



Photo: Eric Bond/EGPAF, 2015



**Elizabeth Glaser  
Pediatric AIDS  
Foundation**

# THE CÔTE D'IVOIRE PROGRAM

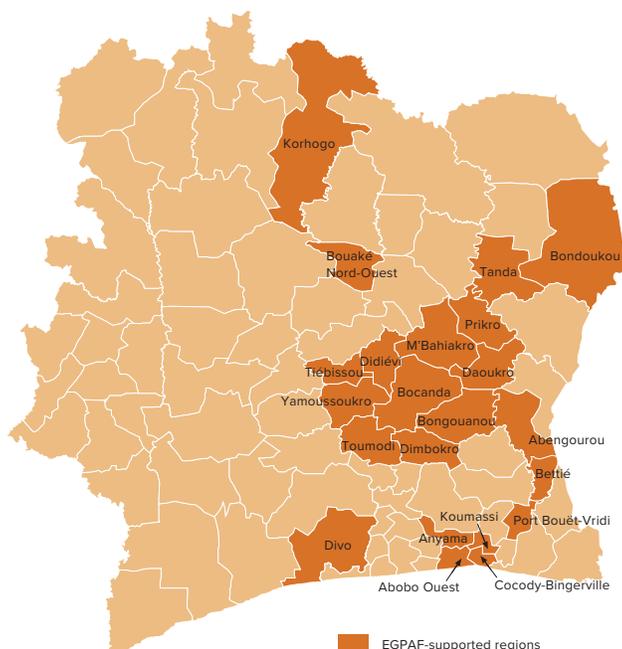
Working with Women, Children, and Families to End Pediatric AIDS

## EGPAF IN CÔTE D'IVOIRE

The Elizabeth Glaser Pediatric AIDS Foundation (EGPAF) began supporting HIV and AIDS care and treatment programs in 2004 and prevention of mother-to-child transmission of HIV (PMTCT) services in 2005 in Côte d'Ivoire. EGPAF-Côte d'Ivoire is working to end the country's HIV epidemic by increasing access to comprehensive, high-quality, well-integrated HIV prevention, care and treatment services among women, children, and families.

As of May 2017, EGPAF was supporting activities within nine regions and 23 districts with U.S. President's Emergency Plan for AIDS Relief (PEPFAR) funding through the U.S. Centers for Disease Control (CDC).

## EGPAF-CÔTE D'IVOIRE PROGRAM GEOGRAPHIC COVERAGE



## COUNTRY PROFILE\*

Population	22,701,556
Number of people living with HIV	440,000
Adult (15-49 years of age) prevalence rate	3.2%
Women 15 years of age and older living with HIV	250,000
Children (0-14 years of age) living with HIV	29,000
Deaths due to AIDS	25,000
Mother-to-child HIV transmission rate, at breastfeeding cessation	16%

## KEY PROGRAM ACCOMPLISHMENTS\*

Since 2011, EGPAF-Côte d'Ivoire has:



Tested more than 1,242,300 people for HIV



Started more than 33,480 individuals on antiretroviral therapy (ART), including more than 2,000 children



Provided PMTCT services to more than 14,300 women



Reached 77,700 adults and youth with individual/small group HIV prevention interventions



Reached more than 31,000 orphans and vulnerable children with health and psychosocial support services

\* Sources: Joint United Nations Programme on HIV and AIDS (UNAIDS), Côte d'Ivoire HIV and AIDS estimates (2015); World Bank, Côte d'Ivoire, population estimates (2015); and UNAIDS Global Plan Country Fact Sheet, Côte d'Ivoire (2017). EGPAF data as of March 31, 2017.

## PROGRAM IMPLEMENTATION

### Project Djasso (2017-2022)

Launched in 2017, the goal of the CDC-funded Project Djasso is to support the Government of Côte d'Ivoire to reach 90-90-90 goals by 2020 and achieve epidemic control. Under Project Djasso, EGPAF improves the identification of people living with HIV (PLHIV), initiation on ART, and retention of PLHIV in care and treatment services to achieve viral suppression and reduce HIV- and AIDS-associated mortality in four health regions and 16 health districts. Working hand-in-hand with the Ministry of Health and Public Hygiene, civil society organizations, and EGPAF's local affiliate Fondation Ariel, Project Djasso works to promote sustainability of and capacity within the public health system in Côte d'Ivoire for an effective transition of services to local entities.

### Project Keneya Dougou (2017-2022)

Funded by CDC, Project Keneya Dougou aims to strengthen the technical and organizational capacity of community-based organizations (CBOs) to effectively manage community-based HIV prevention, care, and treatment in five regions and seven districts across northern, eastern, and southern Côte d'Ivoire. Keneya Dougou's primary goal is to create a sustainable local response to HIV by ensuring those most vulnerable to HIV—including adolescent girls and young women, adult men, orphans and vulnerable children and their families, and mobile populations—are empowered to receive strengthened HIV prevention, testing, and care and support services. This project was designed to increase HIV case detection and promote community linkages around HIV to ultimately achieve epidemic control.

### Introduction of Point-of-Care Early Infant Diagnosis (POC EID) in Decentralized Settings (2015-2019)

The Unitaid-funded EGPAF POC EID Project aims to increase access to EID and ART among eligible children. The project's two main objectives are to optimize EID networks through the introduction of POC machines to increase the number of infants tested and initiated on ART, and create a market for affordable, effective, and equitable HIV testing of exposed infants. Through placement of POC EID platforms in select sites supported by Project Djasso, Fondation Ariel, and the Global Fund to Fight AIDS, Tuberculosis and Malaria throughout central and southern Côte d'Ivoire, EGPAF-Côte d'Ivoire aims to increase testing of HIV-exposed infants, decrease the time between testing and returning results to caregivers, decrease the number of days from HIV diagnosis to ART initiation for HIV-positive infants, and increase the number of children on life-saving treatment by July 2019.

### Project Extension for Community Healthcare and Outcomes (ECHO) (2016-2018)

During Project DELTA's third project year, EGPAF began rolling out Project ECHO in Côte d'Ivoire and Cameroon. The model of implementation has been developed by the University of New

Mexico and aims to treat complex and chronic health conditions in underserved communities by linking less-experienced providers with subject matter experts. Providers are engaged in weekly meetings via video and teleconference (Tele ECHO sessions) during which they listen to a short didactic session, share challenging cases, and ask questions about best practices. The expected outcome is to improve knowledge and skills of health care providers to provide high quality care.

## ADVOCACY

EGPAF-Côte d'Ivoire advocates at the national level with the Ministry of Health and Public Hygiene to: promote EGPAF's global best practices to inform national implementation, such as differentiated service delivery initiatives; improve integration of regional work plans to ensure better coordination of the in-country response to HIV and AIDS; prioritize data quality management and systems at health care facilities; and strengthen access to functional laboratory equipment. EGPAF has advocated for the transition to the World Health Organization (WHO) guidelines recommending universal access to ART. EGPAF has advocated with the Ministry of Health and Public Hygiene to determine standard operating procedures needed to effectively roll out Option B+ and "test and start" across Côte d'Ivoire to effectively roll-out these guidelines across the country.

## RESEARCH

EGPAF-Côte d'Ivoire conducts program evaluations to improve HIV prevention, testing, care, treatment, and support. Ongoing evaluation topics include:

- Effectiveness of differentiated care models implemented under Project Djasso in increasing uptake and coverage of ART in supported districts.
- The effects of integrated HIV interventions on HIV epidemic control, with a focus on 90-90-90, in Keneya Dougou-supported districts.
- Effectiveness of models of HIV testing and counseling and linkages to treatment in identifying adults, children, and adolescent patients in Keneya Dougou-supported districts.
- Effectiveness of implementation of Keneya Dougou activities in improving competencies among CBO and social center staff on prevention of sexual HIV transmission.
- Factors affecting adolescent girls and young women in linkages to testing, treatment and adherence counseling at community and facility levels under the Keneya Dougou project.
- Implementation and effects of the Unitaid/EGPAF POC EID Project within Côte d'Ivoire.
- The feasibility, acceptability, and impact of the Project ECHO model in Côte d'Ivoire.

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