

VERSION 2.0 – Draft Overview PEPFAR Strategy: Vision 2025

Vision: Through the PEPFAR Strategy: Vision 2025 (PEPFAR Strategy), the United States will achieve sustained epidemic control of HIV by supporting equitable health services and solutions, enduring national health systems and capabilities, and lasting collaborations.

The PEPFAR Strategy sets a bold vision for achieving sustained epidemic control of HIV, which will also contribute to greater global health security for all in the countries with PEPFAR investments. In doing so, the PEPFAR Strategy will support the international community’s efforts to reach the Sustainable Development Goal 3 target of ending the global AIDS epidemic as a public health threat by 2030, through the attainment of key milestones by 2025 – while also advancing other interdependent SDGs. The PEPFAR Strategy will be closely coordinated with the Global AIDS Strategy 2021-2026, released by UNAIDS and adopted by countries, and the post-2022 Global Fund Strategy to optimize complementarity, value for money, and impact. The PEPFAR Strategy will also maximize synergies and bidirectional learnings with the forthcoming new U.S. National Strategy on HIV/AIDS.

Under the new PEPFAR Strategy, PEPFAR aims to ensure that, by 2025, all countries it supports have:

1. Reached the global 95-95-95¹ treatment targets¹ for all ages, genders, and population groups; countries that have already achieved 95-95-95 will be supported to sustain their progress.
2. Dramatically reduced new HIV infections, particularly in priority populations, including adolescent girls and young women, key populations, and children.
3. Institutionalized granular, targeted, and gender-sensitive data use and systems and community-led approaches to monitor and address new HIV infections, especially among key populations and younger populations.
4. Made significant gains toward tackling societal challenges that impede progress in achieving the global 10-10-10² targets, including reducing the number of countries with punitive laws that target key populations; reducing stigma and discrimination that undermine effective responses; and fighting gender-based inequalities and gender-based violence that put adolescent girls and young women at increased risk for HIV.
5. Developed benchmarks supporting an HIV response that ensures enabling policies are adopted and implemented, and that countries and communities can lead with the capacity to deliver prevention and treatment services through domestic systems.

To support the vision of sustained epidemic control of HIV and further assist countries and communities to leverage the robust PEPFAR-supported public health and clinical care platforms to confront other current and future health threats that impact people living with and affected by HIV, the PEPFAR Strategy will focus on three core goals that support robust programs, enduring capabilities, and lasting collaborations.

¹ 95% of people living with HIV know their status; 95% of PLHIV who know their status initiate treatment; 95% of PLHIV on treatment are virally suppressed

² Less than 10% of countries have punitive laws and policies; less than 10% experience stigma and discrimination; less than 10% experience gender inequality and violence

Goal 1: Accomplish the Mission – Evidence-based, Equitable, People-Centered HIV Prevention and Treatment Services

To sustain epidemic control of HIV, PEPFAR will deliver evidence-based, equitable, people-centered, and gender-affirming HIV prevention and treatment services at scale for millions of people living with and affected by HIV. These efforts will help address the inequalities that drive the HIV epidemic and serve as critical barriers to equitable health service access for marginalized populations, including children, adolescent girls and young women, and key populations. PEPFAR will pursue this goal through a focus on the following priority objectives.

- Objective 1.1** Reach and sustain 95-95-95 treatment targets for all ages, genders, and population groups by meeting clients where they are with what they need through differentiated HIV service delivery (e.g., prevention, diagnosis, treatment, and long-term continuity of care) to improve access, ART continuity, and outcomes*
- Objective 1.2** Achieve durable viral suppression and improved survival for clients on ART, including children, adolescent girls and young women, older PLHIV, key populations, asymptomatic individuals and those requiring re-engagement in care to improve their health and prevent onward transmission*
- Objective 1.3** Drive down HIV infections, particularly in children, adolescent girls and young women, and key populations, through combination, gender-sensitive, and human rights-based prevention and care programs (including PrEP expansion), grounded in communities and supported by partner governments*
- Objective 1.4** Expand funding and support for community-led monitoring, direct client engagement, and addressing stigma and discrimination to advance equity and people-centered services*
- Objective 1.5** Sharpen and support approaches for HIV case-finding, recency testing, public health surveillance, and outbreak response to quickly identify and contain new cases, while safeguarding human rights and protecting vulnerable populations*
- Objective 1.6** Drive and embrace innovation, including by rapidly scaling up proven new tools, technologies, and scientific breakthroughs as well as through the use of granular data*

Goal 2: Build Enduring Capabilities – Resilient and Capacitated Country Health Systems, Communities, Enabling Environments, and Local Partners

PEPFAR will continue to strengthen partner country health systems and community-led efforts that are required to sustain long-term epidemic control of HIV, and which also can be leveraged to deliver effective, efficient, and sustainable health care. These investments will further enhance global health security by not only equipping countries to control the HIV epidemic, but also significantly strengthening local capacity for pandemic preparedness and response to other diseases and outbreaks, through a focus on the following priority objectives.

- Objective 2.1** Strengthen the core capabilities of partner governments and communities to autonomously lead, manage, and monitor the HIV response in an effective, equitable, and enduring manner*

- Objective 2.2** *Institutionalize robust, granular, and transparent partner country data systems, including for disease surveillance, health management and information, and data-driven decision-making at various levels to manage and monitor HIV response, disease detection, and outbreak control*
- Objective 2.3** *Bolster the resilience of health systems serviced by partner governments and communities, including laboratories to avoid HIV resurgence, tackle other health challenges, expand overall access to health care, and adapt to adversity*
- Objective 2.4** *Ground greater HIV and other related health service delivery in the community by investing in the technical, institutional, and service delivery capacities of local partners, including faith-based organizations, key populations-led organizations, and people living with HIV, to drive people-centered and sustained impact*
- Objective 2.5** *Support partner countries to capacitate and manage an enduring cadre of partner country public health leadership and health care workforce at the national, sub-national, and community levels*
- Objective 2.6** *Institutionalize a next generation, client-centered HIV and related health care commodity supply chain that is responsive, efficient, and sustainable, including through local private sector partnerships and strengthening of partner government oversight and regulatory systems*
- Objective 2.7** *Strengthen an enabling environment for improved health by addressing critical policy, programmatic, and structural barriers (e.g., stigma, punitive laws, and gender-based violence) and inequities in HIV service access, uptake, and continuity, particularly for children, adolescent girls and young women, and key populations – supporting the 10-10-10 global goals*
- Objective 2.8** *Leverage and build upon existing PEPFAR-supported health systems and service delivery platforms, while maintaining focus on HIV, to strengthen pandemic preparedness and response in the context of COVID-19 as well as other current and future health threats*

Goal 3: Build Lasting Collaborations – Strengthen Cooperation and Coordination for Greater Impact, Burden Sharing, and Sustainability

PEPFAR, leveraging its longstanding, strong bipartisan support and the power of its position with the U.S. Department of State to convene across the U.S. government and multiple sectors, will continue to strengthen cooperation and coordination with partner country governments, civil society (including faith-based, key populations-led, and other community organizations), the private sector, multilateral institutions, and people living with HIV. In building back better, engagement strategies will enable PEPFAR to broaden, deepen, and institutionalize its impact with greater effectiveness, efficiency, and sustainability, through a focus on the following priority objectives.

- Objective 3.1** *Achieve strategic alignment and complementarity across core HIV and broader health resources to maximum impact and value of PEPFAR, Global Fund, partner country, and other donor investments*

- Objective 3.2** *Strengthen linkages between HIV service delivery plans and other relevant health issues as well as partner country government health budgets, while coordinating with key multilateral institutions (e.g., UNAIDS, Global Fund, WHO) and regional bodies (e.g., Africa CDC) in support of Sustainable Development Goal 3 and other interdependent SDGs*
- Objective 3.3** *Capitalize on multi-national and national private sector core capacities, investments, and innovations for greater program efficiency, effectiveness, and sustained health impact*
- Objective 3.4** *Engage the unique assets, capacities, and comparative advantage of communities, including faith-based organizations, key populations-led organizations, and people living with HIV, to drive meaningful, people-centered, and sustained impact*
- Objective 3.5** *Leverage the very best of American ingenuity, including the scientific community, academic institutions (e.g., HBCUs), and faith- and community-based organizations*
- Objective 3.6** *Strengthen coordination between PEPFAR and other U.S. government global health and development programs, including for tuberculosis, malaria, sexual and reproductive health and rights, gender equality, LGBTQI+, and human rights.*
- Objective 3.7** *Support “domestic renewal” as a U.S. foreign policy priority by identifying and maximizing opportunities for lesson-sharing and cross-pollination between the U.S. domestic AIDS response and U.S. global AIDS leadership*

Leveraging the PEPFAR Platform for Broader Health Impact, While Focusing on HIV

Over nearly two decades, PEPFAR has helped build an unprecedented capacity to prevent, detect, and treat HIV in more than 50 countries around the world. Partner countries have used this robust public health and clinical care platform to save and improve millions of lives of their citizens living with and affected by HIV, transforming the HIV epidemic from tragedy toward triumph.

But the impact of PEPFAR, and of the local health systems it has significantly strengthened, goes far beyond HIV. The nearly 300,000 health care workers (including community health workers), over 3,000 laboratories, 70,000 health care sites, disease surveillance, supply chain, and community capabilities that PEPFAR supports through its HIV efforts constitute a robust capacity for pandemic preparedness and response. Many partner countries have successfully leveraged these capacities to help keep Ebola, H1N1, cholera, and other deadly diseases from raging out of control. These investments have led to a sizable “PEPFAR effect” on all-cause mortality and this support, in turn, improves HIV outcomes.

The PEPFAR-supported public health and clinical care platform has been – and remains – vital in the ongoing fight against COVID-19. Partner countries have used PEPFAR-funded laboratories to complete tens of millions of COVID-19 screenings and tests. Thousands of community health care workers trained by PEPFAR have fanned out across countries to help ensure COVID-19 testing reaches people most at risk and in need. Countries have utilized the disease surveillance systems built in part with PEPFAR investments for HIV detection to identify COVID-19 hot spots and deploy health care resources against them.

In addition, strong health information systems created with PEPFAR assistance to manage HIV programs have been instrumental in collecting and using data on COVID-19 cases, deaths, and vaccinations. Health care supply chains forged with PEPFAR financial and technical resources have helped deliver COVID-19 test kits, personal protective equipment, laboratory reagents, and other commodities essential to the COVID-19 response. In many countries, few, if any, of these capacities or capabilities would be in place at their current scale, scope, or sophistication without longstanding PEPFAR investment and support.

Under the PEPFAR Strategy: Vision 2025, this robust PEPFAR-supported public health and clinical care platform stands ready, while retaining its HIV focus, to be leveraged further, and built upon as needed, to confront other current and future health threats that impact people living with and affected by HIV.

In the context of the HIV epidemic, particularly as millions of people living with HIV survive longer, partner countries will need to address an already-growing burden of non-communicable diseases (NCDs), such as hypertension, diabetes, and cardiovascular disease. The PEPFAR platform is primed to help countries deliver the services needed to tackle these challenges that are also experienced by those living with HIV.

Looking beyond the HIV epidemic, as countries and communities increase their resilience and prepare for future pandemics, the PEPFAR public health and clinical care platform is an unparalleled foundation upon which to build. As we see in the context of COVID-19, the systems, capacities, and capabilities that have been vital to control HIV are in place and easily leveraged to prevent, detect, and respond to other health issues. PEPFAR offers an unmatched backbone for broader pandemic preparedness and response efforts – with the proven, trusted, and agile ability to deliver impact with speed, scale, and sustainability, whichever public health adversities may arise.