroviral therapy (ART) for over 7.3 million people living with HIV – one-third of all people on treatment worldwide and more than half of those on PEPFAR-supported treatment. As part of PEPFAR, CDC supported ART for more than 388,000 children under the age of 15 around the globe.
- To curb the spread of HIV, CDC-supported voluntary medical male circumcision procedures for 7.5 million men cumulatively – nearly half of all procedures supported by PEPFAR through September 2017.
- Each year, CDC assists high-burden countries to conduct prevalence surveys of TB and drug-resistant TB. Since 2016, CDC has supported 21 countries in assessing their burden of the disease, which helps to efficiently target resources, while monitoring program performance and improvement.
- CDC is working with MOHs and other partners in high-burden countries to identify and implement the best approaches for measuring new TB indicators and monitor progress towards national and global TB targets.

## FUTURE EFFORTS

CDC continues to strengthen multiple elements of its technical and financial assistance strategies for global HIV and TB to achieve higher impact, accountability, and sustainability. CDC supports partner country efforts to achieve epidemic control while also promoting the long-term sustainability of their response. As highlighted in PEPFAR's Sustainability Action Agenda, CDC's goal is to engage both partner governments and community and civil society organizations in service and systems strengthening, as they assume greater responsibility for controlling the HIV epidemic among their own populations.



**D G H T**  
*Division of Global HIV & TB*



## BENEFITS OF OUR WORK

In addition to the CDC programs' fundamental humanitarian and diplomatic mission, this work is vital to preventing and reducing antimicrobial resistance in both HIV and TB. Highly-resistant pathogens can cross borders and become a threat to the U.S. In today's interconnected world, deadly diseases can spread swiftly, underscoring the importance of CDC's efforts to build capacity for innovative, accurate, real-time disease surveillance and laboratory systems to manage and stop an epidemic. Ultimately, health cooperation reduces death and suffering around the world, and strengthens global diplomatic partnerships.