



United States Department of State

Washington, D.C. 20520

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April 3, 2020

MEMO FOR AMBASSADOR ROBERT SCOTT, U.S. AMBASSADOR TO MALAWI

SUBJECT: PEPFAR Malawi Operational Plan 2020 Approval

This memo represents the successful completion of the PEPFAR Malawi Country Operational Plan (COP) 2020 planning, development and submission. PEPFAR Malawi, together with the partner government, civil society and multilateral partners, has planned and submitted a COP 2020 in alignment with the directives from the COP 2020 planning letter, data-driven decisions made during the in-country retreat, and agreements made during the planning meeting.

This memo serves as the approval memo for the PEPFAR Malawi Country Operational Plan (COP) 2020 with a total approved budget of **\$195,577,169**, including all initiatives and applied pipeline, to achieve the targets and outcomes as listed in this memo and all appendices. Total budget is reflective of the following programming:

1. Overall Funding Table

Malawi	New Funding (all accounts)	Pipeline	Total Budget FY 2021 Implementation
Total Budget	177,163,966	18,413,203	195,577,169
Bilateral	177,163,966	5,276,034	182,440,000
Central	-	13,137,169	13,137,169

Approve a total FY 2021 outlay for COP 2020 implementation that does not exceed the total approved COP 2020 budget of **\$195,577,166**. Any prior year funds that are not included within this COP 2020 budget and documented within this memo, its appendices and official PEPFAR data systems are not to be made available for execution and outlay during FY 2021 without additional written approval. The new FY 2020 funding and prior year funds approved within this memo as a part of the total COP 2020 budget are allocated to achieve specific results, outcomes and impacts as approved. All requested Operational Plan Updates and shifting of funds – either between mechanisms and partners, or to add additional funding to mechanisms and partners for execution in FY 2021– must be submitted to and approved by S/GAC.

Approved funding will be made available to agencies for allocation to country platform to implement COP 2020 programming and priorities as outlined below and in the appendix.

Approved access will be made available for the Malawi PEPFAR program of up to \$804,046 in central funding for the procurement of condoms and lubricants.

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Background

This approval is based upon: the discussions that occurred between the country team, agency headquarters, S/GAC, indigenous and international stakeholders during the March 2 - 6, 2020 in-person planning meetings and participants in the virtual approval meeting; the final COP 2020 submission, including all data submitted via official PEPFAR systems or within supplemental documents.

Program Summary

Funding and targets for PEPFAR Malawi's Country Operational Plan 2020 will support PEPFAR Malawi's vision to work towards epidemic control by targeting testing to efficiently identify people living with HIV (PLHIV), ensuring all newly diagnosed PLHIV are immediately linked to treatment, and all PLHIV are retained on treatment and remain virally suppressed. COP 2020 will work to maintain epidemic control by the end of FY 2021, across all ages and sexes, working toward the ultimate goal across the country that 993,875 PLHIV are on life-saving treatment by the end of FY 2021. The program for COP 2020 will enroll an additional 92,909 PLHIV on treatment in FY 2020 and ensure viral load suppression in 910,143 patients.

The PEPFAR Malawi strategy for programming to be implemented in FY 2021 will focus on improving testing efficiencies, retaining PLHIV on ART, and continuing to prevent new HIV infections. It will achieve this by (1) analyzing and addressing the causes of attrition and loss to follow up and increasing treatment literacy; (2) targeted casefinding, especially for men 15-44; (3) addressing gaps in pediatric treatment, including through improved efforts to enroll more children living with HIV into OVC programs; (4) ensuring the quality implementation of DREAMS and increasing its reach to the most vulnerable AGYW; (5) shifting VMMC efforts to three high-burden districts with a focus on males over 15; and (6) solidifying EMR system support and administration.

To ensure that over 90 percent of the population of PLHIV (1,077,268) is on ART, and at least 86% should be virally suppressed and not engaged in ongoing transmission, PEPFAR funds for Malawi in COP 2020 will reorient to a direct service delivery or DSD at sites program. The PEPFAR program will shift expenditures to the site of service delivery and prioritize maintaining clients in high quality, patient-centered care. In COP 2020, the PEPFAR strategy will utilize new and reopened government to government agreements and repurpose human resources for health assets. Specific approaches will include (1) shifting HDAs from testing to retention support activities and right-sizing ratios of expert clients to patients, (2) analysis of individual patients' risk of missing appointments and tailoring services accordingly, (3) improving electronic medical record data quality and use, (4) establishing more client-friendly facilities, (5) scaling up the availability of 6-month prescriptions, and (6) supporting CSO-led monitoring to improve client services. To support these efforts, activities will target those newly initiated on ART, represented by 15-25 year old females, 25-35 year old men, and asymptomatic clients. Sharply in focus in COP 2020 is closing treatment gaps by systematically targeting young women and men, particularly partners of AGYW, utilizing male-friendly clinics at scale, and self-testing.

In addition, PEPFAR Malawi will also prioritize reducing provider-initiated testing and voluntary counseling and repeat testing, while strengthening index testing once site certification processes have been finalized. Recent infection surveillance will continue to

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rapidly progress to a national scale. This data is already being triangulated with program data to control emerging hotspots. Building on the program’s success in meeting the ambitious goal of having EMR systems rolled out by the end of FY19, these systems will increasingly be directed toward near real-time program monitoring and epidemic surveillance for sustained epidemic control.

In COP 2020, the PEPFAR program will continue to implement a strategic reorientation to focus on retention and bringing individuals back to care to ensure 86% of PLHIV are virally suppressed. Prevention shifts will include the expansion of the DREAMS package into new sites within existing districts to achieve full geographic footprint and district saturation and shifting VMMC efforts to three high-burden districts with a focus on males over 15. PrEP will be scaled up and made available to AGYW, key populations, serodiscordant couples, and pregnant and breastfeeding women. Building on the successes of U.S. based programs of Historically Black Colleges and Universities, youth will be trained to enter the health field as community health workers. These interventions will be tailored to the Malawian context and, new in COP 2020, will target AGYW graduates of DREAMS with employment opportunities in the health care field, providing additional HRH to support the HIV epidemic response. Additionally, in accordance with the overwhelming evidence that links prevention of HIV with additional years of education, the program will expand 30 existing Community Day Schools and build up to 200 new schools to create a total of 40,000 new seats for secondary education. Above-site interventions will include a focus on optimizing HRH allocation (right-sizing HRH), and improved coordination and monitoring of the national response.

Funding Summary

All COP 2020 funding summarized in the chart below is approved at the agency and account levels as indicated. Funds are to be utilized to achieve the targets and outcomes and to fund implementing partners and Management and Operations costs (U.S. Government Costs of Doing Business) as documented in all PEPFAR systems and summarized in the appendix.

2. Bilateral COP 2020 Funding Table by Agency

Malawi	Bilateral				Central			Total Central Applied Pipeline	Total Bilateral Applied Pipeline	Total Bilateral - New Funding	Total COP 20 Budget
	New Funding				Applied Pipeline		Applied Pipeline				
	FY20				FY 19	Unspecified	Unspecified				
	Total	GHP-State	GHP-USAID	GAP	Total	Total	Total				
DOD TOTAL	3 105 008	3 105 008	-	-	-	61 600	-	-	61 600	3 105 008	3 166 608
HHS TOTAL	93 702 582	92 190 082	-	1 512 500	-	4 138 464	-	-	4 138 464	93 702 582	97 841 046
HHS/CDC	91 702 582	90 190 082	-	1 512 500	-	4 138 464	-	-	4 138 464	91 702 582	95 841 046
HHS/HRSA	2 000 000	2 000 000	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	2 000 000	2 000 000
HHS/SAMHSA	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
PEACE CORPS TOTAL	1 803 566	1 803 566	-	-	-	279 006	-	-	279 006	1 803 566	2 082 572
STATE TOTAL	1 985 188	1 985 188	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1 985 188	1 985 188
State (State, S/EUR, S/EAP, and S/WHA)	466 582	466 582	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	466 582	466 582
State/AF	1 518 606	1 518 606	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1 518 606	1 518 606
State/PRM	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
State/SGAC	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
USAID TOTAL	76 567 622	76 567 622	-	-	-	796 964	13 137 169	13 137 169	796 964	76 567 622	90 501 755
USAID, non-WCF	72 894 887	72 894 887	-	-	-	796 964	13 137 169	13 137 169	796 964	72 894 887	86 829 020
USAID, WCF	3 672 735	3 672 735	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	3 672 735	3 672 735
TOTAL	177 163 966	175 651 466	-	1 512 500	-	5 276 034	13 137 169	13 137 169	5 276 034	177 163 966	195 577 169

*Pipeline refers to funding allocated in prior years, approved for implementation in FY 2021

GHP-State Funds: Upon the clearance of a FY 2020 PEPFAR GHP-State Congressional Notification (CN), funds will be made available for transfer to agency HQs as indicated in the

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above chart. Funds are made available for outlay in FY 2021 at approved COP 2020 partner budget levels to achieve FY 2021 targets and outcomes as documented in official PEPFAR systems and summarized in the approval memo's appendix. Upon receipt from S/GAC, agency headquarters will move the funds to the country platform via each agency's internal process.

CDC GAP Funds: With the receipt of this signed memo, CDC is approved to use CDC GAP funds, as indicated in the above funding chart. Funds are to be made available for outlay in FY 2021 at approved COP 2020 partner budget levels to achieve FY 2021 targets and outcomes as documented in official PEPFAR systems and summarized in the approval memo's appendix. With this approval, CDC GAP funding may be made available to country teams per CDC internal processes and following agency requirements.

Applied Pipeline Funds: With the receipt of this signed memo, respective agencies are approved to use applied pipeline funds as indicated in the above funding chart. Funds are to be made available for outlay in FY 2021 at approved COP 2020 partner budget levels to achieve FY 2021 targets and outcomes as documented in official PEPFAR systems and summarized in the approval memo's appendix. Additional or remaining pipeline from previous year's activities that are not currently captured in the COP 2020 total budget level and documented within COP 2020 partner budgets are not to be executed or outlayed without written approval from S/GAC.

Earmarks: The Malawi has planned for programming for FY 2020, FY 2019 and/or FY 2017 funding that it considered to meet a number of earmarks, as indicated in the table below. The amounts programmed during COP may exceed the original controls assigned to the OU. Upon approval of this memo, the amounts below will become the new earmark controls for the OU/Agency. Any changes to the amount of funding programmed for earmark-eligible activities must be approved via an OPU.

3. Earmark Funding Table

Earmarks	COP20 Funding Level	
	FY20	FY19
Care & Treatment	105,865,560	-
Orphans and Vulnerable Children	23,000,000	-
Preventing and Responding to Gender-based Violence	1,497,159	-
Water	200,000	-

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4. Bilateral COP 2020 Funding Table of Initiatives by OU

Malawi	Total Central Applied Pipeline	Total Bilateral Applied Pipeline	Total Bilateral New Funding	Total COP 20 Budget
TOTAL	13,137,169	5,276,034	177,163,966	195,577,169
<i>of which, Ambition</i>	-	-	8,040,000	8,040,000
<i>of which, Cervical Cancer</i>	-	-	3,000,000	3,000,000
<i>of which, COP19 Performance</i>	-	-	30,000,000	30,000,000
<i>of which, Core Program</i>	-	5,276,034	98,623,966	103,900,000
<i>of which, DREAMS</i>	-	-	20,000,000	20,000,000
<i>of which, HBCU Tx</i>	-	-	2,000,000	2,000,000
<i>of which, HKID Requirement</i>	-	-	6,000,000	6,000,000
<i>of which, KPIF</i>	2,003,000	-	-	2,003,000
<i>of which, Malawi Education</i>	11,134,169	-	-	11,134,169
<i>of which, VMMC</i>	-	-	9,500,000	9,500,000

5. Bilateral COP 2020 Funding Table of Initiatives by Agency

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	Total Central Applied Pipeline	Total Bilateral Applied Pipeline	Total Bilateral New Funding	Total COP 20 Budget
Malawi				
DOD TOTAL	-	61,600	3,105,008	3,166,608
<i>of which, Ambition</i>	-	-	540,000	540,000
<i>of which, Core Program</i>	-	61,600	1,845,023	1,906,623
<i>of which, DREAMS</i>	-	-	300,000	300,000
<i>of which, VMMC</i>	-	-	419,985	419,985
HHS TOTAL	-	4,138,464	93,702,582	97,841,046
HHS/CDC	-	4,138,464	91,702,582	95,841,046
<i>of which, Ambition</i>	-	-	3,000,000	3,000,000
<i>of which, Cervical Cancer</i>	-	-	1,800,000	1,800,000
<i>of which, COP19 Performance</i>	-	-	16,569,104	16,569,104
<i>of which, Core Program</i>	-	4,138,464	59,260,478	63,398,942
<i>of which, DREAMS</i>	-	-	7,525,000	7,525,000
<i>of which, VMMC</i>	-	-	3,548,000	3,548,000
HHS/HRSA	-	-	2,000,000	2,000,000
<i>of which, HBCU Tx</i>	-	-	2,000,000	2,000,000
HHS/SAMHSA	-	-	-	-
PEACE CORPS TOTAL	-	279,006	1,803,566	2,082,572
<i>of which, Core Program</i>	-	279,006	1,803,566	2,082,572
STATE TOTAL	-	-	1,985,188	1,985,188
State (State, S/EUR, S/EAP, and S/WHA)	-	-	466,582	466,582
<i>of which, Core Program</i>	-	-	466,582	466,582
State/AF	-	-	1,518,606	1,518,606
<i>of which, Core Program</i>	-	-	1,518,606	1,518,606
USAID TOTAL	13,137,169	796,964	76,567,622	90,501,755
USAID, non-WCF	13,137,169	796,964	72,894,887	86,829,020
<i>of which, Ambition</i>	-	-	4,500,000	4,500,000
<i>of which, Cervical Cancer</i>	-	-	1,200,000	1,200,000
<i>of which, COP19 Performance</i>	-	-	12,880,896	12,880,896
<i>of which, Core Program</i>	-	796,964	32,629,711	33,426,675
<i>of which, DREAMS</i>	-	-	12,175,000	12,175,000
<i>of which, HKID Requirement</i>	-	-	6,000,000	6,000,000
<i>of which, KPIF</i>	2,003,000	-	-	2,003,000
<i>of which, Malawi Education</i>	11,134,169	-	-	11,134,169
<i>of which, VMMC</i>	-	-	3,509,280	3,509,280
USAID, WCF	-	-	3,672,735	3,672,735
<i>of which, COP19 Performance</i>	-	-	550,000	550,000
<i>of which, Core Program</i>	-	-	1,100,000	1,100,000
<i>of which, VMMC</i>	-	-	2,022,735	2,022,735
TOTAL	13,137,169	5,276,034	177,163,966	195,577,169

* Pipeline refers to funding allocated in prior years, approved for implementation in FY 2021

FY 2021 Target Summary

FY 2020 funds are released, and COP 2020 applied pipeline is approved to achieve the following results in FY 2021.

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Malawi		SNU Prioritizations					Total *
		Attained	Scale-Up: Saturation	Scale-Up: Aggressive	Sustained	Centrally Supported	
HTS_INDEX	<15		14,211		6,171		20,499
	15+		155,100		56,753		217,589
	Total	-	169,311	-	62,924	-	238,088
HTS_TST	<15		37,689		18,872		56,860
	15+		1,267,316		603,097		1,894,989
	Total	-	1,305,005	-	621,969	-	1,951,849
HTS_TST_POS	<15		2,028		778		2,851
	15+		73,936		18,354		94,589
	Total	-	75,964	-	19,132	-	97,440
TX_NEW	<15		2,104		766		2,915
	15+		70,318		17,491		89,994
	Total	-	72,422	-	18,257	-	92,909
TX_CURR	<15		35,496		14,226		50,182
	15+		692,111		238,480		943,693
	Total	-	727,607	-	252,706	-	993,875
TX_PVLS	<15		33,678		13,720		47,824
	15+		629,597		220,894		862,319
	Total	-	663,275	-	234,614	-	910,143
CXCA_SCRN	Total (15+)		87,823		15,848		103,671
OVC_SERV	<18		137,483		1,200		138,683
	18+		22,573				22,573
	Total	-	160,056	-	1,200	-	161,256
OVC_HIVSTAT	Total (<18)		137,485		1,200		138,685
PMTCT_STAT	<15		850		525		1,388
	15+		390,424		248,711		640,265
	Total	-	391,274	-	249,236	-	641,653
PMTCT_STAT_POS	<15		43		83		139
	15+		28,325		10,261		38,691
	Total	-	28,368	-	10,344	-	38,830
PMTCT_ART	<15		43		83		139
	15+		27,911		10,140		38,154
	Total	-	27,954	-	10,223	-	38,293
PMTCT_EID	Total		27,487		10,181		37,779
PP_PREV	<15		27,957				28,500
	15+		106,482		1,201		108,226
	Total	-	134,439	-	1,201	-	136,726
KP_PREV	Total		44,578		3,700		48,278
KP_MAT	Total						-
VMMC_CIRC	Total		145,870				157,425
HTS_SELF	<15						-
	15+		404,420		110,618		525,184
	Total	-	-	-	-	-	525,184
PrEP_NEW	Total		15,725		322		16,047
PrEP_CURR	Total		17,659		349		18,008
TB_STAT (N)	<15		861		286		1,155
	15+		10,934		3,671		14,818
	Total	-	11,795	-	3,957	-	15,973
TB_ART (N)	<15		581		209		798
	15+		5,870		1,400		7,318
	Total	-	6,451	-	1,609	-	8,116
TB_PREV (N)	<15		12,040		10,115		22,470
	15+		220,809		163,379		393,098
	Total	-	232,849	-	173,494	-	415,568
TX_TB (D)	<15		30,877		12,559		43,831
	15+		588,272		203,857		803,485
	Total	-	619,149	-	216,416	-	847,316
GEND_GBV	Total		7,776				7,776

* Totals may be greater than the sum of categories due to activities outside of the SNU prioritization areas outlined above

COP 2019 Performance Funds:

All partners must be managed throughout the implementation year as indicated in the COP guidance. Overall performance including activities tied to COP 2019 performance will be reviewed at Q3FY2020 to determine if the programs are on track to access all funds at the start of COP 2020. This communication will come through the S/GAC Chair and POART process.

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Faith and Communities Initiative (FCI) / Faith Based Organization (FBO) Surge Programming (applicable to Malawi, Eswatini, Lesotho, Haiti, Botswana, Zimbabwe, Zambia, Uganda, Tanzania, Kenya):

In light of the delays in FCI programming associated with delayed arrival of funds for FCI and/or new subs for FCI funding received in COP 2019, FCI funds from COP 2019 will be protected and can be outlayed in COP 2020, in excess of the new COP 2020 total budget amount indicated in this memo, without being considered an over-outlay. Activities related to FCI/FBO surge activities must be fully implemented in COP 2020/FY 2021.

Partner Management and Stakeholder Engagement:

Agreements made during COP discussions, including those regarding geographic focus, targets, budgets, SIMS, use of pipeline, partner implementation and partner management will be monitored and evaluated on a regular basis via both ad hoc check-ins and discussions as well as the joint HQ and country team POART discussions. It is expected that teams closely monitor partner performance and engage with each implementing partner on a regular basis to ensure achievement of targets, outcomes and impact in a manner consistent with this memo, approved SDS, and budgets and targets as finalized in PEPFAR systems. Any partner with EITHER (1) <15% of target achievement at 3 months or (2) less than 40% of target achievement at 6 months must have a complete review of performance data (including trends in performance) and expenditures to date by program area, implement remediation, and conduct intensive follow-up. In the HIV treatment program, most clients are continuing on treatment year after year and current on treatment (TX_CURR) performance should be between 98% and 100% of the target. This can be adjusted in country context where HIV treatment services are still scaling up and the treatment new target is greater than 10% of treatment current. OVC programs are also similar in that there are clients continuing services from the previous year; if the IP is less than 80% of their target at Q2 performance review should be triggered. These elements (i.e. review, remediation, and follow-up) should be incorporated into the existing IP work plans. A second quarter of consistently poor performance by the IP should also result in implementation of a documented Performance Improvement Plan (PIP) or Correction Action Plan (CAP), in accordance with implementing agency policy. PIP indicators should reflect the core issue. If the issue is linkage of test positive to treatment the indicator measured should be test positive to new in treatment of greater than 85%. If the issue is retention it should be net new on treatment equal to 90% of new on treatment. After two quarters of intensive oversight and remediation for underperformance, partners should be close to full achievement of targets expected at quarter three. With a third quarter of consistently poor performance by the IP, implementing agencies should notify S/GAC the options the agency is implementing to address partner non-performance, including options for a shift to new partners. The country team should notify the S/GAC Chair and PPM immediately of the improvement plan.

Continued engagement with all stakeholders, including civil society and community members, multilateral partners and bilateral partners, is to be maintained throughout COP implementation. Core to this critical engagement is the sharing of and discussion surrounding quarterly results and achievement and findings from community-led monitoring. This continued engagement will ensure all parties' understanding of Malawi's progress and help identify any strategic changes to be made in order to more efficiently and effectively reach epidemic control.

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Pending Congressional Approval

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