

# BANGLADESH 2022

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



In 2022, Bangladesh scaled up community- and government-led HIV services prioritizing key populations and geographical locations with higher HIV prevalence leading to significant increase in HIV service coverage, thanks to sustained financial and technical support from the Joint Team (UNHCR, UNICEF, UNFPA, UNODC, UN WOMEN, UNESCO, WHO, UNAIDS Secretariat).

Partnerships with civil society organizations and networks of people living with HIV and key populations, including female sex workers and transgender people, improved access to HIV testing and treatment services in 22 priority districts and 28 hospitals across the country. Rigorous advocacy and technical support led to integration of HIV, sexual and reproductive health, and antenatal services in primary healthcare centres boosting access and uptake among pregnant women. Partnerships with civil society organizations guided the country's decision and planning to expand the integration of key populations needs into public health facilities in 2024-2026 (UNICEF, UNFPA, WHO, UNAIDS Secretariat).

More than 13 000 people impacted by natural disasters and the conflict in Myanmar received protection from violence and exploitation as well as accessed HIV, reproductive health, and gender-based violence services in shelters, crisis centres, and safe spaces, thanks to a collaboration with the Government and civil society organizations. Additionally, 27 primary healthcare centres implemented prevention of mother-to-child transmission of HIV (PMTCT) services and Sadar Hospital and two antiretroviral treatment centres rolled out early infant diagnosis and referral services benefitting the refugee communities, including Rohingya people residing in Cox's Bazar camps.

The Government enacted the Domestic Violence Prevention and Protection Act of 2022, which reinforces systematic support to women who experienced gender-based violence, including access to medical, legal, social and protection services following intense advocacy and collaboration with the Parliamentary Standing Committee of the Ministry of Women and Children Affairs and the Rape Law Reform Coalition.

The Bangladesh Government officially registered the networks of people living with HIV, female sex workers, and people who inject drugs to receive funds to design and implement community-led HIV services across the country, thanks to technical and financial support from the Joint Team. Representatives of these networks as well as men who have sex with men and transgender people were further empowered to participate in various activities, including the Global Fund grant proposal process, key populations mapping and size estimation, and delivery of HIV and sexually transmitted infection (STI) services in drop-in centres (UNAIDS Secretariat).

Community-led organizations were capacitated to generate strategic evidence and advocate for equality and human rights of all people. For instance, the *Human Rights Situation, Rule of Law, and Access to Justice of Transgender Community in Bangladesh* study with 400 participants from the transgender and Hijra communities in Chattogram, Dhaka, Khulna, and Sylhet strengthened strategic evidence and guided the new policy brief aimed at accelerating the integration of people from the two communities in public health services, empowering them to access social justice and legal services and prioritizing them to benefit from the 2024-2026 resources allocations through technical and financial support to the Bandhu Social Welfare Society (UNAIDS Secretariat).

## KEY RESULTS

- Over 13 000 people in humanitarian settings received protection from violence and exploitation and accessed HIV, reproductive health, and gender-based violence services.
- Integration of HIV, sexual and reproductive health, and antenatal services in primary healthcare centers throughout the country.
- Domestic Violence Prevention and Protection Act of 2022 was enacted.
- Support of the *Rapid Situation and Response Assessment (RSRA)* among people who inject drugs informing the design of interventions targeting people who inject drugs in 12 districts.

Joint UN  
Team on  
AIDS

UNHCR  
UNICEF  
UNDP  
UNFPA  
UNODC  
UN Women  
WHO  
UNAIDS Secretariat

Contributing to [United Nations Development Assistance Framework in Bangladesh \(2022-2026\)](#)



2022 Joint Programme  
Expenditure

Total US\$ 2 002 045

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

