Country progress report - Sudan

Global AIDS Monitoring 2017
Overall - Fast-track targets

Commitment 1 - Ensure that 30 million people living with HIV have access to treatment through meeting the 90-90-90 targets by 2020

Commitment 2 - Eliminate new HIV infections among children by 2020 while ensuring that 1.6 million children have access to HIV treatment by 2018

Commitment 3 - Ensure access to combination prevention options, including pre-exposure prophylaxis, voluntary medical male circumcision, harm reduction and condoms, to at least 90% of people by 2020, especially young women and adolescent girls in high-prevalence countries and key populations—gay men and other men who have sex with men, transgender people, sex workers and their clients, people who inject drugs and prisoners

Commitment 4 - Eliminate gender inequalities and end all forms of violence and discrimination against women and girls, people living with HIV and key populations by 2020
Commitment 5 - Ensure that 90% of young people have the skills, knowledge and capacity to protect themselves from HIV and have access to sexual and reproductive health services by 2020, in order to reduce the number of new HIV infections among adolescent girls and young women to below 100,000 per year.

Commitment 6 - Ensure that 75% of people living with, at risk of and affected by HIV benefit from HIV-sensitive social protection by 2020.

Commitment 7 - Ensure that at least 30% of all service delivery is community-led by 2020.

Commitment 8 - Ensure that HIV investments increase to US$ 26 billion by 2020, including a quarter for HIV prevention and 6% for social enablers.

Commitment 9 - Empower people living with, at risk of and affected by HIV to know their rights and to access justice and legal services to prevent and challenge violations of human rights.

Commitment 10 - Commit to taking AIDS out of isolation through people-centered systems to improve universal health coverage, including treatment for tuberculosis, cervical cancer and hepatitis B and C.
Overall

Fast-track targets

Progress summary

Sudan is country of low epidemic with prevalence 0.3% according to the last estimates.

A recent epidemiological review reveals that there is no major change in the epidemic picture with the epidemic concentrated among two groups as key populations (FSW and MSM).

None the less Sudan has availed to reach the 90-90-90 goals through different approaches and major mitigation measures as Sudan is considered to have many challenging conditions to optimal implementation.

4.1 Discriminatory attitudes towards people living with HIV, Sudan (2015-2016)

Percentage of respondents (aged 15–49 years) who respond "No" to question "Would you buy fresh vegetables from a shopkeeper or vendor if you knew that this person had HIV?"

![Graph showing discriminatory attitudes over time]
Commitment 1

Ensure that 30 million people living with HIV have access to treatment through meeting the 90-90-90 targets by 2020

Progress summary

Through the adoption of the WHO guidelines on treatment, Sudan has started the test and treat policy for all people testing HIV positive. This new treatment policy is expected to increase the number of PLHIV starting with enrollment with those currently known to be HIV positive but still in care.

To reach the 90-90-90 case detection has to be improved through increase testing among key population through Introduction of new operations models such as Peer Driven Intervention (PDI) (incentive-based testing) at NGOs’ facilities while increasing efficiency of current models (peer-to-peer and provider-client) are expected to improve levels of HTS.

Improve integration between relevant programs, ensure adherence of care providers to Provider Initiated Testing and Counselling PITC guidelines, improving M&E and case surveillance, addressing stigma among health care providers, and geographic refocusing of services.

Improve linkage to care through active referrals

improve quality of care particularly counseling, patient monitoring and tracking systems, early detection and initiation of Antiretroviral drugs (ARVs) besides increasing accessibility via smaller ART dispensary units, clinics rehabilitation and utilization of adherence supporters system in all ART centers and active engagement of PLHIV.

Policy questions

Is there a law, regulation or policy specifying that HIV testing:

a) Is solely performed based on voluntary and informed consent

Yes

b) Is mandatory before marriage

No

c) Is mandatory to obtain a work or residence permit
Yes

d) Is mandatory for certain groups

Yes

What is the recommended CD4 threshold for initiating antiretroviral therapy in adults and adolescents who are asymptomatic, as per MoH guidelines or directive, and what is the implementation status?

TREAT ALL regardless of CD4 count; Implemented in many (>50%) treatment sites

Does your country have a current national policy on routine viral load testing for monitoring antiretroviral therapy and to what extent is it implemented?

a) For adults and adolescents

Yes, partially implemented

b) For children

Yes, partially implemented

1.2 People living with HIV on antiretroviral therapy, Sudan (2011-2016)
Commitment 2

Eliminate new HIV infections among children by 2020 while ensuring that 1.6 million children have access to HIV treatment by 2018

Progress summary

Sudan has taken a strategic direction towards complete integration of all health services at PHC including PMTCT and Reproductive, Maternal, New-Born, Child, and Adolescent Health (RMNCH/A).

the current treatment guideline is B+ regimen.

linkage to care has drastically improved after installing the active referral mechanism.

Policy questions

Does your country have a national plan for the elimination of mother-to-child transmission of HIV?

No

Do the national guidelines recommend treating all infants and children living with HIV irrespective of symptoms and if so, what is the implementation status of the cut-off?

Treat All

Implemented countrywide
2.3 Preventing the mother-to-child transmission of HIV, Sudan (2011-2016)

![Chart showing the number of women living with HIV who delivered within the past 12 months, the number of pregnant women living with HIV who delivered and received antiretroviral therapy, and those already receiving antiretroviral therapy before the current pregnancy.](image-url)
Commitment 3

Ensure access to combination prevention options, including pre-exposure prophylaxis, voluntary medical male circumcision, harm reduction and condoms, to at least 90% of people by 2020, especially young women and adolescent girls in high-prevalence countries and key populations—gay men and other men who have sex with men, transgender people, sex workers and their clients, people who inject drugs and prisoners.

Progress summary

A comprehensive prevention package is offered to key population (MSM and FSW).

Access to condoms is granted through specific outlets like VCT, ART, STI centers, TBMUs, etc.

Male circumcision is universal as 100% of male population are circumcised at an early age as a religious directive.

Policy questions: Key populations

Criminalization and/or prosecution of key populations

Transgender people

Sex workers

Men who have sex with men
Is drug use or possession for personal use an offence in your country?

-  

Legal protections for key populations

Transgender people

-  

Sex workers

-  

Men who have sex with men

-  

People who inject drugs

No

Policy questions: PrEP

Is pre-exposure prophylaxis (PrEP) available in your country?

No

3.11 Active syphilis among sex workers, Sudan (2011-2016)
3.12 Active syphilis among men who have sex with men, Sudan (2011-2016)
Commitment 4

Eliminate gender inequalities and end all forms of violence and discrimination against women and girls, people living with HIV and key populations by 2020

Progress summary

A number of women empowerment initiatives addressing gender related issues, took place in last 3 three years representing opportunities for integrating some disease control services. A law for protection of rights of women and children was endorsed and is now effective. A police department for protection of rights of women and children and prevention against violence, was established in collaboration with Ministry of Justice. Clear lines of coordination especially with ART centres to access counseling and Post Exposure Prophylaxis (PEP) services in cases of rape were established. This request will also continue the comprehensive peer support package of HIV/gender related violence-FGM/C among key affected population.

A woman coalition led by First lady and wives of states governors are mobilizing and promoting for improved coverage and access of woman and children to maternal and child health services including PMTCT. Efforts are underway in 2017 and in the new period to explore more opportunities for streamlining these initiatives to remove any encountered gender-related and structural barriers to access health care services including TB/HIV/malaria.

Gender and vulnerability lens was used to investigate findings, which will be utilized for more tailored quality services in the coming period. De-stigmatizing interventions building on Sudanese constitution and laws were implemented and some are in the pipeline of 2017.

Policy questions

Does your country have a national plan or strategy to address gender-based violence* and violence against women that includes HIV

Yes

Does your country have legislation on domestic violence*?

No
Does your country have any of the following to protect key populations and people living with HIV from violence?

Interventions to address torture and ill-treatment in prisons

Does your country have policies in place requiring healthcare settings to provide timely and quality health care regardless of gender, nationality, age, disability, ethnic origin, sexual orientation, religion, language, socio-economic status, HIV or other health status, or because of selling sex, using drugs, living in prison or any other grounds?

- Percentage of Global AIDS Monitoring indicators with data disaggregated by gender

60.00%

3 / 5
Commitment 5

Ensure that 90% of young people have the skills, knowledge and capacity to protect themselves from HIV and have access to sexual and reproductive health services by 2020, in order to reduce the number of new HIV infections among adolescent girls and young women to below 100,000 per year.

Policy questions

Does your country have education policies that guide the delivery of life skills-based HIV and sexuality education*, according to international standards*, in:

a) Primary school

Yes

b) Secondary school

Yes

c) Teacher training

Yes
5.1 Young people: Knowledge about HIV prevention, Sudan (2016)

Percentage of women and men 15-24 years old who correctly identify both ways of preventing the sexual transmission of HIV and reject major misconceptions about HIV transmission.
Commitment 6

Ensure that 75% of people living with, at risk of and affected by HIV benefit from HIV-sensitive social protection by 2020

Policy questions

Yes

a) Does it refer to HIV?
Yes

b) Does it recognize people living with HIV as key beneficiaries?
Yes

c) Does it recognize key populations (sex workers, gay men and other men who have sex with men, people who inject drugs, transgender people, prisoners) as key beneficiaries?
Yes

d) Does it recognize adolescent girls and young women as key beneficiaries?
Yes

e) Does it recognize people affected by HIV (children and families) as key beneficiaries?
Yes

f) Does it address the issue of unpaid care work in the context of HIV?
Yes

Do any of the following barriers limit access to social protection* programmes in your country

People living with HIV, key populations and/or people affected by HIV are covered by another programme
Commitment 7

Ensure that at least 30% of all service delivery is community-led by 2020

Progress summary

strengthening of community governance and better involvement of community through provision of services among key populations by peer driven interventions.
awareness raising for HIV testing among pregnant women.

Policy questions

Does your country have a national policy promoting community delivery of antiretroviral therapy?

No

Are there any of the following safeguards in laws, regulations and policies that provide for the operation of CSOs/CBOs in your country?

Registration of HIV CSOs is possible
Registration of CSOs/CBOs working with key populations is possible
HIV services can be provided by CSOs/CBOs
Services to key populations can be provided by CSOs/CBOs
Reporting requirements for CSOs/CBOs delivering HIV services are streamlined

Number of condoms and lubricants distributed by NGOs in the previous year

a) Male condoms:

b) Female condoms:

c) Lubricants:
Commitment 8

Ensure that HIV investments increase to US$ 26 billion by 2020, including a quarter for HIV prevention and 6% for social enablers

Progress summary

the prime funder for HIV interventions is the Global Fund, none the less Sudan is working on resource mobilization plan to locate more sustainable resources and from the local funders.
Commitment 9

Empower people living with, at risk of and affected by HIV to know their rights and to access justice and legal services to prevent and challenge violations of human rights

Progress summary

The Sudanese People living with HIV care association as a full fletched body with federal and state level branches has a continuous training session on human rights and the rights for PLHIV, with access to legal advisers who assist PLHIV in case there were any violations or discrimination.

Policy questions

In the past two years have there been training and/or capacity building programmes for people living with HIV and key populations to educate them and raise their awareness concerning their rights (in the context of HIV) in your country?

Yes, at scale at the national level.

Are there mechanisms in place to record and address cases of HIV-related discrimination (based on perceived HIV status and/or belonging to any key population)?

The Sudanese PLHIV care association monitors and documents cases of HIV related discrimination specially to the members of the association which is covers both national and state level.

Does your country have any of the following accountability mechanisms in relation to discrimination and violations of human rights in healthcare settings?

- 

Does your country have any of the following barriers to accessing accountability mechanisms present?

Awareness or knowledge of how to use such mechanisms is limited.
Commitment 10

Commit to taking AIDS out of isolation through people-centred systems to improve universal health coverage, including treatment for tuberculosis, cervical cancer and hepatitis B and C

Progress summary

Tb and HIV are fully integrated in Sudan as PLHIV in care and ART are regularly assessed for Tb and referred for treatment and Tb patients are tested for HIV with active referral to ART centers when needed.

Policy questions

Is cervical cancer screening and treatment for women living with HIV recommended in:

a. The national strategy, policy, plan or guidelines for cancer, cervical cancer or the broader response to non-communicable diseases (NCDs)

No

b. The national strategic plan governing the AIDS response

No

c. National HIV-treatment guidelines

No

What coinfection policies are in place in the country for adults, adolescents and children?

Isoniazid preventive therapy (IPT) or latent TB infection (LTBI) prophylaxis for people living with HIV

Intensified TB case finding among people living with HIV

TB infection control in HIV health-care settings

Co-trimoxazole prophylaxis
10.1 Co-managing TB and HIV treatment, Sudan (2011-2016)

10.2 Proportion of people living with HIV newly enrolled in HIV care with active TB disease, Sudan (2015-2016)