

# FACTSHEET

## UN Joint Programme on HIV



### The issue

Viet Nam's HIV epidemic remains in a concentrated phase, with the majority of reported HIV cases relating directly or indirectly to injecting drug use, buying and selling sex and/or male-to-male sex. Prevalence across the adult population (aged 15-49) was estimated to be 0.44 per cent in 2009. It is estimated there are 254,000 people living with HIV (PLHIV) in 2010 and will be up to 280,000 by 2012.

Viet Nam has made major advances in the response to HIV since the implementation of its National Strategy on HIV/AIDS Prevention and Control until 2010 with a vision to 2020 and the establishment of the National Committee for HIV/AIDS, Drugs and Prostitution Prevention and Control.

Under the National HIV Strategy, nine Programmes of Action were called for to provide detailed guidance for the implementation of HIV programmes. The Law on HIV/AIDS Prevention and Control and Decree 108 are the key pieces of legislation for HIV prevention and control. This policy and legislative framework has enabled Viet Nam to begin implementing the 'Three Ones' (one national AIDS coordinating authority, one national agreed upon HIV action framework and one monitoring and evaluation [M&E] system) and take steps towards its commitment to universal access to prevention, treatment, care and support.

However, human resource constraints must be addressed, in addition to HIV-related stigma and discrimination in the health care and community settings. Other challenges include the following:

- Most of the national programs of action have not yet been well costed and practical normative guidance are not yet available in many technical areas.
- Current responses are either limited in effectiveness or otherwise localized with limited coverage.
- Many HIV services are fragmented and uncoordinated largely due to their project-oriented nature.
- Providing HIV prevention, treatment, care and support interventions in closed settings.
- The programmatic and management capacity of local institutions, including the newly established Provincial AIDS Centres, is still largely limited, which obstructs delivery of effective HIV services for those in need.
- The current surveillance system needs to be strengthened and data collected needs to be better used strategically for planning and monitoring the results of the response.

### KEY FACTS

**Budget:** USD 11,600,000

**PROGRAMME DURATION:** 2008 – 2011

#### UN PARTICIPATING AGENCIES:

ILO, IOM, UNAIDS, UNDP, UNESCO, UNFPA, UNICEF, UNIFEM, UNODC, UNV and WHO

#### NATIONAL IMPLEMENTING PARTNERS include:

- National Committee on AIDS, Drugs and Prostitution Prevention and Control
- Ministry of Health (VAAC)
- Ministry of Labour, Invalids and Social Affairs (MOLISA)
- Ministry of Public Security
- Ministry of Education
- Ministry of Justice
- Civil Society and network of people living with HIV.

#### DIRECT BENEFICIARIES:

- Ministries & Government agencies
- The Party and elected bodies at national and provincial level
- Civil society
- Mass media
- People living with HIV

## The joint programme:

The UN Joint Programme on HIV in Viet Nam represents coherent strategies and action to support Viet Nam in addressing the challenges and opportunities in the national response to HIV. HIV as a multisectoral issue which requires a multi-faceted response, drawing on the strengths of the UN's many organisations. This response will be significantly enhanced through closer coordination, in line with the Ha Noi Core Statement. With the establishment of a UN Joint Programme on HIV, UN organisations work more effectively together and with the government, party, and civil society, capitalising on their collective comparative advantage. All UN programming and activity relating to HIV in Viet Nam are undertaken in accordance with the One Plan under the One UN Initiative, which guides cooperation between Viet Nam and the UN.

## Unique features:

- The UN Joint Programme on HIV is an integral part of the overall UN support to national development priorities, including poverty reduction and socio-economic development strategies, and sits within the framework of the MDGs, the 2001 UNGASS Declaration and commitments on universal access.
- The outcome of a joint programming exercise by the UN system, the joint programme includes approved ongoing and future HIV activities of participating UN organizations that contribute to a set of common and agreed objectives and results in support of national needs and priorities.
- The cross-cutting issues of gender, human rights and rights-based approaches and addressing stigma and discrimination are incorporated into the joint programme.

## Key outcomes:

- The multisectoral national strategic response to HIV in Viet Nam is strengthened and expanded according to the National HIV Strategy.
- The coverage of quality prevention, treatment, care and support interventions is expanded.
- Within the broad focus of these two outcomes, the UN Joint Programme on HIV provides strong impetus to:
  - Move towards universal access to prevention, treatment, care and support with a focus on targeting key populations at higher risk.
  - Strengthen comprehensive education, civil society and business sector responses.
  - Promote and empower civil society.
  - Build public and private institutional capacity and leadership to address stigma and discrimination towards PLHIV and those affected by HIV.

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