

# GHANA

## STRATEGIC FOCUS

The partnership between the U.S. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) and the Government of Ghana (GoG) began in 2008 with the goal of strengthening HIV prevention and control. Over the past 10 years, CDC's focus has transitioned from an emergency response approach to one of sustainability and shared responsibility. The CDC Ghana program has moved from focusing mainly on prevention of HIV in key populations (KP) to a significant role in supporting Ghana's laboratory and strategic information capacity.

CDC is the lead for laboratory efforts within the U.S. President's Emergency Plan for AIDS Relief (PEPFAR) and improves the skills of laboratorians and efficiency of laboratory services. CDC, together with the GoG, assesses the laboratorian skills in real-world settings and addresses any shortfalls that are recognized. CDC Ghana is also the hub of PEPFAR's West Africa Region and supports laboratory and strategic information capacity in Mali, Senegal, Sierra Leone, Liberia, Burkina Faso, and Togo.

CDC leads PEPFAR Ghana's strategic information activities, including efforts to improve estimates of people living with HIV (PLHIV) and the capability to capture and analyze data across the HIV Cascade from testing, initiation of treatment, and suppression of viral load to using data to drive decision-making. CDC assists in developing and conducting research studies on Key Populations (female sex workers [FSW] and men who have sex with men [MSM]). Together these efforts provide PEPFAR Ghana with the tools and data needed for strategic planning to best address and achieve goals.

## KEY ACTIVITIES AND ACCOMPLISHMENTS

- CDC led the implementation of an innovative national system for transporting blood and specimen samples to centralized laboratories for processing. In addition to supporting HIV, this sample transport system will support all diseases relying on laboratory analyses.
- CDC Ghana works closely with the GoG, Ministry of Health (MOH), Ghana Health Service (GHS), and the National AIDS/Sexually Transmitted Infection Control Program (NACP) to successfully develop and implement the e-Tracker HIV Module. The e-Tracker enhances the GoG's capacity to monitor the HIV cascade by providing a common platform for tracking and providing case management services for People Living with HIV (PLHIV).
- CDC Ghana supports the Ghana AIDS Commission (GAC) to develop and launch the Ghana Key Population Unique Identifier System. This unique identifier will help enhance HIV service delivery by allowing the MOH to provide targeted services.
- CDC Ghana supports the GAC to develop annual, sub-national estimates for PLHIV.
- CDC Ghana supported the GAC to conduct an Integrated Biological and Behavioral Surveillance Survey (IBBS) of MSM in Ghana in 2017.
- CDC Ghana provides technical assistance for an ongoing IBBS of FSW, funded by the Global Fund to Fight AIDS, Tuberculosis, and Malaria.
- CDC Ghana provides direct technical assistance and financial support to the GoG to develop policies that strengthen laboratory systems and services, improve the national HIV testing algorithm, and implement differentiated service delivery.
- CDC Ghana's laboratory support activities have helped to increase HIV rapid test proficiency from 27% to 91% [*GHS/NACP Dried Tube Specimen Proficiency Testing Round 5 Report, Feb 2018*].

## Key Country Leadership

President:  
Nana Addo Dankwa Akufo-Addo

Minister of Health:  
Kwaku Agyeman-Manu

U.S. Ambassador:  
Stephanie S. Sullivan

CDC/DGHT Director:  
Michael Melchior

[Country Quick Facts](http://worldbank.org/en/where-we-work)  
([worldbank.org/en/where-we-work](http://worldbank.org/en/where-we-work))

Per Capita GNI:  
\$2,130 (2018)

Population (million):  
29.77 (2018)

Under 5 Mortality:  
49/1,000 live births (2017)

Life Expectancy:  
63 years (2016)

[Global HIV/AIDS Epidemic](http://aidsinfo.unaids.org)  
([aidsinfo.unaids.org](http://aidsinfo.unaids.org))

Estimated HIV Prevalence  
(Ages 15-49): 1.7% (2018)

Estimated AIDS Deaths  
(Age ≥15): 14,000 (2018)

Estimated Orphans Due to  
AIDS: 230,000 (2018)

Reported Number  
Receiving Antiretroviral  
Therapy (ART) (Age ≥15):  
107,293 (2018)

[Global Tuberculosis  
\(TB\) Epidemic](http://who.int/tb/country/data/profiles/en)  
([who.int/tb/country/data/profiles/en](http://who.int/tb/country/data/profiles/en))

Estimated TB Incidence:  
152/100,000 population  
(2017)

TB patients with known HIV  
status who are HIV positive:  
21% (2017)

TB Treatment Success Rate:  
85% (2016)

TB Mortality:  
36/100,000 population  
(2017)

**DGHT Country Staff: 7**  
Locally Employed Staff: 6  
Direct Hires: 1  
Fellows & Contactors: 0

**Our success is built on the backbone of science and strong partnerships.**

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