

STRATEGIC FOCUS

For 15 years, since 2002, CDC has been committed to supporting the Rwandan Ministry of Health (MOH) strengthen its capacity to prevent, detect and respond to public health threats through health workforce capacity building in the areas of; prevention of mother-to-child HIV transmission (PMTCT); HIV testing and counseling; antiretroviral therapy (ART); TB/HIV integration; laboratory and blood safety; health informatics; surveillance; and monitoring and evaluation.

Strengthening Clinical Services: CDC provides support and technical assistance to build expertise for MOH's facility-based clinical services to provide comprehensive, integrated HIV clinical care and treatment services. CDC also supports the scale-up of "one-stop" TB/HIV integrated services, offered at all 200 current MOH Testing and Treatment Centers.

Strengthening Laboratory Systems: CDC helps develop in-country expertise for laboratory accreditation, strengthening lab infrastructure, and improving capacity to deliver of high quality clinical laboratory services, including support for the Strengthening Laboratory Management towards Accreditation (SLMTA) which has led to improved laboratory standards and strengthened technical expertise in blood safety and transfusion.

Strengthening HIV Prevention Activities: CDC provides MOH with technical assistance in HIV Testing and Counselling, HIV prevention among Key and Priority Populations and Voluntary Male Medical Circumcision (VMMC).

Strengthening Health Information Systems and Surveillance: CDC supports the innovative use of electronic health information systems to support the prevention, detection, care and treatment as well as reporting of HIV. Using data from multiple electronic systems, a case-based surveillance system is being developed to promote more accurate understanding of HIV transmission and to improve individual health outcomes.

Strengthening Science and Impact: CDC supports HIV surveillance surveys, program evaluations and impact assessments. The Science Team's strategic focus is to strengthen the capacity of implementing partners to measure progress toward epidemic control, to assess impact, to use data for program improvement, and to maintain scientific integrity.

KEY ACTIVITIES AND ACCOMPLISHMENTS

Clinical Services: CDC has helped strengthen the scope, quality, and sustainability of ART services in Rwanda. In 2016 Rwanda effected a national roll out of the DSDM approach for HIV care and treatment. DSDM streamlines pharmaceutical pickup and clinical visits for those who are stable.

TB/HIV Treatment: 90% TB treatment success rate in 2016. All health facilities that offer TB services provide directly observed TB treatment (DOTS).

PMTCT: 98% of health care facilities were providing PMTCT services in 2016. 98% of pregnant women attending antenatal care accepted an HIV test. 2016 Program data shows the mother to child HIV transmission rate at 18 months is 1.76%, one of the lowest in Africa.

Laboratory Systems: Rwanda's National Center for Blood Transfusion (NCBT) was awarded the highest, level 3, international standards accreditation and is now recognized as a regional center of excellence in blood banking able to offer technical expertise to centers in the region.

Key Populations Survey: Implementation of two Behavioral Surveillance Surveys among female sex workers (FSWs) and men who have sex with men (MSM) indicated a HIV prevalence among FSWS is 45.8% and MSM is 4%.

Key Country Leadership

President:
Paul Kagame

Minister of Health:
Diane Gashumba

U.S. Ambassador:
Erika J. Barks-Ruggles

PEPFAR Coordinator:
Tracy Burns

CDC/DGHT Director:
Gene MacDonald

Country Quick Facts

Per Capita GNI:
\$700 (2015)

Population:
11.61 million (2015)

Under 5 Mortality:
42 / 1,000 live births (2015)

Life Expectancy:
64 years (2014)

Global HIV/AIDS Epidemic

Estimated HIV Prevalence (Ages 15-49): 2.9% (2015)

Estimated AIDS Deaths (Age ≥15): 2,500 (2015)

Estimated Orphans Due to AIDS: 70,000 (2015)

Reported Number Receiving Antiretroviral Therapy (ART) (Age ≥15): 158,728 (2015)

Global Tuberculosis (TB) Epidemic

TB Treatment Success Rate: 86% (2015)

Estimated TB Incidence: 56 / 100,000 (2015)

Estimated Who are HIV Positive: 27% (2015)

Country Staff: 49

Locally Employed Staff: 8
Direct Hires: 37
Fellows & Contactors: 4

