

## STRATEGIC FOCUS

The Government of Cambodia is a global leader in the fight against HIV. It has cut adult infection rates in the general population by more than half in the past 15 years, and as of December 2016 has been providing HIV treatment to over 95% of diagnosed people living with AIDS. The goal of the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention's (CDC) U.S. President's Emergency Plan for AIDS Relief (PEPFAR) work is to assist Cambodia to achieve sustained elimination of new HIV infections by 2025 collaborating in these four areas:

- 1) **Finding undiagnosed HIV cases:** applying cutting-edge risk elicitation techniques to find new HIV-positives more effectively and implementing provider initiated testing, contact tracing, and partner notification
- 2) **Assuring quality across the HIV cascade:** introducing innovative treatment support strategies such as multi-month scripting, same-day antiretroviral treatment (ART) initiation, and other service efficiencies, and laboratory strengthening
- 3) **Strengthening surveillance and routine monitoring systems:** improving how systems find, describe, and follow HIV-positive patients through the treatment cascade
- 4) **Boosted integrated active case management (B-IACM):** supporting Cambodia's active case management program that follows individuals through the HIV cascade from the first reactive test to receiving treatment.

## KEY ACTIVITIES AND ACCOMPLISHMENTS

- **Identifying HIV Risks through a Case Control Study:** In 2018, CDC is supporting the Cambodian Ministry of Health's National Center for HIV, Dermatology and STIs (NCHADS) and the National Institute of Public Health (NIPH) to conduct a HIV case control study. Through use of the new HIV recency test and risk elicitation techniques, the findings of this study will help the HIV program define the current and historical risk profiles of people living with HIV. This will allow intervention decision-making to better target high-risk groups.
- **Improving the Quality of HIV Testing:** In 2017 and 2018, CDC supported NCHADS in scaling-up external quality assurance (EQA) for point-of-care rapid HIV diagnostic testing to an additional 12 health centers in two provinces. This follows a successful pilot of the program at 28 health centers in 2015 and 2016. CDC also worked with NCHADS to develop a national Standard Operating Procedure (SOP) on Quality Assurance for HIV Testing and Counseling and led on-the-job training for front-line staff on using the SOP.
- **Using Innovative HIV Treatment Methods and Improving Quality of Treatment:** To improve the quality of ART therapy in Cambodia, CDC will partner with NCHADS to pilot same-day ART initiation and multi-month ART spacing for stable patients. Results from both of these pilots will be used to create national guidelines. Since 2014, CDC has partnered with NCHADS to implement an intensive Continuous Quality Improvement (CQI) program in four provinces. This involves quarterly meetings of staff at the national, provincial, and site-levels for an interactive review of data to improve quality of treatment.
- **Increasing Viral Load Suppression Rates:** In 2017, CDC added an HIV viral load testing platform in Siem Reap province, in addition to the existing platform in Phnom Penh. CDC is working with NCHADS to reduce the time from sample collection to clinicians and patients receiving viral load test results. CDC is also assisting NCHADS in implementing a nationwide intervention to improve patient adherence to HIV treatment.
- **Improving Programs through Automated Dashboards:** CDC has worked with the Data Management Unit of NCHADS to develop district, provincial, and national level HIV/AIDS program dashboards. The dashboards allow program managers to identify major issues quickly and take appropriate corrective actions. This will strengthen programmatic decision-making and national HIV program performance.

## Key Country Leadership

Prime Minister:  
Hun Sen

Minister of Health:  
Mam Bun Heng

U.S. Ambassador:  
William A. Heidt

PEPFAR Co-coordinators:  
Meg LaFontaine (acting)  
Robert Stanley (acting)

CDC Country Director and  
DGHT Program Director:  
Rachel Albalak

## Country Quick Facts

Per Capita GNI:  
\$1,140 (2016)

Population:  
15.76 Million (2016)

Under 5 Mortality:  
31/1,000 live births (2016)

Life Expectancy:  
69 years (2016)

## Country HIV/AIDS Epidemic

Estimated HIV Prevalence  
(Ages 15-49): 0.6% (2016)

Estimated AIDS Deaths  
(Age ≥15): 1,800 (2016)

Estimated Orphans Due to  
AIDS: 44,000 (2016)

Reported Number  
Receiving Antiretroviral  
Therapy (ART) (Age ≥15):  
53,100 (2016)

## Country Tuberculosis (TB) Epidemic

Estimated TB Incidence:  
345/100,000 (2016)

TB patients with known  
HIV-status who are HIV-  
positive: 3% (2016)

TB Treatment Success  
Rate: 94% (2015)

## Country Staff (DGHT only): 24

Locally Employed Staff: 19

Direct Hires: 4

Fellow: 1

