

Rigorous advocacy, strategic support and coordination enabled Bangladesh to scale up HIV services among vulnerable and key populations. In the 2022-2023 biennium, more than 136 800 female sex workers, men who have sex with men, people who inject drugs, prisoners and transgender people accessed combination HIV prevention services and over 2000 people who tested positive for HIV were enrolled on treatment services (UNFPA, UNODC, WHO, UNAIDS Secretariat). Evidence-based advocacy has resulted in sustained access to HIV services for over 25% of female sex workers, 50% of men who have sex with men, 55% of transgender women, and 89% of people who inject drugs in the country (UNHCR, UNFPA, UNAIDS Secretariat). Additionally, efforts to integrate HIV and maternal and child health services are ongoing, with an interdepartmental committee led by the Additional Director General of Health Services overseeing the initiative (UNICEF, UNFPA, WHO, UNAIDS Secretariat).

In humanitarian settings, more than 15 000 women and girls accessed HIV, SRH and gender-based violence services, including protection from violence and exploitation (UNFPA). In addition, over 4000 people from key populations and HIV hotspots were identified following an HIV assessment in refugee camps (UNFPA, UNAIDS Secretariat). Hence, more than 1000 refugees living with HIV accessed antiretroviral treatment while women refugees received a Minimum Initial Service Package (MISP) for SRH, including prevention of vertical transmission of HIV services (UNFPA). Access to HIV services in humanitarian settings was further strengthened through integration of HIV services in the national humanitarian response and more equitable resource allocation with strategic support from the Joint Programme (UNCHR, UNFPA, UNAIDS Secretariat).

The Bangladesh Government officially registered networks of people living with HIV and, female sex workers to receive state funds to design and implement community-led HIV services across the country. Further, an assessment of the livelihood and human rights situation among female sex workers identified key barriers preventing access to health and social services, thanks to the technical support and capacity building provided to Bangladesh Female Sex Workers Network (UNAIDS Secretariat). There is stronger evidence for the national HIV response and investment case thanks to the community-led key populations size estimation and integrated biological and behavioural surveillance (IBBS) survey (UNAIDS Secretariat).

Civil society stakeholders were instrumental in securing US\$ 25 million from the Global Fund for the 2024-2026 period. This funding aims to enhance access to HIV prevention services for men, transgender people, and people who inject drugs, as these groups have the highest prevalence rates among key populations. Additionally, through the GC7 a stronger emphasis will be placed on human rights, stigma, and discrimination, due to an additional US\$ 1 million in matching funds.

In terms of community empowerment, over 300 transgender people and people from gender diverse communities in Rajshahi Division received special allowances or loans to either maintain their livelihoods or start their own business, thanks to the Joint Programme's support to CBO-BD, an alliance of 46 grassroots organizations working with gender diverse populations. Around 50 transgender youth received an educational stipend (UNAIDS Secretariat).

KEY RESULTS

- Over 130 000 people from key populations accessed HIV prevention services.
- Thousands of people accessed HIV, sexual and reproductive health (SRH) and gender-based violence services in humanitarian settings.
- US\$ 25 million was mobilized from the Global Fund to expand access to HIV prevention services for key populations.

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