

INTERNATIONAL  
**TESTING  
WEEK**  
20-26 NOV. 2023



**We GET  
TESTED**

**2022 IMPACT REPORT**



[WWW.COALITIONPLUS.ORG](http://WWW.COALITIONPLUS.ORG)

# Join the movement in 2023!

## BECOME A PARTNER OF THE FOURTH EDITION OF THE INTERNATIONAL TESTING WEEK

Throughout the year, the member associations of Coalition PLUS organize testing activities for the key populations affected by HIV, viral hepatitis and other sexually transmitted infections. During one week in November, these actions are stepped up to achieve a peak in the run-up to World AIDS Day.

In just three editions, International Testing Week has become the largest testing operation on a global scale, with some 40,000 tests on average over just five days. The fourth edition, which will take place from November 20 to 26, will support the efforts to reverse the curve of infections by focusing media attention on testing and enabling comprehensive care for positive cases detected.

5  
days

from 21  
to 28  
November  
2022

43  
countries

5  
continents

100  
participating  
associations

### Participating countries:

#### **EUROPE:**

Belgium, Portugal, Romania, Ukraine

#### **AFRICA:**

Angola, Benin, Burkina Faso, Burundi, Cameroon, Cape Verde, Central African Republic, Chad, Comoros, Congo-Brazzaville, Côte d'Ivoire, Democratic Republic of Congo, Guinea, Guinea-Bissau, Madagascar, Mali, Mozambique, Niger, Republic of Mauritius, Rwanda, São Tomé and Príncipe, Senegal, Seychelles, Togo

#### **NORTH AFRICA & MIDDLE EAST:**

Algeria, Egypt, Lebanon, Mauritania, Morocco, Tunisia

#### **LATIN AMERICA:**

Argentina, Bolivia, Brazil, Columbia, Dominican Republic, Ecuador, Guatemala

#### **ASIA:**

Malaysia

#### **NORTH AMERICA:**

Canada

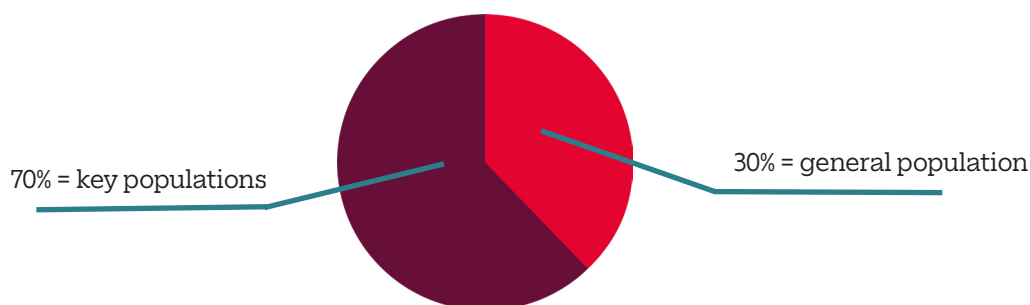
# ALWAYS ALONGSIDE KEY POPULATIONS

## THANKS TO OUR PEER-EDUCATION STRATEGY

Over these three editions, International Testing Week has made it possible to carry out over 120,000 tests amongst key populations.

These populations (sex workers and their customers, gay men and men who have sex with men, people who inject drugs, transgender women and their sexual partners) represent 70% of new infections.

Breakdown of new HIV infections



Source: Fact sheet 2022, UNAIDS

### Community-based testing is key to the success of this International Week.

Because we share the lifestyles, practices and social codes of the marginalized communities that we ourselves belong to, peer educators are best placed to reach out to the groups the most isolated from care. For example, we visit specific places where key populations gather, like taxi stands and train stations. It's also why we play a major role in accompanying them through their health care pathway.

We place great importance on balancing the number of tests carried out for each gender.

# THE RESULTS

53,919

tests carried out  
(HIV, HBV, HCV, Syphilis)

3.33%

positive tests,  
for all tests combined, in 2022

+125%

more tests  
were carried out in 2022 compared  
with the first edition in 2020

80%

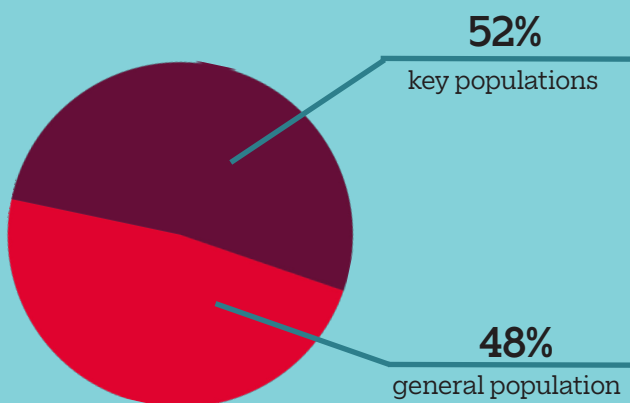
persons who tested positive were referred to care  
across all four main infections  
tested for (HIV, HBV, HCV, Syphilis)

25,030

HIV tests  
were carried out during  
the 2022 edition

2.68%

tests positive  
for HIV in 2022



## BREAKDOWN OF TESTS CARRIED OUT AMONGST KEY POPULATIONS

- 55% men who have sex with men
- 27% sex workers
- 12% migrants
- 6% people who inject drugs

Over these five days, we detected **2.3%** of the weekly average new HIV infections diagnosed worldwide. This figure confirms the relevancy of the testing proposed by our community-based associations.

# SPOTLIGHT ON MOZAMBIQUE

## AN EPIDEMIC AT THE HEART OF A HUMANITARIAN CRISIS

Every year, a Coalition PLUS association hosts the launch of International Testing Week.

In 2022, MATRAM in Maputo – the capital of Mozambique – was chosen to organize the launch and to draw the attention of the international community to the critical situation in this Southern African country. This choice is significant, given the particularly alarming prevalence of HIV in this region.

**HIV in Mozambique is fueled by successive crises.**

For the last five years, the people of Mozambique have been victims of extreme violence in the north of the country due to the ongoing conflict. In 2019, the country was also hit hard by Cyclone Idai. These two tragedies are coupled with endemic poverty and a weak healthcare infrastructure.

**Mozambique has the sixteenth highest prevalence in the world and ranks in fourth position on the list of countries with the most new HIV infections.**

In a country where 13.2% of the adult general population is living with HIV, the string of crises has forced more than one million people out of their homes and impeded the follow-up of patients with HIV. Today, 44% of people living with HIV are not on treatment.

“In Cabo Delgado, more than 20,000 people have discontinued their treatment and cases of sexual abuse of women in exchange for food are on the rise. International Testing Week is a unique opportunity to focus media attention on these situations.”

—  
LINA NAVUNGA

ADVOCACY AND COMMUNICATIONS  
OFFICER AT MATRAM

# TESTING DESPITE THE WAR

## UKRAINE COUNTING ON FAMILY DOCTORS

Family doctors took pride of place during International Testing Week in Ukraine.

In wartime, they remain the main point of access to medical assistance across the country. With intensive migration, the increase in sustained stress and logistical difficulties, family doctors have become an important channel for distributing HIV tests in the outlying regions of Kiev.

**An innovative experience with twofold benefit.**

Despite the conflict, our colleagues were not short of ideas to maintain awareness-raising actions surrounding testing. Thanks to a wide-reaching national communications campaign, patients came forward.

The success of this initiative is also thanks to an effective online (Facebook, Instagram, Viber, Telegram) and offline (poster campaign) promotional campaign.

“Before International Testing Week, we suggested to people that they get tested. But now thanks to an active social media campaign and effective posters, people come forward on their own to get tested. And that’s what’s really great!”

—————  
NATALIYA ROMANENKO  
DOCTOR IN KRIVYI RIH

“A 67-year-old patient came forward after having read a message from his doctor saying it was possible to get tested at his office.”

—————  
OLENA LEMESHKO,  
DOCTOR IN DNIPRO

**This unique experience proves that in wartime, the fight against HIV can continue with success thanks to the creativity and the determination of health professionals.**

## GOING BEYOND TESTING

In addition to testing, each association has chosen to roll out their own activities that meet their specific local contexts. Beyond the promotion and communication activities aimed at raising the awareness of the general public as to the importance of early diagnosis, some have rolled out advocacy initiatives targeting their governments and health ministries. Furthermore, training and capacity-building activities have been put in place to reinforce the community-based strategy locally. Lastly, to increase access to testing, the distribution of self-tests is an avenue that has been considered by various participating associations.

### Lebanon

*“Social networks have made it possible to fill appointment times for rapid testing. The media campaign and the awareness-raising activities brought a great deal of people to get tested. What’s more, a night clinic was specially opened to enable people who work during the day to benefit from testing services.”*



Marsa Sexual Health Center

### Republic of Mauritius



*“The TikTok app was used to promote testing among young people using videos. The platform was run by young PILS activists and helped raise the event’s profile among this audience.”*

Prévention Information Lutte contre le Sida (PILS)

### Democratic Republic of Congo

*“Awareness-raising actions were run in schools as well as targeting less-easily reached audiences like truck drivers and motorcyclists.”*



UCOP+ RD Congo

### Romania



*“The association put in place self-test orders via an online platform after watching an explanatory video. Once the video had been viewed, the self-test was delivered to the person’s home.”*

Asociatia Romana Anti-Sida (ARAS)

### Argentina



*“To coincide with International Testing Week, young women from key populations (sex workers and drug users) and local organizations attended three training sessions on HIV and sexual and reproductive rights.”*

Fundacion Huesped

# BECOME A PARTNER OF THE 2023 EDITION

## WE HOLD THE KEYS TO ENDING THE HIV AND VIRAL HEPATITIS EPIDEMIC

# THANKS TO YOU, WE HAVE THE MEANS TO ACHIEVE THIS!

Since the outset, International Testing Week has grown significantly in terms of results and profile, as well as in terms of the constant number of participant associations.

As a partner of this event, you have the opportunity to strengthen your commitment to international solidarity and respect for human rights, particularly when it comes to access to care.

Your support will enable International Testing Week to continue to grow and to provide testing services that are both innovative, as

in Ukraine, and vital, as in Mozambique, to the populations most vulnerable to HIV, viral hepatitis and other STIs.

Take an active part in a high-impact and fast-growing event and join the world's largest testing operation. Your role will make all the difference in the early prevention and treatment of these infections.

They've already pledged their support for the 2023 edition



### They took part in International Testing Week 2022:

International Testing Week is jointly funded by:



It is supported  
by L'Initiative by  
Expertise France:



It also has the support of:



Thank you to our partners for  
promoting testing on their  
platforms internationally.



Coalition PLUS would like to extend a special thanks to its 50,000 donors and to its institutional partner, the World Health Organization (WHO).



## COALITION PLUS

Coalition PLUS is an international union of community-based associations engaged in the fight against HIV/AIDS and viral hepatitis created in 2008, operating in 52 countries and alongside some one hundred civil society organizations.

Our member and partner associations involve the communities most vulnerable to HIV/AIDS and hepatitis in the determination and implementation of prevention, care and advocacy programs.

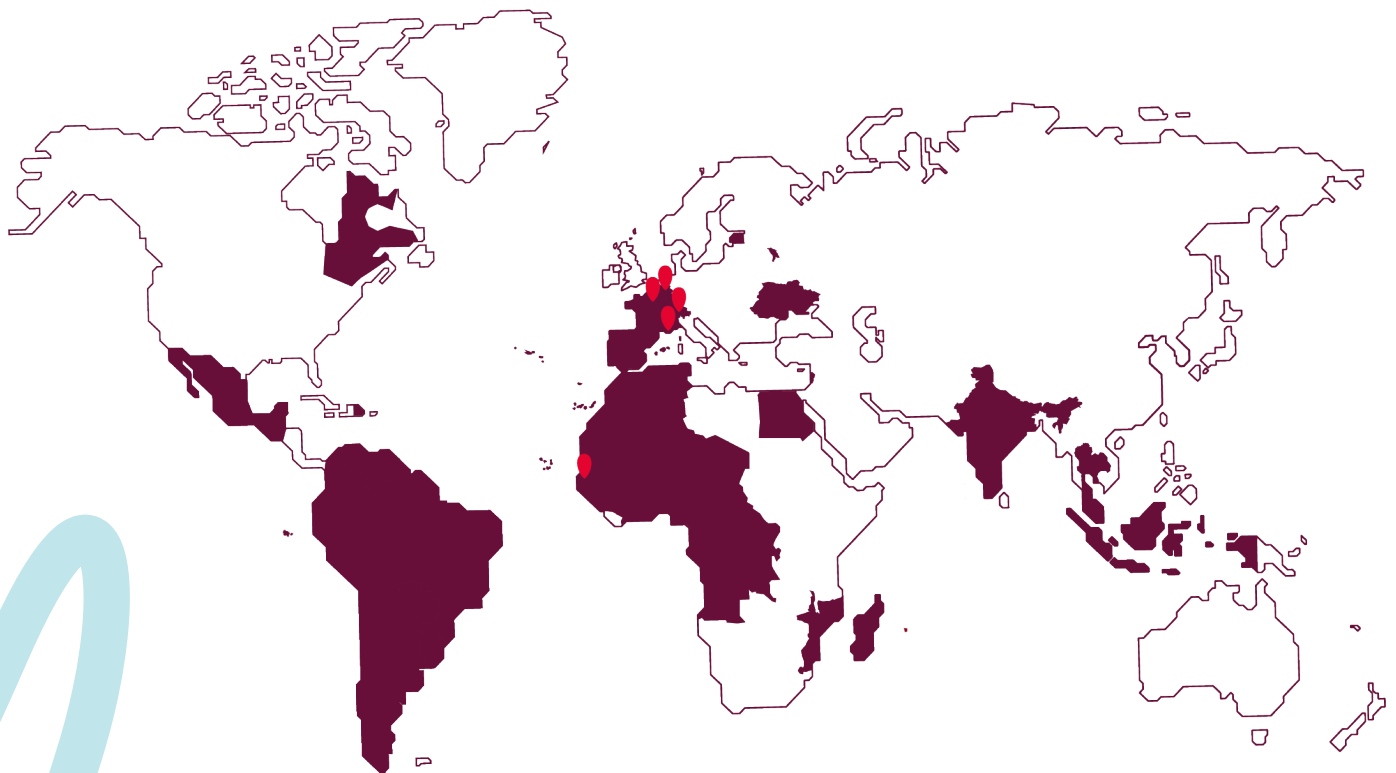
They promote innovative methods adapted to the individuals facing the most discrimination in access to healthcare.

Our principles of action: social change, the community-based approach and shared governance.

16  
member  
organizations

52  
countries

100+  
partner  
associations



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OF THE COALITION PLUS NETWORK**

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