

Progress towards Universal Access Angola

Universal access implies that all people should be able to have access to information and services that are:

Equitable – accessible – affordable – comprehensive – sustainable

In 2006, countries worldwide committed to setting ambitious national targets for scaling up towards Universal Access to HIV prevention, treatment, care and support by 2010. The targets focus on what could be achieved if the following obstacles can be addressed:

- **Predictable and sustainable financing**
- **Strengthening human resources and health systems**
- **Access to affordable commodities**
- **Stigma, discrimination, gender and human rights**

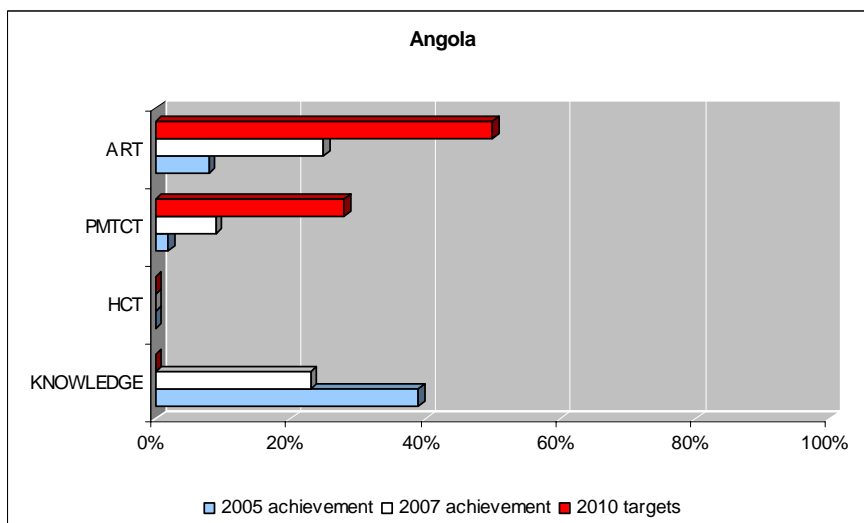
Review of National reports in 2008 demonstrated that Universal Access has catalyzed an accelerated and strengthened national HIV response with more results-based planning and a general overall increase in access to services. National political leadership and coordination were found to be critical to scale up. However more emphasis was needed on addressing the obstacles to scale up which would not support reaching universal access but also the achievement of the Millennium Development Goals. Specifically, there is a need to accelerate progress on HIV-prevention efforts, and to better utilise the resources available within civil society and people living with HIV.

Universal access has generated a continuing engagement with national partners to monitor and review progress towards universal access. This has resulted in a number of countries revising their national targets to ensure a sharper focus on areas in need of additional support.

Progress in Angola

Angola is on track to meeting several of its universal access targets and there is a clear willingness to revise and upscale certain targets (including ARV adherence, and orphan care) as well as to define specific targets for: most-at risk populations; youth; human rights and gender, stigma and discrimination, the extension of counseling and testing, access to second line treatment and tuberculosis.

A new partnership has been forged between government and civil society organizations, private sector, faith-based organizations, people living with HIV and UN agencies which has encouraged a greater commitment to reaching most at risk groups and engaged the support of people living with HIV in building treatment adherence. However, there is an increased need to ensure the capacity of civil society (managerial, institutional, political, financial and technical sustainability) and to ensure that they are fully involved in national response.



An accelerated prevention policy is under elaboration to support the National Response. Strengthening of human Resources capacities, better access to services at the decentralized level are among the challenges Angola faces.

Figure 1. The graph presents a snapshot of progress towards universal access based on 2005 and 2007 reported UNGASS achievements and 2010 reported targets, as per data available.

Please note that ARV and PMTCT targets may be subject to change based on revised numbers in need of ART.

"(We) commit ourselves to pursuing all necessary efforts to scale up nationally driven, sustainable and comprehensive responses... towards the goal of universal access to comprehensive prevention programmes, treatment, care and support by 2010."

2006 Political Declaration, (UN General Assembly, 15 June 2006)