

LESOTHO 2022

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



In Lesotho, the Joint Team continued its support for the implementation of various HIV-related policies and guidelines and differentiated services among children and adolescent girls and young women, and key populations.

All eligible children living with HIV were successfully transitioned to a Dolutegravir-based treatment regimen through the implementation of the paediatric Dolutegravir transition policy. Rollout of the new prevention of mother-to-child transmission of HIV (PMTCT) guidelines and improved access to PMTCT services helped to address some of the persistent inequalities, including low antiretroviral coverage and viral load suppression among children; and poorer PMTCT outcomes among adolescent girls and young women. To address existing gaps and inform programme planning in 2023, the joint HIV and tuberculosis epidemiology review and assessment of the joint HIV and tuberculosis programme was completed and the annual vulnerability assessment report which included the needs and vulnerability of people living with HIV finalized, generating evidence to support an effective response in 2023. Through two community-based organizations working with female sex workers and the LGBTI community, access to sexual and reproductive health, HIV/TB and gender-based violence services was improved for these key populations. This effort also enabled adolescents, young people, and key population representatives to actively participate in the national programme planning, monitoring and delivery of services.

Thanks to the Joint Team's catalytic support to the Government and community-based organizations, differentiated and integrated HIV, sexual and reproductive health and rights, and gender-based violence services for adolescent and young women, migrants, and people from vulnerable populations and the LGBTI community were scaled up. Services rendered included distribution of condoms and lubricants and multi-month dispensing of antiretroviral treatment to labour migrants to South Africa and border communities ensuring treatment retention and adherence. Additionally, various community-led advocacy and public outreach initiatives reached more than 1300 people from key populations with accurate information on HIV prevention, tuberculosis, sexual and reproductive health and rights, gender-based violence, and mental health and subsequently link over 1500 people to various health services.

Training of healthcare providers improved access to quality and gender- and human rights-based healthcare services for different key populations. Trained peer educators were able to support training of 135 healthcare providers on stigma and discrimination while 61 police officers were sensitized on stigma reduction and service delivery to people from the LGBTI community. Evidence based and gender transformative interventions, including community dialogues and training on ownership and sustainability were also executed in partnership with traditional and faith leaders, and men from the transport, media, and education fields to address harmful norms and the root causes of gender inequalities and gender-based violence.

KEY RESULTS

- Successful transition to Dolutegravir-based treatment regimen for all eligible children living with HIV.
- Scaled up integrated HIV, sexual and reproductive health and rights, and gender-based violence services including community-led services reaching over 1300 people from key populations with information and linking over 1500 people from key populations to health services.
- Trained 135 healthcare providers on stigma and discrimination and sensitized 61 police officers on stigma reduction and service delivery to people from the LGBTI community.

Joint UN
Team on
AIDS

UNICEF
WFP
UNDP
UNFPA

UN Women
UNESCO
WHO
UNAIDS Secretariat
IOM

Contributing to [United Nations Development Assistance Framework in Lesotho \(2019-2023\)](#)



2022 Joint Programme
Expenditure

Total US\$ 2 183 182

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

