

STRATEGIC FOCUS

The Royal Government of Cambodia (RGC) is a global leader in the fight against HIV, providing HIV treatment to 99 percent of people living with HIV (PLHIV) who are aware of their status. Of all countries supported by the U.S. President's Emergency Plan for AIDS Relief (PEPFAR), Cambodia is among the first aiming to eliminate HIV as a public health threat by 2025. Since 2002, the U.S. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention in Cambodia (CDC Cambodia) has supported the RGC to strengthen HIV diagnosis, prevention, and treatment services across the country. CDC Cambodia's goals are to fully transition the HIV response to the government and ensure that health policies and systems are equitable and sustainable.

CDC Cambodia currently focuses on:

- Finding persons with undiagnosed HIV and immediately placing them on treatment.
- Ensuring that all PLHIV stay on treatment and remain virally suppressed.
- Improving the quality, availability, and use of HIV data to improve programs.
- Strengthening laboratory systems to ensure high-quality viral load testing and coverage.
- Providing technical assistance to the RGC to implement international HIV policies.
- Using innovative approaches, such as virtual outreach to key populations, to mitigate the impact of COVID-19 and other public health threats.

KEY ACTIVITIES AND ACCOMPLISHMENTS

Finding persons with undiagnosed HIV

- Using high-yield methods to find more persons with undiagnosed HIV (e.g., notifying and testing partners of PLHIV, eliciting risk information, and improving HIV risk communication).
- Using a test that can identify recent HIV infections to allow the RGC to respond quickly to emerging patterns in ongoing HIV transmission.
- Providing access to HIV self-testing for persons who may be at risk but fear stigma and discrimination at a clinic.

Increasing the number of PLHIV who stay on treatment:

- Finding patients who have stopped treatment and get them back on treatment.
- Improving counseling and support services for PLHIV so they stay on lifelong antiretroviral therapy (ART).

Improving the quality, availability, and use of data:

- Linking HIV information systems to monitor the care of PLHIV in real-time across the clinical cascade, from HIV diagnosis to treatment to viral suppression. Using data will improve clinical decision-making, patient outcomes, and quality of care.

Strengthening laboratory systems to ensure high-quality viral load testing and other results:

- Ensuring that all PLHIV have their viral load tested and that results are returned quickly to clinicians and patients.
- Improving laboratory performance and quality assurance by implementing the Laboratory Quality Management Systems approach and using state-of-the-art technology for viral load testing.
- Supporting the Ministry of Health to achieve international organization for standardization (ISO 15189) at two additional public health laboratories.

Helping the RGC implement international HIV policies:

- Ensuring all PLHIV begin treatment on the same day of their diagnosis, have access to treatment (including dolutegravir-based regimens), and are on tuberculosis preventive treatment.
- Ensuring PLHIV have access to six months of medication when clinically stable.

Our success is built on the backbone of science and strong partnerships.

Key Country Leadership

Prime Minister:
Hun Manet

Minister of Health:
Mam Bunheng

U.S. Ambassador to
Cambodia:
W. Patrick Murphy

CDC/DGHT Director:
Joyce Neal

[Country Quick Facts](https://worldbank.org/en/where-we-work)
(worldbank.org/en/where-we-work)

Per Capita GNI:
\$1700 (2022)

Population (millions):
16.76 (2022)

Under 5 Mortality:
24.8/1,000 live births (2021)

Life Expectancy:
69.6 years (2021)

[Global HIV/AIDS Epidemic](https://aidsinfo.unaids.org)
(aidsinfo.unaids.org)

Estimated HIV Prevalence
(Ages 15-49): 0.5% (2022)

Estimated AIDS Deaths
(Age ≥15): 1,100 (2022)

Estimated Orphans Due to
AIDS: 30,000 (2022)

Reported Number Receiving
Antiretroviral Therapy (ART)
(Age ≥15): 63,931 (2022)

[Global Tuberculosis
\(TB\) Epidemic](https://who.int/tb/country/data/profiles/en)
(who.int/tb/country/data/profiles/en)

Estimated TB Incidence:
288/100,000 population (2021)

TB Patients with Known HIV-
Status who are HIV-Positive:
1.7% (2021)

TB Treatment Success Rate:
96% (2020)

DGHT Country Staff: 19

Locally Employed Staff: 18
Direct Hires: 1
Fellows & Contractors: 0

