

# GHANA

## STRATEGIC FOCUS

The partnership between the U.S. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) and the Government of Ghana (GOG) began in 2008 with the goal of strengthening HIV prevention and treatment towards epidemic control. Over the past 15 years, CDC's public health response has matured from an emergency approach to one focused on sustaining the gains from the HIV program under the U.S. President's Emergency Plan for AIDS Relief (PEPFAR). The CDC Ghana program has evolved from a key populations HIV prevention program to a critical public health partner supporting Ghana's national and regional laboratory and strategic information capacity.

Through PEPFAR, CDC is Ghana's lead U.S. Government agency for technical laboratory assistance, which aims to improve the skills of laboratorians and the efficiency of laboratory services in the context of quality management systems and diagnostic network optimization.

CDC has a leadership role in Ghana's strategic information activities, including efforts to improve national and sub-national estimates of people living with HIV (PLHIV) and the capability to collect and analyze data across the HIV cascade (testing, initiation of treatment, and viral load suppression) to inform evidence-based decision-making. CDC assists in developing needed instruments and collecting data for key populations, including female sex workers and men who have sex with men. Together, these efforts provide PEPFAR programs in Ghana with the tools and data needed for strategic planning to best address and achieve goals.

Ghana is also the hub of CDC's PEPFAR West Africa Region operating unit; CDC office also supports critical regional laboratory and strategic information capacity-building activities in Senegal, Burkina Faso, and Sierra Leone, as well as direct service delivery in Sierra Leone starting FY24.

## KEY ACTIVITIES AND ACCOMPLISHMENTS

- CDC led the implementation of an innovative national system for transporting blood and specimen samples to centralized laboratories for processing. Building on this success, this sample transport system may support other outbreak and public health response activities relying on laboratory analyses.
- CDC works closely with the Ghana Ministry of Health (MOH), Ghana Health Service (GHS), and the National AIDS/Sexually Transmitted Infection Control Program (NACP) to successfully develop and implement the e-Tracker HIV Module. The e-Tracker system enhances GOG's capacity to monitor the HIV cascade by providing a common platform for tracking and case management services for PLHIV.
- CDC supports the Ghana AIDS Commission (GAC) to develop and launch the Ghana Key Population Unique Identifier System. This unique identifier, developed for privacy and to improve the continuity of services, will help enhance HIV service delivery by allowing the MoH to provide targeted services.
- CDC supports GAC in developing annual, sub-national estimates for PLHIV that are used for program planning, supply forecasting, and setting national and PEPFAR targets.
- CDC provides technical assistance for an ongoing Integrated Bio-Behavioral Survey of female sex workers, funded by the Global Fund to Fight AIDS, Tuberculosis, and Malaria.
- CDC provides the GOG with direct technical assistance and financial support to develop policies that strengthen laboratory systems and services, improve the national HIV testing algorithm, and implement differentiated service delivery.

## Key Country Leadership

President:  
Nana Addo Dankwa Akufo-Addo

Minister of Health:  
Kwaku Agyeman-Manu

U.S. Ambassador:  
Virginia E. Palmer

CDC/DGHT Director:  
Trong Ao

**Country Quick Facts**  
([worldbank.org/en/where-we-work](http://worldbank.org/en/where-we-work))

Per Capita GNI:  
\$2,350 (2022)

Population (millions):  
33.47 (2022)

Under 5 Mortality:  
44/1,000 live births (2021)

Life Expectancy:  
64 years (2021)

**Global HIV/AIDS Epidemic**  
([aidsinfo.unaids.org](http://aidsinfo.unaids.org))

Estimated HIV Prevalence  
(Ages 15-49): 1.7% (2022)

Estimated AIDS Deaths  
(Age ≥15): 7,200 (2022)

Estimated Orphans Due to  
AIDS: 230,000 (2022)

Reported Number Receiving  
Antiretroviral Therapy (ART)  
(Age ≥15): 211,808 (2022)

**Global Tuberculosis  
(TB) Epidemic**  
([who.int/tb/country/data/profiles/en](http://who.int/tb/country/data/profiles/en))

Estimated TB Incidence:  
136/100,000 population  
(2021)

TB patients with known HIV  
status who are HIV-positive:  
14% (2021)

TB Treatment Success Rate:  
86% (2020)

**DGHT Country Staff: 7**  
Locally Employed Staff: 6  
Direct Hires: 1  
Fellows & Contractors: 0



**Our success is built on the backbone of science and strong partnerships.**

