



# USAID SMART TA PROGRAM

OCTOBER 2011-DECEMBER 2016 | IMPLEMENTER: FHI 360 | PLANNED BUDGET: \$45,000,000

The Government of Vietnam (GVN), supported by the U.S. President's Emergency Plan for AIDS Relief (PEPFAR), has made impressive gains in delivering an effective response to HIV/AIDS in Vietnam. The Sustainable Management of the HIV/AIDS Response and Transition to Technical Assistance (SMART TA) program is designed to refine prevention and care models to ensure that local partners can lead and implement these services to continue the HIV/AIDS response.

## DELIVERY OF COMPREHENSIVE HIV/AIDS SERVICES

Under the project, integrated prevention, care and treatment (including methadone maintenance and antiretroviral treatments) are provided to people who inject drugs, female sex workers and their clients, men who have sex with men and people living with HIV. The project has developed HIV service delivery models to effectively control the epidemic which are cost-effective and can be replicated using local resources.

## STRENGTHEN TECHNICAL CAPACITY AND SUSTAINABILITY

The project works to strengthen institutional capacity and develop the human capital of targeted GVN and civil society organizations (CSOs) to manage and sustain the HIV response and support transition of service delivery to local institutions. A five-year capacity building plan allows the GVN and CSOs to plan, implement, monitor and evaluate a coordinated HIV response at the national and district levels; provide learning and skills-based training opportunities; and support expanded CSO engagement in the HIV response. SMART TA supports the transition of financial, administrative and technical responsibilities for the implementation of HIV prevention-to-care models from the project to the GVN and relevant civil society organizations. To ensure a smooth transition, the project strengthens systems for health financing, service delivery, and health informatics. It also monitors quality assurance, including the monitoring of activities after transition has occurred.

## RESULTS

From April 2015 to March 2016 50,555 key populations have been reached with evidence-based prevention interventions; 59,751 people have received HIV testing, counseling and results; and new 3,588 adults and children were enrolled on antiretroviral treatment. As of April 2016, 22,409 people living with HIV were on treatment and 17,126 people who inject drugs were receiving sustained methadone maintenance therapy. The project has reduced recurring direct service delivery operating costs by 54 percent since its first year, signaling significant achievements in local partner capacity, support, and efficiency.

*In the photo: A patient receives care at an outpatient clinic; FHI360*