

EVERY CHILD BORN FREE FROM HIV

EVERY WOMAN AND CHILD WITH ACCESS
TO HIV TREATMENT



*Victoria Beckham, UNAIDS International
Goodwill Ambassador*

“This is the beginning of an important journey for me. I am proud and honoured to be taking on this new role as International Goodwill Ambassador for UNAIDS, helping to raise resources and awareness around HIV. As a woman and a mother I have a responsibility to support other women. I strongly believe that if we work together all women can be empowered to keep themselves and their children free from HIV.”

Victoria Beckham, UNAIDS International Goodwill Ambassador

“I dream of an AIDS-free generation and I know that Victoria’s support will bring us closer to this shared goal. Her creativity, innovation and outreach will help us reach millions of people around the world. Her voice will help to amplify our efforts to ensure that all women and children have access to life-saving HIV prevention, treatment and care services.”

Michel Sidibé, Executive Director, UNAIDS

Every day more than 650 children become infected with HIV

If a woman is living with HIV, the virus can pass to her baby during pregnancy, labour, birth or when breastfeeding. But if she has access to antiretroviral therapy, the risk of transmission drops to less than 5%.

In 2013, around 33% of pregnant women living with HIV did not have access to the life-saving medicines and 240 000 children became infected with HIV.

Without access to treatment, half of all children born with HIV will die by the age of two and the majority will die by the age of five. In 2013, only 24% of children living with HIV had access to life-saving antiretroviral therapy.

In high-income countries, new HIV infections among children have been virtually eliminated thanks to effective HIV testing and counselling, access to antiretroviral prophylaxis and treatment, safe delivery practices, family planning and safe infant feeding.

Many low- and middle-income countries are now achieving similar success. New HIV infections among children have declined by 58% since 2001. Over the past five years providing access to antiretroviral medicines for pregnant women living with HIV has helped 900 000 children to be born free from HIV.

UNAIDS and partners are working to ensure that all children, everywhere are born free from HIV and that all women and children have access to the medicines, care and support they need.

In 2011, UNAIDS and partners launched the *Global Plan towards the elimination of new HIV infections among children by 2015 and keeping their mothers alive*. It is an achievable goal. It requires leadership, passion and sustained commitment to ensure women are empowered to act—for themselves and for their families.

Five steps to stopping new HIV infections among children

1

Empower women to protect themselves from HIV. A mother free from HIV cannot pass on the virus to her children.

2

Enable every woman living with HIV to have access to family planning—so women and their partners can then plan when and whether to have a child.

3

Provide all pregnant women with access to antenatal care, including HIV testing and counselling.

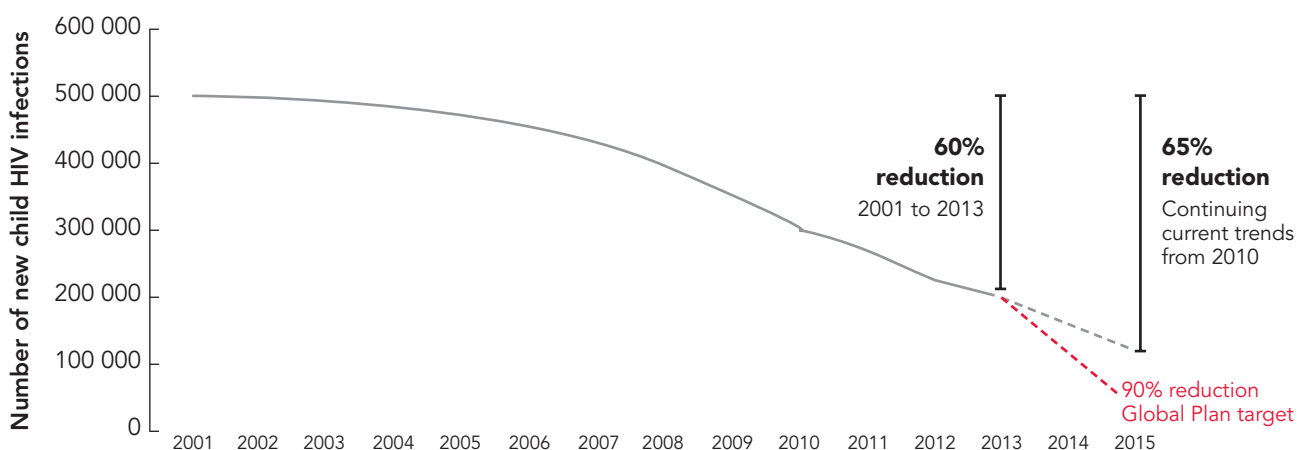
4

Enable pregnant women living with HIV to access the best possible anti-retroviral therapy—for their own health and to protect their children from HIV.

5

Ensure all children and women living with HIV have access to antiretroviral treatment for their own health.

Number of new HIV infections among children globally, 2005–2013, and projected targets



Source: UNAIDS 2013 estimates.

KEY FACTS

240 000

The number of children newly infected with HIV.

3.2 million

The number of children living with HIV.

190 000

The number of HIV-related deaths among children.

90%

Of all new HIV infections among children occur in just 22 countries.

67%

The percentage of mothers living with HIV receiving some form of antiretroviral prophylaxis to stop new infections among children.

24%

The percentage of children living with HIV receiving life-saving antiretroviral therapy.

1/2

Of children living with HIV will die before their second birthday if they don't have access to antiretroviral therapy.

All data from the end of 2013.

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