



# Response to HIV/AIDS in Armenia: the changing financing landscape and transition risks

Hasmik Harutyunyan, MD, MPH  
Global Fund Project Coordination Team, Ministry of Health Republic of Armenia



# Background: Statistics

- **The first HIV infection in Armenia was first registered in 1988.**
  - As of Dec 31, 2025 **6735** cases of HIV infection were registered, of which ~70% among males and ~ 30% among females;
  - Cases of AIDS-- 2,999, of which ~ 74 % among males and 26% among females;
  - Number of deaths-- 1515, of which 80% among males and ~ 20% among females;
  - Among children (0-14 years old)-- 90 cases of HIV infection, 47 cases of AIDS, and 12 deaths were recorded;
  - 467 newly detected cases in 2025; foreigners 10%
  - Estimated number of PLHIV -- **5900-6300-7300** in 2024-2025-2026
  - As of December 31, 2025, HIV Prevention-Treatment-Care Cascade in the Republic of Armenia has the following picture: **70% -83% -87%**
  - HIV prevalence among KPs– 5% among MSM, 2,6% among IDUs, 2,5% among TGs, 0,2%- CSWs.



# Background: modes of transmission

**Heterosexual** contact is the major route of transmission

Route of Transmission	Proportion
Heterosexual transmission	76,2%
Injecting drug use	13,5%
Homosexual relationship	7,5%
Mother-to-child transmission	1,2%
Through blood	0,1%
Unknown	1,6%



# Structure of HIV Services

- National Center of Infectious Diseases: Confirmatory Diagnostics (3 rapid test based diagnostic algorithm) , Treatment and Treatment Monitoring
- Regional Medical Centers in 3 regions – Treatment and Treatment monitoring
- PHC (78) facilities- Provider Initiated Testing (migrants, pregnant, KPs)
- NGOs– Community based self testing assisted by out-reach workers (KPs)



# Funding of National HIV/AIDS Prevention programs in Armenia

## External

- Global Fund since 2003
  - 2003-2006 PR – World Vision
  - 2006-2019– PRs – Ministry of Health & Mission East NGO
  - 2019 to now– Ministry of Health
  - On-going TB/HIV grant cycle - 2025-2027, LAST one for HIV
- UNAIDS until 2025
- WHO
- **State Health Care Budget of the Republic of Armenia**

**Share of external/domestic funding as of December 2025– 50/50**



# Transition Plan

- Armenia has developed a detailed fully costed Transition and Sustainability Plan (TSP) for the years 2023-2027, approved by CCM in based on the previous plan (2021-2025) taking into account the lessons learned and emerging needs. The six Objectives of the TSP are the following:
  - **Objective 1: Enhance governance, effective coordination of HIV and TB national programs and decrease stigma and discrimination**
  - **Objective 2: Achieve zero financial dependence on external funding and ensure efficient use of public resources**
  - **Objective 3: Ensure continuous supply of quality and affordable medicines and health supplies**
  - **Objective 4: Safeguard adequate and continuous supply of quality human resources**
  - **Objective 5: Ensure enhancement and public funding of M&E, surveillance systems and research**
  - **TSP Objective 6: Streamline service delivery ensuring expanded coverage, quality, coordination and continuity of care**



# Transition: Achievements and Challenges

Achievements	Challenges
Special mechanism for procurement of quality and affordable ARVs and HIV tests established since 2018- full volume of ARV medicines procured by state funding since 2024	Zero financial dependence on external funding for implementation of National Program after 2028 not yet guaranteed
MST program transferred to state funding, free-of-charge for all enrollees since March 2026, State funded HIV PEP for all and PrEP for citizens of RA	Universal Health Insurance Fund contracts only health care organizations licensed for provision of medical care and services
Decentralization of HIV treatment and treatments monitoring to 3 regional sites funded by the state.	No established mechanisms of public funding of M&E, surveillance systems and research



# Mitigation of Risks

- Planning of sufficient amounts of funding in MTEF starting from 2028
- Adding a separate state budget line on HIV prevention to the Ministry of Health  
Budgets to fund community based HIV prevention activities, care and support to PLHIV, M&E and surveillance systems outside of the CHI Funding for HIV detection, diagnostic and treatment services of medical facilities
- Trying to fill in the gaps by integrating TB and HIV services with partial inclusion in GF grant program on TB of the GC8.
- Proactive search and mobilization of other potential donors in the field of HIV



THANK YOU!!!