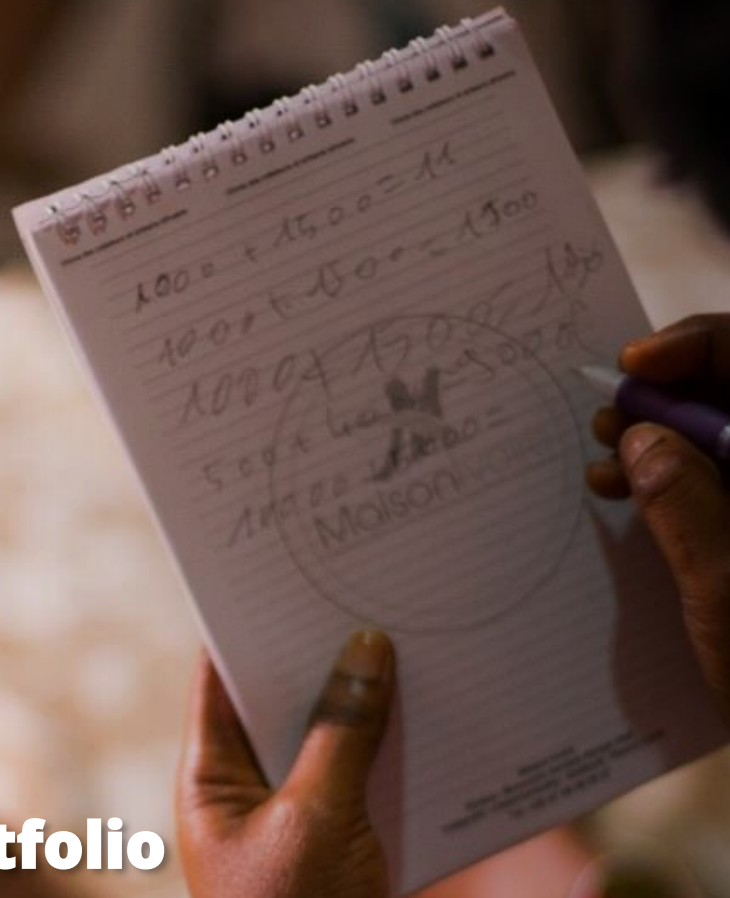




# WFP's HIV portfolio at-a-glance 2022

July 2023



**Cover photo: WFP/ Roberto Valussi-Anzul Mult.**

***Christelle, a beneficiary of the cash-transfer programme in Côte d'Ivoire and one of the 430,000 HIV positive people in the country, checks the spending and the revenues of her fruit stand.***

#### **Photo credits**

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Page 3 – WFP/Badre Bahaji

Page 4 – WFP/William Olale

Page 8 – WFP/Luise Shikongo

## HIV year in review 2022<sup>1</sup>

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In 2022, the world saw the protraction of extraordinary public health challenges, compounded and worsened by economic crises, armed conflict, and natural disasters. The recent global food crisis is impacting the global AIDS response, reinforcing the crucial role of food and nutrition support for people living with and affected by HIV. With over 38 million people living with HIV and 1.5 million new infections in 2022, HIV remains a serious public health challenge. Despite major advances over the last decade, one person died of AIDS every minute, and an adolescent girl in sub-Saharan Africa is diagnosed with HIV every three minutes. The latest data estimate that the sharp increases in the prices of foods have caused an additional 180 million people worldwide to become food insecure<sup>2</sup>, leading to increased vulnerability to HIV and decreased service access. As food insecurity rises, new data show that people living with HIV who are malnourished are significantly more likely to experience interruptions in their HIV treatment.

WFP is uniquely positioned to support vulnerable people living with HIV and tuberculosis (TB), upholding its commitment to leaving no one behind. WFP's technical and operational support to countries helps to improve household food security, nutrition, and socioeconomic status.

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<sup>1</sup> Programme data and examples presented in this report refer to 2022 WFP HIV-related programmes



Food and nutrition support contributes to treatment access and adherence for vulnerable groups, while reducing high-risk behaviours that can increase the transmission of HIV and TB.

WFP has invested over two decades of efforts to improve food security and nutrition outcomes among people living with HIV to prevent mortality and enhance quality of life. WFP has been a co-sponsor of the Joint United Nations Programme on HIV/AIDS (UNAIDS) since 2003 and leads joint work on HIV-sensitive social protection and support to people living with HIV in emergencies.

<sup>2</sup> IN DANGER: UNAIDS Global AIDS Update 2022.



In 2022, WFP reached 358,954 people living with HIV and tuberculosis and their households across 32 countries with direct implementation through food and cash assistance to support individuals and households to meet their essential nutrition needs. This was achieved through programming to provide food, cash, and voucher transfers. In an additional 14 countries, WFP provided additional support through capacity strengthening, technical assistance, social and behaviour change (SBC), resilience and livelihoods support. WFP's HIV programming was present in all regions worldwide, including in emergencies and unstable situations. An at-a-glance collection of programmatic achievements from across our regional bureaux follows below.

## 2022 WFP direct implementation to reach people living, at risk and affected by HIV

  
Increase from the  
previous year\*

**359K PEOPLE**

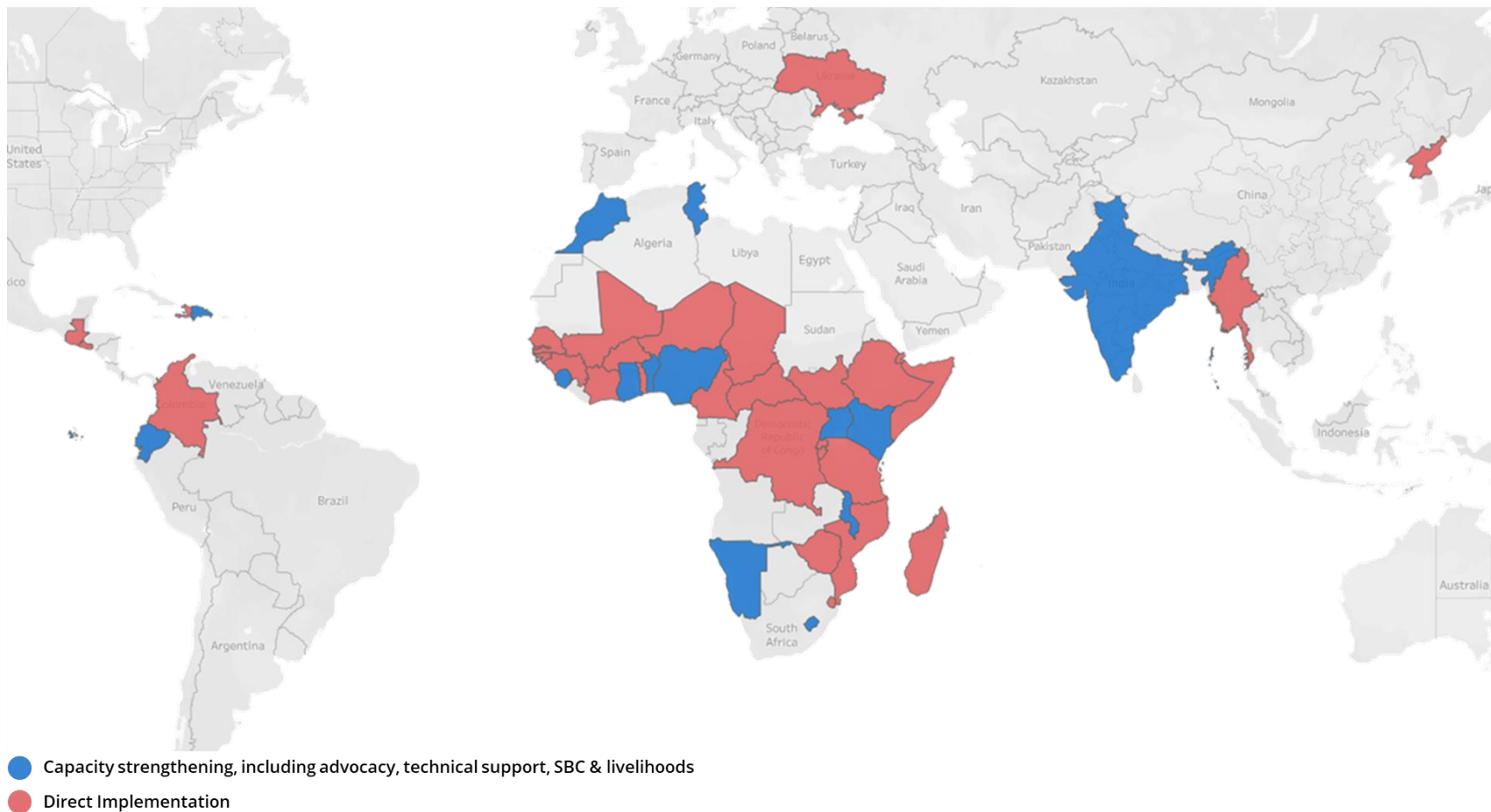
reached through HIV related  
programmes

**44%** Non Fast-Track

**56%** UNAIDS Fast-Track

*\* The significant increase was partly due to scale-up of programming in Guinea and Central African Republic, as well as field-level agreement in Ukraine.*

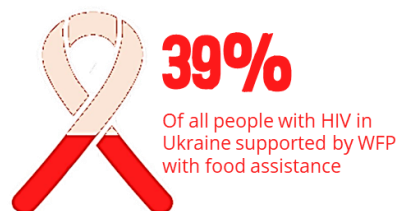
## Countries supported by WFP with HIV activities through direct implementation and capacity strengthening



There are WFP-led programmes and assistance for people living and affected by HIV and tuberculosis (TB) across all six Regional Bureaux. Below are highlights from five impressive country examples:

<b>Ukraine</b>	<p><b>250K People</b> Living with HIV</p> <p><b>59K PLHIV</b> Supported by WFP with food assistance</p> <p><b>11K TB clients</b> Supported by WFP with cash and food assistance</p>
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In Ukraine<sup>3</sup>, more than 250,000 people are living with HIV, the second highest number in the Eastern Europe and Central Asia region, and war has had a



significant impact on food security. To ensure inclusive assistance during the humanitarian response in contexts with high HIV prevalence, WFP rapidly established a partnership with Ukrainian community-based organization *100% LIFE*, to target people living with HIV and/or TB, the LGBTIQ+ community, the Roma community, and persons with disabilities. *100% LIFE* was able to provide comprehensive geographic coverage, enabling deeper reach among minority groups with in-kind assistance, leveraging the organization's experience in working with

<sup>3</sup> Source: [Ukraine Annual Country Report | World Food Programme \(wfp.org\)](#)

people living with and affected by HIV. As a result, WFP was able to help support 58,926 people living with HIV by means of essential food assistance, accounting for 39 percent of all people with HIV under medical surveillance in Ukraine. In addition, WFP supported 11,294 people receiving treatment for tuberculosis with cash and food assistance.

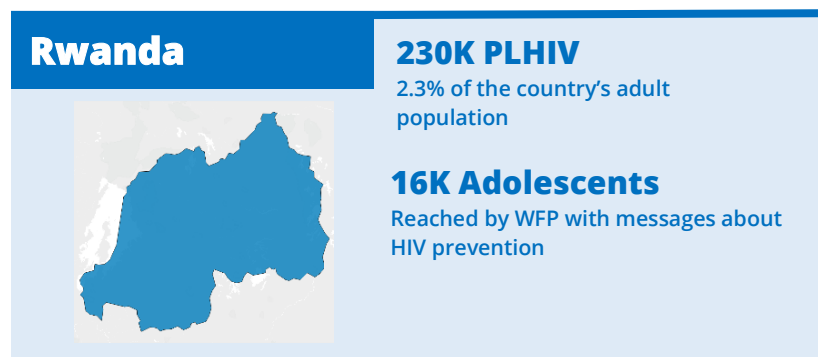
<b>Mozambique</b>	<p><b>750K People</b> Internally displaced by conflict</p> <p><b>12K People</b> Supported by WFP with HIV testing</p> <p><b>1K People</b> Received life-saving HIV medication</p>
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Armed conflict in Mozambique's northern province of Cabo Delgado<sup>4</sup> has forced over 750,000 people from their homes and livelihoods, leaving one in three people internally displaced. As part of the emergency response, WFP is helping the Government to support internally displaced people (IDPs) living with HIV and TB. Working closely with a local NGO, WFP is integrating prevention and treatment services with nutrition rehabilitation, food assistance and health services in 10 resettlement centres. Temporary clinics provide essential HIV and TB services, while simultaneously screening for malnutrition. Malnourished people living with HIV and TB are provided with specialized nutritious food and general food assistance to support adherence to treatment. Mobile brigades and

<sup>4</sup> Sources: [Mozambique Annual Country Report 2022 - Country Strategic Plan 2017-2022](#)



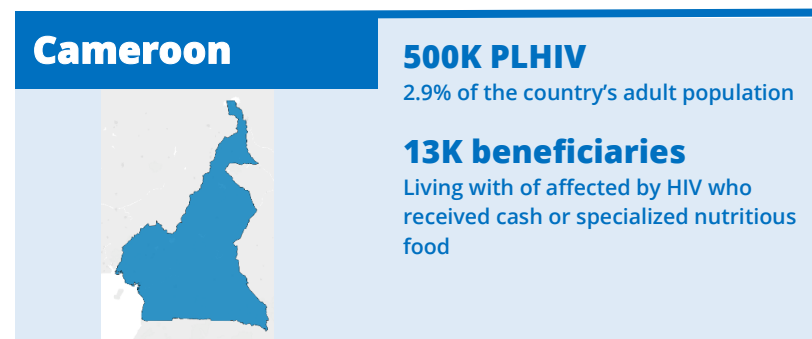
community health workers support household outreach and encourage readmission when dropout has occurred. In 2022, WFP supported HIV testing for 12,175 people, of which 5 percent were positive for HIV. Among people living with HIV, 17 percent were acutely malnourished. In total, 1,069 people received life-saving HIV medication, and an additional 133 people living with HIV and TB received food or cash assistance.



In Rwanda<sup>5</sup>, adolescents and young people struggle to access adequate services and information on HIV prevention and treatment. In 2020, only 54% of those aged 15-19 reportedly had comprehensive knowledge of HIV. They often face stigma and do not go for regular HIV testing - only 55% of children and adolescents receive antiretroviral therapy (ART) for HIV, compared to 81% of adults. To support young people to meet these specific needs, WFP and the Rwanda Biomedical Centre promoted positive life skills among adolescents in schools, using SBC to enhance capacity and raise awareness regarding HIV prevention and to promote positive attitudes. Such communication activities were conducted in 16 upper

<sup>5</sup> Source: [Rwanda Annual Country Report 2022](#)

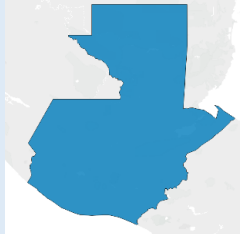
primary and secondary schools in the Nyamagabe, Rutsiro, Nyamasheke, Rusizi, Musanze, and Rubavu districts. In total, WFP reached 15,505 adolescents with messages about HIV prevention.



In partnership with UNAIDS, the National Committee for the fight against HIV, the Ministry of Public Health, and other partners, WFP helped ensure more sustainable support for vulnerable people living with HIV in Cameroon<sup>6</sup>. Lessons learned from a pilot implementation were used to develop guidance on the targeting and identification of the most vulnerable HIV-affected households across several regions in Cameroon, where the prevalence of HIV surpasses half a million people. By implementing nutritional assessment, counselling, and support (NACS) and livelihood support to vulnerable people living with HIV in the East, Adamawa, and Southwest regions. Under the NACS programme, 3,634 malnourished people on ART received specialized nutritious food (SNFs). In 2022, 2,203 households with people living with HIV (9,224 beneficiaries) were integrated into WFP's general cash assistance programme.

<sup>6</sup> Source: [Cameroon Annual Country Report 2022 - Country Strategic Plan 2022-2026](#)

## Guatemala



### 31K People

Living with HIV in the country

### 20% Increase

In new HIV infections from 2010-2021

### 70 PLHIV

Received nutritional counseling and healthy eating skills training

Together with the Ministry of Agriculture, Livestock, and Food and the Association for HIV Prevention and Testing, WFP helped lead a novel programme that combined peer nutritional counselling and home gardens for food-insecure and malnourished people living with HIV in Guatemala<sup>7</sup>, where new cases of HIV infections increased by 20% in the last decade. The peer-led activities helped to reduce stigma and discrimination while promoting healthy eating practices by building capacity and skills, contributing to longer-term resilience for 70 people living with HIV. The programme also raised general awareness among actors unfamiliar with the HIV response by advocating for inclusive programming by supporting the nutrition of people living with HIV. Based on successes of this small pilot, there is increased interest in expanding the programming to reach more people with support and access to better, healthier diets.

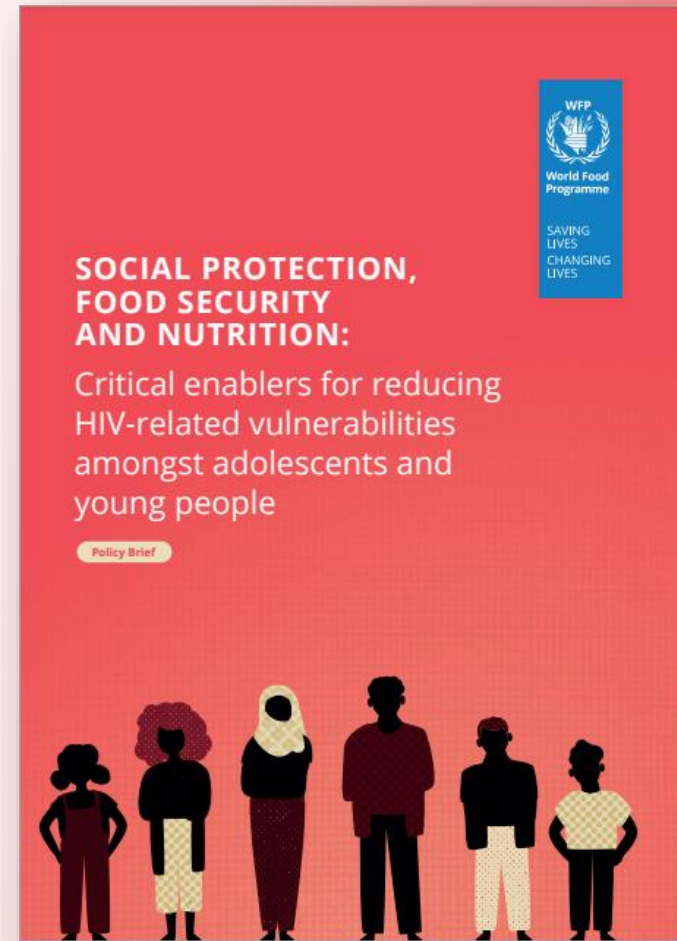


<sup>7</sup> Source: [Guatemala Annual Country Report 2022](#)



# Influencing global policy and generating novel evidence

Starting in 2020, the WFP Regional Bureau for Southern Africa and the Regional Bureau for Eastern Africa initiated research in collaboration with the University of Oxford, the University of Cape Town and the Accelerating Achievement for Africa's Adolescents (Accelerate) Hub. The long-term collaborative study concluded in 2022, with new evidence underscoring the critical role of food security in a global AIDS response as food security was proven yet again to reduce HIV risk and the prevalence of negative coping strategies, especially among adolescent girls and young women. The study of 1,700 adolescents, one of the largest groups of adolescents ever surveyed, highlights how social protection platforms can increase food security and nutrition while reducing HIV risk for the most at-risk cohorts such as adolescent girls and young women in sub-Saharan Africa. It led to the publication of an article in the [Journal of the International AIDS Society](#), as well as the issuance of a [policy brief](#) and the convening of a global webinar on World AIDS Day.



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