

Myanmar 2024

Summary of the Joint Programme's support to the national HIV response in 2024

Total Joint Programme
expenditure in 2024:
US\$ 3 010 916



In 2024, the Joint Programme delivered targeted, community-centred interventions to sustain and expand HIV services amid ongoing conflict and humanitarian challenges. A comprehensive HIV Prevention Roadmap was developed, providing strategic direction for integrated HIV and sexual and reproductive health (SRH) services. HIV Prevention guidelines were also updated to include hepatitis and sexually transmitted infections services tailored to key populations. Moreover, the training curriculum for prevention of vertical HIV transmission was also updated.

Pre-exposure prophylaxis (PrEP) services were expanded to 10 additional sites, reaching nearly 5000 members of key populations. Peer-led outreach in Shan State engaged over 5000 young people and adults with HIV services. Antiretroviral treatment access was maintained for 220 000 clients affected by conflict, with 60% receiving viral load testing and 95% achieving viral suppression. Hepatitis C treatment was expanded to 3500 people living with HIV, and SRH service referrals supported over 360 women and girls.

Care for over 18 000 people who inject drugs was improved through trainings of over 120 healthcare workers from 35 methadone clinics nationwide. These trainings included drug abuse and HIV prevention, methadone maintenance treatment and substance use disorder management. Community-based overdose management training modules are available after successful pilots. Additionally, community-led naloxone distribution was facilitated and technical assistance allowed to initiate overdose incidence recording and reporting.

Community-led HIV monitoring tools were upgraded and deployed across 14 facilities in three regions, identifying and addressing service access barriers, which included inadequate reimbursement of travel costs, limited service hours and inaccessibility of facilities. By addressing these barriers, HIV treatment uptake and viral load testing among key populations subsequently increased.

The Joint Programme continued to foster safe spaces for youth engagement, such as youth corners and youth-friendly centres. In Yangon, various knowledge sessions on HIV prevention and gender-based violence reached about 500 young people. In Southern Shan State, youth group discussions reached over 4700 adolescents and young people at risk of HIV by providing SRH services and peer connection.

With Joint Programme support, HIV services have been effectively integrated with other essential health and nutrition interventions, through the primary health care platform, for comprehensive life-saving support to conflict-affected communities. Seven hundred people gained knowledge to integrate HIV and hepatitis services in community-based programmes for people who use drugs in Kachin State, including in camps for internally displaced people (IDPs). Additionally, 150 clients were referred to HIV testing and treatment services. Awareness and acceptance of harm reduction significantly increased among key IDP community members.

The development of the National Strategic Plan V (2026–2030) started, including resource mobilization. Stronger health information systems (DHIS2, OpenMRS, Lab Accex, mSupply) improved data quality and supply chain management for effective services planning and delivery. OpenMRS operated in about 130 HIV treatment sites, covering 70% of public sector clients. New or updated key strategic information products are available for evidence-informed programmes and investments, including HIV estimates, surveillance reports, and the National AIDS Spending Assessment.

Consultation and discussions were held with the senior technical leadership of the Ministry of Health on HIV response sustainability. The government committed to leading the process of developing the HIV response sustainability roadmap. The Joint Programme, together with the Global Fund country team successfully negotiated the commitment by the government to wholly purchase ARV and methadone requirements.

KEY RESULTS

- National HIV Prevention Roadmap and updated clinical and prevention guidelines available.
- Pre-exposure prophylaxis (PrEP) expanded to 10 new sites, reaching 5000 key populations.
- HIV treatment stood at 220 000 clients, including those affected by conflict.
- Over 5200 young people engaged through safe spaces and peer-led sessions on HIV, enhancing their knowledge and access to health services.
- Integrated services (HIV, Hepatitis and/or nutrition) available for people who use drugs (PWUDs) and internally displaced people (IDPs) in camps.

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