MOROCCO 2022

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



In 2022, more than 100 0000 people, mainly from key populations accessed combination HIV prevention services in Morocco. Existing pre-exposure prophylaxis (PrEP) services were evaluated, and new guidelines finalized to scale up PrEP services across the country (WHO, UNAIDS Secretariat).

HIV testing and counselling services were scaled up among key populations and men through innovative and diversified strategies, including multi-disease campaigns, community-based testing, self-testing, and index testing (WHO, UNAIDS Secretariat). A feasibility and acceptability study of HIV self-testing conducted in 240 public health facilities showed that the rate of self-test acceptance was at 99%. Additionally, evaluation of the index testing showed a positivity rate among partners of people living with HIV of 11.8%, confirming the relevance of the approach taken (UNAIDS Secretariat). Essaouira joined the *Paris Declaration on Fast-Track Cities Ending the HIV Epidemic*, thanks to sustained advocacy and technical support from the Joint Team (UNAIDS Secretariat). In addition, differentiated service delivery approaches for HIV testing and treatment services and multimonth dispensing (MMD) of antiretroviral treatment benefitted vulnerable and key populations, including people living with HIV, with e.g., MMD now being available in 96% of ARV health service practices (WHO, UNAIDS Secretariat).

A community-led monitoring system was developed to track stigma and human rights violations against people living with HIV and key populations and more than 20 field officers improved their skills of using the community-led monitoring system via the District Health Information System 2 (DHIS2) (UNAIDS Secretariat). In addition, community-based HIV prevention and treatment services and community-led monitoring programmes strengthened service delivery in prisons and among women who use drugs (UNODC).

The 2022 Integrated Biological and Behavioural Surveillance (IBBS) survey among migrants and sex workers revealed high prevalence in certain settings and geographical locations, and results will be used to guide programming among this group (UNHCR, UNAIDS Secretariat, IOM). An exploratory study on transgender issues in Morocco led to the conducting of an IBBS study to obtain more evidence on this vulnerable population (UNAIDS Secretariat). The Stigma Index 2.0 generated strategic evidence for the HIV response. Led by 50 people living with HIV, the study gathered critical information from 760 people living with HIV, including key populations (UNAIDS Secretariat).

Implementation of social contracting in Morocco is underway, thanks to sustained financial and technical support from the Joint Team. Key contributions included preliminary studies on the cost of community-led HIV services; guidelines, mechanisms, and financing of a transition plan for the establishment of social contracting; trainings on return-on-investment (ROI); and implementation of a pilot training programme on social contracting for NGOs (UNDP).

Similarly, expansion of social protection mechanisms for key populations has been reinforced through strategic evidence from the assessment of medical coverage of people living with HIV and people from key populations for their inclusion in the national medical insurance and social protection system (UNICEF, WFP, UNAIDS Secretariat); analysis of food and nutritional security among people living with HIV and analysis of service integration for key populations in public health centre service packages (WFP, UNAIDS Secretariat); and South-South experience sharing opportunities and capacity building at the Social Protection Directorate at the Ministry of Health (UNICEF). Cost analysis and resource mobilization was also finalized to roll out the universal family allowances programme 2023-2024.

KEY RESULTS

- Essaouira joined the Paris Declaration on Fast-Track Cities
 Ending the HIV
 Epidemic.
- Morocco completed the Stigma Index 2.0.
- Over 100 0000
 people from key
 populations
 accessed
 combination HIV
 prevention services.

Joint UN Team on AIDS UNHCR UN Women
UNICEF ILO
WFP UNESCO
UNDP WHO
UNFPA World Bank
UNODC UNAIDS Secretariat
IOM

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











2022 Joint Programme Expenditure

Total US\$ 860 301

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

