

SURINAME

Report prepared by the Joint UN Team on AIDS

PROGRESS TOWARDS THE FAST-TRACK TARGETS

COUNTRY PRIORITIES/ TARGETS BY END OF 2021	STATUS	RESULTS, END OF 2020
Reach the 90-90-90 targets.	SLOW PROGRESS	In 2020, an estimated 50% of people living with HIV knew their HIV status in Suriname, of whom 71% were on treatment, and 89% of those on treatment were virally suppressed (GAM, 2021).
Reduce new HIV infections.	ON TRACK	Suriname achieved a 30% reduction in new HIV infections between 2010 and 2019. HIV prevalence among the general population remained stable at 1.3% in 2019, however significantly higher prevalence was recorded among key populations, including 10.3% in female sex workers and 16.6% among men who have sex with men (IBBS 2019).

JOINT TEAM

WHO-PAHO, UNAIDS SECRETARIAT

JOINT PROGRAMME CONTRIBUTIONS AND RESULTS IN 2020

The Joint Team provided technical assistance to develop the HIV/AIDS National Strategic Plan for 2021-2027 to improve access to HIV prevention, treatment, and care services in Suriname. Efforts have also been made to prioritize expansion of equitable and rights-based services to address the higher HIV prevalence rate among vulnerable and key populations, particularly among female sex workers and men who have sex with men. Global Fund grant proposals were finalized mobilizing over US\$ 2.3 million and US\$ 1.7 million for the national HIV and COVID-19 responses respectively.

STRENGTHENING THE NATIONAL HIV RESPONSE

UPSTREAM ADVOCACY; POLICY ADVICE; TECHNICAL SUPPORT; FOSTERING PARTNERSHIPS; COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT

The Joint Team provided technical and financial support to complete the National Strategic Plan for HIV/AIDS (NSP 2021-2027) and the National Sustainability Action Plan to advance the HIV response in Suriname. The NSP is strongly anchored on priorities aimed at accelerating HIV prevention programmes and reducing AIDS-related mortality and morbidity, through providing treatment, care and adherence support for all people living with HIV; improving resource acquisition and allocation for the HIV response; scaling up programme implementation and monitoring to ensure equity, human rights, and sustainability; and strengthening strategic information to guide programmes to achieve national and global targets.

The Joint Team also provided technical assistance to establish a social contracting agreement between the Government and local nongovernmental organizations and community-based organizations that have the capacity to provide HIV services.

As a result of support to the Country Coordinating Mechanism (CCM), the Global Fund 2021–2024 grant proposal was developed generating US\$ 2 355 648 for expansion of combination HIV prevention, care, treatment, and support programmes.

CONTRIBUTION TO THE COVID-19 RESPONSE

A survey was conducted to identify the impact of the pandemic on people living with HIV and key populations, and a proposal for the Global Fund COVID-19 Response Mechanism was developed mobilizing US\$ 1.7 million to mitigate the impact of the pandemic on the national health system, including HIV prevention, care, and treatment services.

The Government was supported to address shortages of antiretroviral (ARV) drugs due to pandemic-related disruptions in the global health product supply chains. This included procurement of supplies using the PAHO/WHO mechanisms, and facilitating loans for ARVs from Jamaica and Haiti.

CONTRIBUTION TO THE INTEGRATED SDG AGENDA

The HIV/TB Sustainability Action Plan 2021-2025 has been adopted to support implementation of the National AIDS Strategic Plan 2021-2027 and achievement of the 90-90-90 targets in Suriname.

Moreover, the United Nations Country Team (UNCT) in Suriname is Delivering as One through a joint framework called the UN Multi-Country Sustainable Development Framework 2017-2021 in the Caribbean. A Country Implementation Plan was developed to operationalize this regional plan into concrete actions for Suriname.

PERSISTING AND EMERGING CHALLENGES AND BOTTLENECKS	KEY FUTURE ACTIONS TO RESPOND TO CHALLENGES AND UNBLOCK BOTTLENECKS
<p>Weak planning system and inadequate procurement and supply management of ARVs and HIV-related commodities remain a challenge in the national response.</p>	<p>Provide technical support to assess the procurement system and training for staff from the Ministry of Health on procurement procedures.</p>
<p>Low capacity of civil society organizations and community services to scale up community-led programme implementation and monitoring in Suriname.</p>	<p>Provide technical support to strengthen the capacity of civil society organizations for implementation of the social contracting mechanism.</p> <p>Continue to build the capacity of peer educators, peer counsellors, and peer navigators to expand community/peer-led HIV prevention, care, treatment, and support programmes in the country.</p>
<p>There are concerns around decreased public expenditure for health, including budget for the Ministry of Health.</p>	<p>Amplify advocacy and coordination with the Ministry of Health, the Ministry of Finance, and the Office of the President to increase domestic resources of the HIV response based on the newly developed National Sustainability Action Plan.</p>

Report available on the
UNAIDS Results and Transparency Portal

open.unaids.org