

JAMAICA 2022

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



In 2022, the Joint Team supported Jamaica in scaling up HIV prevention services among young people as well as vulnerable and key populations. A new national action plan for HIV prevention among adolescents and youth was developed to expand comprehensive HIV prevention and sexual and reproductive health services among this group through the delivery of integrated and innovative programmes, including life skills education, pre-exposure prophylaxis (PrEP), and HIV self-testing through active participation of 50 adolescents and young people, including people from the LGBTI community (UNICEF). A total of 3000 HIV self-testing kits were procured with financial support from the Joint Team to access to HIV testing services in the country (WHO). In addition, a minimum initial service package for sexual and reproductive health (MISP) in humanitarian crises readiness assessment was conducted and will provide the foundation for the integration of sexual and reproductive health and HIV services into disaster risk reduction and management (UNFPA).

In light of the high rates of HIV among transgender women in Jamaica, a Transgender Health & Wellness Conference increased knowledge and awareness about the healthcare needs of transgender people among relevant stakeholders in the country, and a referral system was developed for service providers to better respond to those needs. The newly revised Jamaica Community Mental Health Handbook for Practitioners and Mental Health Guide for LGBTI Jamaicans produced by Equality for All Foundation Jamaica

Limited and the related capacity building of psychologists will help to improve mental health and wellbeing of non-binary persons (UNFPA).

A pilot peer support programme led by youth peer ambassadors improved adherence to treatment and retention among adolescents living with HIV in two antiretroviral sites in Kingston and St Catherine cities (UNICEF). A total of 75 vulnerable people, including people living with HIV were sensitized on mental health, positive living, Monkey Pox and COVID-19 prevention and vaccines, social protection and support services through a health and wellness fair supported by the Joint Team (UNDP).

Jamaica completed the first draft of the validation report of the elimination of mother-to-child transmission (EMTCT) of HIV and syphilis which entailed an assessment of critical components of the national programme as well as collection and analysis of data from public and private facilities with technical support and guidance by the Joint Team (WHO).

The new Enabling Environment for Human Rights (EEHR) Monitoring Dashboard strengthened reporting on Jamaica's progress towards reducing stigma and discrimination and expanding access to health and justice services for all. More than 10 civil society organizations and government agencies are better equipped to collect, aggregate, and analyse data, monitor the progress and promote the human rights of vulnerable and marginalized populations, including people living with HIV (UNDP, UNAIDS Secretariat).

KEY RESULTS

- Supported development of national action plan for HIV prevention among adolescents and young people to improve access to services, including PrEP and HIV self-testing.
- Supported implementation of the five-year Transgender Health strategy which provides a people-centred and rights-based framework to improve the health of transgender persons.
- Draft EMTCT validation report developed to support Jamaica's application to EMTCT validation.
- Strengthened monitoring, evaluation and learning for EEHR, including through capacity building of community-based organizations, improved data collection and analysis on stigma and discrimination.

Joint UN
Team on
AIDS

UNICEF
UNDP
UNFPA
UN Women
WHO
UNAIDS Secretariat

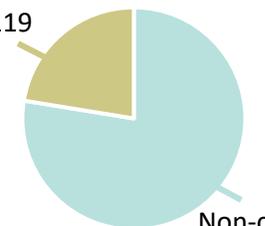
Contributing to [United Nations Multi-country Sustainable Development Cooperation Framework in Jamaica \(2022-2026\)](#)



2022 Joint Programme
Expenditure
Total US\$ 1 957 662

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

Non-core
US\$ 439 119



Non-core
US\$ 1 518 543