

**China**  
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## Country Situation

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In 2007, the Chinese government continued to give high priority to expand the response at all levels and to ensure more effective implementation of the programme and has demonstrated a stronger government led response with increasing multisectoral participation, coordination and cooperation across sectors.

The UN Theme Group on HIV/AIDS remains the main platform for coordinating the international response against AIDS in China. A UN Joint Programme on AIDS in China (2007-2010) was issued with two workplans partly funded by a DFID contribution. The Global Fund continues to be the largest donor for China, followed by DFID and the UN System.

There have been strong gains in terms of national leadership, establishing a supportive national framework, improving the understanding of key elements of the epidemic, and providing treatment, care and support. Nevertheless, a number of gaps remain and an even more overriding issue is the need to move from an infectious disease control model to a social response to the epidemic.

A number of advocacy campaigns targeted at migrants, women, youth and minority populations were carried out. Coverage of intervention programmes for sex workers and their clients has been extended and MMT clinics are open in 22 provinces, and 729 needle exchange stations were established. Comprehensive HIV prevention programme is covering around 8.2% of the MSM population.

#### ***Barriers include:***

Limited coverage of the comprehensive prevention packages to address high-risk behaviors and minimal involvement of civil society in the AIDS response are important challenges to overcome. Limited utilization of VCT and STI services. The linkage between the identification of HIV status and referral to different parts of the treatment and care response is weak and is not standardized. Implementation of the 'Four Frees, One Care' initiative has been uneven and making second line drugs available is a challenge. No effective support for HIV positive people and their families is in place:

#### ***Efforts to overcome these:***

- ▶ Better targeted, in-depth and sustained comprehensive packages are required for vulnerable populations.
- ▶ To increase the coverage and quality of comprehensive services

- ▶ To increase support to local governments to strengthen treatment policies
- ▶ To explore long-term, stable and sustainable ART delivery mechanisms
- ▶ To expand the scale and strengthen the quality of data collection and its analysis to assess the impact of AIDS on communities, households and individuals.

## UNAIDS Support to the National Response

### **UNAIDS activities at country level during 2007**

1. Supporting the development of a new estimate of HIV and AIDS cases in China and coordinating a joint assessment of the HIV/AIDS situation in China.
2. Supporting the implementation of a national M&E framework and a mid-term evaluation of the national 5-year action plan.
3. Strengthening coordination through joint reviews of programs and projects and facilitating experience sharing through an international projects conference.
4. Mobilizing additional resources from the Global Fund and other sources and enhancing utilization of existing GF and other resources.
5. Supporting the implementation of budgeted provincial plans and scaling-up of successful interventions and programmes to achieve universal access.
6. Strengthening civil society engagement in the response to AIDS and promoting efforts aimed at reducing stigma and discrimination related to AIDS.

The first four priorities proposed include very concrete deliverables and the latter two are more general that aim at capturing the work of the UN agencies and programmes in China in a range of different areas of the joint programme on AIDS, thereby creating an enabling environment, awareness-raising and targeted prevention interventions as well as treatment, care and support.

The UN Joint Programme on AIDS in China (2007-2010) was operationalized and viewed as an overall priority for the UN system. Guidelines for the implementation of the Two-Year Workplan of this Joint Programme was formulated and is under implementation supported by DFID funding of US\$ 12 838 900

### **UNAIDS achievements at country level during 2007**

#### ***National strategic and operational planning***

To achieve the overall objective of China's Action Plan for Reducing and Preventing the Spread of HIV/AIDS (2006-2010), and to capture the epidemic situation, analysis responses and challenges for informed decision making regarding China's national strategy and operational planning, the State Council AIDS Working Committee Office and the United Nations Theme Group on AIDS prepared a Joint Assessment of HIV/AIDS Prevention, Treatment and Care in China (2007). The report covers the epidemic situation and the response since 2006, the new 2007 HIV estimates and identifies the ongoing challenges from which recommendations for future guidance are formulated.

## ***Joint UN planning and programming***

The UN Joint Programme on AIDS in China (2007-2010) was prepared by the UN system in China and is based on the Millennium Development Goals and the UNGASS HIV/AIDS Declaration of Commitment with priority attention to HIV prevention and control in China.

The planning process for the development of the Joint Programme involved extensive consultation both within the UN system and among partners.

Strategically, the joint programme is guided by the “Three Ones” principles – one action framework, one national coordinating authority and one national monitoring and evaluation (M&E) system.

The joint programme for each of the UNDAF focus areas is described in broad terms in this document, with details of joint efforts and programmes of individual UN agencies.

The overall purpose of the joint programme is to provide:

- 1) Policy advice and technical support to enhance the achievement of China’s national objective of reducing HIV infections and to ensure that people living with or affected by AIDS have an improved quality of life.
- 2) Strategic support in key provinces or regions where the UN can improve the quality of local level responses by strengthening the planning, coordination and monitoring and evaluation of the response.

The expected outcomes of the programme under each focus are as follows:

- ▶ An enabling environment and multisectoral response.
- ▶ Increased awareness and intensified prevention interventions.
- ▶ Improved treatment, care and support of PLHIV.

### **Main challenges / activities for 2008**

Core challenges as identified in the joint assessment are:

- ▶ Improving programme management and accountability mechanisms.
- ▶ Having awareness campaigns to address stigma and discrimination.
- ▶ Comprehensive interventions for most-at-risk populations.
- ▶ Treatment, care and support.
- ▶ Involving all of society.
- ▶ Capacity-building of local response teams.
- ▶ Strengthening monitoring and evaluation systems.