

The PROMISE



of PARTNERSHIPS



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“Let us rededicate ourselves to transforming the world through the promise of partnerships.”

—Ambassador Mark Dybul, U.S. Global AIDS Coordinator



President George W. Bush promised to lead the fight against global HIV/AIDS in 2003 with the launch of the U.S. President's Emergency Plan for AIDS Relief (Emergency Plan/PEPFAR), a \$15 billion commitment to fight the disease in more than 120 countries worldwide. America has followed through on this commitment and, in partnership with the people of many host nations, now leads the world in its level of support for the fight against HIV/AIDS.

The heart of President Bush's Emergency Plan for AIDS Relief is to work shoulder-to-shoulder with partners in host nations in support of the national strategy in each country. The promise of these partnerships is to support nations in developing the capacity that will allow communities to sustain their efforts long after the initial five years of the Emergency Plan.

PREVENTION

Today, the United States supports the most diverse portfolio of HIV/AIDS prevention strategies of any international partner, including the ABC (Abstain, Be faithful, correct and consistent use of Condoms) strategy to prevent sexual transmission, the expansion of programs that focus on prevention of mother-to-child HIV transmission, and blood safety and safe medical injections, in addition to addressing key issues such as injecting drug users, HIV-discordant couples, gender, and alcohol abuse.

The ABC strategy is an African solution, developed in Africa, and reflects respect for local culture. The strategy provides comprehensive information, so people can decide how to protect themselves. In the early 1990s, Uganda became the world's leading example of a country with an HIV/AIDS epidemic that was generalized throughout the population, rather than concentrated in subgroups, where many people changed their sexual behavior to protect themselves. New evidence now shows that people in other nations in Africa and the Caribbean also have changed their behavior, causing HIV infection rates to drop. The United States supports host nations in implementing the evidence-based ABC strategy.

TREATMENT

All HIV-infected men, women and children deserve quality treatment. The Emergency Plan coordinates with host nation contributions and other partners under national strategies to provide the full spectrum of treatment services. Quality treatment includes trained clinical and laboratory personnel and counselors for adherence, prevention and healthy living; physical infrastructure, including laboratory equipment, as well as systems for distribution, logistics and management for drugs and other commodities; treatment for opportunistic infections and other basic care; and much more.

HIV COUNSELING & TESTING

The United States, in partnership with the people of many nations, is supporting national efforts to massively scale up the number of people receiving HIV counseling and testing. When people learn their status, they can begin treatment, or take the appropriate steps to avoid spreading the infection to others or becoming infected in the future.

The Emergency Plan sponsors a range of activities, including support for counseling and testing sites, counseling messages, training, country and program assessment, test kit procurement, promotion of counseling and testing, quality assurance, and monitoring and evaluation.

CARE

In coordination with host governments, and working under national strategies, the Emergency Plan supports a wide range of activities aimed at improving the lives of people living with and affected by HIV/AIDS. These include a range of interventions to help families, communities and governments care for children living with and affected by HIV/AIDS, including orphans and vulnerable children. Care efforts include caregiver training; access to education; eco-

omic support; food and nutrition support; legal aid; medical, psychological and emotional care; and other social and material support activities.

GENDER

Programs that address gender roles and inequities can help to prevent HIV infection and address other consequences of HIV/AIDS among women and men. Emergency Plan prevention efforts recognize that deep-seated norms around male behavior must be addressed in order to achieve the widespread behavior change necessary to curb the HIV epidemic. Key strategies include increasing gender equity in HIV/AIDS programs and services; reducing violence and coercion; addressing male norms and behaviors; increasing women's legal protection; and increasing women's access to income and productive resources.

PUBLIC-PRIVATE PARTNERSHIPS

Public-private partnerships enable the U.S. Government and private sector entities to maximize their efforts through jointly defined objectives, program design and implementation.

PEPFAR is working with businesses and foundations on initiatives to address such issues as pediatric AIDS treatment, building systems and sustainability through technology, and clean drinking water. Other examples of public-private partnerships include promoting HIV prevention with Zambia's tourism industry, expanding treatment and care with sugar companies in Kenya, and building human capacity with Pfizer Inc.

INTERNATIONAL COOPERATION

The United States was instrumental in the creation of the Global Fund to Fight AIDS, Tuberculosis and Malaria, with President Bush making its founding pledge in 2001. In 2003, as part of PEPFAR, the United States pledged an additional \$1 billion over a five-year period. During the first two years of PEPFAR (2004 and 2005), the United States contributed \$873 million, which is nearly 90 percent of the Emergency Plan pledge. The United States intends to contribute \$844.5 million to the Global Fund for 2006 and 2007, bringing the total U.S. contribution to over \$2.3 billion.

The United States also supports the “Three Ones” agreement, which represents a commitment on the part of the major international HIV/AIDS partners to support one national HIV/AIDS framework, one national coordinating authority, and one country-level monitoring and evaluation system in each nation.

SUSTAINABILITY

The heart of the Emergency Plan is to work shoulder-to-shoulder with partners in host nations in support of the national strategy in each country. The goal is to build quality health-care networks and increase infrastructure capacity in host nations to allow communities to sustain their efforts against HIV/AIDS.

The Partnership for Supply Chain Management, established in September 2005, is working to strengthen systems to deliver an uninterrupted supply of high-quality, affordable products in the developing world.

The Emergency Plan also supports countries' efforts to initiate or improve their surveillance systems, including conducting behavioral surveillance surveys, demographic and health surveys, and antenatal care clinic surveillance.

In partnership with host nations, PEPFAR is investing significantly in building and strengthening the healthcare workforce and associated systems of developing nations.

The Emergency Plan supports the work of host countries and implementing partners in creating individualized laboratory support plans to strengthen the training of laboratory personnel, to ensure that quality laboratory practices are followed, and to assist in providing necessary equipment and supplies.

