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PROJECT FACT SHEET

Cameroon: Support of Elimination of Mother-To-Child
Transmission (eMTCT) of HIV/AIDS Project

Country Context

- Cameroon has a generalized HIV epidemic with a national prevalence of 2.7% among people aged 15-49 years.
- In 2019, more than 56% and around 30% of children and adolescents were put on ART. 80% of pregnant women received during antenatal care were tested for HIV and 89% of HIV+ pregnant women identified were put on ART.
- There are still many challenges faced especially for pregnant/breastfeeding women, children, and adolescents. In addition, many challenges undermine the optimal response, such as stock-outs of HIV tests, antiretroviral drugs, and other essential HIV commodities, slow implementation of user fees elimination, and the low capacities of primary health facilities to deliver quality health HIV care, as well as case finding and follow-up in particular among children and adolescents living with HIV.

Project Rationale

- To improve the health status of the population of Cameroon by ensuring the MTCT of HIV is controlled and reduced to a very low level.
- Access to safe and quality Emtct services ensured.
- An efficient governance and coordination of national eMTCT built.



Project Objectives

- Scaling up early paediatric HIV diagnosis and treatment for HIV-infected pregnant women to accelerate eMTCT in six regions
- The project supports the goal of the Government of Cameroon to eliminate mother to child transmission of HIV.
- Establishing and networking of 55 Point of Care HIV Technologies (PoC) for Early Infant Diagnosis (EID) and Mothers
- Decentralizing the HIV test-treat-retain cascade from national to the district level
- Implementing innovative community-based approach for defaulters tracing and the most vulnerable pregnant women
- Enhancing the functionality of the District Health Information System for decision-making, including the Supply Chain Management system.

Project Components

The project activities are based on the following components:

- **Component A** = Early Diagnosis and Care for the Infant and the mother.
- **Component B** = Establishing an operational case-based surveillance and ART resistance monitoring systems.
- **Component C** = Developing innovative community delivery models for PMTCT demand creation and patient retention in ART.
- **Component D** = Support to the Project Management.

Key project information

- Total Project Amount: US\$43.51 million
- **LLF Financing:** US\$ 40.0 million, OCR US\$ 28.0 million, grant US\$ 12.0
- **Co-financing US\$ 3.51 million (Government)**
- Effective Date: December 31, 2017
- Project implementation period: 4 years from effectiveness

Expected Outcomes

- The following key results are expected by 2022 in the targeted six regions: 95% of all new ART clients among pregnant women achieved viral suppression.
- Increasing uptake of HIV Early Infant Diagnosis (EID) services in 555 health facilities.
- 3,974 health staffs trained on relevant disciplines related to eMTCT.
- Operational HIV/AIDS case-based surveillance system established.
- 55 District Hospitals equipped with viral load testing and certified by appropriate authority.
- National ART resistance monitoring system implemented.
- At project completion, 271,051 of pregnant women of the six-targeted regions will have



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access to innovative and comprehensive eMTCT services delivery models.



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Benefits and impact

- The project benefits nearly 300,000 pregnant women residing in 55 districts with over 9 million inhabitants benefitting from improved awareness of HIV prevention and care.
- The project improves coverage of antenatal care by 20% (95% vs 74%) with HIV testing and (ART) treatment raised to 95% coverage.
- The project trains 3974 health care workers for prevention of mother to child transmission and pediatric care, while equipping 55 district hospitals with lab equipment for case detection and follow-up, with complementary commodities including water supply, solar energy equipment, incinerators, and vehicles for outreach. An HIV AIDS surveillance system as well as ART resistance monitoring system are established.

Key Stakeholders and Implementing Partners departments and services

- Ministry of Public Health



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Donor Partners

- **Abu Dhabi Fund for Development (ADFD)**

The Abu Dhabi Fund for Development (ADFD) is an aid agency established by the government of Abu Dhabi in 1971. ADFD aims to help developing countries to achieve sustainable socio-economic growth; through financial assistance in the forms of concessionary loans, managing government grants and equities. ADFD also peruses investments in order to encourage the private sector in the recipient countries to play an essential part in accelerating the economic development process, and at the same time playing a pivotal role in strengthening and diversifying the future resources of the Fund.

- **Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation (BMGF)**

The Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation (BMGF) is an American private foundation based in Seattle, Washington. The primary goal of the foundation is to enhance healthcare and reduce extreme poverty across the globe and to expand educational opportunities and access to information technology in the U.S.

- **Islamic Solidarity Fund for Development (ISFD)**

The Islamic Solidarity Fund for Development (ISFD) is dedicated to reducing poverty in its member countries by promoting pro-poor growth, emphasizing human development, especially improvements in health care and education, and providing financial support to enhance the productive capacity and sustainable means of income for the poor, including financing employment opportunities, providing market outlets especially for the rural poor and improving basic rural and pre-urban infrastructure.

- **King Salman Humanitarian Aid and Relief Centre (KSRelief)**

Saudi Arabia established the King Salman Humanitarian Aid and Relief Centre (KSRelief) in 2015. KSRelief works in 46 countries around the world with a focus

on humanitarian and relief work in the Middle East and North Africa region.

- **Qatar Fund for Development (QFFD)**

QFFD is a public development institution committed, on behalf of the State of Qatar, to improving the livelihood of communities around the world by Providing financial tools to developing countries in the Arab and Muslim world and beyond for responsive and effective humanitarian and development aid.

- **UK Aid – The Foreign, Commonwealth, and Development Office (FCDO)**

UK Aid Direct is DFID's main centrally managed funding mechanism for small and medium sized civil society organizations, based in the UK and overseas, who are working to achieve the global goals. Formerly known as the Global Poverty Action Fund (GPAF), the fund was relaunched in 2014 as UK Aid Direct.