

UNAIDS 2023

Result Area 5: Human rights

2022 Results report

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Result Area 5: Human rights

Budget and expenditures for all Cosponsors (in US\$)

Core central and country envelopes		Non-core		Total	
Budget	Expenditures and encumbrances	Budget	Expenditures and encumbrances	Budget	Expenditures and encumbrances
\$5,272,900	\$3,906,910	\$10,266,600	\$10,568,464	\$15,539,500	\$14,475,374

Joint Programme 2022 results

Advocacy for, collaboration with and partners convened for supporting countries for the removal and/or amendment of punitive and discriminatory laws and policies relating to HIV and/or develop protective ones.

Enabling legal and policy environments are essential for effective HIV responses. Research shows that countries criminalizing key populations saw 18–24% poorer HIV outcomes. In 2022, the Joint Programme intensified its efforts to support countries in removing punitive norms and approaches to deliver on the 10–10–10 strategic commitment.

Law reform. The Joint Programme further drove important progress in aligning laws with scientific evidence and human rights principles. UNDP supported 97 countries on HIV-related laws and rights (including decriminalization), including 87 countries on working with and for key populations. UNDP, together with governments, civil society organizations, and UN and other partners, continued to support countries in applying the recommendations of the independent Global Commission on HIV and the Law. This included the follow up of government-led legal environment assessments, contributed to the decriminalization of HIV in Zimbabwe and the introduction of a human rights-based drug law in Côte d'Ivoire. UNDP and PEPFAR launched a partnership to expand key population-led efforts to address discriminatory laws and HIV-related criminalization in 50 PEPFAR-supported countries, in collaboration with people living with HIV, other key populations, other Cosponsors and the Global Fund. In 2022, the UNDP-Parliamentarians for Global Action Handbook for Parliamentarians on advancing the human rights and inclusion of LGBTIQ+ people was launched at the 145th Inter-Parliamentary Union Assembly in Rwanda. UNDP continued to support regional judges' forums in Africa, the Caribbean and eastern Europe. This has contributed to progress in several countries, including St. Kitts and Nevis, where a judge who participated in the

Indicator progress on human rights (RA 5)

- **60 countries** were supported to **remove or amend punitive and discriminatory laws and policies**, and/or develop protective ones affecting the HIV response.¹
- Efforts mostly focused on **addressing policies around criminalization** of exposure to HIV, nondisclosure of HIV status or transmission of HIV (23 countries) or the development of protective policies on gender identity and antidiscrimination in health-care settings, for example (28 countries).
- **77 countries** were supported to **reduce stigma and discrimination** as defined in the Global Partnership for action to end all forms of HIV-related stigma and discrimination.²

¹ Support by the Joint Programme consisted primarily of technical assistance (48 countries) and advocacy and communications (47 countries).

² Most of the support provided by the Joint Programme focussed on health-care settings (82 countries) and individuals, households and community settings (66 countries), as well as education settings (55 countries) and included technical assistance (7 countries), advocacy/communications (70 countries) and capacity building (6 countries 6).

Caribbean judges' forum delivered the 2022 court decision decriminalizing consensual same-sex sexual activity.

UNFPA collaborated with the Southern African Development Community's Parliamentary Forum and other UN partners in Botswana to successfully convene a [high-level dialogue](#) with parliamentarians to advance SRHR and HIV-related services for populations who are being left behind, specifically persons with disabilities and key populations. Twenty-one parliamentarians, one-third of the members of parliament, participated in the dialogue on creating an enabling legal and policy environment.

The UNAIDS Secretariat led and partnered in global consultative efforts exploring how the UN can support decriminalization efforts (five national good practices were shared), as well as the global expert consultations on HIV and human rights, including at the 50th sessions of the Human Rights Council. UNODC, in partnership with UNDP, UNFPA, WHO, UNAIDS Secretariat, and Penal Reform International published a technical brief on transgender people and HIV in prisons and other closed settings.

UN Women collaborated with women's organizations and networks of women living with HIV in six countries to repeal discriminatory HIV-related laws. In Indonesia, the National Network Of Women Living with HIV participated in the development of the first-ever sexual violence crimes law, which now acknowledges forced sterilization of women living with HIV as a form of violence and includes measures to address it.

Advocacy and technical support for more inclusive, rights-based approaches. UNDP supported 83 countries in Africa, Asia and the Pacific, Latin America and the Caribbean, and eastern Europe in their work on advancing LGBTQI+ rights and inclusive development. In 2022, UNDP led the piloting of the LGBTI Inclusion Index in eight countries (Angola, Dominican Republic, Georgia, Guyana, Ecuador, New Zealand, Pakistan, Viet Nam), six of which completed the pilots in 2022. The pilot of the LGBTQI+ Inclusion Index demonstrated the willingness of national authorities to engage in the discourse on LGBTQI+ health, including but not limited to HIV, and the need for enabling legislative framework and sufficient resources.

UNODC, in partnership with UNAIDS Secretariat, sensitized lawmakers and law enforcement officials about human rights-related barriers affecting access to HIV services and advocated for greater access of people who use drugs to HIV services and for alternatives to imprisonment in seven countries. UNODC also led a regional analysis in eight countries in Asia to support efforts to abolish compulsory drug treatment in favour of rights-based access to services.

The UNAIDS Secretariat provided technical support to 13 countries for initiatives that included an AIDS policy review in Gambia; the development of a gender and human rights action plan in Togo; the amendment of a drug law in Viet Nam; and a dialogue on the International Guidelines on Human Rights and Drug Policy in Ghana (with UNDP and OHCHR). Also supported was the development of fact sheets on human rights for Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan, Tajikistan and Ukraine; technical support for the removal of harmful laws that criminalize vulnerable and marginalized groups in Jamaica; and the development of a human rights operation plan and associated monitoring and evaluation framework in Mozambique. The technical support contributed to the passage of an HIV law in Argentina and a revised HIV law in Central African Republic; a policy brief on decriminalization of HIV transmission which was developed and used for national advocacy in Tajikistan; a brief against compulsory HIV testing, developed in Kazakhstan and Uzbekistan; and the roll-out of the #NotACriminal Campaign, led by GNP+. The Secretariat joined as amicus curiae in litigation in Chile and Kenya, where the courts acknowledged that coerced and forced

sterilization of women living with HIV are anti-constitutional and a violation of human rights, that policies must be changed, and that victims should be compensated.

Normative guidance. After comprehensive multistakeholder consultations, WHO launched the [Consolidated guidelines on HIV, viral hepatitis and STI prevention, diagnosis, treatment and care for key populations](#) in July 2022, supported by UNDP, UNFPA, UNODC and the UNAIDS Secretariat. Underpinned by the principles of human rights, gender equality, equity and inclusion, medical ethics, universal health coverage, evidence-based public health and key population community-led responses, the consolidated guidelines were shared at numerous global, regional and local events. In addition, a range of policy briefs summarizing the most relevant recommendations and guidance for five key populations were produced, as well as one summarising the new recommendations on HCV, on behavioural interventions, and on peer navigators. WHO supported countries to develop related national guidelines, strategies and interventions including for PEPFAR Country Operational Plans and Global Fund funding proposals.

Technical and policy advocacy provided to support countries on actions to reduce HIV-related stigma and discrimination affecting the HIV response, including through leveraging the Global Partnership for action to eliminate HIV-related stigma and discrimination.

Joint Programme partners achieved concrete gains in supporting efforts to reduce HIV-related stigma and discrimination.

Global Partnership. Thirty-four countries are now part of the [Global Partnership for action to eliminate all forms of HIV-related stigma and discrimination](#), with five countries having joined in 2022. Co-convened by UNDP, UN Women, UNAIDS Secretariat, Global Fund and GNP+, the Partnership provided long-term technical support to countries in Asia-Pacific, Caribbean, eastern Europe and central Asia, and sub-Saharan Africa. The partnership introduced guidance on monitoring and evaluation and advocacy, a practical guide on stigma and discrimination, country factsheets, a data dashboard, an introductory video and a website. At its 51st session in December 2022, the PCB called on Member States to fast-track actions to end stigma and discrimination.

The UNAIDS-PEPFAR Faith Initiative mobilized faith partners to address HIV-related stigma and gender-based violence through implementation of faith-based action plans in support of national AIDS strategies in Cameroon, Côte d'Ivoire, Kenya, Nigeria, the United Republic of Tanzania and Uganda. A framework for dialogue between religious leaders and people living with HIV and key populations was implemented in Dominican Republic, Democratic Republic of Congo, India, Indonesia, Jamaica, Nigeria, Uganda, Ukraine and the United Republic of Tanzania, and trainings in health-care facilities managed by faith-based organizations took place in Kenya, Nigeria, Uganda and Zambia. The Interfaith Health Platform, which had more than 2,500 members at the end of 2022, facilitated participation in the "10-Million Campaign", an interfaith advocacy campaign promoting access to HIV services for children, women and men living with HIV who are not yet receiving ART.

Key populations. Following the [independent evaluation of the work of the Joint Programme with and for key populations \(2018–2021\)](#), UNICEF, UNDP, UNFPA, UNODC, WHO and the UNAIDS Secretariat identified 53 key actions to intensify support for key populations in the joint management response, including to reduce stigma and eliminate discrimination, and have started the implementation where funding permits.

Justice sector. The Joint Programme's work in 2022 recognized the critical role the justice sector plays in aligning HIV responses with human rights principles. UNDP continued to lead the Global Partnership's work on addressing stigma and discrimination in the justice sector, including support to countries to implement related action plans at the country level (e.g. in

Congo), or through the partnership with the Asia-Pacific Forum of National Human Rights Institutions in 12 countries. UNDP also led and partnered in efforts to discuss stigma and discrimination with judges (in Africa, the Caribbean and eastern Europe and central Asia), and sensitized lawmakers. In 2022, UNDP led and partnered in the development of guidance documents on enabling legal environments, including the decriminalization of HIV responses, the role of the judiciary in HIV responses, and the importance of regional spaces for strengthening HIV responses. UNDP also advocated for stigma-free safe and open civic spaces for HIV responses, including through an issue brief and a discussion paper.

As part of the Global Partnership, UN Women strengthened the capacities of networks of women living with HIV to provide legal support and referrals and to monitor and report cases of violence against women living with HIV. In Tajikistan, UN Women created a platform for collaboration between the national network of women living with HIV and professional lawyers, which led to increased legal awareness and literacy among women living with HIV and the improved reporting of violations of women's human rights, including cases of violence against women and discrimination in health-care settings.

UNODC focused on trainings to sensitize lawmakers and law enforcement officials about human rights-related barriers affecting access to HIV services for people who use drugs, strengthening the capacities of policy-makers, prison administrations, staff and health-care providers. This included a specific effort aimed at implementation of the Nelson Mandela Rules and the Bangkok Rules in addressing stigma, discrimination and violence in prisons, the inclusion of people who use drugs and people in prisons in national preparedness and response plans, and improving access to justice.

Prioritizing nondiscrimination and inclusion in financial and technical support. In 2022, 40 countries were supported by the ILO with technical, financial and normative support to develop and/or strengthen nondiscriminatory legislation and policies at the national, subnational and enterprise levels. Examples included the launch of the ILO LGBTQI+ learning guide; a partnership between the ILO and UNDP in China to develop an interactive app to promote LGBTQI+ inclusion at the workplace; and the engagement of the ILO, UNAIDS Secretariat and partners in an LGBTQI+ cultural and diversity fair in Brazil. UNDP and the ILO launched a global checklist on HIV-inclusive social protection, including recommendations to eliminate stigma and discrimination against people living with HIV and key populations.

The World Bank continued to spearhead efforts in data collection and analytical work to address stigma and discrimination and improve efficiencies in HIV responses. This included efforts focusing on LGBTQI+ people, such as the Equality of Opportunity for Sexual and Gender Minorities project, which is scaling up its data collection to 62 countries.

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