Meeting Targets and Maintaining Epidemic Control (EpiC) Fact Sheet

EpiC is a global project, funded by the U.S. Department of State and PEPFAR, that provides strategic technical support and direct service delivery to achieve HIV epidemic control; strengthen global health security (GHS), including outbreak response; and improve maternal,

newborn and child health (MNCH), nutrition, and malaria outcomes. Across these health areas, EpiC builds resilient health systems by equipping governments to effectively manage, deliver, and finance service delivery.

EpiC is led by FHI 360 with core partners Right to Care, Palladium, and Population Services International (PSI) and has been implemented by more than 260 partners.

EpiC and HIV

EpiC works to attain and maintain control of the HIV epidemic among women, men, and priority populations by improving HIV case finding, prevention, treatment and viral load suppression. EpiC partners with and strengthens the capacity of governments, community-based and faith-based organizations, other USG implementing partners and the private sector to introduce innovations and expand evidence-based HIV services. EpiC's HIV objectives are to:

- Provide HIV care and treatment through government and community partners to support people living with HIV, including preventing treatment interruption, prevention and treatment of opportunistic infections, diagnosis and management of advanced HIV disease and treatment monitoring through viral load testing.
- Conduct HIV testing services through government and community partners to identify people living with HIV, including through differentiated testing modalities such as HIV self-testing, index testing, and network testing.
- Expand access to evidence-based prevention services that reduce new HIV infections and strengthen local ownership for long-term epidemic control.

EpiC and Global Health Security

EpiC strengthens health systems to prevent, detect and mitigate the increasing occurrence and severity of epidemics, pandemics and other emerging infectious diseases. EpiC approaches include: support for case investigation and contact tracing; surveillance and other strategic information support; strengthening diagnostic capacity; improving laboratory biosafety; training and capacity strengthening for health care providers; infection prevention and control and risk communication and community engagement in the human and animal health sectors. Since 2020, the EpiC project has supported partner governments in 54 countries to respond to COVID-19. EpiC currently supports more than 30 countries to strengthen their preparedness to respond to other infectious disease threats.

EpiC's core partners and their expertise:

FHI 360: HIV prevention, care, and treatment; malaria prevention and treatment; reducing morbidity and mortality and improving nutrition among mothers, newborns, and children; preventing, detecting, and responding to outbreaks; technical support; health systems strengthening; and strategic information

Palladium International: Systems strengthening, including policy, sustainable financing, governance, and human resources for health

Population Services International (PSI):

Self-testing (HIV, Hepatitis C Virus, and COVID-19); malaria prevention and treatment; reducing morbidity and mortality and improving nutrition among in mothers, newborns, and children; end-to-end reporting; disease surveillance; risk communication and community engagement; and private sector engagement

Right to Care: HIV prevention, care, and treatment; scale-up of viral load testing; and lab optimization





EpiC and Maternal, Newborn and Child Health (MNCH) and Nutrition

- Enhances access to and quality of lifesaving MNCH and nutrition services, with a focus on antenatal care, safe deliveries, postnatal support, and management of childhood illnesses, and education and mentorship of health care workers.
- Promotes adoption of healthy MNCH and nutrition behaviors and practices.
- Strengthens the health workforce, supply chains, and health information systems to deliver high-quality lifesaving MNCH and nutrition services.
- Ensures integrated care for HIV-positive mothers, children and adolescents.

EpiC and Malaria

- Extends access to life-saving malaria prevention, diagnosis, and treatment services to populations in remote, underserved, and emergency-affected areas.
- Empowers communities and community health workers to deliver integrated malaria control services.
- Prepares national, local, and community partners to lead and manage malaria control efforts.
- Supports the introduction and scale-up of new innovations and strategies, including the malaria vaccine.

EpiC and Health Systems Strengthening (HSS)

- Strengthens national and local leadership, quality management systems, and capacity to
 effectively mobilize and use financial resources and develop the health workforce to improve
 health system performance.
- Optimizes health system designs for quality care and improved outcomes, including integrating community health into health system architecture.
- Strengthens systems and capacity for data and evidence generation, synthesis, and utilization
 to improve decision-making, support learning and innovation, and promote accountability and
 efficient resource allocation.
- Supports innovations and efficiencies in supply chain management to ensure timely delivery, reduce costs, and eliminate waste.

Read more about <u>EpiC's work</u> across technical areas. U.S. Department of State Embassies should contact Jacqueline Firth (<u>firthja@state.gov</u>) for more information. For all other enquiries, please contact epicproject@fhi360.org.

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