Cervical cancer is one of the most common cancers in women living in Sub-Saharan Africa (SSA), with roughly 110,000 women diagnosed annually; of these women, about 66% will die from the disease. Women living with HIV (WLHIV) are up to six times more likely to develop persistent precancerous lesions and progress to cervical cancer, often with more aggressive forms and higher mortality.

Launched in May 2018 to address this challenge, Go Further is an innovative public-private partnership between the U.S. President’s Emergency Plan for AIDS Relief (PEPFAR), the George W. Bush Institute, the Joint United Nations Programme on HIV/AIDS (UNAIDS), Merck, and Roche. The partnership collaborates closely with governments to strategize on ways to provide services for women from prevention through the cancer journey. Go Further began working in eight countries (Botswana, Eswatini, Lesotho, Malawi, Mozambique, Namibia, Zambia, and Zimbabwe), and expanded services to four additional countries (Ethiopia, Kenya, Tanzania, Uganda) in fiscal year (FY) 2021. The objectives are to screen all WLHIV on ART between the ages of 25 and 49 for cervical cancer, and to treat pre-invasive cervical cancer lesions to prevent progression to cervical cancer.

### Uganda Program Highlights

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Year</th>
<th>Funding Amount</th>
<th>Cervical Cancer Screening Target</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>FY21</td>
<td>$5,000,000</td>
<td>256,793</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>FY22</td>
<td>$3,000,000</td>
<td>279,322</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>FY23</td>
<td>$3,000,000*</td>
<td>183,111</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

*Pending congressional notification

### Country Context

- **Total Population** (July 2022 est.) (World Factbook): 46,205,893
- **Women Aged 15-49 HIV Prevalence Rate** (UNAIDS 2020): 6.8%
- **Age-standardized Incidence Rate (per 100,000) of Cervical Cancer Cases** (Estimates for 2020) ([https://gco.iarc.fr/](https://gco.iarc.fr/)): 56.2
- **Total # of Women (All Ages) On ART** (PEPFAR, FY22 Q2): 823,715

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Uganda: Cervical cancer screenings and positives (precancerous lesions or suspected invasive cervical cancer), FY21-FY22 Q2

Percent of WLHIV on ART (15+) who were screened and received results positive for precancerous lesions or positive for suspected invasive cervical cancer:
- 3.1% - 5.7%
- 5.7% - 6.8%
- 6.8% - 6.9%
- 6.9% - 8.5%

WLHIV (15+) on ART screened for cervical cancer:
- 8,327 - 12,468
- 12,468 - 29,060
- 29,060 - 35,748
- 35,748 - 55,317

Source: PEPFAR Panorama Spotlight, data.pepfar.gov
In FY22: 158,763 screenings were performed, representing 57% of the FY22 target; 64% of women who screened positive for precancerous lesions received treatment.

Since FY21: 2,189 women have screened positive for suspected invasive cervical cancer. Of the 279,803 screenings, 260,621 (93%) were first-time screenings, 1,106 (0.4%) were follow-up screenings, and 18,076 (6%) were re-screen.

### Strategic Direction for FY22

- In COP21, PEPFAR Uganda was allocated $3M for the cervical cancer program and as such Uganda plans to expand the program to 225 new static health facilities and 947 outreach sites, in addition to the 604 COP20 health facilities. With this investment we shall reach 282,559 WLHIV aged 25-49 years in COP21, accounting for 50% of HIV-positive women aged 25-49 years in HIV care and treatment.

- In COP21, a one-off HPV screen will be offered to WLHIV aged above 50 years receiving care at the 23 health facilities offering HPV testing as the primary screening tool while Global Fund is supporting 38 sites for a total of 61 sites.

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**Implementing Partners Cont. (FY22)**

- UNHCR
- University Research Co., LLC
- Intrahealth International
- Infectious Diseases Institute
- Rakai Health Sciences Program
- Mildmay Uganda
- The AIDS Support Organization (TASO)
- Makerere University Walter Reed Project
- Baylor College of Medicine Children’s Foundation—Uganda
- Uganda Protestant Medical Bureau
- Joint Clinical Research Centre
- Kampala City Council Authority (KCCA)-Strategy
- Uganda Episcopal Conference (UEC)
- Ministry of Health (MOH_RRH)- Strategy
- Makerere Joint AIDS Program
- African Network for Care of Children Affected by HIV/AIDS
- Elizabeth Glaser Pediatric AIDS Foundation
- Mbarara Regional Referral Hospital G2G
- Jinja Regional Referral Hospital G2G
- Lira Regional Referral Hospital G2G
- Moroto Regional Referral Hospital G2G