

TAJIKISTAN 2022

Summary of the Joint Programme's support to the national HIV response in 2022



In 2022, the national HIV response was galvanized with the adoption of a new antidiscrimination law, the integration of HIV services in primary healthcare, and the expansion of HIV prevention services for vulnerable and key populations. For instance, quality of HIV services improved thanks to the revised national HIV treatment guideline in line with WHO recommendations; more than 95% of people living with HIV under treatment switched to a Tenofovir, Lamivudine and Dolutegravir (TLD) regimen due to the implementation of an antiretroviral treatment optimization plan (UNDP, WHO). Prevention of mother-to-child transmission of HIV (PMTCT) services were integrated in primary healthcare services, with new quality monitoring and evaluation guidelines; and 40 primary healthcare doctors were trained on PMTCT service delivery and HIV-related stigma and discrimination in healthcare facilities (UNICEF). More than 60 primary healthcare facility and hospital managers and 110 specialists from HIV service centres and reproductive health facilities are better equipped to provide HIV services for pregnant women. Through mobile sessions in remote areas, an estimated 1100 pregnant women and women of reproductive age benefited from information on HIV prevention during pregnancy, childbirth, and breastfeeding (UNFPA).

Pre-exposure prophylaxis (PrEP) was introduced; 15 opioid agonist therapy sites are operated by end of 2022, including a newly opened

site in a pre-trial facility (UNODC); and 46 302 people who inject drugs, sex workers, men who have sex with men, and prisoners were reached with HIV combination prevention services, of whom 36 435 people were tested for HIV (UNDP). Thanks to collaboration with national partners, community-based responses are stronger and better able to scale up HIV services among key populations and people living with HIV, including through the adoption of social contracting in Tajikistan (UNDP, UN Women, UNAIDS Secretariat).

Following intensive advocacy and support from the Joint Team and other partners, Tajikistan passed the Law on Equality and the Prevention of Discrimination to eliminate all forms of discrimination, including against people living with HIV (UNDP, UN Women, UNAIDS Secretariat). Legal services were also provided for 19 litigation cases related to HIV criminalization; and 1245 human rights violation cases, such as work dismissals due to HIV status and disclosure, and illegal detention. Over 240 peer-led information sessions were conducted and 87 adolescents living with HIV from Dushanbe and Kulob were empowered to assert their rights and realize their full potential in society (UNICEF).

Introduction of avidity testing into the national surveillance system improved data availability and quality, for strengthened evidence-based programming (UNAIDS Secretariat).

KEY RESULTS

- Adoption of the Law on Equality and the Prevention of Discrimination, including HIV-related discrimination.
- Avidity testing introduced into national surveillance system for improved evidence-based programming.
- Greatly improved HIV treatment outcomes and quality of life, with more than 95% of patients switched to TLD.
- Expanded PMTCT services thanks to integration in primary healthcare services, capacity building of health professionals and quality monitoring.
- First opioid agonist therapy site opened in a pre-trial facility.
- Over 46 000 people from key populations accessed HIV combination prevention services; and PrEP was introduced.

Joint UN
Team on
AIDS

UNHCR
UNICEF
WFP
UNDP
UNFPA
UNODC

UN Women
ILO
UNESCO
WHO
World Bank
UNAIDS Secretariat
IOM

Contributing to [United Nations Sustainable Development Cooperation Framework in Tajikistan \(2023-2026\)](#)



2022 Joint Programme
Expenditure
Total US\$ 1 026 949

2022 expenditure data
available at the time of
the update (August 2023)

