

# JAPAN AND UNAIDS

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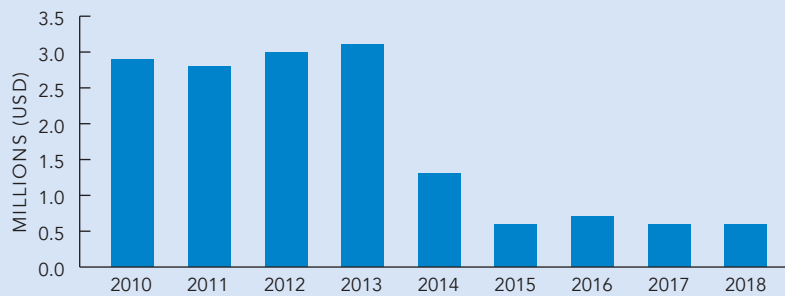
A common goal of ending AIDS

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## A common goal of ending AIDS

A valued partner of UNAIDS, Japan remains firmly committed to ending AIDS through its global partnerships. Japan promotes access to health care from a life-cycle approach—particularly for mothers, children and the elderly—with a focus on universal health coverage (UHC) and innovation. At high-level political engagements, such as the G7, Japan ensures that health is on the global agenda.

Annual core funding to UNAIDS from Japan



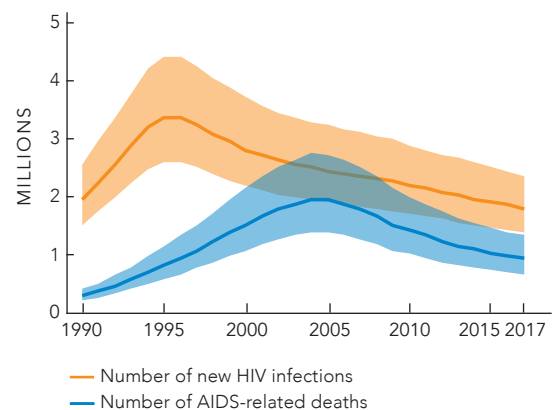
Japan contributed US\$ 600 000 in core funding to UNAIDS in 2018. These funds are used to support work by UNAIDS to overcome barriers to HIV service access and to support countries in achieving time-bound, measurable targets on HIV. UNAIDS greatly values Japan's partnership on shared priorities and its continued commitment to ending AIDS as a public health threat by 2030.

Collaborative global efforts have ensured that among the 36.9 million people living with HIV worldwide, 21.7 million now have access to antiretroviral therapy. Furthermore, deaths from AIDS-related illness have been reduced by more than 51% since the peak in 2004, and new HIV infections have been reduced by 47% since the peak in 1996. Together, Japan and UNAIDS have made an important contribution to this unprecedented response to the largest public health threat in modern history.

There is still much work to do, and Japan's support will become even more important to ending AIDS and building sustainable health systems globally. In 2017, 15.2 million people did not have access to treatment, and 9.4 million did not even know they had the virus. Every week, approximately

7000 young women aged 15–24 years become infected with HIV. AIDS is not over—but it can be.

New HIV infections and AIDS-related deaths globally, 1990–2017



Source: UNAIDS 2018 estimates.

## SHARED PRIORITIES: UNIVERSAL HEALTH COVERAGE

Japan is a key advocate for UHC and the right to health. It has convened global discussions and provided technical expertise in areas such as information systems, monitoring and evaluation, and health financing. Similarly, UNAIDS promotes people-centred, rights-based and gender-transformative approaches in the implementation of UHC to ensure improved health outcomes and the elimination of health disparities in order to leave no one behind.

As early as 2005, UNAIDS led efforts to promote universal access to HIV services as a human right. It continues to provide that leadership by ensuring the universal health care framework is focused on vulnerable communities, rights and equity, and that it represents a true improvement in the health and well-being of individuals, families and communities. For example, in line with the wider drive for universal health coverage, the UNAIDS **Fast-Track Strategy** emphasizes effective, community-engaged and local context-sensitive services, a focus on populations and locations in need, and the importance of social protection programmes.

## SHARED PRIORITIES: INNOVATION

Sharing Japan's focus on innovation, UNAIDS places innovation at the heart of our work. To achieve the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs), new technologies, service delivery models and financing solutions are required and need to be implemented at scale. Where new technologies are already changing the health landscape, often at a great pace, it is critical that governments harness that innovation to benefit the most vulnerable and marginalized populations.

Together with partners, UNAIDS has launched the **Health Innovation Exchange**, a platform that helps countries identify bottlenecks in their health responses, while exploring technologies and innovative models that can help address and overcome them. It also links up with investors to scale up efforts and develop sustainable solutions. In addition to the country-level Health Innovation Exchanges, the platform includes a dynamic website, an innovation discovery centre and innovation connector events.



An HIV-positive woman with her HIV-negative son on a beach in Thailand. Photo: UNAIDS/Watsamon Tri-yasakda.

## JOINT PROJECTS: HIV AND HEALTH SITUATION ROOM

Better data allow better decisions. With earmarked support from Japan, UNAIDS launched the **HIV Situation Room** in Kenya in September 2015. This innovative tool shows real-time service delivery data, producing a comprehensive picture of national HIV epidemics and enabling quick feedback on results at the national and community levels. This makes it possible to identify bottlenecks to health-care service delivery and access.

The concept has been revised and expanded to become the HIV and Health Situation Room—moving beyond HIV to integrate broader health issues, including tuberculosis, malaria and sexual, reproductive, maternal, newborn, child and adolescent health. The goal of the Situation Room is to track progress on SDG 3—“Ensure healthy lives and promote well-being for all at all ages”—and to identify the urgent needs of localities and communities to best guide decision-making.

The HIV and Health Situation Room initiative has been implemented in nine countries. The Africa Centres for Disease Control and Prevention (Africa CDC) is working with UNAIDS to adapt the system to monitor all emerging and re-emerging infectious disease threats across Africa. The Situation Room approach is supportive of the Tokyo International Conference on African Development (TICAD) 2016 Nairobi Declaration, which emphasizes the strengthening of African health systems, and preventing and preparing against pandemics.

## UNAIDS: AT THE FOREFRONT OF ENDING AIDS

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As the world takes stock of progress towards the UNAIDS **Fast-Track Targets**, as agreed by United Nations Member States in the **2016 Political Declaration on Ending AIDS**, UNAIDS is providing the strategic direction, coordination and technical support needed to meet the time-bound targets and ensure that no one is left behind.

By connecting governments with **civil society** and the private sector and making sure that people living with HIV are at the centre of decision-making processes, UNAIDS is helping to ensure that everyone in need has access to life-saving HIV prevention, treatment and care services. As part of this work, UNAIDS' collaboration with UNFPA to establish the **Global HIV Prevention Coalition** is uniting partners to reduce new HIV infections by 75% by 2020.

Through the **90–90–90** treatment targets, UNAIDS is pushing progress so that 90% of people living with HIV know their HIV status, 90% of people who know their HIV-positive status are accessing treatment and 90% of people on treatment have suppressed viral loads, keeping them healthy and preventing transmission of the virus. UNAIDS is also helping to bring the world one step closer to achieving an AIDS-free generation by keeping the world focused on eliminating new HIV infections among children and keeping their mothers alive through a Super-Fast-Track approach.

UNAIDS is working to end gender inequalities and all forms of violence and discrimination against **women and girls** by providing platforms for their participation and working with partners and governments. Furthermore, its efforts to champion and protect the rights of women, adolescents and **key populations** are ensuring that women in all their diversity, gay men and other men who have sex with men, sex workers, transgender people, people who inject drugs, prisoners and other incarcerated people, and migrants can access the HIV services they need.

UNAIDS is also ensuring that progress towards **universal health coverage** is truly universal by

advocating for progress on equity, inclusion and social justice. Its people-centred, human rights-based approach promotes community-led service delivery and advocates for the need to address the social determinants of health, including pursuing necessary law and policy reforms and removing stigma and discrimination.

Having generated the world's most extensive **data collection** on HIV epidemiology and programme coverage, UNAIDS is the most authoritative and up-to-date source of information on the HIV epidemic—which is vital to informing and guiding an effective response to HIV. UNAIDS works with countries to determine their AIDS investment needs and advocates for increased resources from both domestic and international sources, thus ensuring funds are available and impact is maximized.

The **2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development** takes to scale what the AIDS response has been working towards for 30 years: a multisectoral, rights-based and people-centred approach that addresses the determinants of health and well-being. UNAIDS makes the link between the many intersections between the AIDS epidemic and other health, human rights and broader development issues to advance progress towards achieving the Sustainable Development Goals.

The only Joint Programme in the United Nations system, UNAIDS unites the experience and expertise of 11 United Nations **Cosponsors**: UNHCR, UNICEF, WFP, UNDP, UNFPA, UNODC, UN Women, ILO, UNESCO, WHO and the World Bank. UNAIDS draws on this experience to engage actively in the United Nations reform agenda, sharing both successes and lessons learned.

UNAIDS has a vision of zero new HIV infections, zero discrimination and zero AIDS-related deaths, and a principle of leaving no one behind. With support from our donors, UNAIDS is working to make this vision a reality.



20 Avenue Appia  
1211 Geneva 27  
Switzerland

+41 22 791 3666  
unaids.org

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