For more than a decade, the United States President’s Emergency Program for AIDS Relief (PEPFAR), through the US Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) has been working in partnership with the Ministry of Health in Makueni County to strengthen health systems towards the delivery of sustainable health services.

Using the World Health Organisation (WHO) approach to health systems strengthening, CDC has invested heavily in service delivery, health leadership and governance, human resources for health, health infrastructure and equipment, health information systems as well as health products and commodity security.

In support of devolved health functions, CDC through its implementing partner Centre for Health Solutions - Kenya (CHS), has a Memorandum of Understanding with Makueni County Government that guides this investment. In the current PEPFAR year 2016/17, the Makueni County Department of Health is operating on a budget of US$ 1,148,151 from CDC towards stemming the HIV epidemic. This funding is channelled to the county through a sub-grant managed by CHS.
**Snapshot of Makueni County**

**Population:** 884,527 (Male - 49%, Female - 51%)

**Population Density:** 110.4 people per KM2

**Area (KM2):** 8008.8 Km2

**Location:** Located in the southern part of the former Eastern province and borders four counties with Kitui to the east, Taita Taveta to the south, Kajiado to the west and Machakos to the north.

**Doctor to Population Ratio:** 1:119,879

**Source:** Kenya Open Data (opendata.go.ke), Commission on Revenue Allocation Kenya (crakenya.org)

**Makueni County Highlights (as at the end of June 2017)**

- Estimated HIV prevalence: 5.6%
- Estimated number of people living with HIV: 22,100 adults & 3,372 children below 15 years
- 14,879 patients on antiretroviral treatment (ART) including 1,641 children under the age of 15 years
- 10,342 of patients on treatment had a viral load test done
- 8,848 (86%) patients of treatment virally suppressed

**Supported Health Facilities**

- Kilungu Sub-District Hospital
- Kyambeke Dispensary
- Mangala Dispensary
- Musalala Dispensary
- Kalulini Dispensary (Kibwezi)
- Kathyaka Dispensary
- Kiboko Dispensary (Makindu)
- Kikumini Health Centre
- Makindu Sub County Hospital
- Mbitini Catholic Dispensary
- Mwanyani Dispensary
- Syumile Dispensary
- Kasikeu Dispensary
- Sultan Hamud Sub District Hospital
- Uvete Dispensary
- AIC Kalamba Dispensary
- Kathonzweni Health Centre
- Katulye Dispensary-Nzau
- Kavuthu Health Centre
- Kiangini Dispensary
- Kikumini Dispensary (Makueni)
- Kilili Dispensary
- Kwakavisi Dispensary
- Makueni Catholic Dispensary
- Makueni County Referral Hospital
- Matiliku Sub County Hospital
- Mbenuu Health Centre
- Mumbuni Dispensary (Makueni)
- Mutyambua Dispensary
- Nziu Health Centre
- Athi Kamunyuni Dispensary
- Dwa Health Centre
- Kambu Catholic Dispensary
- Kambu Model Health Centre
- Kibwezi Sub County Hospital
- Kyaani Dispensary
- Masongaleni Health Centre
- Mtito Andei Sub County Hospital
- Ngwata Health Centre
- Nthongoni Health Centre (Kibwezi)
- Nzeveni Health Centre
- PCEA Kasasule Dispensary
- Kambimawe Dispensary
- Kanzokea Health Centre
- Kithuki Health Centre
- Kitise Health Centre
- Mavindini Health Centre
Human Resources For Health

CDC through CHS strengthens human resource capacity by supporting facilities with different cadres of health care workers to bridge the human resource gap. These include:

Through the CHS managed sub-grant, Makueni County is currently receiving support for 171 health care workers and 129 volunteers to the tune of **US$861,113** (75% of the sub grant), while 25% is used to complement the management functions of the County Department of Health including joint support supervision/mentorship, laboratory networking and defaulter tracking.

CDC through CHS supports the training of health care workers to promote the delivery of quality health services including enhancing health worker capacity on the current Ministry of Health HIV management guidelines and the roll out of the test and treat strategy to complement other HIV prevention strategies towards HIV epidemic control.

Equipment Support

CDC has invested **US$ 717,457** worth of equipment in Makueni County ranging from 20 binocular microscopes, five laboratory biosafety cabinets, one FCs count CD4 analyser, 28 computers, nine refrigerators, three haematology analysers and 84 stethoscopes, among others.

Leadership and Governance

Makueni County has demonstrated ability to sustain the gains accruing from the partnership with CDC through universal health access and commitment to transition/absorb partner-supported staff into the County health work force. So far, the County has demonstrated this commitment by creating the HIV Testing Counsellors and Coordinators cadre, which has been ratified by the County Public Service Board.
Makueni County Referral Hospital

CHS has deployed 20 health care workers to support the delivery of quality HIV services at Makueni County Referral Hospital: These include four (4) Clinical Officers, two (2) Nurses three (3) Health Records Officers, one (1) Adherence Counsellor, three (3) HTS Counsellors, one (1) HTS Coordinator, two (2) Laboratory Technologists, one (1) Pharmaceutical Technologist, one (1) Nutritionist, one (1) Social Worker and two (2) Accountants.

Equipment provided to the facility includes: a FACS CD4 machine and a laboratory biosafety cabinet. Other USG investments at Makueni County Referral Hospital include:

- Cryotherapy for management of pre-cancerous cervical lesions
- Development of standard operating procedures for various laboratory and clinical procedures
- County coordination of health service delivery through quarterly supportive supervision and mentorship
- Electronic health records to improve management of HIV and track patient outcomes

Makueni County Referral Hospital serves as a model health facility where ~94% of patients on ART are virally suppressed. Since October 2015, the facility has managed to reduce vertical transmission of HIV to 0% among HIV-exposed infants. This is attributable to a robust elimination of mother to child transmission of HIV (eMTCT) program as well as the quality of care provided to mother-baby pairs.