

UNAIDS 2022

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# The World Bank

Unified Budget Results and Accountability Framework  
(UBRAF) 2016-2021

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**Organizational report 2021**



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## Key strategies and approaches to integrate HIV into the World Bank's mandate

The World Bank provides financial and technical support to low- and middle-income countries with the overarching aim of ending poverty and promoting shared prosperity. Ensuring that everyone has access to essential services regardless of ability to pay is a critical part of this and health is at the heart of its flagship Human Capital Project to drive more and better investments in people. The World Bank is committed to making HIV a core component of effective, equitable health systems and of efforts to advance sustainable development for all.

HIV is integrated across the World Bank's work, given the centrality of ending AIDS for long-term development. For example, the World Bank has integrated HIV and gender-based violence awareness in a Lesotho infrastructure project; provided combination HIV prevention for key populations in a Southern Africa trade and transport project; strengthened HIV, STI and TB programming prevention for the indigenous Ayoreo community via the Bolivia Santa Cruz Road Corridor Project; and integrated HIV prevention programming in the development of the Djibouti-Addis corridor. The World Bank contributes to HIV prevention among key populations and young people, advancing gender equality and combatting gender-based violence, HIV-sensitive social protection, education (with a particular focus on girls) and services in conflict-risk setting.

Under the UNAIDS Division of Labour, the World Bank co-leads, with UNDP, the Joint Programme's work on efficiency, effectiveness, innovation and sustainability of the global HIV response. This entails supporting efforts to ensure the response is fully funded and efficiently implemented, informed by strategic information, and leveraging innovation to maximize the impact of available resources. In collaboration with WHO, the World Bank co-leads on integrating people-centred HIV and health services in the context of stronger systems for health, particularly the decentralization and integration of HIV-related services.

### Top achievements on HIV in 2020-2021

- **Strengthening access to HIV services.** The World Bank completed a multiyear project in India to increase safe behaviours among key populations and other vulnerable groups, supporting community-led initiatives in selected areas and reaching, on average, over 85% of the targeted populations. Numerous projects strengthened the health systems on which the HIV response and access to quality services depends.
- **Empowering women and girls to reduce vulnerabilities and boost resilience.** The Bank worked across multiple fronts: tackling gender-based violence; education (with a portfolio of 180 education projects affecting more than 150 million girls and young women); the nine-country [Sahel Women's Empowerment and Demographic Dividend Project](#), integrating reproductive health and actions to address gender-based violence in education, and providing scholarships and material support for more than 210 000 girls, as well as the Human Capital Project, which spotlights investing in maternal and new-born health, including HIV-related services.

- **Expanding social protection.** With an extensive portfolio of social protection projects during the biennium benefiting nearly 1 billion individuals and representing investments of US\$ 12.5 billion, the World Bank used these programmes to reduce HIV vulnerabilities. In [Rwanda](#), almost 2 million impoverished beneficiaries benefitted from Bank-supported cash transfers. Cash transfer payments in [Zambia](#) scaled up to almost 30% of the general population and 50% of the impoverished population, reaching over 973 000 households. Projects such as ID4D provided millions of the most vulnerable people globally with digital access to social protection and other services.
- **Aiding national responses to COVID-19.** To meet unprecedented emergency needs and protect access to essential services including HIV-related services, the World Bank Group launched its COVID-19 response, reaching over 100 countries. From April 2020 through June 2021, financing totalled more than US\$ 157 billion, with the Health Strategic Preparedness and Response Program helping countries access financing for health needs.
- **Supporting long-term sustainability.** The World Bank supported fiscal space for essential health and human investments through. It did so through the Sustainable Development Bonds scheme and by supporting the [Debt Service Suspension Initiative](#) to help countries preserve precious resources to safeguard the lives and livelihoods of millions of the most vulnerable. About US\$ 5 billion in relief went to over 40 countries. The Bank worked with countries to make the most of available resources to boost outcomes and equity. It undertook numerous analyses to inform targeting of resources, leverage innovations (including digital health) and boost access through integration, health benefit package optimization, UHC and primary health care strengthening initiatives.

## Contribution to progress towards the Sustainable Development Goals

*SDG 3 (health) and SDG 16 (peace and justice)*

To contribute to SDG 3, the World Bank advances appropriate service integration and promotes sustainable financing. The World Bank Group and the Global Fund are in the midst of a five-year commitment to contribute US\$ 24 billion towards UHC in Africa (US\$ 15 billion from the World Bank). The Global Financing Facility for Women, Children, and Adolescents operates in 36 countries and plans to expand to 50 countries, following a replenishment that raised more than US\$ 1 billion in commitments.

To strengthen coordination and maximize impact, the World Bank and the Global Fund signed a [cofinancing framework](#) to accelerate country efforts to end HIV, TB and malaria, and build sustainable systems for health. Support provided includes a US\$ 36 million project in Lao PDR to improve the quality of care and reach vulnerable populations (including women, children and key populations) and a US\$ 25 million, 15-year project to improve health and nutrition services for women and girls in Niger.

To support sustainability, efficiency and effectiveness in the HIV response, the World Bank worked with partners to conduct over 20 allocative and implementation efficiency studies and support key databases, knowledge-sharing and capacity building. Countries benefiting included Botswana, Indonesia, Kenya, Malawi and 11 countries in eastern Europe and central Asia. The World Bank also supported country studies on the financial sustainability of HIV interventions in the context of UHC. Examples include health financing system assessments in countries such as [Côte d'Ivoire](#) and the [United Republic of Tanzania](#) (public expenditure review); Viet Nam (assessing readiness for care integration including HIV-related services); [Colombia](#) (using primary health care to reduce inequities); [the Philippines](#) (transitioning to UHC); [Malawi](#) (targeting specific districts to close coverage gaps); as well as a global paper on reimagining primary care, including HIV-related services, in [rural and under-served settings](#). It also worked with countries to advance national digital health capacities to further the use of information technology to improve impact and access to services for marginalized communities, including through digital health assessments.

The 19<sup>th</sup> replenishment for the International Development Association (the Bank institution dedicated to supporting the poorest nations) includes a record US\$ 26 billion for countries affected by fragility, conflict and violence, with health, including HIV, a central priority. As of June 2021, the International Development Association had committed US\$ 14 billion to fragility, conflict and violence-affected settings.

The UN and the World Bank work together under a Strategic Partnership Agreement that enables the Bank to provide additional funding for implementation capacity to achieve the SDGs, including health and other objectives critical for HIV. UNHCR, the Department for International Development (UK), and the World Bank established [a forced displacement partnership](#) generating evidence on what works in areas central to the HIV response. Operational programmes targeted areas across Africa and the Middle East, among others, with a focus on health including HIV support services. For example, displacement impact projects (for Djibouti, Ethiopia, Kenya and Uganda), targeted access to basic health and social services, including services essential for people living with and vulnerable to HIV with support for community-based service delivery.

#### *SDG 5 (gender equality) and SDG 10 (reduced inequalities)*

Sixty per cent of the World Bank's operations target gender gaps and the full incorporation of women in economies and societies, with multiple projects addressing gender equality issues, including in health and HIV. As of [2021](#), the Umbrella Facility for Gender Equality portfolio included grants to advance gender equality in 98 countries.

Since 2012, over 200 World Bank projects have included work on gender-based violence. In 2020–2021, Nepal used World Bank funding to reach more than 25 000 survivors with integrated services. The [Gender-Based Violence Prevention and Response Project](#) in the Democratic Republic of Congo had, as of March 2021, reached more than 450 000 direct beneficiaries, initiating post-exposure prophylaxis within 72 hours in 100% of eligible cases. Key World Bank reports included a gender-based violence assessment in the United Republic of Tanzania and a study on gender-based violence and violence against children in refugee-hosting districts in Uganda.

*SDG 1 (no poverty), SDG 4 (quality education), and SDG 8 (decent work and economic growth)*

The World Bank managed an extensive portfolio of social protection projects during the biennium benefiting nearly 1 billion individuals and representing investments of US\$ 12.5 billion. The World Bank has over 100 active social protection and labour projects, representing investments of US\$ 20 billion.

The World Bank is the largest financier of education in low- and middle-income countries. As of October 2021, its educational [portfolio](#) totalled US\$ 23.3 billion, with programmes in over 160 countries, including (as of January 2021) US\$ 2.3 billion for girls' education. World Bank-supported programmes reached more than 160 000 girls and adolescents with life-skills education and quality health services through the Sahel Women's Empowerment and Demographic Dividend Project; benefited more than 96 000 low-income women and girls in Zambia; and benefited almost 500 000 girls in Pakistan with interventions to shift social norms regarding girls' education.

## **HIV in the context of the COVID-19 response**

The World Bank Group worked on multiple fronts to help individuals, communities and countries weather the shocks associated with the COVID-19 pandemic. Securing financing sources to protect health and social other systems was a critical first step. From April 2020 through June 2021, COVID-related financing totalled over US\$ 157 billion (including US\$ 45.6 billion in International Bank for Reconstructions and Development financing, and US\$ 53.3 billion in International Development Association resources).

In 2021, the World bank raised US\$ 68 billion in sustainable development bonds, including an innovative US\$ 100 million bond supporting sustainable development and the global response to COVID-19, with US\$ 50 million in financing going to UNICEF to address the pandemic's impact on children.

The World Bank and the IMF urged the establishment of the [Debt Service Suspension Initiative](#) and supported it by monitoring spending, enhancing public debt transparency, and ensuring prudent borrowing. The Bank also helped the G20 establish the Common Framework for Debt Treatment Beyond the Debt Service Suspension Initiative, which will help countries that face unsustainable debt burdens secure the debt relief they need, working on a case-by-case basis.



**UNAIDS**

20 Avenue Appia  
CH-1211 Geneva 27  
Switzerland

+41 22 791 3666

[unaids.org](http://unaids.org)