

# GUATEMALA 2022

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



In 2022, the Joint Team in Guatemala continued to provide support and guidance to further advance the national HIV response by improving access to and quality of services, generating data including through community-led monitoring and strengthening the protection mechanisms available for people living with HIV and key populations.

Guatemala developed guidelines for the prevention and treatment of opportunistic infections among people living with HIV, the first in the Latin America and the Caribbean region, through technical support by the Joint Team. A clinical practice guide for pre-exposure prophylaxis (PrEP) administration was also developed to expand PrEP services across the country, beyond the sporadic pilot community PrEP projects (WHO, UNAIDS Secretariat). In addition, the first manual for people living with HIV support groups was finalized to guide and integrate peer support activities in the 17 Comprehensive Care Units (UAI) and improve HIV prevention, treatment adherence and self-care. Through five workshops supported by the Joint Team, the civil society organizations *Colectivo Amigos contra el Sida* (CAS) and SOMOS: *Jóvenes Diversos* sensitized 125 representatives of government and private institutions, academia and community-based organizations on HIV prevention, testing and treatment services, including PrEP and HIV self-testing as well as the rights of people living with HIV and key populations (WHO, UNAIDS Secretariat).

To improve the quality of HIV prevention and treatment services, new HIV prevention and treatment cascades were developed strengthening quantification of prevention and treatment supplies and identification of service areas for improvement, including the retention in care (WHO). An experience-sharing forum on community-led monitoring helped to map

different community monitoring initiatives, share lessons learned and make recommendations, including the development of minimum standard indicators to guide these initiatives (WHO, UNAIDS Secretariat). A new strategy was also developed in partnership with the Ministry of Health to scale up HIV, sexual and reproductive health and cancer services, with a focus on women living with HIV, for implementation in 10 selected health facilities in Guatemala City (UNICEF, UNFPA). Furthermore, the newly developed integrated health information system will improve the quality of data collection, reporting and monitoring of HIV programmes across the country (WHO, UNAIDS Secretariat).

Food and nutrition support initiatives reached vulnerable people living with HIV in Quetzaltenango and Retalhuleu departments, in partnership with the Ministry of Agriculture, Livestock and Food of Guatemala, the Secretariat of Food and Nutritional Security and municipalities. For instance, a pilot programme provided counselling on nutrition and healthy diet through workshops on healthy meal preparation using locally harvested food and helped 70 families to start family gardens (WFP).

The gender assessment of the national HIV response generated evidence on the challenges and opportunities for HIV programmes and made recommendations to ensure a gender transformative, equitable and rights-based response. In addition, the Joint Team collaborated with communities and other partners in developing a draft bill, a technical position paper and an advocacy plan for the revision of the Decree 27-2000, the national law for HIV and protection of human rights. The draft bill includes critical aspects necessary to accelerate the national HIV response, including combination HIV prevention, gender-based violence as well as a focus on adolescents, girls, key populations, indigenous people and migrants.

## KEY RESULTS

- HIV prevention, testing and treatment services expanded thanks to development of guidelines and capacity building of service providers, including community-based organizations.
- New HIV prevention and treatment cascades highlighted gaps and will inform future HIV programming.
- Supported development of costed National HIV Strategic Plan for 2023-2027, and prioritization of US\$ 24.9 million mobilized from the Global Fund to support the national HIV response in 2023-2025.

Joint UN  
Team on  
AIDS

UNHCR  
UNICEF  
WFP  
UNFPA  
UNODC

UN Women  
UNESCO  
WHO  
UNAIDS Secretariat  
IOM

## Contributing to [United Nations Sustainable Development Cooperation Framework in Guatemala \(2020-2025\)](#)



## 2022 Joint Programme Expenditure

Total US\$ 872 209

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

