

# Country progress report - Vanuatu

Global AIDS Monitoring 2018





# Contents

Overall - Fast-track targets

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

Prevention of mother-to-child transmission - Eliminate new HIV infections among children by 2020 while ensuring that 1.6 million children have access to HIV treatment by 2018

HIV prevention; Key populations - 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

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

Knowledge of HIV and access to sexual reproductive health services - 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

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

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

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

Empowerment and access to justice - 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

AIDS out of isolation - 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

# Overall

## Fast-track targets

## Progress summary

### Geographic Setting

Vanuatu consists of six provinces: Torba, Sanma, Penama, Malampa, Shefa, and Tafea, spread over an area of 612,300 km<sup>2</sup> in the South Pacific with a total land area of 12,281 km<sup>2</sup>, stretching from Hiu Island up north to Mathew and Hunter Islands down south. It includes 83 main islands, of which, about 63 are permanently inhabited. Port Vila, the capital, is located on the island of Efate (province of Shefa) which is the most populous island although Santo Island is the biggest island in terms of land area, and is located in Sanma province. Port Vila is 1,288 km due south east of Honiara, Solomon Islands; 1,071 km west of Suva, Fiji; and 2,394 km east of Cairns, Australia

Reports.

The Data we reporting on are collected from the National surveililance unit. Most of the indicators are relevant to the country but we do not have any new data.

# HIV testing and treatment cascade

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

## **Progress summary**

It is the countries target to reach 90 - 90 - 90.

## **Policy questions (2017)**

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**

Yes

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

Yes

**d) Is mandatory for certain groups**

No

**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?**

CD4 count cell 500; Implemented countrywide

**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, fully implemented

**b) For children**

Yes, partially implemented

# Prevention of mother-to-child transmission

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

## **Progress summary**

It is the countries target to eliminate the ne HIV infection among children by 2020 while ensuring that most of the children do have acces to treatment by 2018, curently we do not have any children infected with HIV

## **Policy questions (2016)**

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

Yes

Target(s) for the mother-to-child transmission rate and year: 100; 2017

Elimination target(s) (such as the number of cases/population) and year: 1; 100

**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

# HIV prevention; Key populations

**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**

The combination prevention program is always priority target for the country.

## **Policy questions: Key populations (2016)**

### **Criminalization and/or prosecution of key populations**

#### **Transgender people**

Neither criminalized nor prosecuted

#### **Sex workers**

Sex work is not subject to punitive regulations or is not criminalized

#### **Men who have sex with men**

Laws penalizing same-sex sexual acts have been decriminalized or never existed

### **Is drug use or possession for personal use an offence in your country?**

Possession of drugs for personal use is specified as a criminal offence

### **Legal protections for key populations**



**Transgender people**

Constitutional prohibition of discrimination based on gender diversity

**Sex workers**

-

**Men who have sex with men**

Constitutional prohibition of discrimination based on sexual orientation

**People who inject drugs**

No

**Policy questions: PrEP (2017)**

**Has the WHO recommendation on oral PrEP been adopted in your country's national guidelines?**

Yes, PrEP guidelines have been developed but are not yet being implemented

# Gender; Stigma and discrimination

**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**

Currently we have the our strong key partners advocating for Gender equalities and working towards fighting against Violence and discrimination against KAP

## **Policy questions (2016)**

**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\*?**

Yes

**What protections, if any, does your country have for key populations and people living with HIV from violence?**

General criminal laws prohibiting 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?**

Yes, policies exist but are not consistently implemented

# Knowledge of HIV and access to sexual reproductive health services

**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**

## **Progress summary**

The program has worked closely with the Ministry of Youth and sport and also Education to re look into the curriculum for secondary schools. Atleast to have SRH nformation on the sillibus

## **Policy questions (2016)**

**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

# Social protection

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

## **Progress summary**

We do not have social program for people living with HIV

## **Policy questions (2016/2017)**

No

**What barriers, if any, limit access to social protection programmes in your country?**

Lack of information available on the programmes  
Complicated procedures  
Lack of documentation that confers eligibility, such as national identity cards  
People living with HIV, key populations and/or people affected by HIV are covered by another programme

# Community-led service delivery

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

## **Progress summary**

Its the countries target to have service delivery is comunity led

## **Policy questions (2017)**

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

No

**What safeguards in laws, regulations and policies, if any, provide for the operation of CSOs/CBOs in your country?**

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:**

46888

**b) Female condoms:**

-

**c) Lubricants:**

-

# HIV expenditure

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

## **Progress summary**

Government of day does very little contribution to the program but at least we have the support

# Empowerment and access to justice

**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**

We advocate for rights all all levels

## **Policy questions (2016)**

**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, one-off activities

**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)?**

No

**What accountability mechanisms in relation to discrimination and violations of human rights in healthcare settings does your country have, if any?**

Procedures or systems to protect and respect patient privacy or confidentiality

**What barriers in accessing accountability mechanisms does your country have, if any?**

Mechanisms do not function

# AIDS out of isolation

**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**

We do not isolate our HIV patients anymore

## **Policy questions (2016)**

**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)**

Yes

**b) The national strategic plan governing the AIDS response**

Yes

**c) National HIV-treatment guidelines**

Yes

**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