

Regional overview of HIV among transgender people

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From barriers to bridges: Increasing access to HIV and other health services for trans people in Asia

20 September 2017

Bangkok, Thailand

Asia and the Pacific Fast-Track Targets

By 2020

Fewer than

90 000

new infections

More than

4.2 million

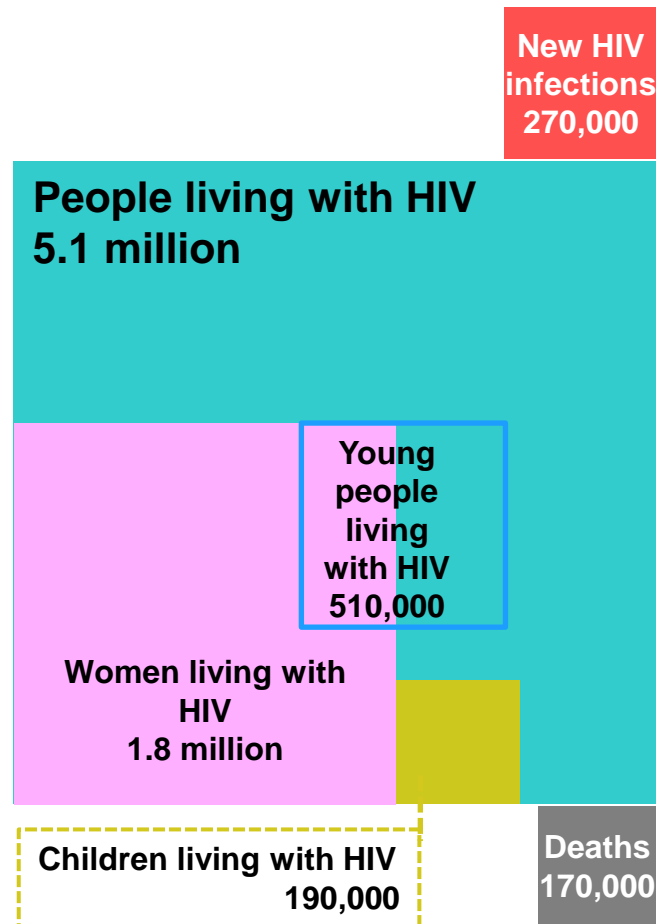
on treatment

ZERO

discrimination

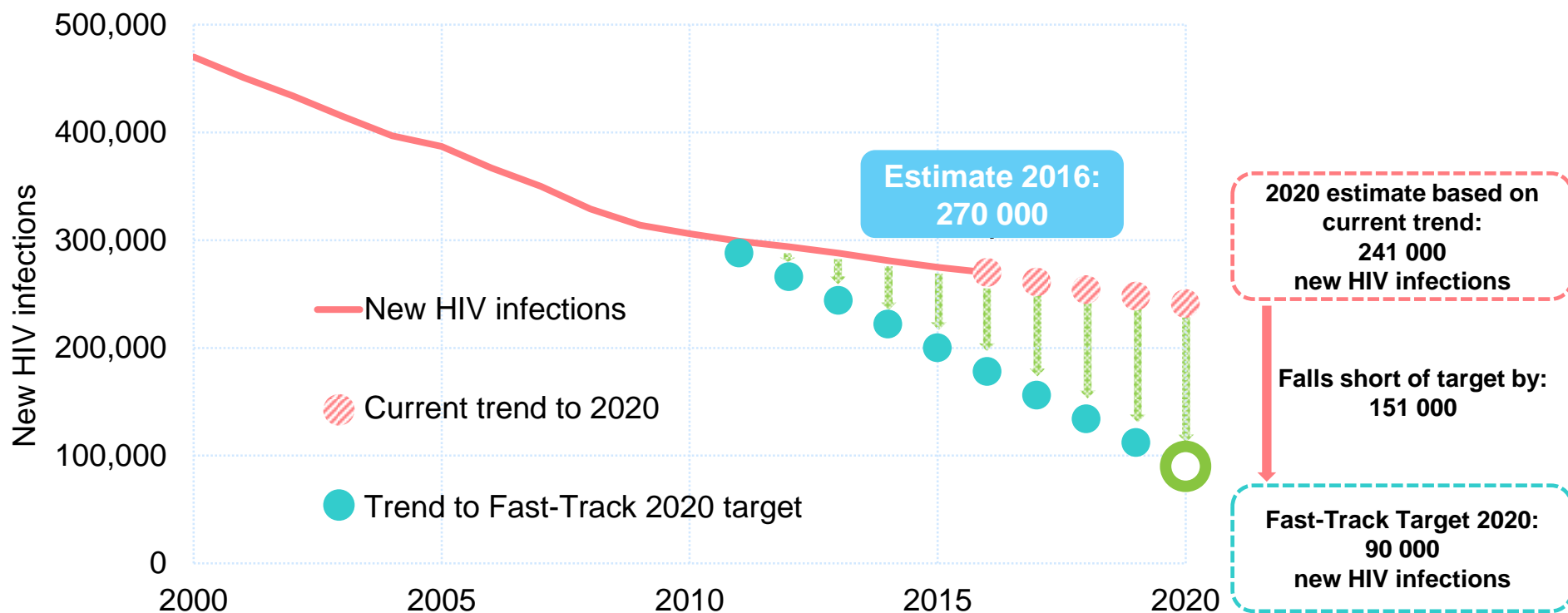
Regional snapshot of HIV infections and AIDS-related deaths

HIV and AIDS in Asia and the Pacific, 2016



ENDING AIDS BY 2030: Fast-Track and reduce new infections by 2020

Estimated new HIV infections in Asia and the Pacific

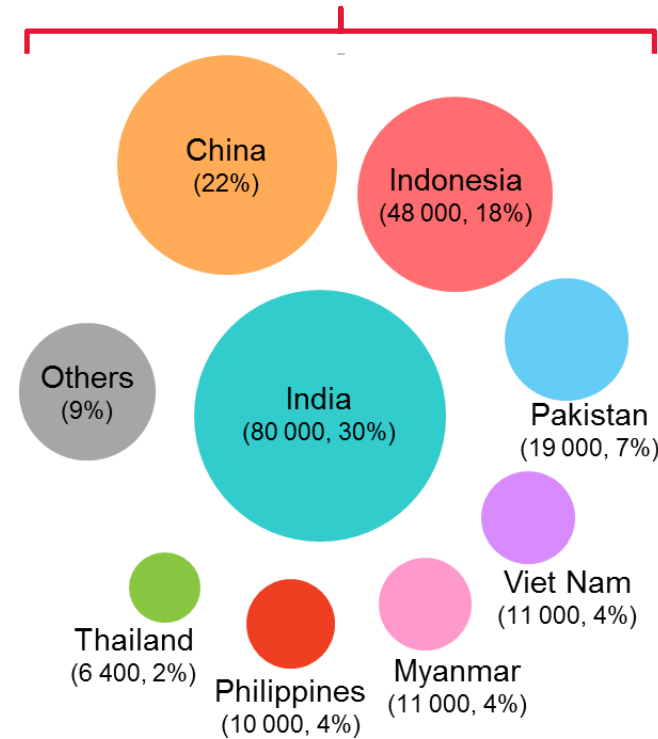
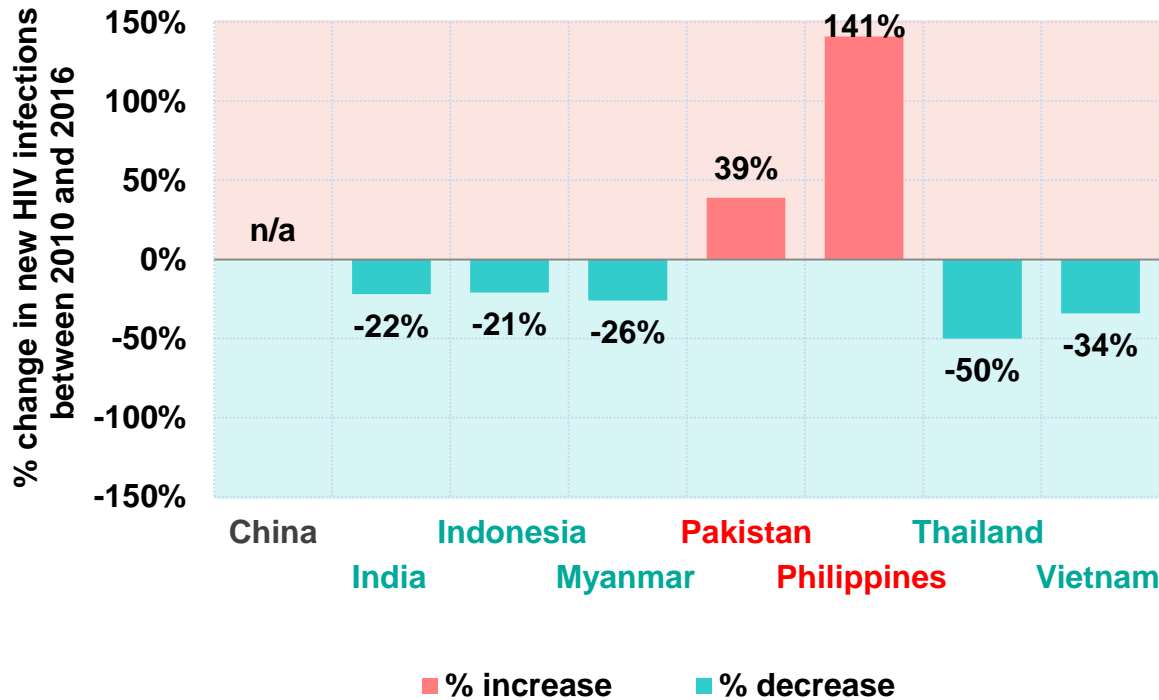


A significant variation in new HIV infections trends in Asia and the Pacific countries

Percent change in new HIV infections between 2010 and 2016

Distribution of new HIV infections by country, 2016

270 000 new HIV infections in Asia and the Pacific in 2016

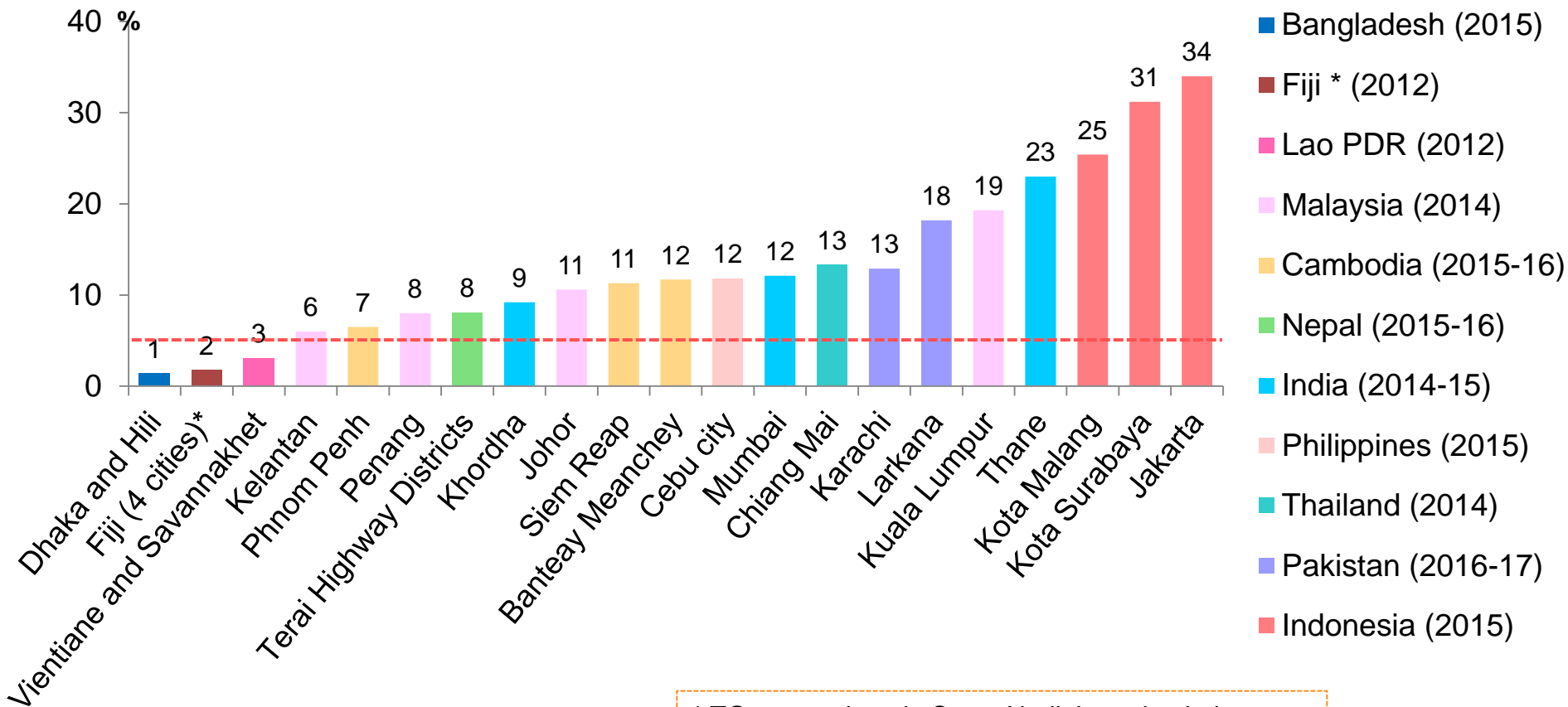


Getting to zero



High HIV prevalence observed in some cities and geographical locations

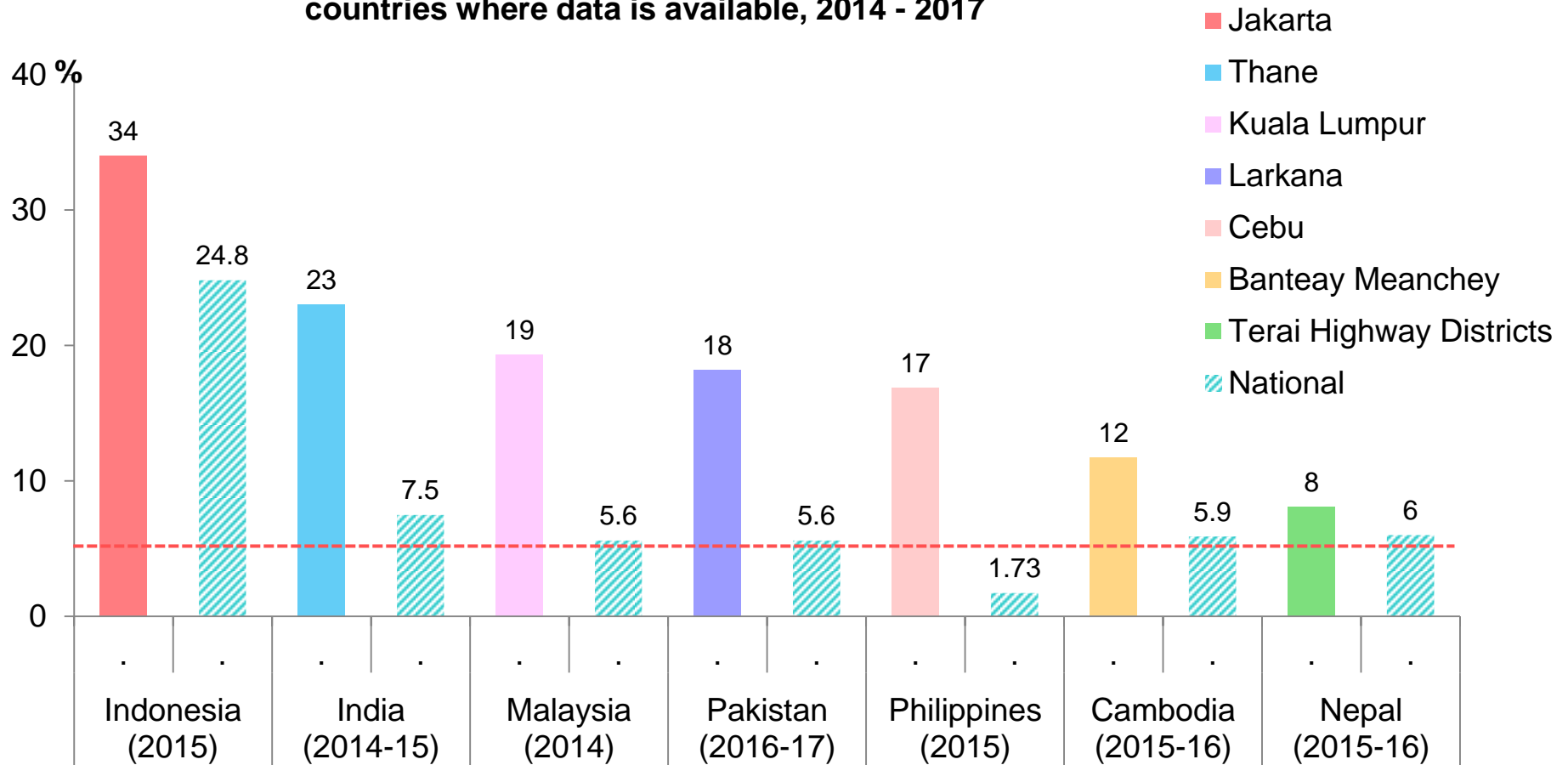
HIV prevalence among transgender people, 2012-2017



* TG sex workers in Suva, Nadi, Lautoka, Labasa

Available data indicate higher HIV prevalence among transgender people in certain geographical areas in select countries

National versus location specific HIV prevalence among transgender, countries where data is available, 2014 - 2017



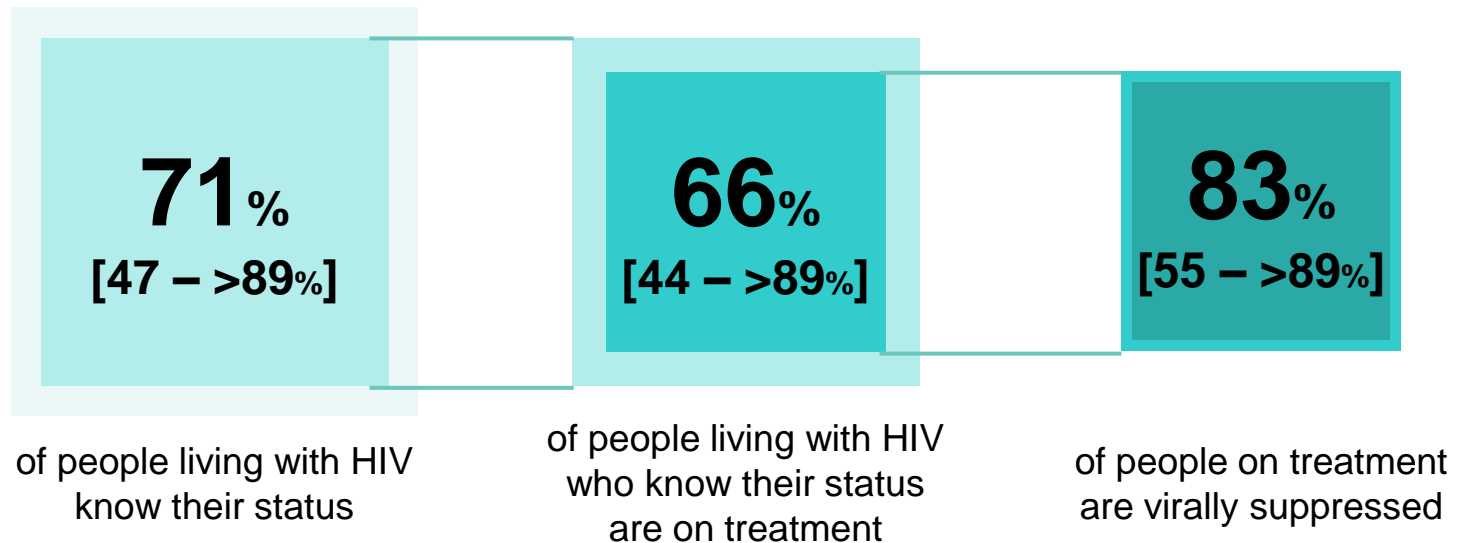
Getting to zero



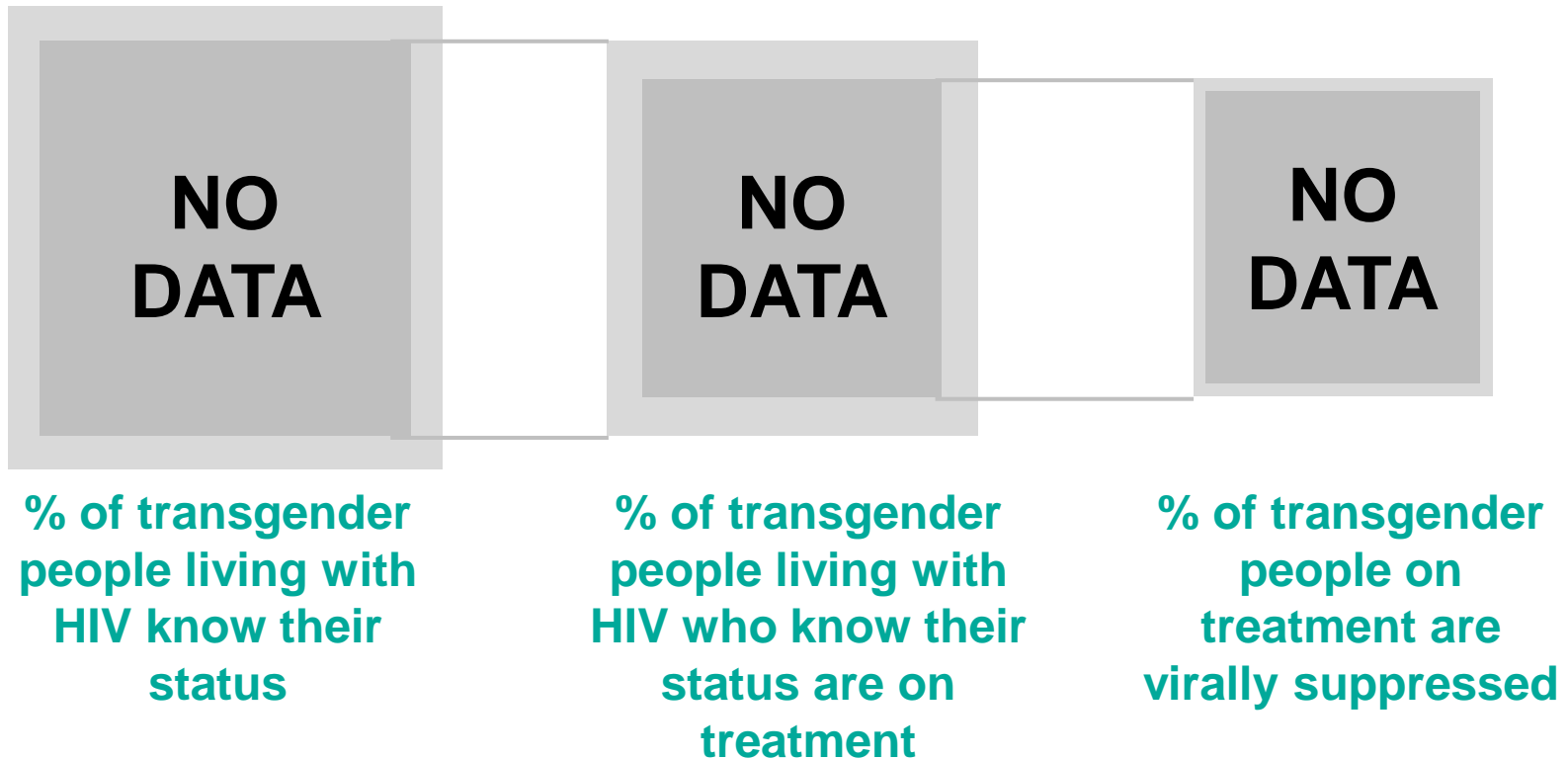
Source: Prepared by www.aidsdatahub.org based on HIV Sentinel Surveillance Reports, Integrated Biological and Behavioral Surveillance Reports and other serological survey reports

Progress towards the 90–90–90 targets: Asia and the Pacific, 2016

Asia and the Pacific

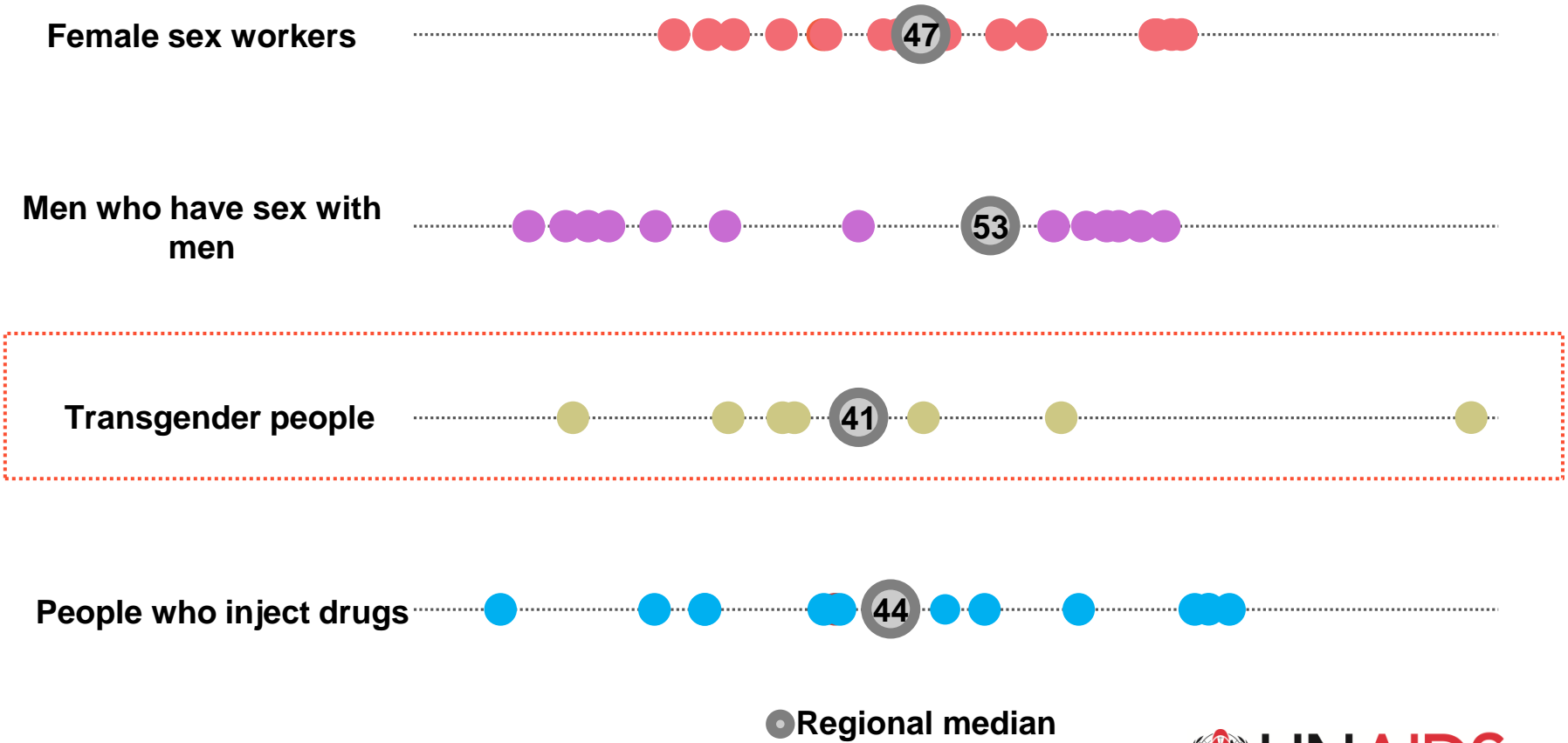


Urgent and serious data need for key population specific 90-90-90 treatment target tracking



HIV testing is the entry point for prevention and treatment but low HIV testing coverage among key populations particularly among transgender people

HIV testing coverage among key populations



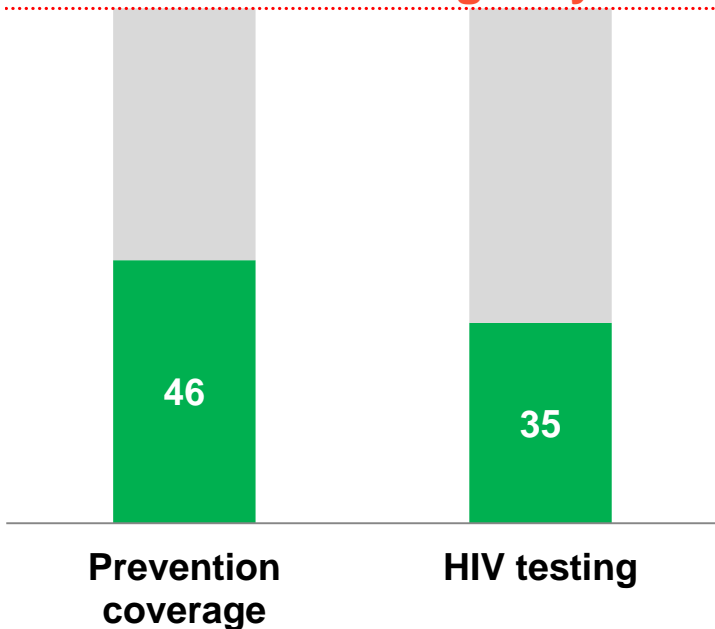
Source: Prepared by www.aidsdatahub.org based on Global AIDS Monitoring (GAM) Reporting 2017

With current level of response, we cannot end AIDS among transgender, and we cannot end AIDS in Asia and the Pacific

HIV prevention and testing coverage among transgender women

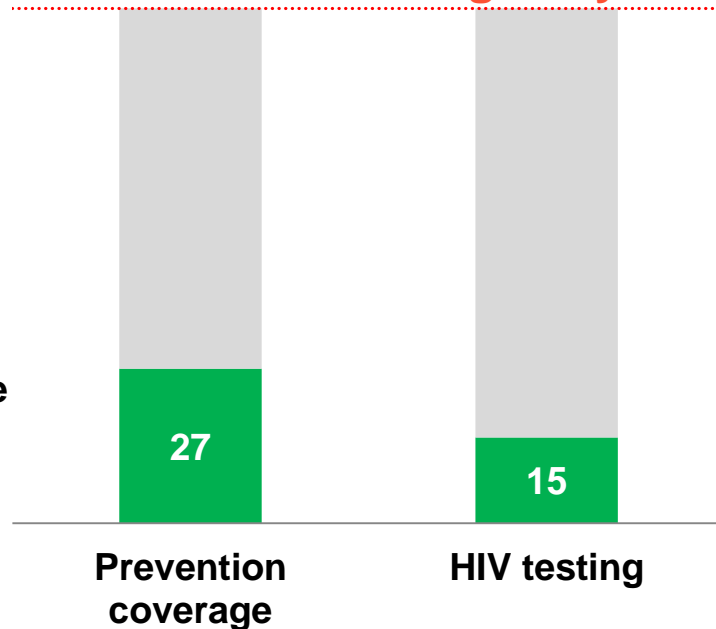
Bangladesh

90% Fast-Track Target by 2020



Philippines

90% Fast-Track Target by 2020



Gap
Coverage



Social justice and human rights are fundamental to address the public health needs of transgender women

In India...



1 in 5
Transgender women

experienced **sexual violence** in last 12 months

In Bangladesh...



1 in 4
Transgender women

reported being **raped** in last 12 months

In Cambodia...



1 in 5
Transgender women

have been **denied/thrown out** of a housing in their life time

In Pakistan...

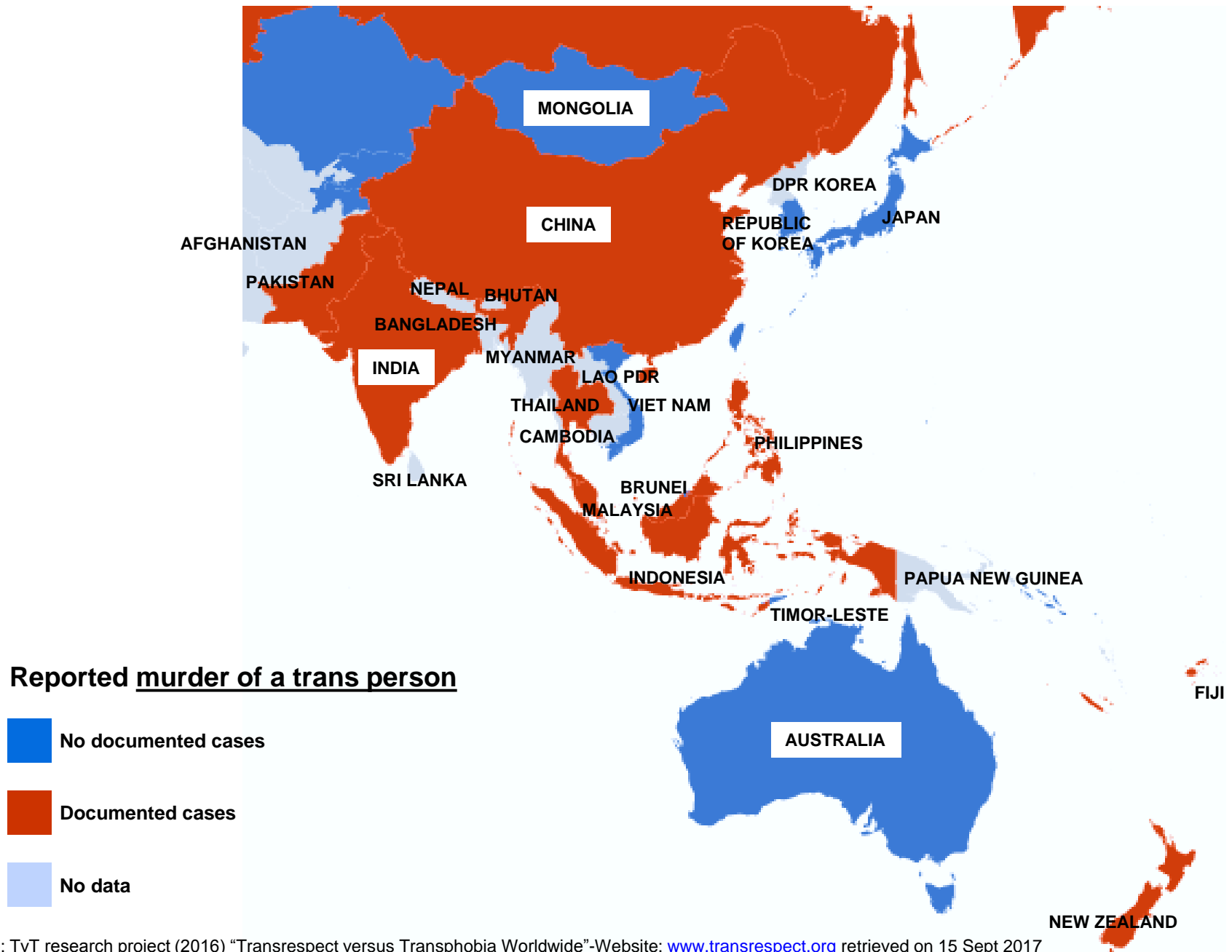


1 in 6
Transgender women

have been **denied healthcare** in their life time



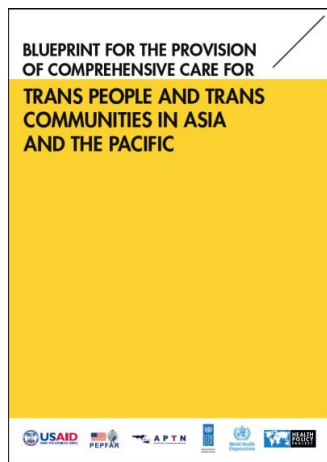
Transphobia: a serious health risk to address



Transgender people have multiple health needs beyond HIV and need to bridge the divide between services

- Integration and synergies between **harm reduction** and **sexual and reproductive health services (SRH)**
 - Lack of access to trans-competent health services leads to increased risk of infections such as HIV, Hepatitis B and C through sharing needles for self-injection of substances for gender-affirmation (self-prescribed hormones, soft-tissue fillers, etc) ,
- Cross-referral between HIV and SRH services for **contraceptive services** and discussion on **reproductive options** through service providers who are sensitive and knowledgeable to the needs of transgender people
 - Higher risk of thrombotic events particularly among TG women who use OC pills
 - Possibility of conception, teratogenic effect of testosterone in pregnancy (TG men)
- Gender affirmation services - important entry points for HIV testing and linkages to treatment services
- Prevention and management of **co-infections and co-morbidities** such as TB , viral hepatitis
- Counselling and management of **depression, psychosocial stress, drug and alcohol dependency** etc in a non-stigmatizing, and gender-affirming setting with the clear understanding that transgender identity itself should not be considered a mental illness

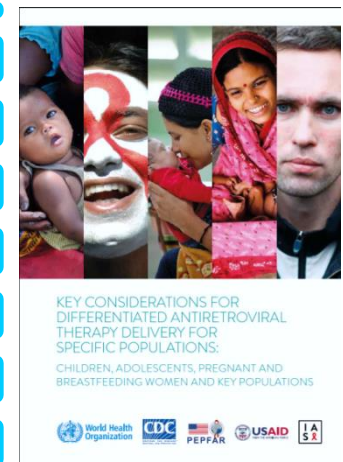
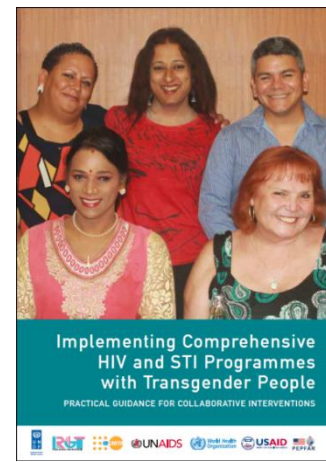
Regional and global technical guidance for comprehensive HIV response among transgender people



2015



2016



2017

Key recommendations

- **Implement a comprehensive health package** - that includes 1) HIV prevention, harm reduction, testing and linkages to care; 2) HIV treatment and care services including co-infections (TB, viral hepatitis, etc.) and co-morbidities management; 3) services for sexual and reproductive health including gender affirmation (hormone, surgery, etc) and 4) services for psychological issues (such as stress, anxiety, depression, etc)
- **Make the services tailored to the needs of transgender people** – community-based and -led service provision; mobile health services; peer-based initiatives; integrated health services rather than focusing on one disease/issue; decentralization, task-shifting and differentiated treatment service delivery; and non-coercive, non-stigmatizing trans-competent health services
- **Address punitive laws and policies, stigma, discrimination and violence** against transgender people, particularly in health care settings, workplaces and community
- **Community engagement and empowerment** at all levels of HIV and health response



THANK YOU

www.aidsdatahub.org

