



3 GOOD HEALTH AND WELL-BEING



TOWARDS ENDING AIDS AS A PUBLIC HEALTH THREAT BY 2030

Photo: UNDP Zimbabwe/Joyous A. L. Begisen

Background

The United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) partners with the Global Fund to Fight AIDS, Tuberculosis and Malaria (Global Fund), governments and civil society to defeat HIV, tuberculosis (TB) and malaria and achieve a more equitable, healthier and sustainable future. The partnership strengthens national capacities to deliver essential health services, leave no one behind and build more robust and resilient systems for health, including in countries facing insecurity, crisis, or other capacity constraints.

In Zimbabwe, UNDP partners with the Global Fund to support and strengthen national responses to HIV, TB and malaria, operating within the framework of the Government of Zimbabwe's national health plans and strategies and under the programmatic leadership of the Ministry of Health and Child Care (MoHCC). **Promoting national ownership, developing capacity and strengthening national systems are the overriding objectives of UNDP's engagement.**

Since 2003, the Global Fund has contributed over US\$1.796 billion to the fight against HIV in Zimbabwe and US\$2.3 billion for all grants covering HIV, TB, malaria and health systems strengthening, including the COVID-19 response.

Two Principal Recipients (PRs) manage the implementation of the grants. **The MoHCC manages the implementation of the malaria and TB grants, while UNDP manages the implementation of the HIV grant.** The MoHCC is also one of the eight Sub-recipients (SRs) of the HIV grant. UNDP's partnership with the Global Fund in Zimbabwe is the largest within UNDP's overall Global Fund portfolio. This factsheet outlines key achievements of the HIV grant (Grant Cycle 6) in support of Zimbabwe's National HIV Response.

Overview of The HIV Epidemic in Zimbabwe

Zimbabwe's national HIV incidence has declined by over 50% over the past ten years. In 2022, the incidence was at 0.17%, and there was a decline in new HIV infections for all age groups. The number of new HIV infections among adults reduced by 7% and 9% among children from 2021 to 2022. In the same period, the number of new HIV infections declined by 6% among people aged 10-19 and by 7% among people aged 15-24. Similarly, adult (15-49 years) prevalence has fallen from its peak of 26.5% in 1997 to 11% in 2021 (2022 HIV Estimates). According to the 2022 spectrum estimates, 1,310,438 people are living with HIV.

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The Global Fund's Contribution

The Global Fund support for HIV prevention services, HIV testing, and procurement of medicines for 750,000 people living with HIV (PLHIV) per year has contributed to the decline in HIV incidence and prevalence in Zimbabwe. Grant Cycle 6 [New Funding Model (NFM) 3] 2021-2023 has also reached people in HIV prevention services for adolescent girls and young women (AGYW) and key population groups. The grant has supported HIV testing, treatment, and care services and strengthened the health system overall.

Key Achievements



This factsheet highlights the progress made in HIV prevention and treatment in 2022 and the Global Fund's continued commitment to supporting resilient and sustainable systems for health (RSSH).

HIV Prevention

The Global Fund supported HIV prevention programmes in Zimbabwe in 2022, including:



HIV prevention programmes for adolescent girls and young women, which reached 14,707 girls and young women. Of these, 9,615 were tested for HIV, 78 were found to be HIV positive, and 78 were linked to HIV treatment.



Comprehensive Sexuality Education (CSE) for adolescent girls and young women and adolescent boys and young men attending school. This programme reached 44,818 students, and 12,000 of them were supported with school fees, uniform, stationery, shoes, and sanitary wear.



Male engagement programmes reached 195,890 men with HIV testing services (HTS), Sexually transmitted infections (STIs) screening, prostate cancer screening, and Sexual and gender-based violence (SGBV) services.



HIV prevention programmes for sex workers, which reached 26,037 sex workers with a coverage of 58% from the total estimated sex workers population. Of these, 20,543 were tested for HIV, 2,177 were found to be HIV positive and 1,813 were linked to HIV treatment. Additionally, 8,128 eligible sex workers were initiated on oral Pre-exposure prophylaxis (PrEP).



HIV prevention programmes for men who have sex with men which reached 7,141 through 5 Drop-In Centers with a coverage of 30% of the estimated men who have sex with men population. Of those reached, 1,978 were tested for HIV (most men who have sex with men prefer HIV self-testing). Of those tested, 39 tested positive and were linked and initiated HIV treatment. Additionally, 1,874 were screened for pre-exposure prophylaxis (PrEP) and 930 initiated oral PrEP.

At a glance...



In 2022, **1,451,171** people were tested for HIV and learned their status, up from **1,345,889** in 2021.



Of those who were found to be HIV-positive, **74,693 (94%)** were newly initiated on antiretroviral therapy (ART), up from **90% (72,405/79,634)** in 2021.

Of those tested, **79,864 (5.5%)** were found to be HIV-positive, similar to the number in 2021.



Additionally, **77,349** early infant diagnosis (were conducted for infants exposed to HIV in 2022, up from **48,873** in 2021, a **58.3% increase**. This increase in EID testing helps to ensure that babies who are born to mothers living with HIV are diagnosed early and can start treatment as soon as possible.



HIV Treatment and Care

- In 2022, 43,570 women living with HIV received antiretroviral therapy (ART) to prevent **mother-to-child transmission (PMTCT)** of HIV, down from 47,639 in 2021.
- In 2022, 1,182,126 adults and children living with HIV received **antiretroviral therapy (ART)**, a 5% increase from the previous year. This increase is helping to save lives and prevent new infections.
- **Viral load (VL) testing coverage increased** from 44% to 79% in 2022, helping to ensure that people living with HIV are aware of their VL status and receive appropriate treatment and drug resistance monitoring.

Resilient and Sustainable Systems for Health (RSSH)

The Global Fund has supported several initiatives to strengthen the national health system in 1,700 health facilities in Zimbabwe, making it more resilient to shocks and stresses, and to improve the quality of care available to patients. These initiatives include:

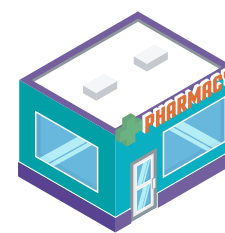
- **Retention of critical health workers.** The Global Fund has paid retention allowances to all 25,000 health workers Grade C5+, including nurses, doctors, and laboratory technicians. This has helped ensure that these essential workers are able to remain in the health sector and provide care to patients.
- **Improvement of storage conditions.** The Global Fund has supported the construction of 178 pharmacy stores, helping to improve the storage conditions for medicines and other health commodities.
- **Provision of safe water.** The Global Fund has supported the installation of 447 solar-powered boreholes in health facilities across the country. These boreholes provide safe and clean water to patients and staff and help reduce the risk of water-borne diseases.
- **Improvement of laboratory testing.** The Global Fund has supported the installation of 1,044 solar systems in public health facilities and laboratories. These systems improve the quality of laboratory testing and have also made it possible to conduct laboratory tests in remote areas.
- **Laboratories and public health information management systems.** The Global Fund has supported the digitalization of health information management systems, including the electronic health record (EHR), electronic laboratory management information system (eLMIS), laboratory information management system (LIMS), and District Health Information System (DHIS2). This has helped improve the efficiency and effectiveness of reporting by providing real time data for the health system.

In Numbers...



25,000 critical health workers and 6,606 village health workers received retention allowances and monthly allowances, respectively.

Eight affordable and sustainable boarding facilities serving 280 vulnerable girls were constructed to prevent adolescent pregnancies, early marriages, and new HIV infections.

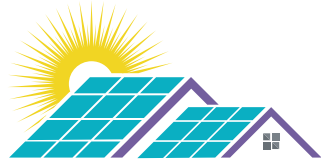


178 pharmacy stores were completed and made functional to increase storage space and improve storage conditions for essential medicines and health products, **while 128 are at different stages of construction, bringing the total to 306.**

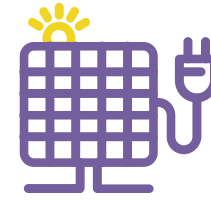


Five hospital rooms were refurbished for the installation of digital X-ray machines.

In Numbers...



1,044 solar systems were installed, resulting in continuous laboratory testing of infections, improved storage conditions at central and peripheral warehouses, and real-time monthly reporting to national systems.



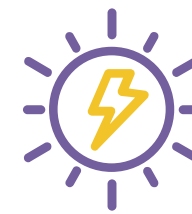
447 solar-powered borehole installations are in progress, with **170 already installed**, certified, and functional, providing safe water to health facilities.

Support was provided for the digitalization of health information management systems, including the Electronic Health Record (EHR), Electronic Logistics Management Information System (eLMIS), District Health Information System 2 (DHIS2), and Public Financial Management System (PFMS).



Integrated Sample Transportation was implemented in 23 Global Fund-supported districts, which improved viral load turnaround time from sample collection to results transmission and enabled the MoHCC to complete its national rollout.

140 kW solar installations at the Medicines Control Authority of Zimbabwe were completed and made functional, increasing quality control testing of health commodities to provide safe products for public consumption. This support is also provided to other countries in the southern African region, generating income as part of a sustainability plan.



200 kW of solar energy generation capacity was installed at the Masvingo National Pharmaceutical Warehouse to provide a reliable and environmentally friendly source of electricity to support the storage and distribution of medical supplies. This reduces the facility's dependence on the national power grid, leading to cost savings and improved operational efficiency.



In 2022, UNDP supported the MoHCC in the procurement of quality-assured medicines, laboratory reagents, and consumables worth over USD 173 million, which is 38% of the total GC6 budget. UNDP is contributing more than 75% of the national need, in addition to the contributions from the government and PEPFAR.

Sub-recipients



SDGs Addressed

