## **GABON 2022**

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

Gabon continued to scale up HIV and sexual and reproductive health (SRH) education and services to reduce new HIV infections among adolescent and young people. For instance, the country launched the *Hello Ado* mobile application to better reach young people with SRH information (UNESCO). Additionally, 40 representatives of youth organizations were sensitized on HIV, SRH and gender-based violence services among adolescent and young people while 267 adolescents and young people benefited from viral load tests (UNFPA).

In Estuaire, Haut Ogooué and Moyen Ogooué provinces, trained 528 teachers and 77 school counsellors, social workers and health staff conducted comprehensive sexuality education for 40 888 students thanks to the technical support from the Joint Team (UNFPA). An additional 384 teachers and support staff from high schools and training centres also received trainings on sexual and reproductive health and rights, while 224 learners or young leaders received training to run health clubs (UNESCO). In addition, 19 733 students were sensitized on SRH and gender-based violence and 60 young people received guidance to better communicate on the Education Plus initiative (UNFPA).

Access to prevention of mother-to-child transmission of HIV (PMTCT), early infant diagnosis and viral load monitoring services improved, with PMTCT services coverage increasing from 72% in 2018 to 90% in 2022 (PNLIST annual report). The Joint Team

continued to contribute to these advances with the training of more than 410 healthcare providers on PMTCT or point of care service delivery as well as installation of GeneXpert machines in 9 out of the 11 point-of-care sites in Gabon and training of laboratory technicians on these technologies (UNICEF, WHO, UNAIDS Secretariat). Furthermore, the Ntoum medical centre and the Nzeng Ayong health centre in Libreville are also better equipped to provide safe child delivery and maternal health services, thanks to capacity building support by the Joint Team (UNFPA).

To improve the health outcome of people living with HIV, 90 healthcare providers and public health managers received trainings and follow up supervision to build their capacity in managing drug resistant/susceptible tuberculosis; this entails increased knowledge of the new World Health Organization's guidelines, and procurement of patient management tools. The Government, with the Joint Team's support, established eight new HIV care sites in six health departments in Nyanga province, increasing the number of sites in the province from 35 in 2021 to 43 in 2022. Additionally, 2500 HIV viral load testing kits were donated to the National Program for the Control of Sexually Transmitted Infections and AIDS (PNLIST/AIDS) to improve access to these services among vulnerable people living with HIV (WHO).



## **KEY RESULTS**

- Strengthened and scaled up community responses to expand access to HIV, SRH and gender-based violence services.
- Raised awareness to create a safe and healthy school environment.
- Over 40 000 students benefited from schoolbased comprehensive sexuality education following the capacity building of teachers.
- Supported evaluation of the 2018-2022 National Strategic HIV Plan and development of the new 2023-2027 Plan, which focuses on expanding services for key populations and vulnerable groups with care decentralization and strengthened community participation.

Joint UN Team on AIDS UNICEF UNDP UNFPA UNODC UNESCO WHO UNAIDS Secretariat

FAO IOM Contributing to <u>United Nations Development Assistance</u>
Framework in Gabon (2018-2022)







2022 Joint Programme Expenditure

Total US\$ 904 479

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

