



Photo: Eric Bond/EGPAF, 2015



**Elizabeth Glaser
Pediatric AIDS
Foundation**

THE CÔTE D'IVOIRE PROGRAM

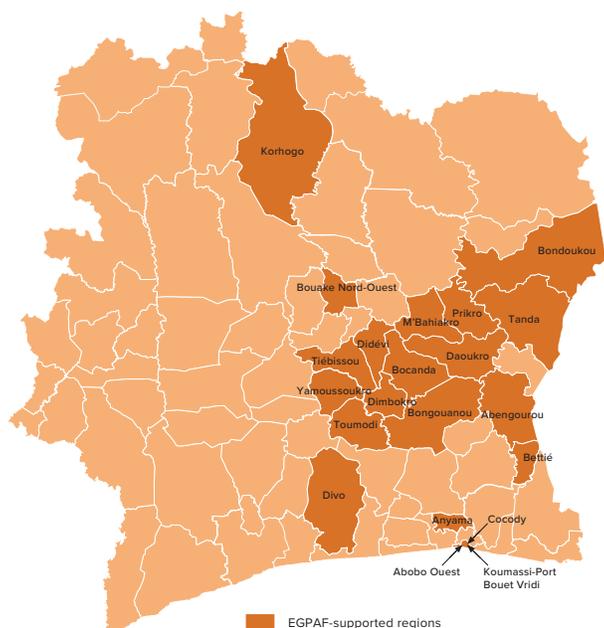
Working with Women, Children, and Families to End Pediatric AIDS

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, and well-integrated HIV prevention, care, and treatment services among women, children, and families.

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

EGPAF-CÔTE D'IVOIRE PROGRAM GEOGRAPHIC COVERAGE



COUNTRY PROFILE*

Population	23,695,000
Number of people living with HIV	460,000
Adult (15-49 years of age) prevalence rate	2.7%
Women 15 years of age and older living with HIV	250,000
Children (0-14 years of age) living with HIV	36,000
Deaths due to AIDS	25,000
Adults and children receiving antiretroviral therapy (ART)	41%

KEY PROGRAM ACCOMPLISHMENTS**

Since 2011, EGPAF-Côte d'Ivoire has:



Reached over 2,100,000 pregnant women with PMTCT services



Started nearly 67,000 HIV-positive women on ART



Averted nearly 13,000 HIV infections through PMTCT programming



Saved an estimated 8,760 lives through EGPAF's provision of ART

* Sources: Joint United Nations Programme on HIV and AIDS (UNAIDS), Côte d'Ivoire HIV and AIDS estimates (2016); World Bank, Côte d'Ivoire, population estimates (2016); EGPAF data as of May 2018.

PROGRAM IMPLEMENTATION

Project Djasso (2017-2022)

Launched in 2017, the goal of the CDC-funded Project Djasso is to support 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 the 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.

Catalyzing Expanded Access to Early Testing, Care and Treatment among HIV-Exposed Infants (2015-2019)

Without treatment, up to 30% of HIV-infected children will die by their first birthday. With funding and support from Unitaïd, EGPAF is implementing an approach to expand access to EID and treatment for HIV-infected infants through implementation of POC diagnostic technology. Through support from Project Djasso, Fondation Ariel, and the Global Fund to Fight AIDS, Tuberculosis and Malaria, POC EID platforms are being placed in select sites throughout central and southern Côte d'Ivoire. EGPAF is creating greater access to HIV testing among exposed infants, decreasing time between testing and results receipt among caregivers, decreasing the number of days from HIV diagnosis to ART initiation for HIV-infected infants, and increasing the number of children on life-saving treatment in Côte d'Ivoire.

Catalyzing Pediatric Tuberculosis Innovations (CaP TB) Project (2017-2021)

This Unitaïd-funded project aims to improve TB screening in children, and accelerate access to TB diagnosis and new child-friendly treatments for both active and latent TB - a disease which affects one million children worldwide. This project, launched in 2017 using networks built through the POC EID project, will bring new child-friendly TB drug formulations and improved diagnostic technology to ten countries, including Côte d'Ivoire.

The Strengthening High Impact Interventions for an AIDSFree Generation (AIDSFree) Project (2017-2019)

AIDSFree works closely with governments, civil society organizations, and private sector partners to address critical pillars of public health: human resources for health, technical service delivery, development of evidence-based tools, quality improvement, demand creation, data collection, analysis and utilization, and leadership and management. In Côte d'Ivoire, AIDSFree funding is being used to examine willingness-to-pay for PMTCT and HIV self-testing.

Delivering Technical Assistance Project: Replicating the ECHO Model for HIV/AIDS Mentorship (2016-2019)

EGPAF will leverage lessons learned from the Namibia Extension for Community Health care and Outcomes (Project ECHO) pilot in Côte d'Ivoire. The ECHO model uses teleconferencing (via Zoom) to link less experienced providers with subject matter experts to provide quality clinical mentorship focusing on case-based learning and promotion of best practices.

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 guidelines recommending universal access to ART.

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 Unitaïd/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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