

# EpiC Vietnam Fact Sheet

## GLOBAL PROJECT OVERVIEW

Meeting Targets and Maintaining Epidemic Control (EpiC) is a five-year, global project funded by the U.S. President's Emergency Plan for AIDS Relief (PEPFAR) and the United States Agency for International Development (USAID). EpiC's goal is to deliver efficient, affordable, results-based technical assistance and direct services. Although global in reach, programs are tailored to local contexts and epidemic needs to effectively surge, scale, and sustain HIV



Figure 1: EpiC Focal Provinces

services and systems for long-term epidemic control. EpiC programs work with key populations, including men who have sex with men, people who inject drugs, and sex workers, as well as priority populations.

To accomplish this, EpiC provides tailored technical assistance to provincial leadership, facilities, and community-based partners, helping them achieve HIV outreach, testing, and treatment-related targets. The project focuses on finding and diagnosing HIV among high-risk populations through online and in-person outreach; offering diversified testing options for those at greatest risk; and linking those who are screened HIV positive to confirmatory testing and treatment. The project also supports HIV-negative individuals at continued risk to initiate HIV pre-exposure prophylaxis (PrEP). Once patients are on treatment, the project's clinical and community-based providers help ensure that every patient receives the best care possible,

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## EpiC IN VIETNAM

Building on the success of previous bilateral USAID-funded projects, EpiC Vietnam provides technical assistance to meet global and national epidemic control targets wherein:

- 95 percent of people living with HIV know their status
- 95 percent of individuals that know they are HIV-positive are enrolled in treatment
- 95 percent of those enrolled in treatment have suppressed viral loads

*EpiC is a global cooperative agreement dedicated to achieving and maintaining HIV epidemic control. It is led by FHI 360 with core partners Right to Care, Palladium International, Population Services International (PSI), and Gobe Group.*



including assistance to adhere to lifelong treatment. The project implements community outreach and lay testing in five provinces (all but Quang Ninh) and HIV testing at 25 sites in five provinces (all but Quang Ninh), PrEP at 13 sites in five provinces (all but Dong Nai), and HIV treatment at 33 sites in six provinces.

EpiC is also strengthening the use of data to drive decision-making. Continuous quality improvement response teams bring together stakeholders from provincial authorities, public HIV testing and treatment sites, and community health supporters to conduct regular reviews of provincial HIV program data, including client feedback, and develop measures to improve the quality, access, and sustainability of the HIV program. In addition, EpiC is partnering with other PEPFAR implementers to roll out a national case-based surveillance system and program quality monitoring standards that will improve national, provincial, and international efforts to track and address the HIV epidemic.

EpiC Vietnam's work is aligned with existing PEPFAR minimum requirements, working across the cascade and the health system to provide holistic support. As part of its direct service delivery efforts, EpiC Vietnam will meet the following targets in FY21:

- **Reach at least 24,717 individuals** at risk of HIV, provide potentially life-saving HIV prevention information, and connect individuals to follow-on services
- **Screen at least 24,666 individuals** for HIV, including at least 4,826 contacts of people recently diagnosed with HIV or those with unsuppressed viral loads
- **Confirm at least 4,479 individuals HIV positive** and immediately enroll them on antiretroviral therapy
- **Enroll and sustain at least 1,881 people on PrEP** and expand the number of sites providing PrEP
- **Provide differentiated care to 40,169 patients**, which includes expanding multimonth dispensing, offering tuberculosis preventive therapy to all people living with HIV, rapidly expanding access to TLD, and phasing out nevirapine-based regimens

As part of above-site technical assistance efforts in FY21, EpiC will:

- **Launch and/or sustain continuous quality improvement** efforts in all focal provinces, including the use of community feedback and other data to improve provincial programs
- **Expand national program quality monitoring** efforts to three provinces and national case-based surveillance system to two provinces
- **Increase the use of social health insurance** to pay for HIV treatment and clinical care
- **Launch a new, customized online reservation application** to support online outreach

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