



THE UGANDA PROGRAM

Working with Women, Children, and Families to End Pediatric AIDS

ELIZABETH GLASER PEDIATRIC AIDS FOUNDATION IN UGANDA

Since 2000, the Elizabeth Glaser Pediatric AIDS Foundation (EGPAF) has been supporting prevention of mother-to-child transmission of HIV (PMTCT) and HIV/AIDS care and treatment services in Uganda.

EGPAF in Uganda is a leading provider of technical assistance to Uganda’s Ministry of Health, and provides clinical service delivery support at the facility, district, regional, and national levels. We work closely with Uganda’s Ministry of Health and other partners to increase access to comprehensive, high-quality HIV prevention, care and treatment, and TB services for women, children, and families living with and affected by HIV. EGPAF supports the implementation of family health programs in the 18 districts of Southwestern Uganda. These include maternal, newborn, and child health (MNCH), family planning, and nutrition programs. We also currently provide technical assistance to partners supported by the United States President’s Emergency Plan for AIDS Relief (PEPFAR), including the Joint Clinic Research Centre (JCRC) through the Local Partner Health Services-Kigezi program; the AIDS Support Organization (TASO) through the Local Partner Health Services-Ankole program; Government to Government-Mbarara Regional Referral Hospital (G2G- MRRH); and Uganda Protestant Medical Bureau (UPMB) through the Local Service Delivery for HIV/AIDS (LSDA) activity.

KEY PROGRAM ACCOMPLISHMENTS*

In past year, EGPAF in Uganda has:



Over 800 health facilities across 18 districts in the region



PMTCT services to over 18,000 pregnant women



Nearly 159,000 women and almost 7,000 children with access to lifesaving antiretroviral therapy

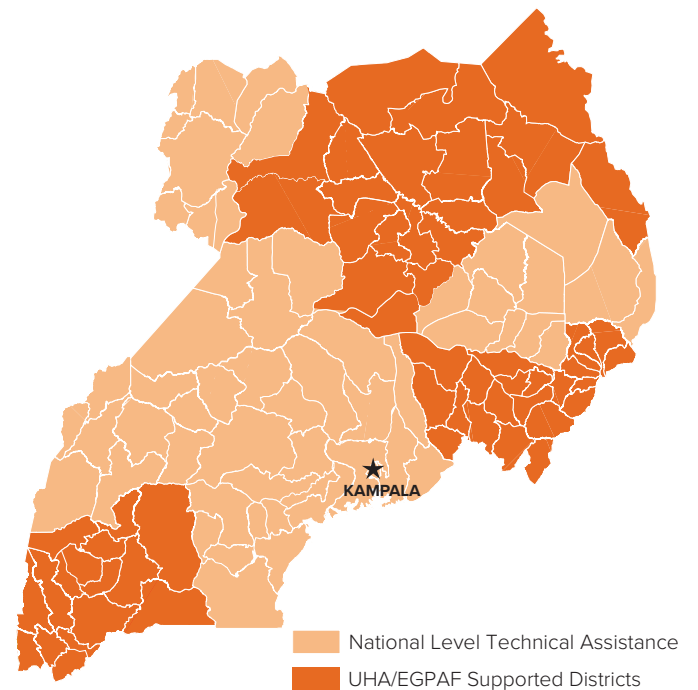


Access to early infant diagnostics for over 16,000 babies exposed to HIV

COUNTRY PROFILE**

Population	32,077,072
HIV prevalence rate among adults	12.5%
Child mortality rate (under 5 years)	71 per 1,000 live births
Maternal mortality rate	589 per 100,000 live births
Women enrolled in prevention of mother-to-child (PMTCT) services who are retained at 12 months	67%
Children ages 0–14 living with HIV	200,000
Deaths due to AIDS	51,000
Adults living with HIV aware of their status and on treatment	96.4%

EGPAF’S PROGRAM COVERAGE IN UGANDA



* Data as of January 2023

** Sources: Joint United Nations Programme on HIV and AIDS, HIV and AIDS estimates (2020), the World Bank population estimates (2021), and INSIDA 2021 - Uganda Population-Based HIV Impact Assessment

PROGRAM IMPLEMENTATION

USAID Regional Health Integration to Enhance Services in Southwest Uganda (RHITES-SW) Project (2015–2023)

RHITES-SW is a cooperative agreement led by EGPAF that supports the Ministry of Health to provide a comprehensive service package for HIV counseling and testing (HCT), prevention of mother-to-child transmission (PMTCT), HIV/AIDS care services and treatment, HIV/TB collaborative services, MNCH, family planning, nutrition, early childhood development, and malaria.

The RHITES-SW project is in its eighth and final year of operation. EGPAF will continue to focus efforts on transitioning to local partner organizations. We are using a phased approach to transition programmatic support from the RHITES-SW project to Mbarara Regional Referral Hospital LSDA and to TASO and JCRC. The transition focuses on the HIV program, while EGPAF will continue to provide technical support to the districts and implementing sites for the entire family health program.

USAID Uganda Health Activity (UHA) Project (2022–2027)

UHA builds on the successful implementation of the USAID Regional Health Integration to Enhance Services (RHITES) Activities. As a sub-grantee of URC, EGPAF will accelerate inclusive access to respectful, people-centered care for Ugandan families, propel the country across the finish line for sustainable HIV epidemic control, and ensure that family health and HIV interventions and outcomes are anchored in strong local health systems that use data to drive results and efficiently manage human, institutional, and financial resources. EGPAF is part of the URC-UHA consortium and implements in the Ankole, Kigezi, and Lira Regions.

Supporting, Mobilizing, and Accelerating Research for Tuberculosis Elimination (SMART4TB) (2022–2027)

SMART4TB is a five-year initiative made possible by the United States Agency for International Development (USAID), that aims to transform TB prevention and care. SMART4TB will design and implement research studies with local partners to identify effective person-centered methods for finding, treating, and preventing TB; strengthen local capacity to conduct high-quality research; and engage communities to build demand for new interventions, drive policy change, and improve implementation of new and existing interventions to reach the World Health Organization's "End TB" targets.

The Delivering Technical Assistance (DELTA2) Project (2019–2024)

DELTA2 is a five-year, U.S. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC)-funded cooperative agreement implemented by EGPAF. Building on EGPAF's successful Project DELTA (2013–2019), DELTA2 provides cost-effective technical assistance (TA), capacity building and program implementation services to optimize the impact of programs supported by PEPFAR and the Global Fund to Fight AIDS, Tuberculosis, and Malaria (GF), to ultimately help achieve an AIDS-free generation. In the initial project year of DELTA2, EGPAF supported a variety of activities under PEPFAR's Faith and Community Initiative, as well as COVID-19 infection prevention and control activities. To date, DELTA2 has supported work in Cameroon, Botswana, Haiti, Kenya, Lesotho, Malawi, Nigeria, Tanzania, Uganda, Zambia, and Zimbabwe.

The ViiV Breakthrough Partnership (2020–2023)

The Pediatric HIV Breakthrough Partnership aims to end pediatric AIDS in priority locations through developing a sustainable and replicable-quality package of interventions that is informed by the pediatric HIV service delivery tool developed by UNAIDS titled "Improving HIV Service Delivery for Infants, Children and Adolescents."

New Horizons Advancing Pediatric HIV Care Collaborative (2016–present)

With funding from Johnson & Johnson, and in partnership with the Uganda Ministry of Health, EGPAF provides technical assistance on pediatric second- and third-line antiretroviral therapy (ART) access. This project improves sustainable ART service delivery for children and confronts challenges that adolescents face around disclosure, adherence, and psychosocial support. The heart of the Collaborative is a darunavir/etravirine donation program, which increased the availability of second- and third-line pediatric ART.

ADVOCACY

EGPAF works closely with Uganda's Ministry of Health to formulate evidence-based policies that support all persons affected by HIV. We actively participate in national working groups and advisory committees including: the Pediatric HIV Working Group; the TB/HIV Subcommittee; the MNCH Technical Working Group; the Adolescent Health Technical Working Group; the National TB Technical Working Group; the National Advisory Committee on PMTCT; the TB Advocacy, Communication, and Social Mobilization Committee; and the PMTCT Monitoring and Evaluation Subcommittee.

EGPAF played a central role in the revision and adaptation of the Consolidated HIV Prevention, Care, and Treatment Guidelines in 2016 and 2020, recommending treatment initiation for all people living with HIV. This included advocating for the adoption of globally recommended PMTCT and HIV care and treatment guidelines at all levels of the country's health system.

RESEARCH

EGPAF-Uganda is dedicated to advancing research to strengthen the effectiveness of the global HIV and AIDS response.

Approved Protocols:

- Active case finding of pediatric HIV in Uganda
- Effectiveness of a model for national scale-up of the Pratt Pouch to expand infant ARV prophylaxis in Uganda; and formative study of PMTCT services to implement the Pratt Pouch
- Description of demographic, clinical, and laboratory characteristics and outcomes of children and adolescents who ever received donated treatment that contained darunavir (DRV) and etravirine (ETR)
- Developing and validating a tool that screens pediatric and adolescent HIV testing eligibility for health care providers in multiple health settings in Uganda
- Evaluating the effectiveness of CaP TB on service delivery and clinical outcomes
- Evaluating the effectiveness of selected community-based interventions to improve maternal and child health and PMTCT outcomes in Uganda
- Evaluating the effectiveness of family support groups on retention in HIV care among women living with HIV who have been initiated on ART through PMTCT programs (Option B+) in select EGPAF-supported health facilities in Uganda

To learn more about EGPAF's work in Uganda, please scan the QR code or visit

<http://www.pedaids.org/countries/Uganda>



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