## THE CENTRAL AFRICAN REPUBLIC 2022

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

**WUNAIDS** 

In the Central African Republic, access to and quality of services, including HIV, gender-based violence and nutrition services and information for key and vulnerable populations improved with significant contributions from the Joint Team and development partners. In October 2022, the Government adopted a new HIV law, which removes barriers to HIV services among adolescents and young people, strengthens rights protections for people living with HIV and recognizes the importance of scaling up services for key populations (UNAIDS Secretariat, UNDP).

The national HIV response was strengthened with the development of new strategies and guidelines, including HIV testing and treatment protocols and national strategies on the elimination of gender-based violence, prevention of mother-to-child transmission of HIV (PMTCT), comprehensive sexuality education (UNFPA) and viral hepatitis (WHO).

Strengthened logistics and stock management ensured the procurement of 395 cubic meters of HIV medicines and commodities to further support the national HIV response (WFP). Laboratory data was digitalized, and healthcare workers were trained on HIV service delivery, particularly PMTCT and paediatric diagnostics using GenExpert machines (UNICEF).

Nearly 60 community representatives, including leaders of women's organizations, female sex workers, pygmy populations, and media

professionals, received training as well as financial and technical support to strengthen their capacities to scale up HIV services among vulnerable and hard to reach populations. In addition, 40 community observers were trained to strengthen the community-led monitoring system (UNAIDS Secretariat).

More than 60 000 young people, 9000 members of the internal security force, 15 000 female sex workers and their clients, 11 500 displaced persons, and 18 000 community members were sensitized on prevention of HIV and gender-based violence, human rights, and access to services via comprehensive sexuality education, workshops, peer and community sessions, One Stop Centres, mobile caravans, and mobile applications. In addition, a situational analysis of female sex workers and access to condoms generated strategic information on the HIV epidemic and response, and more than 2.6 million condoms were distributed across the country (UNFPA).

HIV-related data and strategic evidence were collected through a nationwide study on the nutritional and food vulnerability of people living with HIV and their households. Close to 80 000 people from vulnerable groups, including adolescent and young people, pregnant women, and displaced and marginalized people, accessed tailored HIV screening, nutrition, and treatment referral services while 10 000 people living with HIV received nutrition support with a rehabilitation rate of 94% (WFP).

## **KEY RESULTS**

- Adoption of a new HIV law underpinning the rights of people living with HIV; and development of national strategies on the elimination of gender-based violence, PMTCT, comprehensive sexuality education and viral hepatitis.
- Evidence generation and capacity building strengthened community-based response to scale up HIV services among vulnerable and key populations.
- More than 113 000 people were sensitized on prevention of HIV and gender-based violence, human rights, and access to services, and over 2.6 million condoms were distributed.
- National study collected data on food insecurity among people living with HIV, and 10 000 people living with HIV received nutrition support.

Joint UN Team on AIDS UNHCR UN Women
UNICEF ILO
WFP UNESCO
UNDP WHO
UNFPA UNAIDS Secretariat
UNODC FAO

Contributing to <u>United Nations Sustainable Development</u>
<u>Cooperation Framework in the Central African Republic</u>
(2023-2027)















Total US\$ 4 152 363

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

