

Core Program and Policy Priorities

DECEMBER 2021



Mother and child
Photo: USAID

PEPFAR continually innovates to drive progress toward achieving sustained epidemic control of HIV in over 50 countries and strengthening global health security

Under the Biden-Harris Administration, the United States is deeply committed to help end the HIV epidemic at home and around the world with a focus on ensuring equitable health services and solutions, enduring national health systems, and lasting collaborations. The U.S. President's Emergency Plan for AIDS Relief (PEPFAR) is investing and innovating to support achievement of sustained epidemic control of HIV in more than 50 countries and to strengthen global health security, including greater pandemic preparedness and response.

PEPFAR will continue to partner with countries and communities to advance progress toward these goals through an emphasis on the following core program and policy priorities.

-  Defining, driving, and monitoring country progress toward achieving sustained epidemic control of HIV and reaching 95-95-95 HIV treatment targets.
-  Optimizing data-driven HIV testing strategies as well as care and treatment for people living with HIV to help them achieve durable viral suppression, reduce AIDS-related mortality, and improve their survival.
-  Accelerating impact of HIV primary prevention, including through PrEP, DREAMS, VMMC, sexual violence prevention and response for children, and other programs.
-  Helping eliminate vertical transmission of HIV and end pediatric AIDS through an equity approach with clear budgetary allocations, dedicated human resources for health, community led monitoring that addresses child and family-centered care, and intensive monitoring and evaluation.
-  Deepening efforts to support key populations (KP), including through increased focus on improving an enabling environment for HIV service delivery; acceleration of key populations-centered, differentiated HIV services; strengthened competency of key populations services and responses; supporting the leadership and capacity of KP-led CSOs; and better data to guide responses to KP epidemics.
-  Advancing gender equity and equality, including by integrating gender-transformative approaches into HIV prevention, clinical, and health systems programs.
-  Expanding guidance on providing psychosocial support across PEPFAR programs.
-  Promoting and protecting sexual and reproductive health and rights, including through ongoing rescission of the Mexico City Policy.
-  Strengthening cooperation and collaboration across the U.S. government and with a diversity of community stakeholders.
-  Supporting the capacity of partner country public health leadership, institutions, and health care workforce to manage and sustain epidemic control of HIV and address other related health issues at all levels.
-  Improving appropriate linkages to and integration of HIV services with other related programs.
-  Protecting and expanding HIV outcomes while strengthening global health security, including leveraging PEPFAR-supported health systems as a backbone of COVID-19 response.

PEPFAR will pursue these efforts in alignment with the U.S. government's broader commitment to support diversity, equity, inclusion, and accessibility in the federal workforce; to advance racial equity for underserved communities; to advance the human rights of LGBTQI+ persons; and to prevent and combat discrimination on the basis of gender identity or sexual orientation.

PEPFAR will work to ensure that the above program and policy priorities as well as principles are upheld, promoted, and advanced in all our work, including as outlined in the draft PEPFAR Country Operational Plan 2022 Guidance.