



**PEPFAR**

U.S. President's Emergency Plan for AIDS Relief

# Country/Regional Operational Guidance 2022

73rd Presidential Advisory Council on HIV/AIDS (PACHA)

March 15, 2022

**19 YEARS OF SAVING LIVES THROUGH AMERICAN GENEROSITY AND PARTNERSHIPS**

# Unwavering Bipartisan Congressional and Presidential Leadership

- Emergency response to save lives
- Rapid delivering prevention, care, and treatment services
- Focus on individuals with late-stage AIDS defining illness

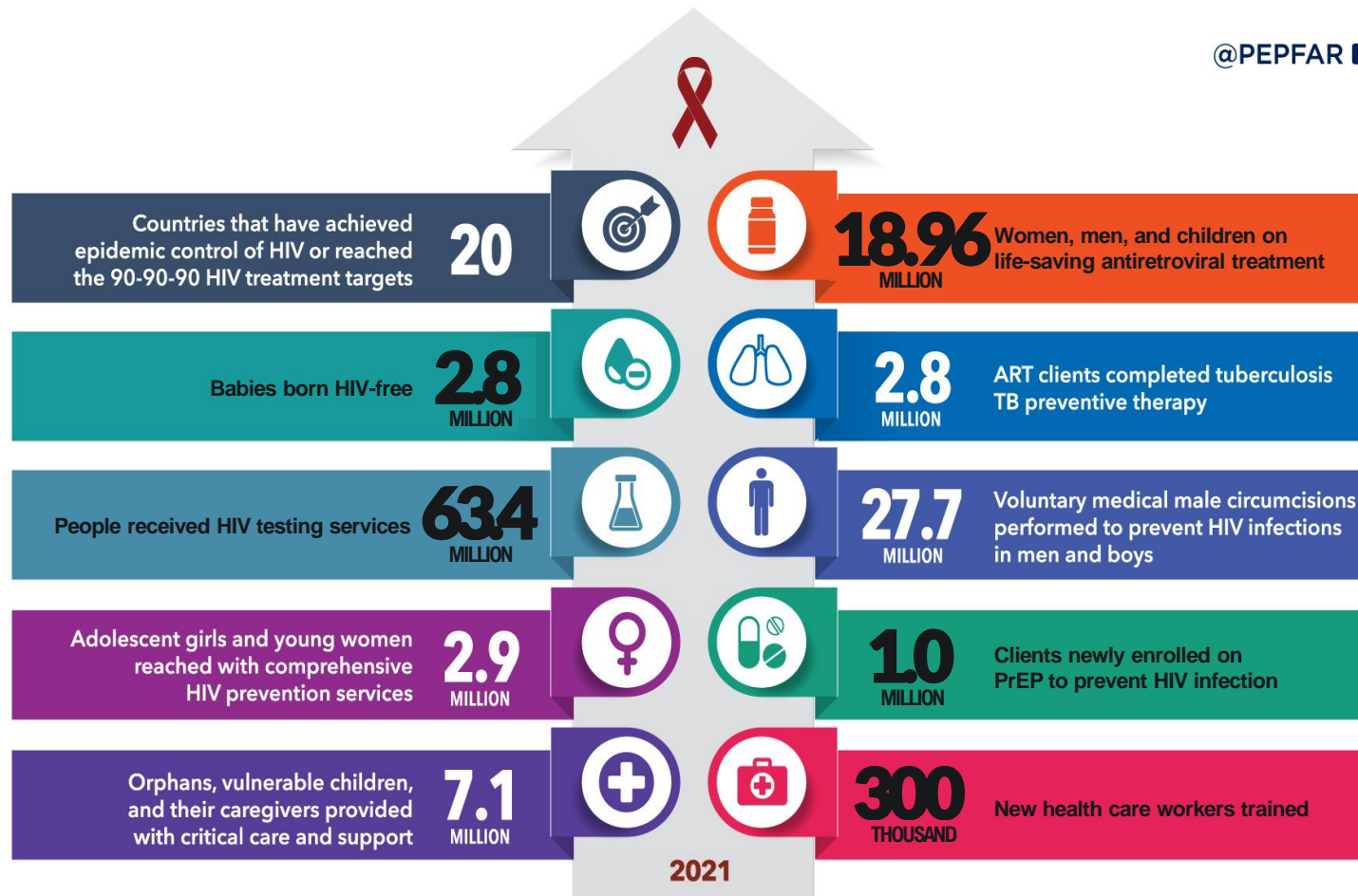
- Shared responsibility & country-driven programs
- Ensuring an AIDS Free generation
- Building & strengthening health systems to deliver HIV services
- Scaling up of prevention, care, and treatment services for people without AIDS defining illness

- Granular data, transparency & accountability for impact and increasing efficiency
- Accelerating core interventions for epidemic control with equitable access of all vulnerable and marginalized populations
- Treatment of all HIV positive individuals and stop transmissions
- Sustainability based on data, actual costs and local partner delivery
- Robust community engagement
- Resilient systems and sustainable capacity in the context of COVID-19



# PEPFAR's Latest Global Program Results

@PEPFAR   



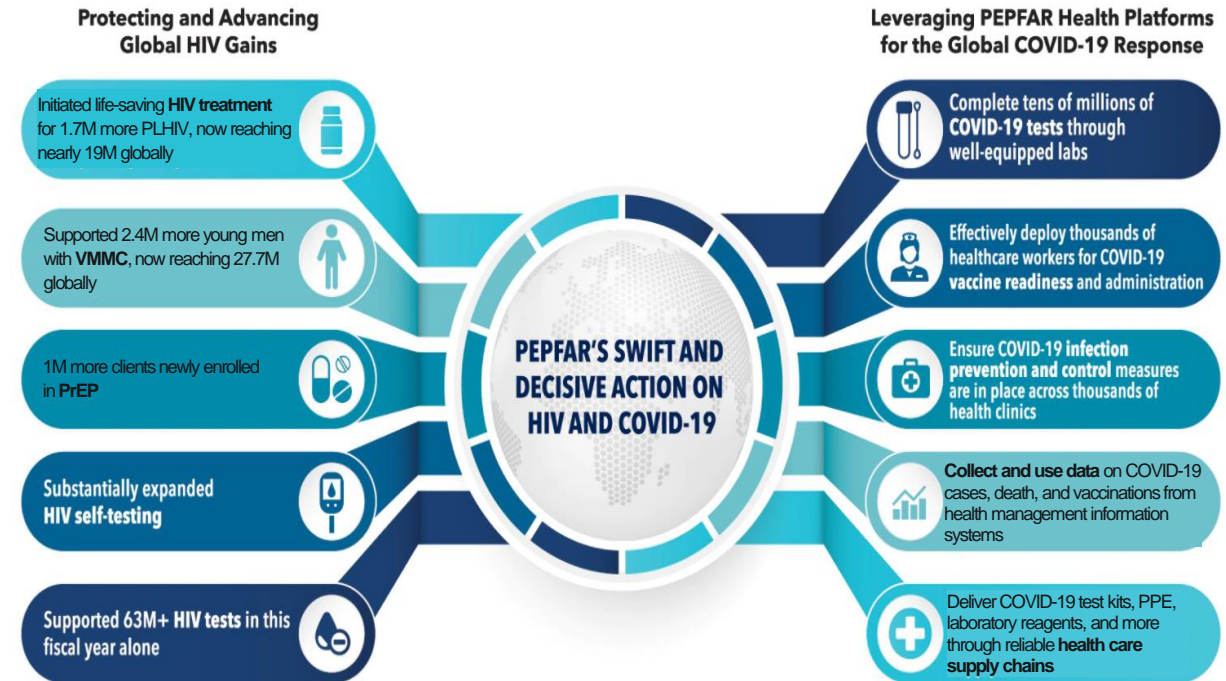
*"Since President Bush launched PEPFAR in 2003, we've saved more than 21 million lives. We've prevented millions of HIV infections. And we've helped at least 20 countries bring their HIV epidemics under control or reach their U.N. AIDS 90-90-90 treatment targets."*

*- President Biden, World AIDS Day December 01, 2021*



# Sustaining HIV Gains & Responding to COVID-19 through the PEPFAR Platform

- **Care delivery platform** to respond to HIV and COVID-19
- Strong PEPFAR **USG teams, local partners and trusted relationships with governments and communities** on the ground
- **Health systems investments (over \$15 billion)** for a resilient response
  - **3,000+ laboratories**
  - **70,000 clinics (access to people and data)**
  - **300,000+ healthcare and community health workers**
  - **Expansive health care commodities supply chain**
- PEPFAR has been **proactively leveraging its platform to support COVID-19** screening, diagnostics, infection prevention and control, and vaccine readiness and administration.
- **American Rescue Plan Act 2021 through PEPFAR Bilateral Programming and full coordination with Global Fund** has been critical to this effort



*“PEPFAR..... has saved millions of lives, brought the world to the edge of the first AIDS-free generation – and transformed public health infrastructure...where the investments we made years ago in labs and clinics formed the backbone of this nation’s COVID response.” – Secretary Blinken, November 19, 2021*

# PEPFAR Country/Regional Operational Plan (COP/ROP) 2022

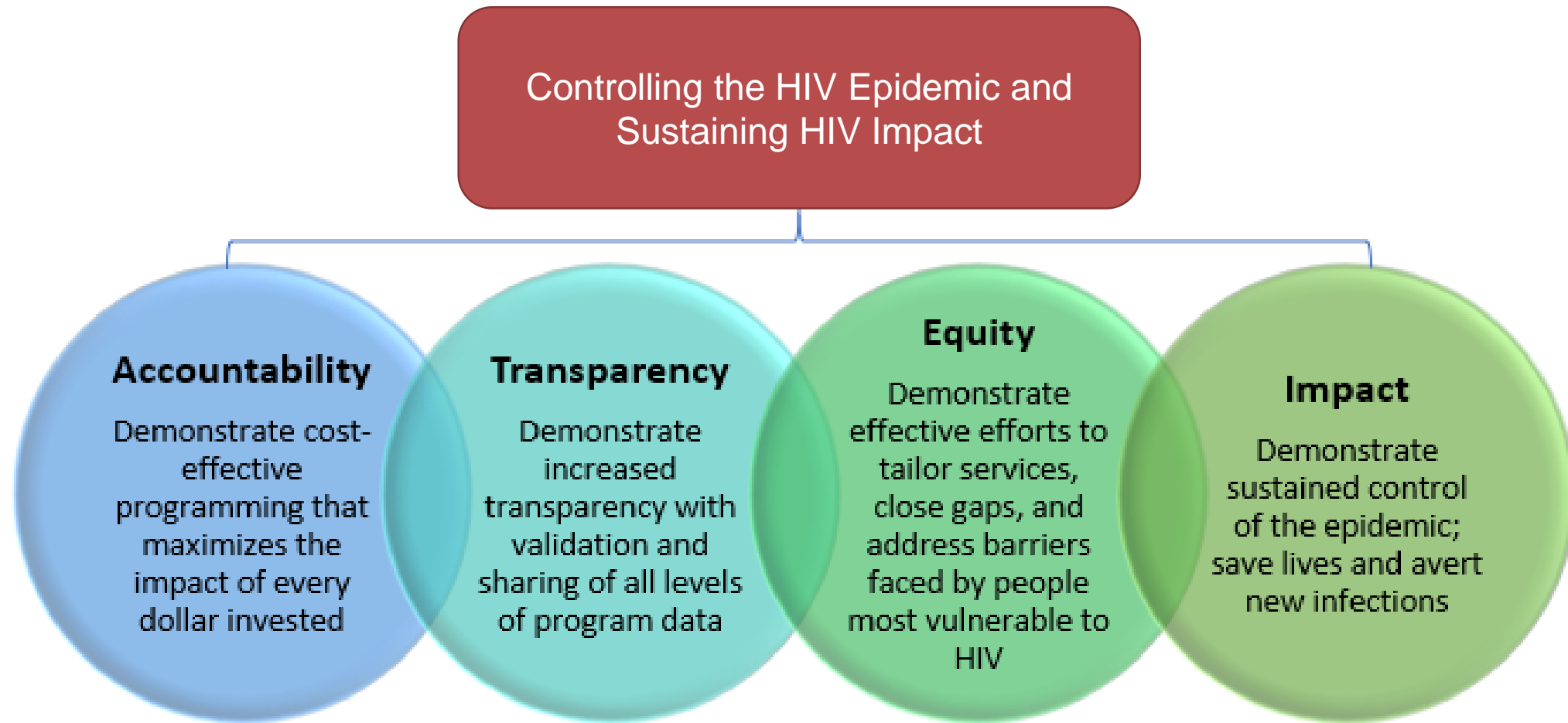
PEPFAR 2022 Country and Regional  
Operational Plan (COP/ROP) Guidance  
for all PEPFAR-Supported Countries



**COP/ROP 2022 provides guidance for program implementation in FY 2023 to help move PEPFAR countries toward sustained epidemic control of HIV by supporting equitable health services and solutions, building enduring national health systems and capabilities, and establishing lasting collaborations.**

Dual pandemics of HIV and COVID-19 complicate efforts but PEPFAR's data-driven approach, program adaptations to better support clients, and continued progress to developing local partners have helped PEPFAR and countries be better positioned to protect and accelerate our collective gains through COVID-19.

# PEPFAR's Guiding Pillars for Success – New Focus on Equitable Services



Active Program and Partner Management



## **Equity**

- Absence of unfair and avoidable or remediable differences in health among population groups defined socially, economically, demographically, or geographically

## **Equity Lens**

- Approach that prioritizes actions that reduce inequalities and advance equity
- Includes actions to address the underlying social determinants of inequality.

## **Priority Populations**

- Children
- Adolescent Girls and Young Women
- Key Populations

## **Approach to equity**

- Focused efforts and tailored services
- Gender
- Promoting an enabling environment addressing stigma, discrimination, and human rights



# COP/ROP22 Advances Several Administration Priorities to Close Gaps and Sustain HIV Impact

## NATIONAL STRATEGY ON GENDER EQUITY AND EQUALITY



BRIEFING ROOM

### Memorandum on Advancing the Human Rights of Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, Transgender, Queer, and Intersex Persons Around the World

FEBRUARY 04, 2021 • PRESIDENTIAL ACTIONS

MEMORANDUM FOR THE HEADS OF EXECUTIVE DEPARTMENTS  
AND AGENCIES

This memorandum reaffirms and supplements the principles established in the Presidential Memorandum of December 6, 2011 (International Initiatives to Advance the Human Rights of Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, and Transgender Persons). That memorandum, for the first time, directed executive departments and agencies (agencies) abroad to ensure



THE WHITE HOUSE  
WASHINGTON

### Executive Order on Diversity, Equity, Inclusion, and Accessibility in the Federal Workforce

JUNE 25, 2021 • PRESIDENTIAL ACTIONS

By the authority vested in me as President by the Constitution and the laws of the United States of America, including sections 1104, 3301, and 3302 of title 5, United States Code, and in order to strengthen the Federal workforce by promoting diversity, equity, inclusion, and accessibility, it is hereby ordered as follows:

Section 1. Policy. On my first day in office, I signed Executive Order 13985 (Advancing Racial Equity and Support for Underserved Communities Through the Federal Government), which established that affirmatively

- **Equity** lens to sustaining epidemic control and related programming
- Addressing key inequities – including children, gender and AGYW, and key populations
- Deepening **key populations** approach
- New **Gender Equality** section on the impact of gender equity and equality, and integrating gender-transformative approaches into prevention programming, the clinical cascade, workforce and health systems
- New psychosocial support section with expanded guidance on PSS and integrating evidence-based interventions across PEPFAR programs
- Updates to Minimum Program Requirements

# PEPFAR Core Policy and Program Priorities for COP/ROP 22

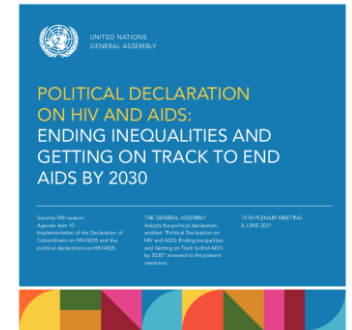
1. Achieving **sustained epidemic control of HIV** and reaching **95-95-95** HIV treatment targets.
2. **Optimizing HIV testing strategies** and care and treatment for PLHIV to achieve viral suppression, reduce AIDS-related mortality, and improve survival.
3. **Accelerating impact of HIV primary prevention** - PrEP, DREAMS, VMMC, sexual violence prevention and response for children, and other programs.
4. **Seeking to double PrEP** for AGYW and key populations
5. Helping **eliminate vertical transmission of HIV and end pediatric AIDS** through an equity approach
6. **Deepening support for key populations**, improving enabling environments for HIV service delivery; accelerating key populations-centered, differentiated HIV services; supporting leadership and capacity of KP-led CSOs; and supporting better data to guide responses to KP epidemics.
7. **Advancing gender equity and equality** - integrating gender-transformative approaches into HIV prevention, clinical, and health systems programs.
8. **Expanding psychosocial support** across PEPFAR.
9. **Promoting sexual and reproductive health and rights**, including through rescission of the Mexico City Policy.
10. **Strengthening cooperation and collaboration** across the U.S. government and with a diversity of community stakeholders.
11. **Supporting capacity** of partner country public health leadership, institutions, and health care workforce.
12. **Improving linkages and integration** of HIV services with other related programs.
13. **Protecting and expanding HIV outcomes while strengthening global health security** - leveraging PEPFAR-supported health systems as a backbone of COVID-19 response.

# Sustaining HIV Impact with Equitable Access and Everyone's Voice

- Amazing success driving down new infections and mortality among PLHIV, but our work is not done.
- Need to address remaining gaps - children, young adults, AGYW, key populations
- Epidemic control is a dynamic state, and we must work together to sustain the HIV impact.
- Empowering local, key population and women-led organizations for service delivery
- Sustained HIV impact is a long-term, gradual process tailored to country context.
- There is not an expectation that once a country is at epidemic control, PEPFAR budgets are cut to zero.
- Not about the end of the PEPFAR program, but about the natural evolution of the program.
- Enabling environments, policies and ensuring systems and capacities

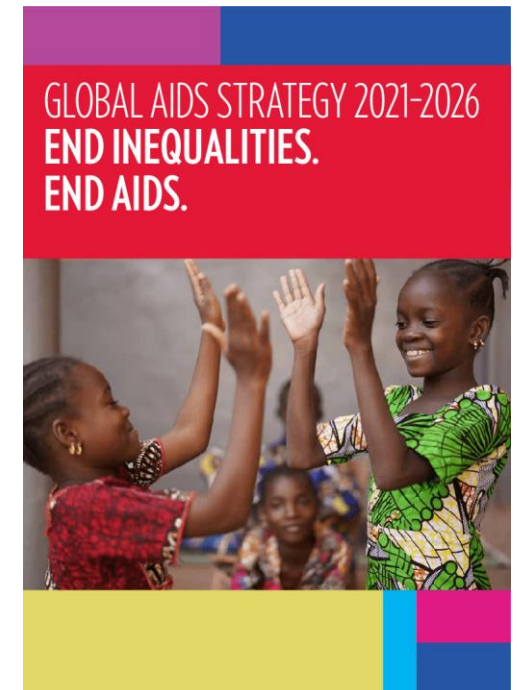
## Gender Equality (*Section 6.6.2*)

- New section on Gender Equality, stressing the importance of gender norms change activities across PEPFAR programming
- Focuses on gender transformative activities within HIV prevention, testing, and treatment services; in HRH programs; and within health information systems



## GBV (*Section 6.6.2.1*)

- Updated to better reflect GBV prevention, case identification, and response across the HIV clinical cascade
- Includes new language on safeguarding against violence within PEPFAR programming
- Key GBV considerations have been integrated throughout the full COP Guidance



## AGYW/DREAMS (*Section 6.6.2.2*)

- Updated to include psychosocial support, STIs, short-term program adaptations to fill gaps, and expanded mentoring guidance

# Human Rights

- Detail how country will meet requirements during COP22 planning meetings with specific activities and budgets.
- Develop a plan, timeline, and resource allocations to measure, document, and mitigate HIV-related stigma, discrimination, and violence.
- Include non-discrimination in design and administration of programs in PEPFAR trainings
- Reinforce PEPFAR-funded IPs have zero-tolerance policies to protect participants from all forms of abuse, unethical behavior, and misconduct.
- Designate an in-country, interagency POC to coordinate human rights-centered programming
- Maintain an in-country, interagency POC to oversee PEPFAR USG staff Gender and Sexual Diversity (GSD) Training and ensure a system tracks compliance at the OU level.
- At the headquarters level, each PEPFAR implementing agency must also identify a POC to carry out the same functions.

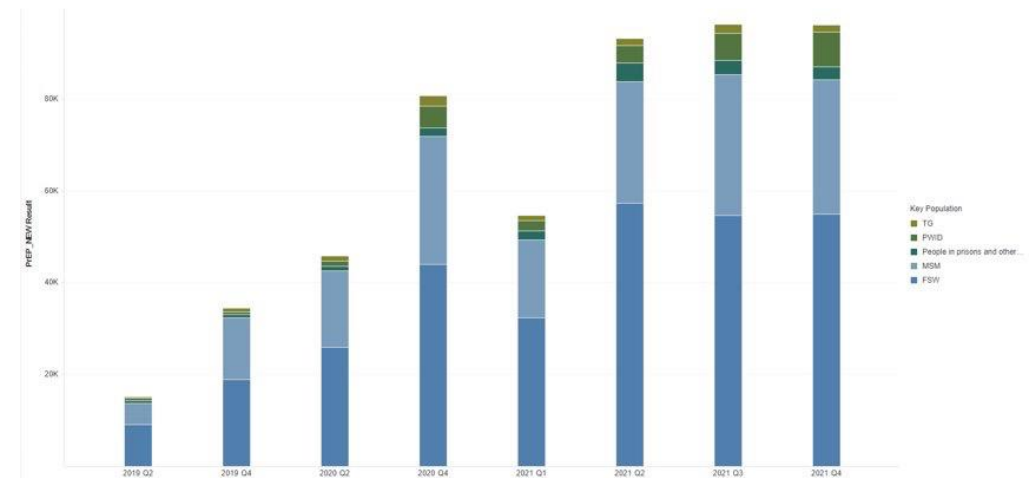


# Key Populations

- PrEP scale up
- KP differentiated service delivery across the cascade
- Improve KP data and promote regular KP size estimation exercises and bio-behavioral survey data
- Expand community-led monitoring specific to KP
- Respond to the challenging enabling environments and structural barriers
- Patients' Bill of Rights
- U=U



Trends in PrEP Scale Up Among Key Populations



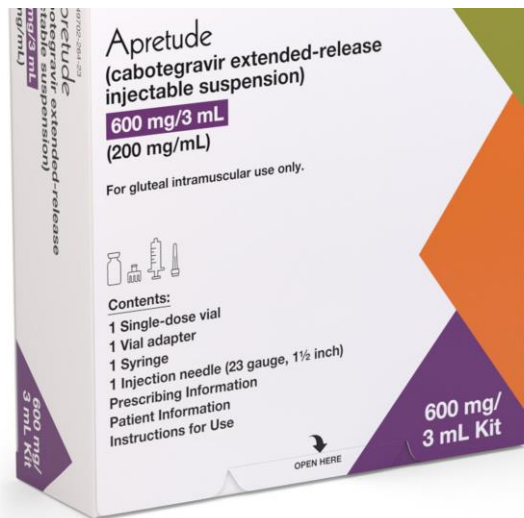
# Testing Guidance Updates

- **Safe, ethical index testing should be offered to all who are eligible**, including newly diagnosed people living with HIV.
- **Strategic mix of testing modalities** that adapts as countries approach treatment saturation
- Plan considers positivity rate, cost, number of positive results, and epidemiologic impact.
- Case finding for undiagnosed children living with HIV is a high priority requiring specific planning and investment.

# COP/ROP 22 Guidance for new PrEP products

New: Expanded section on new PrEP products and preparing for product introduction (6.2.1)

- Field teams should work to create an enabling environment for new product introduction and delivery
- Two new PrEP products have entered the marketplace
  - Dapivirine Vaginal Rings – PrEP-Ring
  - Injectable long acting Cabotegravir – CAB-PrEP



# Minimum Program Requirements

# COP22 Minimum Program Requirements

## Policy & Public Health Systems Support

- **In support of the targets set forth in the Global AIDS strategy and the commitments expressed in the 2021 political declaration, OUs demonstrate evidence of progress toward advancement of equity, reduction of stigma and discrimination, and promotion of human rights to improve HIV prevention and treatment outcomes for key populations, adolescent girls and young women, and other vulnerable groups.**
- Elimination of all formal and informal user fees in the public sector for access to all direct HIV services and medications, and related services, such as ANC, TB, cervical cancer, PrEP and routine clinical services affecting access to HIV testing and treatment and prevention.
- OUs assure program and site standards, **including infection prevention & control interventions and site safety standards**, are met by integrating effective Quality Assurance (QA) and Continuous Quality Improvement (CQI) practices into site and program management. QA/CQI is supported by IP work plans, Agency agreements, and national policy.
- Evidence of treatment literacy and viral load literacy activities supported by Ministries of Health, National AIDS Councils and other partner country leadership offices with the general population and health care providers regarding U=U and other updated HIV messaging to reduce stigma and encourage HIV treatment and prevention.
- Clear evidence of agency progress toward local partner direct funding, **including increased funding to key populations-led and women-led organizations in support of Global AIDS Strategy targets related to community-, KP- and women-led responses**
- Evidence of partner government assuming greater responsibility of the HIV response including demonstrable evidence of year after year increased resources expended
- Monitoring and reporting of morbidity and mortality outcomes including infectious and non-infectious morbidity.
- Scale-up of case surveillance and unique identifiers for patients across all sites.



# New Minimum Program Requirement

COP 2022 plans should prioritize and take specific steps to address the structural barriers that impede scale up of KP-led and KP-competent differentiated HIV services. Addressing structural barriers should entail improving the enabling environment for HIV service delivery; mitigating harmful policy and social norms that fuel stigma, discrimination and violence faced by key populations; strengthening the capacity of key populations organizations; and strengthening the KP competency of HIV service providers.

# Importance of Partnerships with Civil Society Organizations, Multilateral and Private Sector Partners

- **Partner Governments:** Collaborative with partner-country governments is critical to ensuring that prioritized interventions are scaled, geographic priorities are shared, and that all available resources for HIV/AIDS in the country are optimally utilized
- **Civil Society Organizations:** Collaboration with civil society organizations is critical to ensuring the appropriate prioritization of interventions and continued accountability to the community
- **Multilateral partners** (GF, UNAIDS, UNICEF, etc.) often complement PEPFAR competencies and can play a significant role influencing partner government policy and program decisions, addressing implementation challenges, and coordinating and aligning efforts across partners
- **Private Sector:** Scalability and sustainability of programs is more likely with support of and collaboration with the private sector, and partnership with private sector can help foster innovation that can be replicated

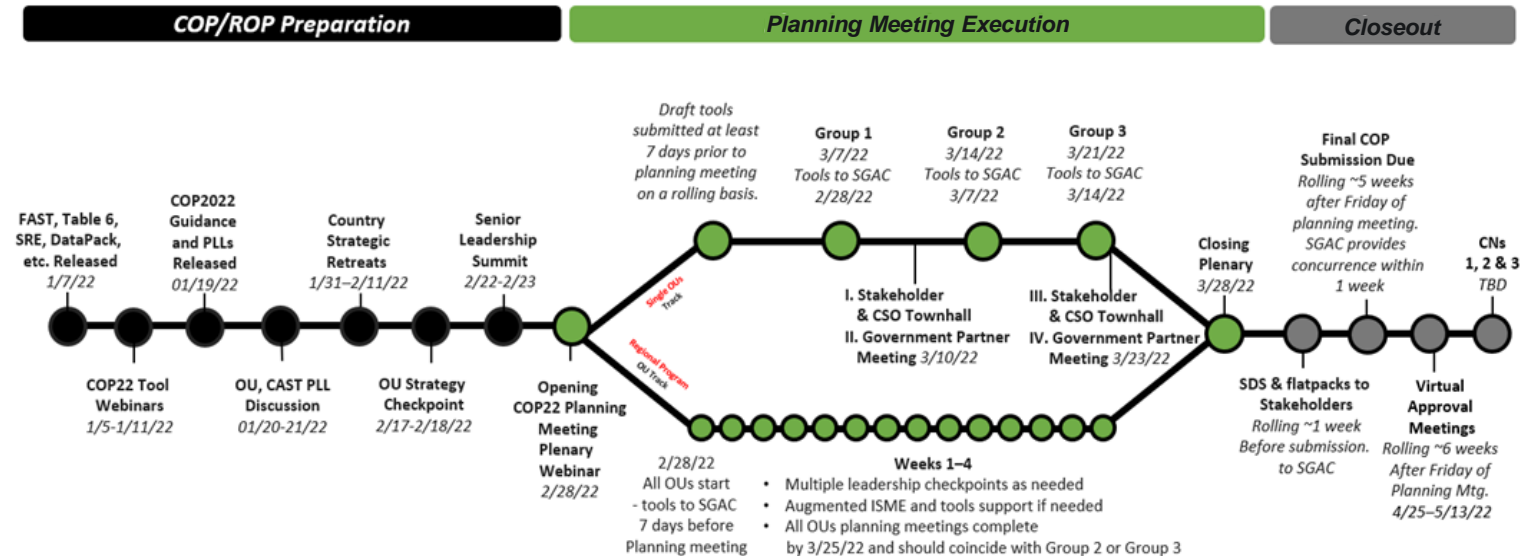
# People's COPs & role of civil society



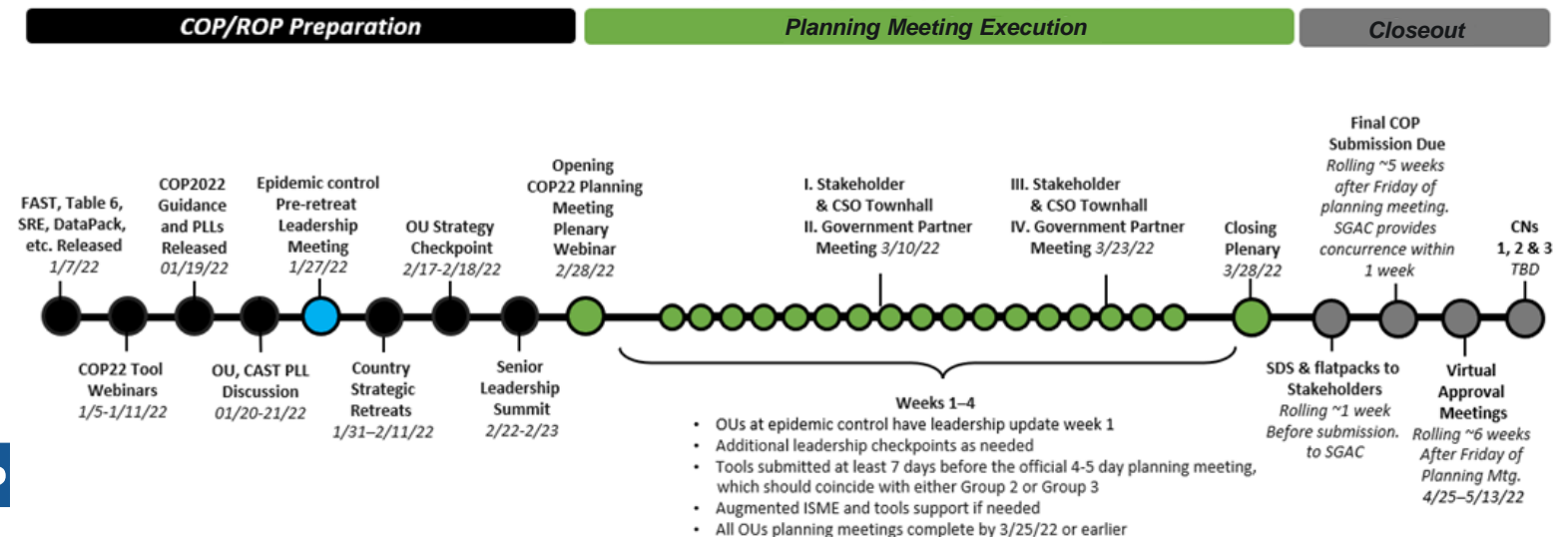
# COP22 Virtual Planning Timeline – Three Tracks

- Bilateral programs (Single OUs) will participate in 1 of 3 groups
- Regional Platforms will have a longer timeframe to finalize planning and tools
- Sustaining HIV Impact OUs have additional engagement and longer timeline to finalize planning and tools

## Single OUs and Regional Platforms



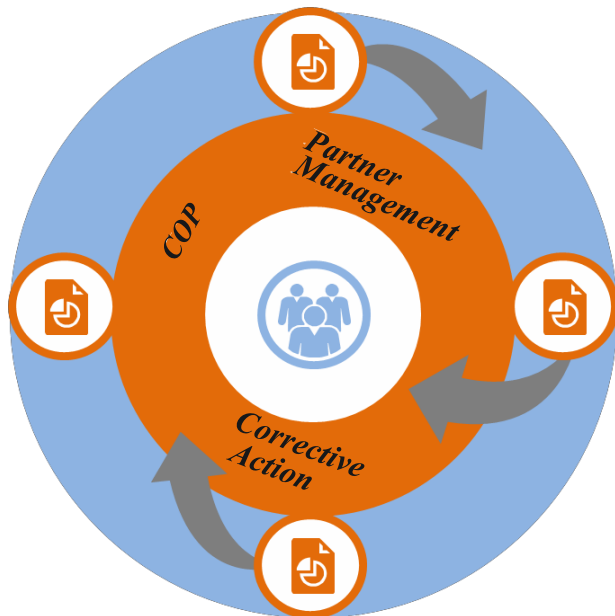
## Sustaining Impact OUs: Botswana, Eswatini, Kenya, Lesotho, Namibia, Uganda



# Planning, Implementation and Management for Program Impact

## *Implementation/ POART Cycle*

(COP20 Q4 POART included agency strategic recommendations and country presentations with Country Accountability and Support Teams (CASTs))



## COP Cycle

- Plan and budget to achieve program goals, along with program quality and sustainability
- OU-level strategy translated into actionable IM work plans
- COP22 will continue to focus on translating solutions, adaptive practices, and innovations into full-scale implementation in a rapid and efficient manner

## Quarterly POART Discussions

- COVID-19 updates and impact on PEPFAR programs
- Financial & program performance
- Partner management
  - Results (current challenges include over-testing and treatment continuity)
  - Risk mitigation (fraud, underperformance, capacity of sub awardees)
- Real time adjustments
- Q4 closes the previous FY and checks trajectory for current FY



**Country Specific Documents (Planning level letters, strategic direction summaries, prior COP approval memos):**

<https://www.state.gov/where-we-work-pepfar/>

**PEPFAR Core Program and Policy Priorities and COP/ROP22 Landing Page and Overview Webinar Presentation:**

<https://www.state.gov/2022-country-operational-plan-guidance/>

Key updates include adjusted country groupings and meeting calendars.

**COP/ROP22 Guidance (including CSO Engagement section: 2.5.3):**

[https://www.state.gov/wp-content/uploads/2022/02/COP22-Guidance-Final\\_508-Compliant-3.pdf](https://www.state.gov/wp-content/uploads/2022/02/COP22-Guidance-Final_508-Compliant-3.pdf)

**PEPFAR Panorama Spotlight Platform:**

<https://data.pepfar.gov>





# PEPFAR

U.S. President's Emergency Plan for AIDS Relief



## Thank you all!

**19 YEARS OF SAVING LIVES THROUGH AMERICAN GENEROSITY AND PARTNERSHIPS**



# COP 22 Timelines (Backup)

# COP22 Virtual Planning Meeting Groups

## Virtual COP Planning Meeting Dates

### Group 0: Week of Feb 28, 2022

#### Single OUs

- Ukraine
- Zambia

### Group 1: Week of March 7, 2022

#### Single OUs

- Nigeria
- Rwanda
- Mozambique
- South Sudan
- South Africa

#### Sustaining HIV Impact OUs

- Lesotho

### Group 2: Week of March 14, 2022

#### Single OUs

- Dominican Republic
- Zimbabwe
- Tanzania
- Côte d'Ivoire
- Ethiopia
- DRC
- Angola

#### Sustaining HIV Impact OUs

- Uganda
- Botswana

#### Regional Platforms

- West Africa Region
- Asia Region

### Group 3: Week of March 21, 2022

#### Single OUs

- Cameroon
- Vietnam
- Haiti
- Malawi
- Burundi

#### Sustaining HIV Impact OUs

- Kenya
- Eswatini
- Namibia

#### Regional Platforms

- Western Hemisphere Region
- Asia Region



# COP22 Key Webinars and Plenaries

## Cross-cutting virtual webinars as part of COP/ROP22 Planning meetings.

**COP22 Live Virtual Stakeholder & Civil Society Webinar**

Thursday, February 24, 2022  
7-8 am EST

**COP22 Live Virtual Opening Plenary**

Monday, February 28, 2022  
7-8 am EST

**COP22 Live Virtual Stakeholder & Civil Society Townhalls**

Thursday, March 10, 2022 &  
Wednesday, March 23, 2022  
8-9 am EST

**COP22 Live Virtual Key Populations CSO Drop in Listening Sessions**  
**Hosted by Interagency Key Populations Community of Practice**

Weekly Tuesday at 11am EST  
(tentative, to be confirmed, not week 0)

**COP22 Live Virtual Closing Plenary**

Monday, March 28, 2022  
7-8 am EST