

## **Background Information**

cross the world, children face shocking levels of physical, sexual and psychological violence. In 2015 and as part of the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs), world leaders made a bold and explicit commitment to end all forms of violence against children by 2030.

Strengthening child protection systems is one of the EU priorities, as outlined in the new EU Action Plan on Human Rights and Democracy. The EU has launched a diplomatic outreach with a global focus on all forms of violence against children and women and a focus on ending child, early and forced marriage and female genital mutilation/cutting.

Action for Child Protection – Violence Against Children project was implemented by Plan International to curb the vice and give children a voice. Plan International through funding from the European Union has been working with partners in Kilifi, Mombasa, Kwale, Kisumu and Nairobi counties with an aim of creating awareness on violence against children and by so doing create a network of active partners who can stand-out as champions, Champions who protect children against all forms of violence within their communities.





The European Union funded Action for Child Protection

— Violence Against Children targeted urban marginalized areas and recorded great success in three key areas namely:

- 1. The Beacon Teacher Movement: The beacon teachers' movement was started in partnership with the Teachers' Service Commission to equip teachers with knowledge on child rights so that they can be able to observe the children for signs of distress, listen to them and in turn be able to assist in protecting them from violence. These teachers have also been trained on positive approaches to discipline and have become proponents against caning.
- 2. Participatory Education Theater. Theater groups engage the community in educative and entertaining pieces that often mirror the happenings in the society. Having seen a reflection of its self in the plays, the community is then allowed to soul search and come up with answers on how best to tackle child abuse cases.
- 3. Village loans and savings groups are being used to counter poverty by providing parents and caregivers with an opportunity to access funds through which they can then start sustainable income generating activities and provide for the needs of their children. The group meetings not only provide an opportunity for both organized trainings on child protection and but also creates an opportunity for members to learn from each other and share experiences on issues pertaining child rights and how to protect children from abuse.

# ENDING VIOLENCE AGAINST CHILDREN

he Actions for Child Protection-Violence Against Children project aimed at contributing to the complete elimination of all forms of violence against children in Kenya through supporting the implementation of the National Child protection system.

It also aimed at supporting a systematic child approach through integrated and coherent measures to strengthen child protection for girls and boys against all forms of violence at the community level.





#### Beacon Teachers Movement

The beacon teachers movement is an initiative by Teachers Service Commission and Plan International brings together teachers who have demonstrated passion and are willing to go an extra mile in child protection. The beacon teachers have been at the forefront in protecting children against violence both within the schools and in the surrounding communities. They advocate for positive discipline an element that has contributed to high retention rates and improved performance in participating schools. Many parents and children often report to the beacon teachers when children's rights are abused.

Ms Zaka Chopeta - a beacon teacher at Mnarani Primary School in Kilifi during a lesson.







Mr. Joseph Ochola a beacon teacher interacting with children during assembly time.









Mr. Matano Juma (Left) and Ms. Mwanamkasi Kassim (Right) beacon teachers at Mwamanga Primary school in Kwale interacting with pupils





Ms Getrude Karisa a beacon teacher at HGM primary school in Malindi talking to a girl whose mother had reported earlier to the school about her being abused.



#### Participatory Education Theatre

Theatre Groups have been used to educate the community on child rights, how to detect child abuse cases and who to report to incase of violations of children's rights. They often mirror the happenings in the society and allow for dialogue by the community on issues around the plays presented to them.





Members of the House of Talent theater group present a play to community members in a school in Kilifi County.



A community member follows a play



Community members follow a scene during a play presented by House of Talent theater group.



### **Village Savings Loans**

Village loans and savings groups are being used to counter poverty by providing parents and caregivers with an opportunity to access funds through which they can then start sustainable income generating activities and provide for the needs of their children.



A Village loans and Savings group in Ukunda Kwale county













#### **Gender Based Violence Recovery Centers**

Gender based violence recovery centers and rescue centers have been playing a critical role in ensuring that abused children receive psychosocial support as well as a safe haven away from the preying eyes of communities and perpetrators thus providing room for recovery both psychologically and physically even as the perpetrators are followed through legal means.







A grandmother with her grandson who had been sodomised at the gender based recovery center in Kilifi hospital.





A Plan International staff interacting with children who have been victims of violence at the Waa rescue center.





Ms. Kadide Mohammed of Waa rescue centre and Nureen a Plan International officer attend to a child at the Waa rescue center

More and more child abuse cases are being reported to the authorities including the Department of Children Services and the police. The Police's Gender Desk with dedicated Police officers has been of great importance in attending to child abuse cases. Here special attention can be paid to the victims with a much more friendly approach away from the eye of the general public.

Kilifi OCPD Mr. Wachira Mathenge together with Kilifi OSC Mr. Dennis Wekesa. They have been at the fore front in championing for an end to violence against children in Kilifi county.





A Police Officer attending to clients at the Gender desk in Kilifi Police Station.

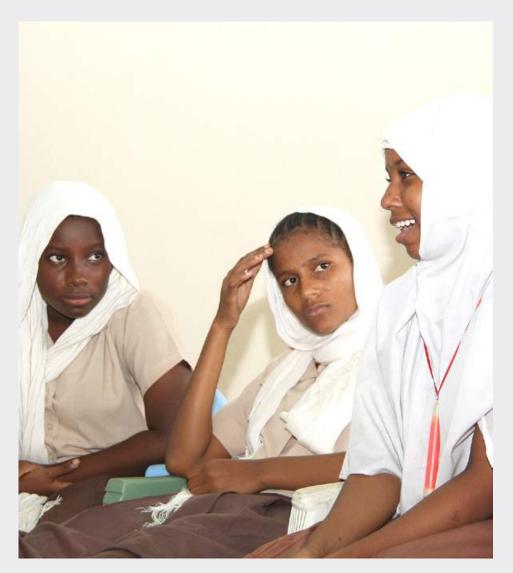




A building that houses the child protection and gender unit at Kisumu Central Police Station. It was renovated by Plan International under the EUVAC project



Members of the ROC Club in Mnarani Primary School during a meeting.







Children engage with teachers at Mwamanga Primary School in Kwale: speak out boxes are being used to encourage children to speak out without fear of reprisals

Ending Violence Against Children





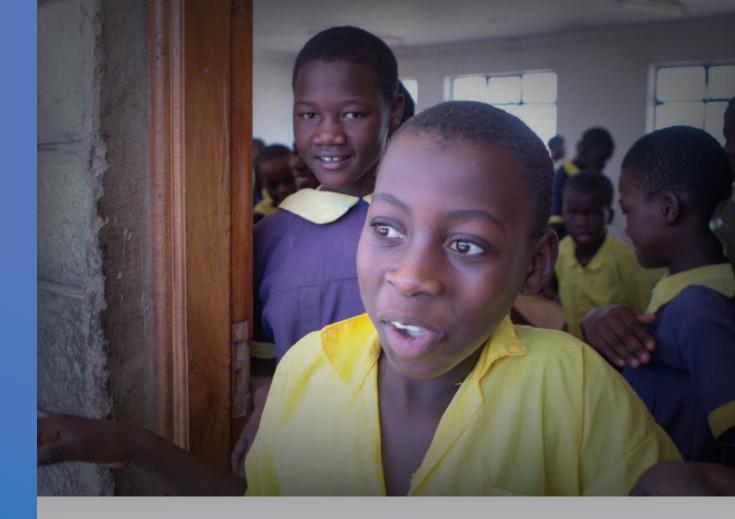




Bringing hearts and minds together for children









European Union

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Nairobi County Accelerates HIV response





NAIROBI CITY COUNTY

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Fast-Track Cities 90:90:90 | Nairobi City County (NCC) 2018/2019

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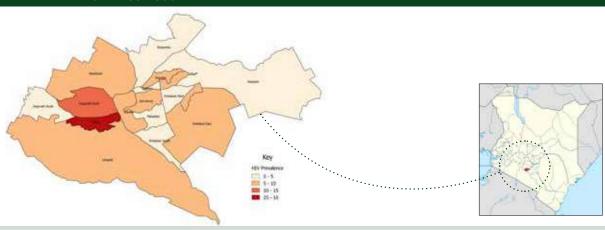
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NAIROBI COUNTY accelerates HIV INTERVENTION

#### HIV PREVALENCE BY SUB COUNTY



### Background Information

n December, 2014 the Paris Declaration on Fast-Track Cities committing to accelerate and scale-up their local AIDS responses with an aim of achieving 90 90 90 targets by 2020 and eradicating HIV&AIDS by 2030 was launched in Paris.

In 2015, Nairobi County contributed to 11.3% of the total new HIV infections in Kenya making it the leading county in HIV prevalence with a total of 171,510 of people living with HIV within the county by end of 2015 (NACC Kenya County Profiles). Following the Paris declaration, the county set targets to be met by 2019 under the Nairobi City County (NCC) HIV & AIDS Strategic Plan which provides direction in the overall coordination and delivery of the HIV response to effectively and efficiently deliver HIV programming in the county. The strategic plan fits into the Kenya AIDS Strategic Framework (KASF) 2014/2015 - 2018/2019 and addresses the unique challenges that the county faces in HIV programming. Just like the KASF, the Nairobi City County HIV&AIDS Strategic plan targets that by 2019:

- 1. HIV infections should reduce by 75%
- 2. AIDS-related mortality should reduce by 25%
- 3. HIV-related stigma and discrimination should reduce by 50
- 4. Increase in domestic financing of the HIV response by 50%

In line with the strategic plan, the main focus has been on creating innovative ways through which the high rate of HIV infections among key populations including PWDU, MSMs, FSWs and adolescents as well as among pregnant women can be reduced. It pays attention to the importance of a multi-faceted approach including strengthening community health systems and focusing on HIV testing, treatment and support including retention in HIV care and treatment and also improving the referral system for follow up. The approach aimed at scaling up what had been working, finding new innovative ways of service delivery where gaps had been identified as effective management and coordination of finances channeled towards the fight against HIV & AIDS. By the end of 2016, just one year into the Fast Track cities 90 90 90 approach, Nairobi recorded an impressive 77 96 86. This was a clear indication that the city county was headed in the right direction in line with the 90 90 90 targets.

This success can largely be attributed to various strategies that have been put in place in the fight against HIV and AIDS and which are proving to be highly effective in reducing the risk of, and protecting against, HIV infection, including targeting Key Populations with messaging and life saving interventions as well as improved care and treatment of people living with HIV.

### Preface

Why Nairobi City?: Towards Ending the HIV Epidemic in Nairobi City County

Nairobi City County is Kenya's main commercial centre with well-developed infrastructure, modern financial and communications systems.

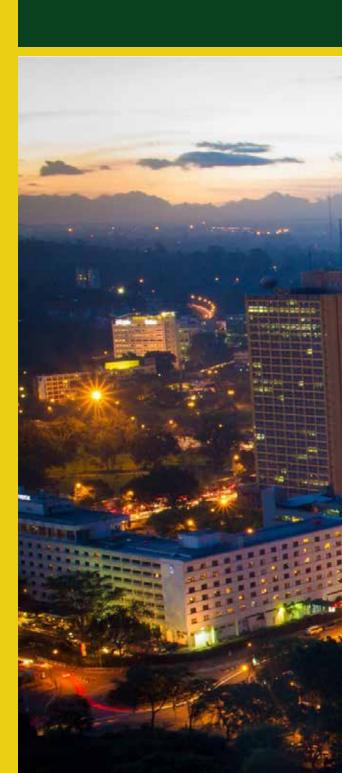
It hosts the country's largest industrial centre, which accounts for almost 20 percent of the gross domestic product (GDP).

Nairobi continues to host a highly mobile population comprised of regional refugees and rural to urban migrants which has implications on the accessibility of health services. The transitional aspect of their health seeking behaviours can hinder the advancement of achieving the 90-90-90 targets. With additional factors such as poverty in the ever growing informal settlements and lingering stigma and discrimination particularly among key population and young girls, the risk of contracting HIV significantly increases.

The development of the Nairobi City County HIV & AIDS Strategic Plan 2016 – 2018/2019 is a clear indication of Nairobi County Government's commitment to addressing the challenges of HIV and AIDS in the County in line with the Paris Declaration of 2014, where we signed up to fast track and end the HIV epidemic in cities by 2030.

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### Acknowledgement

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#### **HIV Counseling and Testing:**

#### Creating Linkage to Care and Treatment











Percentage of People Living With HIV (PLHIV) had been diagnosed and put on care and treatment.



As at 2017, 78% of people living with HIV in Nairobi County had been diagnosed and put on care and treatment. The county health department continues to work with partners, to bolster the numbers further through innovative approaches aimed at surpassing the 90% target of the county's population getting to know their HIV status.

#### HIV Counseling and Testing at the ANC for Expectant Mothers



In an approach targeted at ensuring that all pregnant women know their HIV status, all County health facilities within Nairobi county that offer ANC and maternity services have been equipped with HIV testing and counseling facilities as well as personnel. All pregnant women are encouraged to know their HIV status early in pregnancy so that if they turn out to be HIV positive there is enough time to decide on effective ways to protect their health and to prevent

mother to child transmission of the virus. Expecting mothers are also encouraged to come for ANC visits together with their partners with whom they are encouraged to take HIV tests together as a couple. In instances where they turn out to be HIV positive, they are placed under care and treatment and also encouraged to take steps to prevent passing the virus on to their partners in instances where couples are discordant.

#### General Nairobi County Population Profile



**Total Population** 

4,660,903



Male (50%)

2,288,823



Children below 15 years (42%)

1,600,208



Female (50%)

2,372,080



Youth aged 15-24 years (21%)

836,593

Sources: (KNBS Population Projections 2017)

# **171,510**People living with HIV

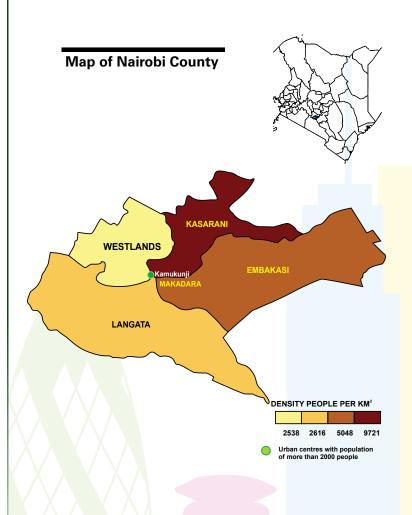






4.6%7.6%

Source: Kenya HIV Estimate report, 2014



Sources: (KNBS Population Projections 2017)

# Reaching out to Key Populations and offering targeted HIV services



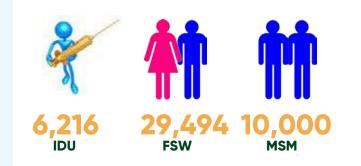
Men who have sex with men worldwide are 19 times more likely to be living with HIV than adult men overall, while HIV prevalence among female sex workers is up to 13.5 times higher than among women as a whole.



The most significant barriers that deny vulnerable populations access to HIV testing and counseling are stigma and discrimination. Groups such as commercial sex workers, injecting drug users (PWID) and men who have sex with men (MSM) have for along time been left out in the fight against HIV&AIDS.

Nairobi County has been working on ways through which these groups can get access to HIV services free of discrimination. Through specific targeting as well as partnership with organizations that offer services for the key populations, more and more people from the key population groups are receiving HIV related services in Nairobi including counseling, testing, prevention as well as care and treatment.

#### Nairobi County KP Profile



Source: MOT Study 2009

#### **ISHTAR**

Ishtar is a community-based organisation in Nairobi that specializes in working with men who have sex with men (MSM) on HIV, sexually transmitted infections and reproductive health rights.

As from 2015 Ishtar through the support from Partners among them Nairobi Health Department has created an entry atmosphere of trust and openness that enabled majority of those of their members who required HIV intervention Services to freely interact with them and get services from Ishtar or were referred to friendly clinics around the city. Working under the HIV Fast track cities initiatives, they have been able to initiate the Human Centre Design and Behaviour Economics, a key innovation that Involves the understanding of the people, their needs , their environment and initiating solutions based on their needs that are defined by four (4) key pillars of;

- 1. Community based services (Outreaches and In-reaches)
- 2. Social Networks
- 3. Service Provision
- 4. Support groups

To achieve their mandate a group of 70 peer educators were initially trained over a period of several months and engaged to mobilize and maintain their cohorts. By the close of 2017 an addition 18 more peers were brought on board to expedite the efforts in a seamless manner.







Health facility practitioners have also been encouraging clients especially sexually active youth and adolescents to take up counseling and testing services.

#### **Methadone Assisted Therapy**

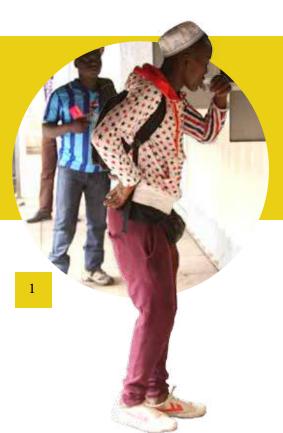
(MAT) Clinic

Kenya has an estimated population of 18,920 people who inject drugs (PWIDs) with one third (6216) of them living in Nairobi. HIV Prevalence among this population is 18.3% higher than the national prevalence of 6.3% and County Prevalence of 6.1%. A fact attributed to risky injection practices and sexual behavior. To respond this challenge Nairobi county in close collaboration with partners has established a first of its kind clinic in Nairobi, the Ngara MAT clinic offering Methadone Assisted Therapy (MAT) an intervention to rehabilitate injecting heroin users who

make up 99% of PWIDs in Nairobi, hence the setting up of the Ngara MAT clinic by Nairobi City County Government to offer free services to people who inject drugs PWIDs.

Clients are enrolled through the CSOs (SAPTA,NOSET,MDM ) and LVCT

The clinic was constructed with support from partners and opened in January 2017 and by December 2018 it had 750 active clients enrolled and receiving free rehabilitation outpatient services at the clinic.



#### **Ngara MAT Clinic**

Nairobi County's Ngara Medically- Assisted Therapy (MAT) Clinic is the first of its kind in the country and exclusively targets drug users by offering methadone formula for injecting drug users as a way of withdrawing from the drug addiction. Within the facility the clients also benefit from support groups created for them as well as peer educators who have successfully gone benefited through the facility. All the clients who are HIV positive are put under care and treatment within the facility.



#### **Bar Hostess**

**Creating Safe Spaces for service** delivery for FSW

Owing to the fact that female sex workers face a perpetual risk of contracting HIV, the county government has been focusing on mitigating this risk through directly offering HIV prevention services for the FSWs in county health facilities as well as supporting partner organizations that offer such services.



In Kasarani Bar Hostess takes the approach of the safe space model, where the FSW clients receive services in exclusive clinics designated only for them. In its Kasarani clinic, the FSWs have a safe space where they can receive services including medical

services as well as reproductive health services. Most importantly they receive HIV prevention services, including prevention education as well as products such as condoms and PrEP drugs.



#### **PrEP in Nairobi County**

Nairobi County has been working to raise awareness on PrEP and ensure its availability especially among those at high risk. It has become popular especially among the female sex workers who see it as a to go to prevention method alongside others including the use of condoms.



"I face a lot of risk in my line of work, one of them is when a client doesn't want to use condoms, secondly you can go with a client and the condom bursts especially when both of us are drunk. At times you may also encounter a customer who violates you and forces you to have sex without a condom. That's why I got into using Prep because I will

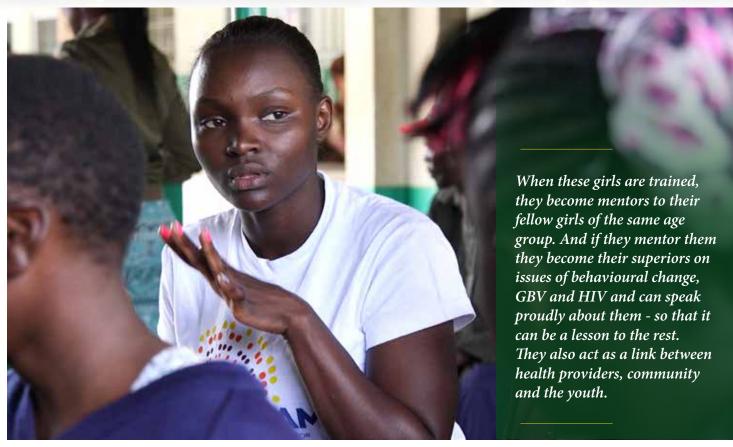
always be safe when I am using PREP.

Leah Muciri

# Youth and Adolescents

In the Nairobi County HIV&AIDS strategic plan's SWOT analysis one of the weaknesses identified was the high HIV and AIDS among adolescents. The county has since initiated ways through which youths and adolescents are roped in the HIV service delivery either directly or through partnership with other organizations. All county health facilities are making efforts in ensuring that their services are youth friendly. Some health facilities have since partnered with youth organizations and this has helped in improving service delivery to the youth within the health facility.





The Kamkunji Health Centre is one such facility that has improved on its service delivery to the youth through working with youth from the DREAMS project to engage with young people regarding their health issues including on HIV counseling, testing and treatment. Under this arrangement between the county government and DREAMS, young peer

leaders are posted to various health facilities where they identify young people seeking health services and attend to them before directing them to the right places for service delivery. They youth are often encouraged by their DREAMS peers especially the sexually active youth and adolescents to take up counseling and HIV testing services.

# Rooting Out Gender Based Violence



Despite the fact that Kenya has progressive laws, SGBV continues to be a daily occurrence that propagates the spread of HIV&AIDS since it reduces the bargaining power to negotiate for safer sex as well as adherence to HIV treatment. SGBV affects both genders but it affects the female gender disproportionately. A recent report by UNICEF on Kenya indicates that seven percent of females aged 18 to 24 reported experiencing physically forced sexual intercourse prior to age 18 with up to 24% of these females reporting that they were forced, pressured or threatened to engage in sexual intercourse.

Nairobi County has been responding to the SGBV problem by providing services directly to SGBV clients who report to its health facilities. Kibera South Health Center's Tumaini Clinic is one such facility that offers safe spaces and free services for SGBV victims. Other than its health centers, the county government has also teamed up with other partner institutions such as SHOFCO in Kibera in the fight against SGBV. These organizations that are placed right at the heart of the affected communities not only offer treatment and safe spaces but also follow up the cases legally thus ensuring that perpetrators are held accountable.



#### **HIV Self Testing**



HIV self-testing kits provides an opportunity for people who have not currently been reached by existing HIV counseling and testing services with information about their HIV status and may contribute significantly towards the county's objective of universal knowledge of HIV status. This is a new innovation that is proving effective especially for individuals who want to have the ability to take the HIV test in privacy. Currently within Nairobi, the self-testing kits can be accessed in various chemists spread across the county.







Health facility practitioners have also been encouraging clients especially sexually active youth and adolescents to take up counseling and testing services.

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#### **HIV Care and Treatment:**



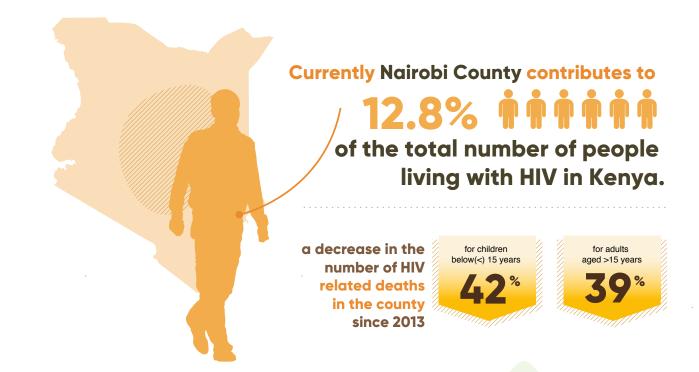
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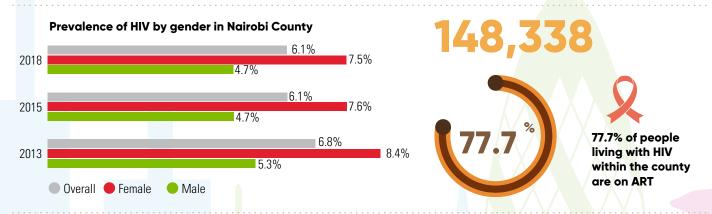
Ith every HIV positive diagnosis, there is urgent need to create linkage to care and treatment. HIV treatment continues to play a key role in preventing illness and death as well as averting new infections. Any hope of ending the HIV pandemic is largely dependent on accessibility of life saving care and treatment for those infected by the virus and who need it most.



The Nairobi county HIV/AIDS strategic plan envisaged enhancing linkage to HIV care and treatment to 90% of all eligible children, adolescents, pregnant women, adults and key populations by linking all persons tested HIV positive to care and treatment and documenting them. All clients who have been enlisted are provided with ART in line with national guidelines.

Currently Nairobi County contributes to 12.8% of the total number of people living with HIV in Kenya. 87% of people living with HIV within the county are on ART and as a result, there has been a decrease in the number of HIV related deaths in the county since 2013 by 42% and 39% for children below 15 years and adults aged 15 years and above respectively. The County has been employing new innovative ways to enroll and retain new clients into the treatment program including through defaulter tracing that help in identifying and tracking clients who are not adhering to medication.





#### EMTCT/PMTCT

The county has increased investment in the treatment of HIV, which has seen the introduction of the HAART. This is further galvanized by initiatives such as the free maternity services within the County government health facilities, which have seen more deliveries in health facilities within the county. PMTCT aims at preventing HIV transmission from mothers who have been diagnosed to be HIV positive to their children through antiretroviral treatment during pregnancy and breastfeeding as well as to bolster treatment, care and support for mothers living with HIV, their children and partners.



"My advice to other positive mothers out there is, they should not fear at all visiting the clinic and seeing the doctor for more advice and help.

Infact the doctor will encourage them more to come and seek solutions."





#### Zero infections

at Mbagathi MCH clinic

For the last three years (2016-2018), there has been no baby turning positive. This is basically due to the follow-ups that the nurses do on the mothers. They get the mother who is positive, they initiate the treatment there and then, then there is a follow-up after 2 weeks and subsequent follow-ups after every one month. So that they are able to ensure that the viral levels are suppressed to below 1000.

When this is done, when the mother delivers, the chances of infecting the baby are also reduced. And through this, the disease burden of the child to the mother is reduced as well.

The issue of integration sees to it that mothers get immunization services, growth and monitoring services for the baby, pharmacy services for her and the baby because refills are done there and family planning services all under one roof, hence waiting time ad defaulting is reduced.

## Comprehensive Care Centres and Flexi Hour clinics

The Nairobi county health facilities consist of Comprehensive Care Centers where people leaving with HIV can receive holistic care and management. The CCCs within the county offer integrated services whereby clients get all services within one roof without the need of moving from one place to another. Multidisciplinary teams provide treatment and care at the CCCs. They offer services such as counseling and psychosocial support, medical evaluation and management, laboratory monitoring, provision

of antiretroviral treatment (ART) and nutritional adherence.

In addition some comprehensive care centers within the county are already offering services beyond the traditional working hours including early in the morning dubbed Flexi Hours so as to attend to people living with HIV who can only access the centers beyond the normal working hours. Clients attending CCC are often also encouraged to bring their partners and children for HIV testing.



at Mbagathi MCH clinic



"This is the best hospital according to my knowledge. Since I started being attended to at the CCC then transferred here at the maternity. Since I knew my status and pregnancy I was advised on the drugs to use and how to maintain myself. Every moment I come here they ask me if I have any issue/problem so they can help."

#### Client 2

"Here my child gets immunized and we are given medicine free of charge. Incase of any problem, she is checked from here. That makes me happy as a mother. Also me and my partner were tested here as well, advised on PrEP, how it works, what measures to take and family planning - everything under one roof- making it easy for me.





- Immunization services to infants
   Counselling services to mothers

3. Mothers visit the CCC clinics

#### TB-Testing and Treatment.



HIV and tuberculosis (TB) are so closely connected. The two are a deadly combination together and are far more destructive than either disease on its own. In Nairobi county resources are being allocated to carter for manpower and facilities to jointly combat TB and HIV. Within the county, all HIV positive patients are targeted for screening and treatment of opportunistic infections such as TB as well as STIs. All those who

show signs consistent with HIV-related disease or AIDS which includes HIV testing for all tuberculosis patients.

In Kangemi a new state of the art TB laboratory funded in partnership with RESULTS JAPAN was opened in 2017. Patients who previously had to wait for TB results for up to 48 hours are now assured of results in approximately two hours.



"Today I am able to carry heavy loads. Before then even holding myself on a motorbike proved difficult."



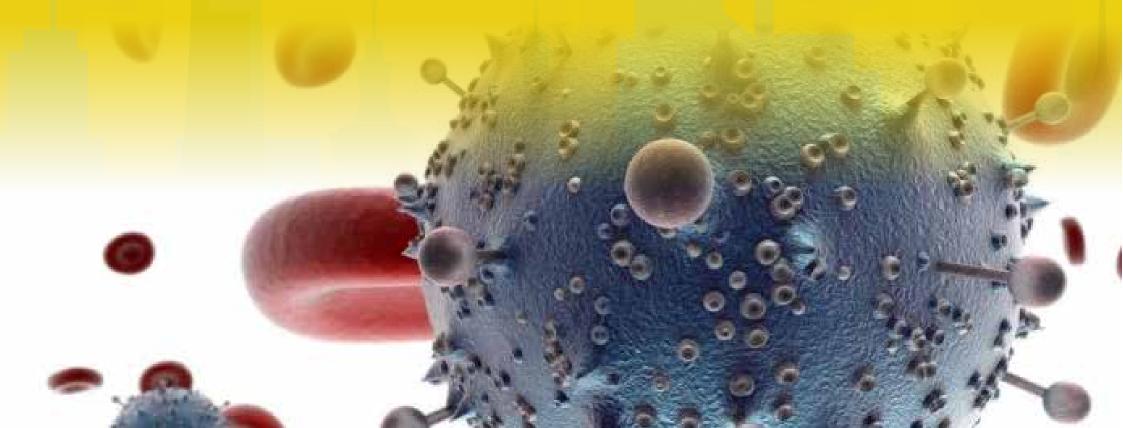
# 90 | Viral Suppression:

Towards Achievement of

90-90-90

Targets

In the HIV positive clients are retained on recommended treatment and encouraged to adhere to prescribed treatment and care the HIV virus in them becomes suppressed and chances of passing on the virus are reduced. As such HIV treatment becomes a key pillar in HIV prevention. Attaining a viral suppression of 90% remains the ultimate objective. The Nairobi County health department is working to ensure that all patients who are on ART adhere to treatment and have access to viral load testing.



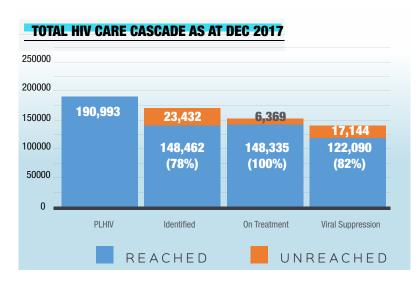




Pauline Chiriswa, LWHI\ has viral suppression and gave birth to negative baby - Embakasi



My name is Pauline Mushi Chiriswa, I am Hiv positive, I first got tested in 2010 May and that is when I started taking my medication at Embakasi Health Centre. When we first got tested my CD4 count was 1840. I have been taking septrine until the test and treatment started in 2016 July that is when the clinical officer told me that I have to start taking my ARVs. Since then I have been taking my medication and after six months I got tested and it was found out that my viral load had been suppressed.



Source: Nairobi City County Fact Sheet Oct 8th 2018

#### **ART Uptake in Nairobi County**

Indicator	2013 Annual Estimate	2015 Annual Estimate	2018 Annual Estimate	National Esti- mates in 2018	County Contribu- tion to the Na- tional estimates
Adults					
Need for ART	102,103	148,999	182,856	1,388,169	13.17%
Number receiving ART	93,714	118,022	140,724	1,035,618	13.59%
ART Coverage	91.8%	79.2%	77.0%	75.0%	
Children					
Need for ART	9,392	8,336	8,137	105,213	7.73%
Number receiving ART	6,988	6,125	7,611	86,325	8.82%
ART Coverage	74.4%	73.5%	93.5%	82.0%	

Source: (Kenya HIV Estimates 2018)



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