



UNCLASSIFIED

24 April 2020

MEMO FOR DANIEL KRITENBRINK; U.S. AMBASSADOR TO VIETNAM

SUBJECT: PEPFAR VIETNAM Country Operational Plan 2020 Approval

This memo represents the successful completion of the PEPFAR Vietnam Country Operational Plan (COP) 2020 planning, development and submission. PEPFAR Vietnam, 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 VIETNAM Country Operational Plan (COP) 2020 with a total approved budget of \$40,000,000, 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:

Vietnam	New Funding (all accounts)	Pipeline	Total Budget FY 2021 Implementation
Total Budget	33,096,946	6,903,054	40,000,000
Bilateral	33,096,946	5,532,001	38,628,947
Central	-	1,371,053	1,371,053

Approve a total FY 2021 outlay for COP/ROP 2020 implementation that does not exceed the total approved COP/ROP 2020 budget of \$40,000,000. Any prior year funds that are not included within this COP/ROP 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/ROP 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.

Background

This approval is based upon: the discussions that occurred between the country team, agency headquarters, S/GAC, indigenous and international stakeholders and implementing partners during the March 16th – 20th, 2020 virtual planning and approval meetings; the final COP/ROP 2020 submission, including all data submitted via official PEPFAR systems or within supplemental documents.

Program Summary

Funding and targets for Vietnam's Country Operational Plan (COP) 2020 will support PEPFAR Vietnam's vision in partnership with the Government and people of Vietnam 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. In COP2020, PEPFAR Vietnam is committed to supporting the Government of Vietnam to establish a Public Health Response approach to the HIV epidemic, grounded in a robust case-based surveillance system. PEPFAR Vietnam envisions a Public Health Response that will contribute to epidemic control goals by monitoring recent infections and new diagnoses and driving a rapid response to HIV outbreaks and clusters. Building on the COP2019 implementation of a case-based surveillance platform in four PEPFAR priority provinces, COP2020 will invest in rapid development of a national platform and provincial implementation in five additional PEPFAR priority provinces, bringing the total number of provinces with PEPFAR investment to nine. The Public Health Response will be developed as an indigenously-driven system, with the Government of Vietnam in the lead and including civil society, academic, and community-based organizations.

In parallel, COP2020 will continue the successful and sustainable transition of the HIV response to the Government of Vietnam, including coverage under Social Health Insurance (SHI). Ninety percent of PLHIV across Vietnam now have SHI cards, and all but one of the 446 HIV clinics has been certified to be reimbursed for HIV services by SHI. It is expected that SHI will cover 106,000 of the approximately 140,000 people on treatment during calendar year 2020. COP2020 affirms PEPFAR's commitment to transition from donor-funded antiretrovirals (ARVs) to SHI funded ARVs, by providing the necessary technical assistance and monitoring to ensure continuity of treatment and quality services. PEPFAR Vietnam will continue to support the expansion of viral load testing nationally, by continuing to monitor and support national laboratories, and monitoring of laboratory capacity and performance. Combined with continued scale-up of SHI coverage for treatment, and expanding SHI coverage of viral load testing and ARVs, PEPFAR seeks to ensure that all people on treatment know their viral load, and thus can ensure community viral suppression. Furthermore, to ensure that PLHIV have access to the best possible ARVs for viral suppression, the PEPFAR team, in collaboration with the Global Fund, will advocate with the GVN for a Special Ad-hoc decision to accelerate GVN's routine processes and have SHI TLD available in Vietnam as soon as early 2022. In COP2020, PEPFAR Vietnam will continue to advocate for the revision of the SHI Law to include general prevention activities in the Social Health Insurance basic package of services, including HIV testing and Pre-Exposure Prophylaxis (PrEP). Advocacy will include the provision of documentary evidence of the contribution of prevention in the control of HIV. There is uncertainty whether the National Assembly will be in favor of expanding Social Health Insurance mandate beyond the curative component of the health system.

During COP2018 and COP2019, PEPFAR Vietnam undertook an aggressive two-year plan to move toward epidemic control in eleven PEPFAR priority provinces of the Northern Economic Zone including Hanoi, and the Ho Chi Minh City metropolitan area. These two urbanized areas together account for over half of the HIV burden in Vietnam. In COP2020 PEPFAR Vietnam will continue support in these provinces focusing on reaching the undiagnosed infections among urban men who have sex with men, and reducing the high HIV incidence in this population. Vietnam is on track to achieve the second 95 in PEPFAR-

UNCLASSIFIED

supported provinces through tight linkage of newly diagnosed patients to treatment, and case-verification activities to correct the official counting of persons living with HIV who know their status. The first 95 – case-finding – remains the most challenging in a concentrated epidemic where HIV- and key population-associated stigma creates additional barriers. To prevent the spread of HIV, PEPFAR Vietnam in partnership with the Government of Vietnam, the Global Fund, UNAIDS, and other community organizations also plans to expand PrEP services dramatically in COP2020 to protect those most at risk from infection, which should help reduce HIV incidence in conjunction with reaching epidemic control of HIV in the densest urban areas. While some funding and the targets for Vietnam’s COP2020 plan focus on solidifying and perpetuating these gains to reach 90% ART coverage in the Ho Chi Minh City metropolitan area, and 81% in the northern economic zone around Hanoi, a key new component of the COP2020 plan is the transition to a national Public Health Response.

The new Public Health Response approach supported by the implementation of a case-based surveillance system, and the increasing transition to domestic funding from the Government of Vietnam, will make epidemic control more achievable and sustainable across all of Vietnam. PEPFAR Vietnam is fully committed to active partner management and accountability, engagement at all spheres of government, and mobilizing all stakeholders to achieving these goals. This includes a significant increase in community-led monitoring activity carried out through close collaboration with Civil Society and the Government of Vietnam to ensure high-quality, key-population friendly, client-centered HIV services.

Funding Summary

All COP/ROP 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.

Vietnam	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			Unspecified Total	Unspecified				
	Total	GHP-State	GAP						
DOD TOTAL	630,586	630,586	-	780,901	-	-	780,901	630,586	1,411,487
HHS TOTAL	17,312,141	15,454,391	1,857,750	919,789	1,371,053	1,371,053	919,789	17,312,141	19,602,983
HHS/CDC	17,312,141	15,454,391	1,857,750	919,789	1,371,053	1,371,053	919,789	17,312,141	19,602,983
HHS/HRSA	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
HHS/SAMHSA	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
PEACE CORPS TOTAL	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
STATE TOTAL	1,024,355	1,024,355	-	-	-	-	-	1,024,355	1,024,355
State (State, S/EUR, S/EAP, and S/WHA)	1,024,355	1,024,355	-	-	-	-	-	1,024,355	1,024,355
State/AF	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
State/PRM	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
State/SGAC	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
USAID TOTAL	14,129,864	14,129,864	-	3,831,311	-	-	3,831,311	14,129,864	17,961,175
USAID, non-WCF	12,601,242	12,601,242	-	3,831,311	-	-	3,831,311	12,601,242	16,432,553
USAID, WCF	1,528,622	1,528,622	-	-	-	-	-	1,528,622	1,528,622
TOTAL	33,096,946	31,239,196	1,857,750	5,532,001	1,371,053	1,371,053	5,532,001	33,096,946	40,000,000

* 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 above chart. Funds are made available for outlay in FY 2021 at approved COP/ROP 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.

UNCLASSIFIED

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/ROP 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/ROP 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/ROP 2020 total budget level and documented within COP/ROP 2020 partner budgets are not to be executed or outlayed without written approval from S/GAC.

Earmarks: The OU has planned for programming for FY2020, FY2019 or/or FY2017 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.

Earmarks	COP20 Funding Level			Total
	FY20	FY19	FY17	
Care & Treatment	9,246,626	-	-	9,246,626
Orphans and Vulnerable Children	-	-	-	-
Preventing and Responding to Gender-based Violence	-	-	-	-
Water	-	-	-	-

UNCLASSIFIED

- 5 -

Initiatives By Agency

	Total Central Applied Pipeline	Total Bilateral Applied Pipeline	Total Bilateral - New Funding	Total COP 20 Budget
Vietnam				
TOTAL	1,371,053	5,532,001	33,096,946	40,000,000
<i>of which, Core Program</i>	836,874	5,285,497	21,647,200	27,769,571
<i>of which, Surveillance and Public Health Response</i>	534,179	246,504	11,449,746	12,230,429
DOD TOTAL	-	780,901	630,586	1,411,487
<i>of which, Core Program</i>	-	760,501	630,586	1,391,087
<i>of which, Surveillance and Public Health Response</i>	-	20,400	-	20,400
HHS TOTAL	1,371,053	919,789	17,312,141	19,602,983
HHS/CDC	1,371,053	919,789	17,312,141	19,602,983
<i>of which, Core Program</i>	836,874	919,789	10,329,381	12,086,044
<i>of which, Surveillance and Public Health Response</i>	534,179	-	6,982,760	7,516,939
HHS/HRSA	-	-	-	-
HHS/SAMHSA	-	-	-	-
PEACE CORPS TOTAL	-	-	-	-
STATE TOTAL	-	-	1,024,355	1,024,355
State (State, S/EUR, S/EAP, and S/WHA)	-	-	1,024,355	1,024,355
<i>of which, Core Program</i>	-	-	1,024,355	1,024,355
State/AF	-	-	-	-
State/PRM	-	-	-	-
State/SGAC	-	-	-	-
USAID TOTAL	-	3,831,311	14,129,864	17,961,175
USAID, non-WCF	-	3,831,311	12,601,242	16,432,553
<i>of which, Core Program</i>	-	3,605,207	9,412,456	13,017,663
<i>of which, Surveillance and Public Health Response</i>	-	226,104	3,188,786	3,414,890
USAID, WCF	-	-	1,528,622	1,528,622
<i>of which, Core Program</i>	-	-	250,422	250,422
<i>of which, Surveillance and Public Health Response</i>	-	-	1,278,200	1,278,200
TOTAL	1,371,053	5,532,001	33,096,946	40,000,000

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

UNCLASSIFIED

- 6 -

FY 2021 Target Summary

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

Vietnam		SNU Prioritizations					Total *
		Attained	Scale-Up: Saturation	Scale-Up: Aggressive	Sustained	Centrally Supported	
HTS_INDEX	<15		216	54			270
	15+		25,871	5,786			31,692
	Total	-	26,087	5,840	-	-	31,962
HTS_TST	<15		1,716	986			2,702
	15+		103,296	56,091			188,922
	Total	-	105,012	57,077	-	-	191,624
HTS_TST_POS	<15		60	26			86
	15+		7,731	2,477			10,274
	Total	-	7,791	2,503	-	-	10,360
TX_NEW	<15		60	26			86
	15+		7,490	2,353			9,898
	Total	-	7,550	2,379	-	-	9,984
TX_CURR	<15		1,169	573			1,742
	15+		59,600	29,839			89,803
	Total	-	60,769	30,412	-	-	91,545
TX_PVLS	<15		1,147	561			1,708
	15+		57,162	28,906			86,454
	Total	-	58,309	29,467	-	-	88,162
CXCA_SCRN	Total (15+)						-
OVC_SERV	<18						-
	18+						-
	Total	-	-	-	-	-	-
OVC_HIVSTAT	Total (<18)						-
PMTCT_STAT	<15						-
	15+						-
	Total	-	-	-	-	-	-
PMTCT_STAT_POS	<15						-
	15+						-
	Total	-	-	-	-	-	-
PMTCT_ART	<15						-
	15+						-
	Total	-	-	-	-	-	-
PMTCT_EID	Total						-
PP_PREV	<15		78				78
	15+		30,629	21,254			101,883
	Total	-	30,707	21,254	-	-	101,961
KP_PREV	Total		74,300	35,827			110,127
KP_MAT	Total						-
VMMC_CIRC	Total						-
HTS_SELF	<15						-
	15+		19,859	10,797			30,656
	Total	-	-	-	-	-	30,656
PrEP_NEW	Total		16,374	7,775			24,149
PrEP_CURR	Total		20,328	9,674			30,002
TB_STAT (N)	<15						-
	15+						-
	Total	-	-	-	-	-	-
TB_ART (N)	<15						-
	15+						-
	Total	-	-	-	-	-	-
TB_PREV (N)	<15		187	88			275
	15+		12,096	5,129			17,313
	Total	-	12,283	5,217	-	-	17,588
TX_TB (D)	<15		1,220	599			1,819
	15+		62,414	31,129			93,963
	Total	-	63,634	31,728	-	-	95,782
GEND_GBV	Total						-

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

UNCLASSIFIED

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 COP19 performance will be reviewed at Q3FY20 to determine if the programs are on track to access all funds at the start of COP20. This communication will come through the S/GAC Chair and POART process.

Partner Management and Stakeholder Engagement:

Agreements made during COP/ROP 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 continue throughout COP/ROP 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 Vietnam's progress and help identify any strategic changes to be made in order to more efficiently and effectively reach epidemic control.