

World Vision HIV and AIDS 2020 Strategy

Executive summary

Tremendous progress has been made in the global fight against HIV and AIDS since the world first declared 15 years ago the goal to ‘Halt and begin to reverse the spread of HIV/AIDS’. But the fight has not yet been won and communities and families are still devastated by the physical, emotional and economic toll of the greatest pandemic in our era. Currently, about 2.6 million children are living with HIV and less than one third of them have access to life-saving antiretroviral therapy, while there is a newly infected baby every three minutes. Adolescents have become the leading edge of the pandemic and AIDS is now the principle cause of death among 14–19 year olds in Africa and the second leading cause of death for adolescents globally.

The global community has set its sights on an ambitious new Sustainable Development Goal: to end AIDS as a public health threat by 2030. The new approach, dubbed the Fast Track to End AIDS, requires a re-doubled commitment and accelerated pace from all partners. World Vision’s revised HIV and AIDS Strategy 2017–2020 is an on-ramp to this global fast track with our goal of ‘zero new infections, zero AIDS-related deaths and zero stigma, ensuring that all children enjoy well-being’ in communities where we work.

We now have the knowledge and the tools to achieve this ambitious vision. It is well recognised that to sustain the gains and obtain the new targets, civil society and faith-based partners must play a critical role. World Vision’s new HIV and AIDS strategy proposes evidence-informed, community-based interventions that build on World Vision’s ministry focus and experience working at the local level to strengthen community systems, link mothers, boys, girls, adolescents and the most vulnerable to health services, support the nurturing families need for children to survive and thrive, and bring an end to stigma and violence against children.

The strategy envisions integration of proposed interventions into World Vision’s child well-being outcomes and [global health strategy \(7-11\)](#), leveraging existing evidence-based project models to deliver our new objectives, which include:

1. New HIV infections among children are eliminated and their mother’s health and well-being sustained
2. Children affected by HIV survive and thrive
3. Adolescents, especially girls, key populations and the most vulnerable, access combination prevention and treatment services and are empowered to protect themselves from HIV
4. All children and families experience life free of stigma, discrimination and harmful social norms.

Importantly, donors continue to invest generously in the fight against HIV and AIDS, and the strategy will rely heavily on mobilising resources from grants and domestic funding through strategic partnership with other public and private institutions. Another key feature of the strategy is that application and implementation must be appropriate to the context, since the HIV epidemic tends to be concentrated in certain geographical areas and among key population groups where the prevalence of HIV infection is much higher than it is elsewhere.