

# The HIV/AIDS Epidemic and Sustainable Development Goals

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# HIV/AIDS Burden

✓ Since the start of the HIV/AIDS epidemic in the early 1980's:

- 77.3 million people have become infected with HIV
- 35.4 million people have died from AIDS-related illnesses

✓ In 2017

- 36.9 million people were living with HIV worldwide
- 1.8 million people became newly infected with HIV
- 940,000 people died from AIDS-related illnesses



## SDG Goal 3: Ensure healthy lives and promote wellbeing for all at all ages

- ✓ Goal 3.3: By 2030, end the epidemics of AIDS, tuberculosis, malaria and neglected tropical diseases and combat hepatitis, water-borne diseases and other communicable diseases
- ✓ Goal 3.8: Achieve universal health coverage, including financial risk protection, access to quality essential health-care services and access to safe, effective, quality and affordable essential medicines and vaccines for all

# Ending AIDS as a public health threat

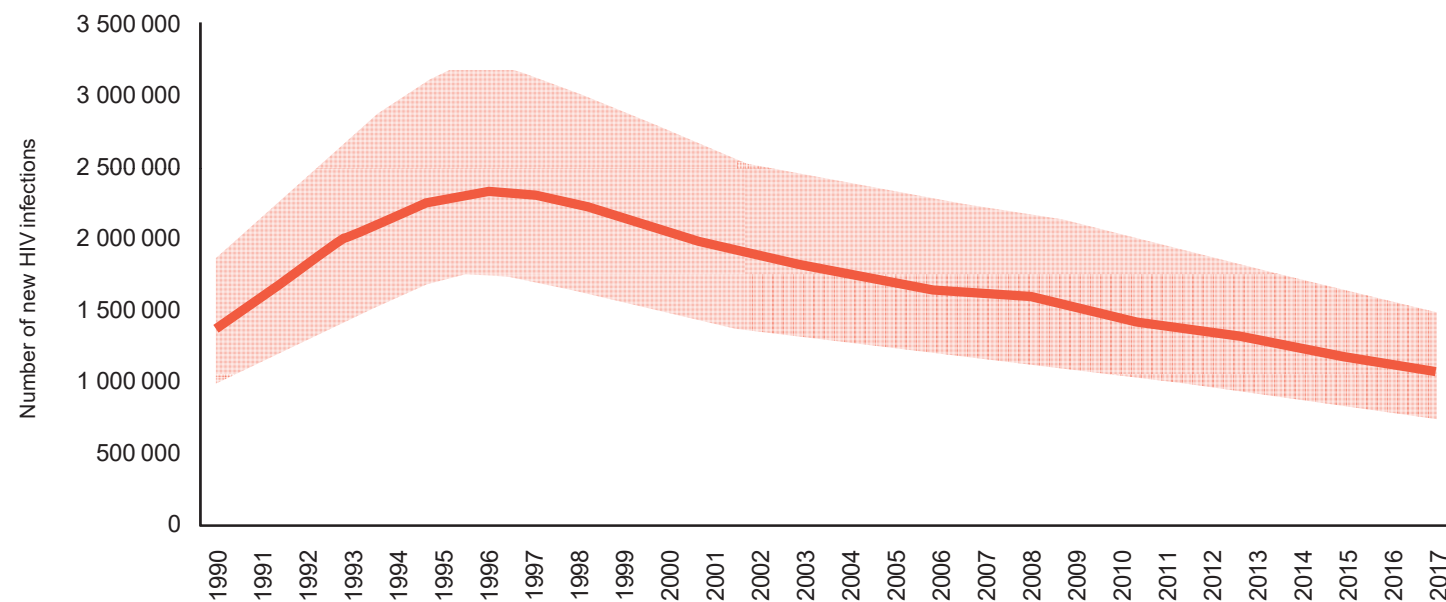
- ✓ 90% reduction in new HIV Infections
- ✓ 90% reduction in deaths from AIDS related illnesses

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What is the status in Africa?

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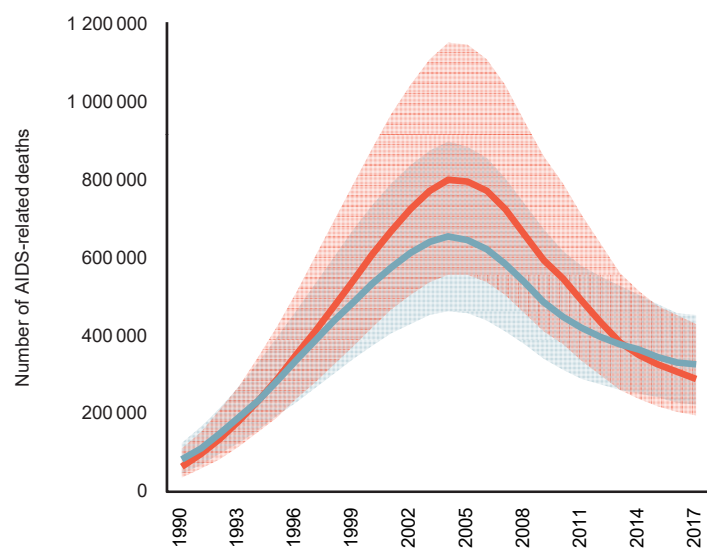
## Number of new HIV infections in sub-Saharan Africa, 1990–2017



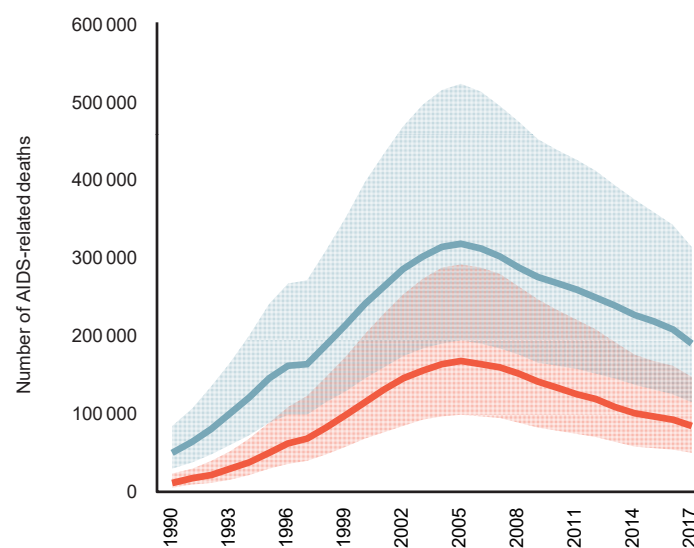
- 980,000 new HIV adult HIV infections in 2017 → 30% decline, compared to 2010.
- 59% of these new infections were among women

# Decline in Deaths

*Number of AIDS-related deaths, by sex, sub-Saharan Africa, 1990–2017*



*Number of AIDS-related deaths, by sex, regions outside sub-Saharan Africa, 1990–2017*



— Females — Males

# Access to HIV testing and treatment services

## ✓ UNAIDS 90-90-90 targets by 2020:

- 90% of people living with HIV know their HIV status
- 90% of people who know their HIV-positive status [81% of all people living with HIV] access HIV treatment
- 90% of HIV-positive people on treatment [73% of all people with HIV] have suppressed viral load

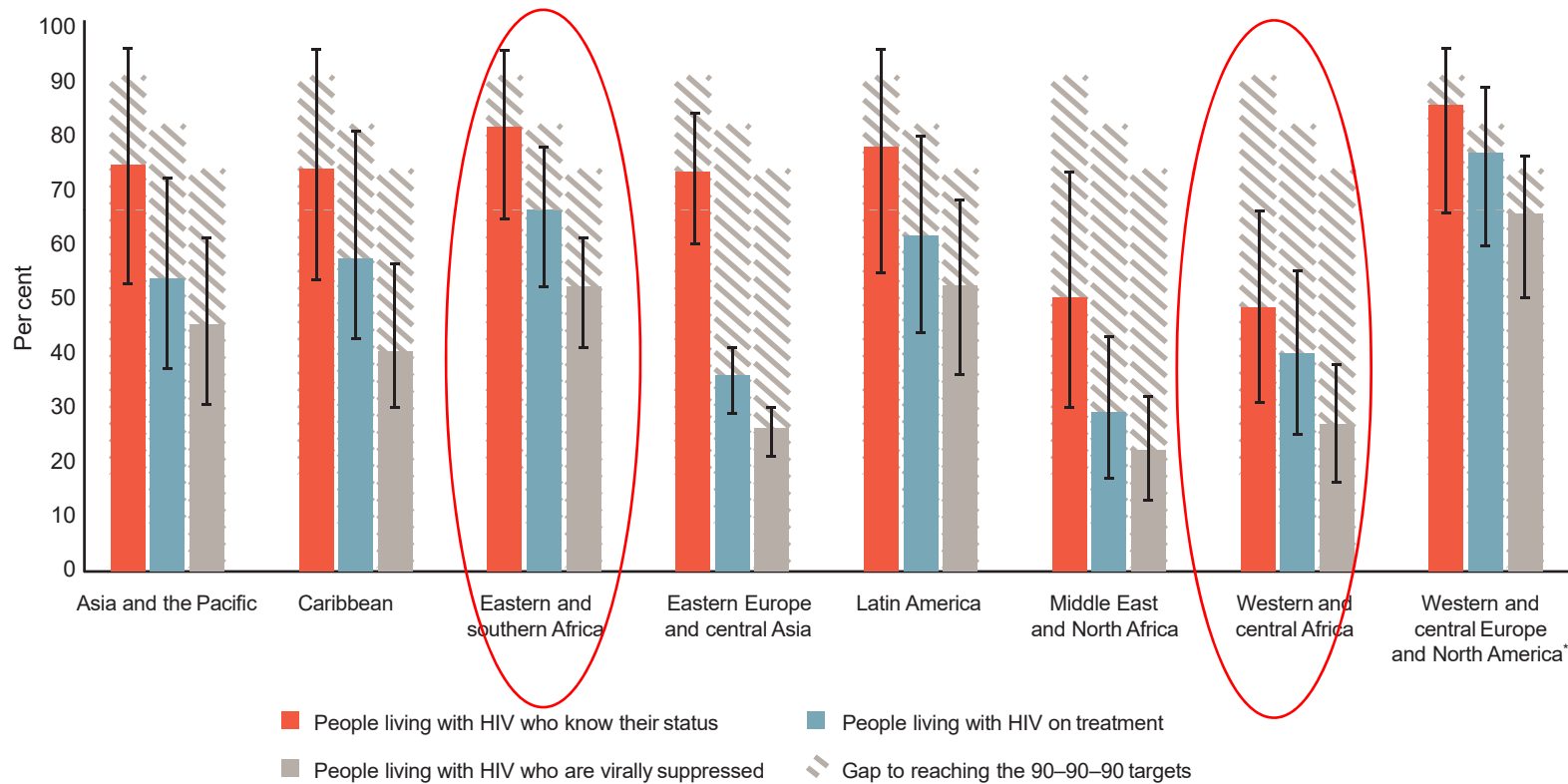
## ✓ Undetectable viral load

- Prevents AIDS-related illness
- Prevents onwards transmission of HIV



# Africa vs other regions

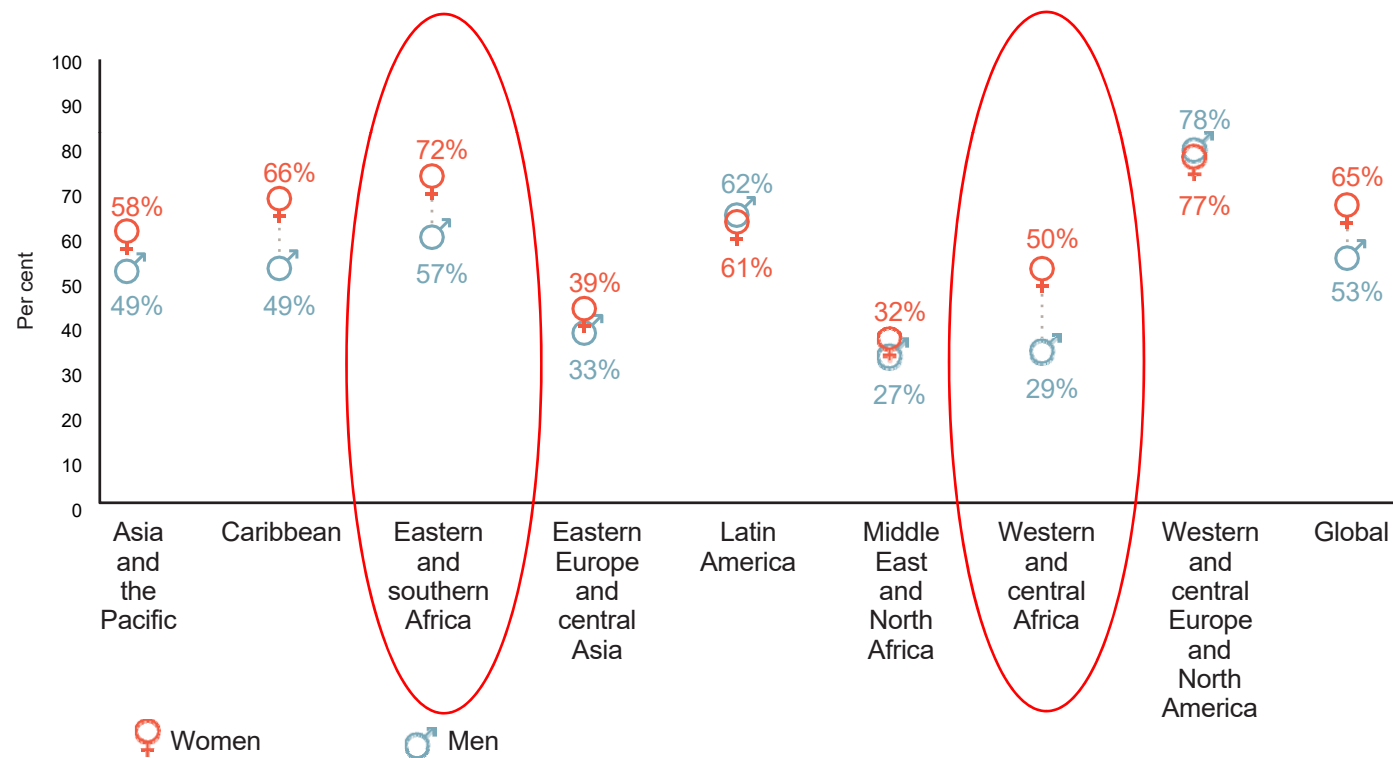
Knowledge of HIV status, treatment coverage and viral load suppression among people living with HIV, 2017<sup>1</sup>



\* Cascade for western and central Europe and North America region is for 2016.

Source: UNAIDS special analysis, 2018; see annex on methods for more details.

# Gender disparities in treatment coverage



# Children on treatment

## ✓ Several challenges:

- Virological testing required for HIV diagnosis in children younger than 18 months is not readily available in many settings
- Children initiate treatment at an advanced disease stage and are more likely to experience treatment failure

## ✓ Treatment coverage among HIV-infected children is still very low, particularly in Africa

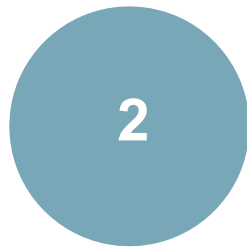
- 59% in Eastern and Sub-Saharan Africa
- 26% in Western and Central Africa

# UNAIDS Prevention pillars

*Five pillars of combination prevention*



Combination prevention for adolescent girls, young women and their male partners in high- prevalence locations



Combination prevention with key populations



Comprehensive condom programmes



Voluntary medical male circumcision and sexual and reproductive health services for men and boys in 14 countries in eastern and southern Africa



Rapid introduction of pre-exposure prophylaxis

Where is Couples HIV Counseling and Testing?

# Why Couples HIV Counseling and Testing?

- ✓ Majority of adult people are married/cohabiting
- ✓ In most countries with a high HIV prevalence in Eastern and Southern Africa, one in four cohabiting couples are HIV discordant
- ✓ Majority of HIV discordant couples are unaware of their HIV status → the HIV-negative is constantly exposed to HIV infection

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Cohabiting couples represent a large, high-risk population

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- ✓ Couples HIV Counseling and Testing results in a substantial reduction in new HIV infections

# Impact of Couples HIV Counseling and Testing

- ✓ CVCT provides both partners with an opportunity:
  - To share their HIV test results
  - To jointly address issues related to HIV transmission and family planning
  - To support each other if one or both are infected
- ✓ In discordant couples, risk of HIV transmission is reduced by two thirds
- ✓ In concordant HIV negative couples, risk of other sexually transmitted infections is reduced by half

# % of HIV infections preventable by Couples' testing



	Kigali, Rwanda		Lusaka, Zambia	
Decrease in incidence	From 20% to 3%	From 12% to 3%	From 20% to 7%	From 15% to 7%
All sexually active men	80%	70%	37%	31%
Married men	84%	74%	54%	45%
All sexually active women	79%	70%	51%	43%
Married women	85%	75%	63%	53%

*Dunkle et al; Lancet 2008; 371:2183-91;  
letter to editor + response 372:1299-1301*

# **New tools are needed to contain the HIV/AIDS epidemic**

- ✓ Long-Acting PrEp
- ✓ Targeted therapeutics for viral eradication
- ✓ HIV vaccine