

With sustained strategic support from the Joint Programme, Mali scaled up HIV awareness creation and testing programmes among young and key populations in 2022-2023. For instance, over 51 000 adolescents and young people improved their knowledge of HIV and sexual and reproductive health and accessed HIV testing services during an education and testing initiative held in life centres and schools in Bamako, Kayes and Sikasso regions (UNFPA). A digital campaign based on the Hello Ado app and Education Saves Lives and radio programmes also reached over 870 000 adolescents and young people with information on HIV, sexual and reproductive health, gender-based violence and HIV-related stigma, thanks to technical and financial support provided to eight youth associations (UNESCO).

To improve HIV prevention and testing services in prisons, 30 prisoners peer educators and staff from two prisons received training on HIV and sexually transmitted infections (STIs) sensitization techniques and promotion of safe behaviours through collaboration with government and civil society organizations (UNAIDS Secretariat). A total of 1325 people in gold mining sites, internally displaced populations centres and refugee transit hubs were sensitized on HIV prevention and accessed HIV testing services through technical and financial support from the Joint Programme (UNHCR, IOM). In addition, 3685 men in uniform and their dependents, 3182 vulnerable girls and women as well as 2490 people from key populations received HIV testing and information on HIV prevention and treatment services in military bases (UNHCR). Finally, in intensive nutrition recovery units of Segou and Sikasso, more than 5000 malnourished children and people who are diagnosed with tuberculosis or STIs accessed HIV testing services; and 85 people living with HIV were also identified

through index testing, thanks to the financial assistance provided to two nongovernmental organizations (UNAIDS Secretariat).

Services for the prevention of vertical transmission of HIV were strengthened in 1464 sites through service provider training, supervision missions and procurement of over 1000 rapid HIV testing and 50 early infant diagnosis kits, two m-PIMA viral load test machines and cartridges by the Joint Programme. As a result, over 530 000 pregnant women were tested for HIV and those found positive were enrolled on treatment services. Additionally, 2100 children and 4009 women of childbearing age accessed HIV testing services using prevention of vertical transmission, early infant diagnosis, STIs, tuberculosis and malnutrition services as gateways (UNICEF).

The Joint Programme's support helped to identify 719 people, including 512 girls and 154 boys who survived gender-based violence, and facilitated their access to community-based healthcare and psychosocial programmes (UNFPA). In Bamako city and Kayes, Koulikoro, Segou and Sikasso regions, over 5000 people improved their awareness of violence against women and girls in the context of HIV prevention, human rights and improving the living conditions of people living with HIV, through a mobile sensitization campaign supported by the Joint Programme (UN Women). Nearly 13 500 people from Kayes, Mopti, Ségou, Sikasso and northern regions, including women, key populations and men in uniform and their dependents enhanced their understanding of gender-based violence, including conflict-related sexual and gender-based violence (MINUSMA).

## KEY RESULTS

- Digital and in-person HIV and sexual and reproductive health information campaigns were scaled up, reaching more than 870 000 adolescents and young people.
- HIV testing services were expanded among key populations, particularly people in prisons, men in uniforms, refugees, mining workers and children.
- More than 700 people who survived violence benefitted from gender-based violence and healthcare services; and 18 000 people from different communities received information on ending sexual and gender-based violence.
- Strengthened community-led monitoring and accelerated resource mobilisation for a more effective and sustainable HIV response.

### Joint UN Team on AIDS

UNHCR	UNFPA	UNAIDS Secretariat
UNICEF	UN Women	FAO
WFP	UNESCO	IOM
UNDP	WHO	MINUSMA

### Contributing to the UNSDCF and SDGs



In five regions, nearly 3000 teachers improved their understanding of gender-based violence to ensure gender sensitivity is incorporated into their lessons (UNESCO), while 280 religious and traditional leaders from four regions increased their capacity to prevent and address gender-based violence in their communities (UN Women). Additionally, *Sira*, a 68-minute feature film with a focus on HIV won the Panorama Audience Award at the Berlinale, and the Silver Stallion of Yennenga prize at FESOACO 2023, thanks to the financial support of the Joint Programme and USAID (UNICEF, WFP, UNDP, UNFPA, UN Women, UNAIDS Secretariat). Several other awareness-raising films and spots on HIV prevention, testing and treatment, prevention of vertical transmission of HIV, social inequalities and gender-based violence were also produced and broadcasted on various outlets following technical and financial support from the Joint Programme (UNDP).

The national network of people living with HIV (RMAP+) and five other associations of people living with HIV improved their administrative, financial and programme management capacity following technical assistance from the Joint Programme (UNAIDS Secretariat). Finally, the Joint Programme continued to support Mali in mobilizing resources, including over US\$ 80 million from the Global Fund to sustain the national HIV and tuberculosis response during the 2024-2026 period.