

Ending AIDS is possible, but only if we stand together

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Ending AIDS as a public health threat by 2030 is in sight. But this historic goal is at risk due to an increasingly strained financial landscape. Global funding for the HIV response is reducing, and many developing countries are grappling with a growing **debt crisis**—threatening decades of progress in the HIV response. Without urgent, coordinated investment, we risk millions of preventable AIDS-related deaths and a resurgence of new HIV infections.

UNAIDS is sounding the alarm: Even before the funding crisis, maintaining current programmes would result in, **46 million people** living with HIV by 2050. If funding from the US is permanently halted and not replaced, this could lead to 4.2 million additional AIDS-related deaths and 6.6 million additional new infections between 2025 and 2029.

The sudden implementation of stop work orders due to cuts in US funding has seen clinics shut and HIV services disrupted almost overnight. But the true impact will not be felt for months or years.

Now is the time to recommit. Global solidarity and leadership are needed to protect decades of progress and sustain the response into the future. UNAIDS is calling on countries to come forward, invest in UNAIDS, and deliver on the promise of ending AIDS as a public health threat by 2030.

WHY INVEST IN UNAIDS NOW?

A fully funded UNAIDS can galvanize the momentum needed to end AIDS by 2030. UNAIDS is the only UN entity fully dedicated to the global HIV response, coordinating the work of 11 UN agencies and working to drive high-impact action on the ground. Our key focus is on supporting sustainable, inclusive, multisectoral national HIV responses.

UNAIDS is transforming to meet this extraordinary moment. UNAIDS is sharpening its focus, streamlining its operations, and moving its staff closer to epicentre of the epidemic to better support countries in scaling-up and sustaining effective, domestically funded, evidence-based HIV responses grounded in human rights with communities at the centre.



Thanks to your contributions, UNAIDS will continue to:

- **Ensure that everyone who needs HIV treatment can access it.** 10 million people are still in need of treatment. Children are still being born with HIV. UNAIDS will work with countries and communities to expand access to life-saving treatment, especially for the most marginalized. This includes efforts to prevent vertical transmission and empower people living with HIV to help others start and stay on treatment.
- **Prevent new HIV infections, especially among those most at risk.** From adolescent girls and young women in sub-Saharan Africa to key populations around the world, UNAIDS will support the delivery of targeted and tailored data driven HIV prevention programmes. Partnering with local organizations to reach people where they are—with the tools, education and support they need to protect themselves and their communities.
- **Put communities at the heart of the response.** UNAIDS will connect funding to frontline change-makers—civil society organizations, youth leaders, peer educators—who are transforming lives every day. Supporting local solutions with global backing, enabling people living with or affected by HIV to shape the programmes that serve them.
- **Ensure that countries and communities have the data** that allows them to create efficient and effective programmes. Now more than ever, clear and granular data are needed to understand where to focus limited resources and hold governments and communities accountable. UNAIDS generates and publishes the world's most trusted data on HIV—tracking epidemiology, programme coverage and financing in over 160 countries. We equip governments, civil society and donors with the analysis they need to identify gaps, reach the unreached, and design effective, rights-based responses to HIV.

- **Support countries to build sustainable, nationally-owned HIV responses.** UNAIDS will help governments plan for long-term success, moving from reliance on external donors to sustainable, country-led financing. UNAIDS supports national **HIV Sustainability Roadmaps**, ensuring countries can continue providing critical services and adapt to future health challenges with resilience and autonomy.
- **Remove the barriers that prevent people from accessing care and support.** Harmful laws, stigma and discrimination still block millions from accessing HIV services. UNAIDS leads global efforts to dismantle these legal and social barriers, through policy advocacy, human rights engagement and community mobilization.

UNAIDS urgently needs financial support to sustain our work for 2025–2030.

Khanya Mabuza, Permanent Secretary of the Ministry of Health, Eswatini:

“UNAIDS is a unifying body, to say ‘UNAIDS has said this’, people will believe you.

For us to work with one purpose, we need an organization like UNAIDS. In the absence of UNAIDS we will go back to working in silos and HIV needs us to work collectively.”

Dr. Nondumiso Ncube, Executive Director, National Emergency Response Council on HIV and AIDS (NERCHA) Eswatini:

“We need UNAIDS because they are key in our development of our policies and our guidelines, they provide us with technical assistance. Also, they are very helpful when it comes to engaging civil society organizations, they have been instrumental and for us it is not a ‘want’ to have UNAIDS in the country, it’s a need.”

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