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



KEY RESULTS

- Integration of PMTCT and primary healthcare services expanded access to HIV testing and treatment services among pregnant women, including refugee women.
- Procurement of two fully equipped mobile clinics increasing access to HIV testing, care, and treatment services.
- First OAT programmes introduced to scale up harm reduction services.
- HIV and Social Contracting Guidelines developed with Ministry of Health to help strengthen and support Algeria's transition from the Global Fund.

The Government adopted the 'Prevent HIV, Test and Treat All' approach in the national HIV policy to improve access to comprehensive HIV services for all (UNODC). However, further advocacy and technical support is needed to ensure better inclusion of asylum seekers and the introduction of preexposure prophylaxis (PrEP) services.

A total of 2184 people improved their understanding of HIV prevention and sexual and reproductive health and services through community outreach and information sessions. Additionally, 10 civil society organizations working with young people were empowered to promote healthy behaviour and sexual and reproductive health among their clients while 30 young Peer Educators reviewed the implementation of youth awareness raising programmes on sexual and reproductive health (UNFPA).

Integration of prevention of mother-to-child transmission of HIV (PMTCT) and primary healthcare services expanded access to HIV testing and treatment services among pregnant women, including refugee women in Algeria. In 2022, gender-based violence services, including post-exposure prophylaxis, emergency contraception, and wound care were made available to refugees who survived this violence, thanks to the sustained advocacy and support from the Joint Team. All 4207 refugee women who attended these antenatal care consultations were tested for HIV (UNHCR).

In five regions, 112 healthcare professionals, community leaders, and civil society representatives improved their knowledge of various health issues, including HIV. The Joint Team also procured and donated two fully equipped mobile clinics increasing access to HIV testing, care, and treatment services (IOM).

Support to key populations (gay men and other men who have sex with men; people engaged in the sale or exchange of sex, people who use drugs) was provided in five newly established drop-in centres (UNODC).

In 2022, Algeria introduced the first opioid agonist therapy (OAT) programmes to scale up harm reduction services and reduce the risk of HIV and hepatitis C infections among people who use or inject drugs. As a result, around 300 people who inject drugs accessed OAT from five designated centres. Meanwhile, 50 medical professionals working on OAT programmes improved their knowledge on psychosocial support service delivery for people who use drugs enrolled on OAT through a workshop organized in cooperation with the Directorate-General for Health Prevention and Promotion. The Ministry of Health was supported in developing national guidelines for methadone agonist treatment, the National Drug and Harm Reduction Strategy, and standard operating procedures as well as a monitoring and evaluation system for OAT. Support was also provided to civil society organizations implementing outreach harm reduction services through the donation of harm reduction kits and condoms (UNODC).

The newly developed "Social Contracting Guidelines' will strengthen partnerships between the Government and nongovernmental organizations in Algeria. Designed to support the government to channel public funding to nongovernmental organizations, they support important community-led HIV prevention, treatment, and care services, predominantly with key populations and reinforce the country's transition plan to move Algeria from the Global Fund to domestic funding (UNDP).

Joint UN Team on AIDS

UNHCR UNODC UNICEF WHO UNDP UNAIDS Secretariat UNFPA IOM

Contributing to <u>United Nations Sustainable Development</u> <u>Cooperation Framework in Algeria (2023-2027)</u>



2022 Joint Programme Expenditure

Total US\$ 688 956

2022 expenditure data available at the time of Non-core the update (August 2023) US\$ 306 434 Core US\$ 382 522