

# HIV epidemic and response in Asia and the Pacific

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# HIV in Asia and the Pacific 2011













- **4.9 million** people living with HIV
- **1.6 million** women living with HIV
- **370,000** new infections every year
- **310,000** deaths every year
- **21,000** children newly infected every year

# Snapshot of high HIV burden countries

	Country	People living with HIV			Country	New HIV Infections		
		Estimate	Low estimate	High estimate		Estimate	Low estimate	High estimate
1	India	2,090,000	1,720,000	2,530,000	India	130,000	80,000	220,000
2	China	780,000	620,000	940,000	China	48,000	...	...
3	Thailand	490,000	450,000	550,000	Indonesia	55,000	32,000	110,000
4	Indonesia	380,000	240,000	570,000	Pakistan	32,000	15,000	77,000
5	Viet Nam	250,000	200,000	330,000	Viet Nam	21,000	10,000	35,000
6	Myanmar	220,000	180,000	260,000	Thailand	9,700	6,200	14,000
7	Pakistan	130,000	76,000	260,000	Myanmar	8,800	7,000	11,000
8	Malaysia	81,000	72,000	89,000	Malaysia	6,500	4,600	9,100
9	Cambodia	64,000	52,000	96,000	Philippines	5,500	3,600	9,600
10	Nepal	49,000	32,000	100,000	PNG	1,700	1,100	2,600

**Source:** UNAIDS. (2012). Global Report: UNAIDS Report on the Global AIDS Epidemic 2012, and National Institute of Medical Statistics and National AIDS Control Organization. (2013). Technical Report: India HIV Estimates-2012

# Epidemic overview in Asia and the Pacific

Epidemic Pattern	Adults and children newly Infected	Adults and children living with HIV	Adults and children AIDS Deaths	Countries
<b>Declining Epidemic:</b> New infections and PLHIV declining, deaths stable.				India, Thailand, Myanmar, Nepal, Cambodia
<b>Maturing Epidemic:</b> New infections declining, PLHIV still increasing or stabilizing, death trends vary.		 or 	varies	China, Viet Nam, Malaysia, PNG
<b>Expanding Epidemic:</b> New infections, PLHIV and deaths increasing.				Indonesia, Pakistan, Philippines
<b>Latent Epidemic:</b> New infections increasing or stable at around 1,000 per year, PLHIV increasing but < 10,000, and deaths < 500.	 or 		<500	Bangladesh, Lao PDR, Afghanistan, Sri Lanka
<b>Low Prevalence:</b> Low levels of HIV infections detected but risk factors exist.	<500	<1,000	low	Bhutan, Fiji, Maldives, Mongolia, Timor Leste, PICT

**Key:**  Expanding Trend  Declining Trend  Stabilizing Trend

**Source:** UNAIDS Regional Support Team Asia and the Pacific- HIV and AIDS Data Hub, Country epidemic patterns from DRAFT HIV estimates and projections data for the UNAIDS Report on the Global Epidemic 2012

# Modes of transmission of HIV

- **Unprotected sex** – unprotected transactional sex is the main mode of HIV transmission in Asia and the Pacific
- **Infected Blood**
  - Blood transfusion
  - Unsafe injecting drug use
- **Mother-to-child transmission**

# HIV: Risk and vulnerability

- **HIV risk:**
  - individual, unsafe sexual practices, including inconsistent condom use and multiple partners.
- **HIV vulnerability** influenced by:
  - Membership in groups/subcultures with higher HIV prevalence
  - Social and legal influences which contribute to creating a hostile environment
  - Lower quality and coverage (in total numbers and in terms of population groups covered) of HIV and health services

# In Asia and the Pacific, HIV is concentrated among key populations at higher risk and their intimate partners

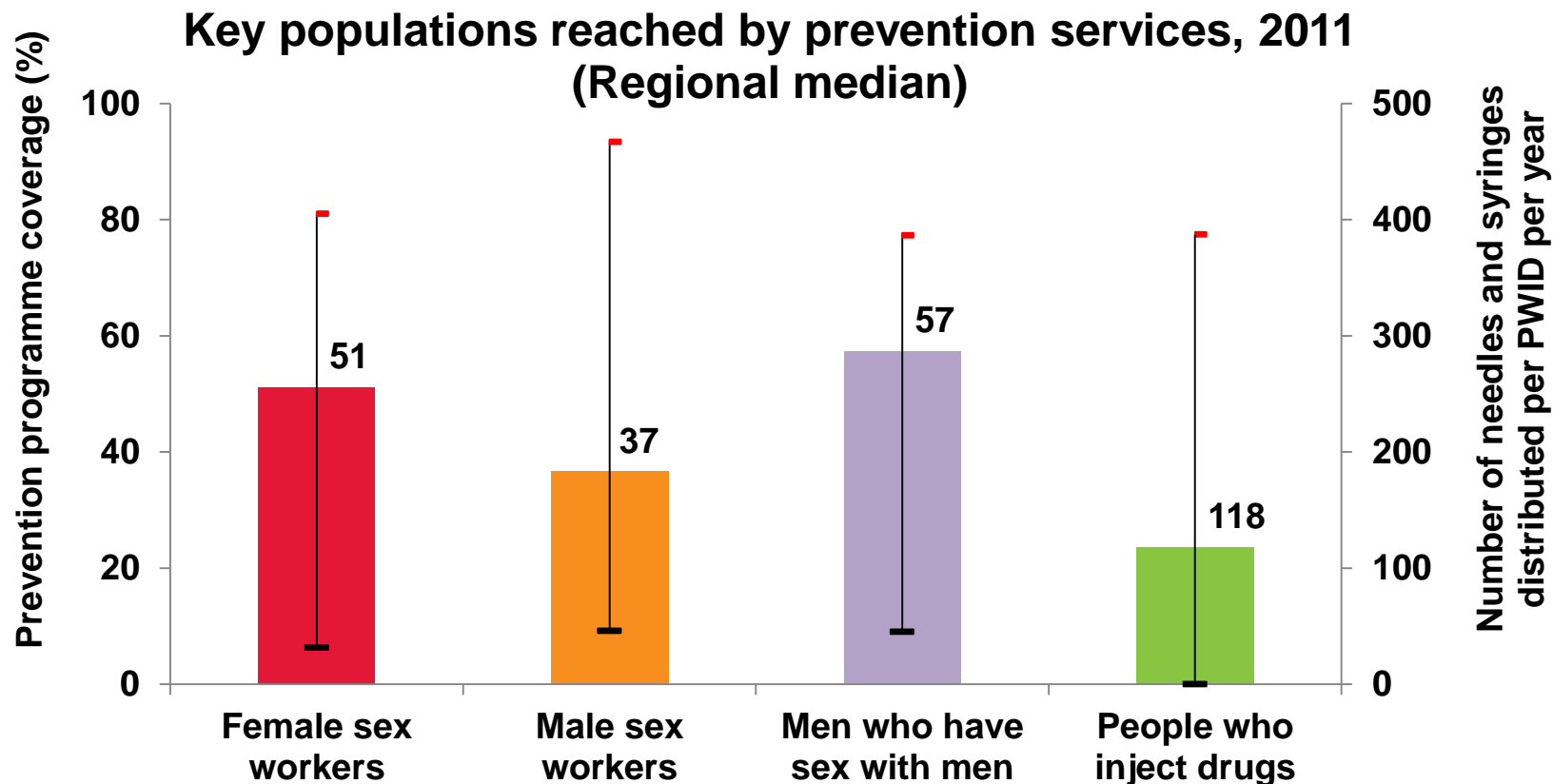
- **People who inject drugs (PWID):** Wide variations in HIV prevalence and in some geographic locations over 50% of PWID are living with HIV
- **Female sex workers (FSW):** Progress in reducing HIV, but high prevalence still found in some geographic 'hotspots' in countries
- **Clients of FSW:** Largest population at risk and determines extent of HIV spread, but poorly addressed by current interventions

## (Continued)

- **Men who have sex with men (MSM):** Rising epidemics across Asia - in major cities 7% to 31% MSM are living with HIV
- **Male sex workers (MSW):** Where there is data, generally MSW have higher HIV levels than FSW – as high as 18% in some geographical locations
- **Transgender (TG) including TG sex workers:** No data on population sizes. Limited data on HIV prevalence available; where there is data, it indicates high HIV prevalence in cities



# Key populations are central to the epidemic but not enough are reached by prevention services....

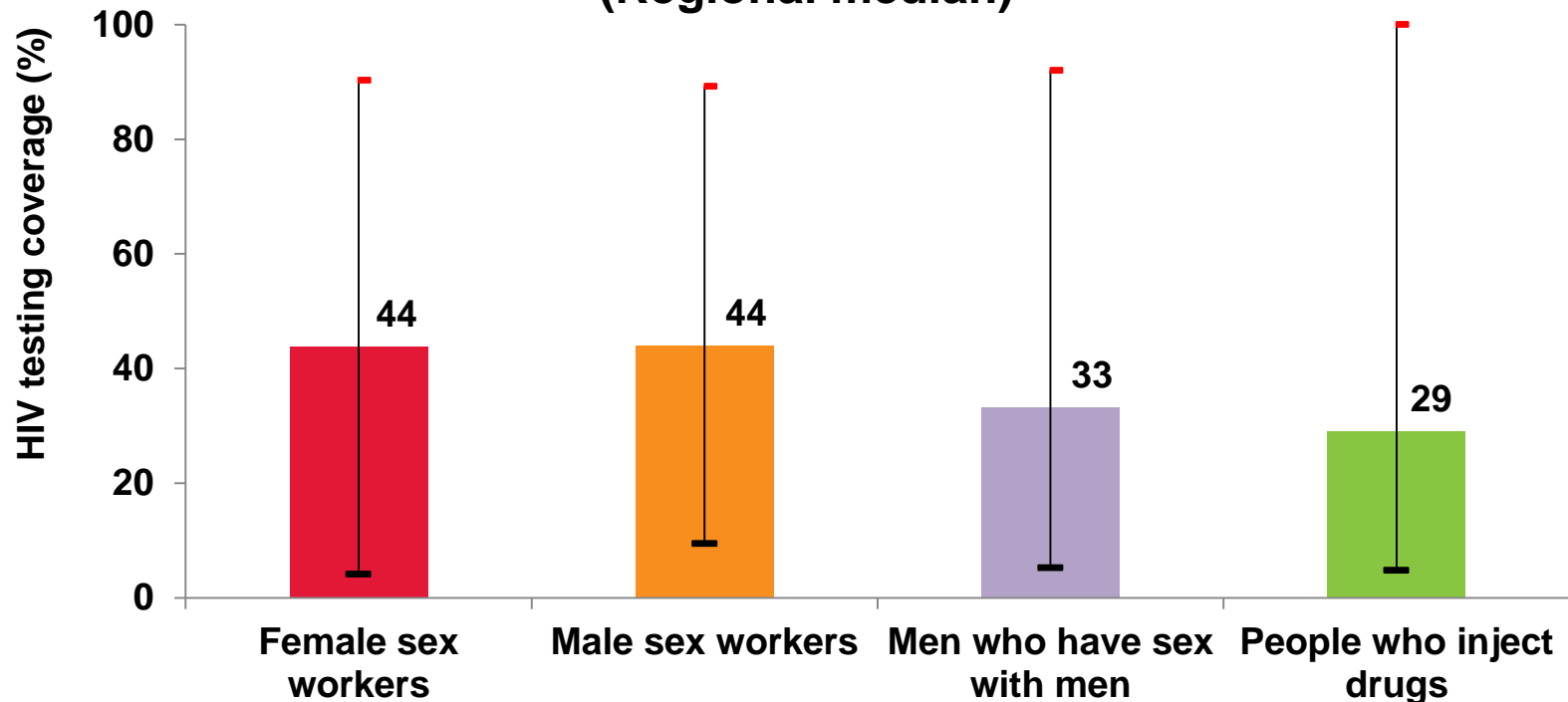


Getting to zero



# Additionally, less than half of key populations know their HIV status...

HIV testing coverage among key populations, 2011  
(Regional median)

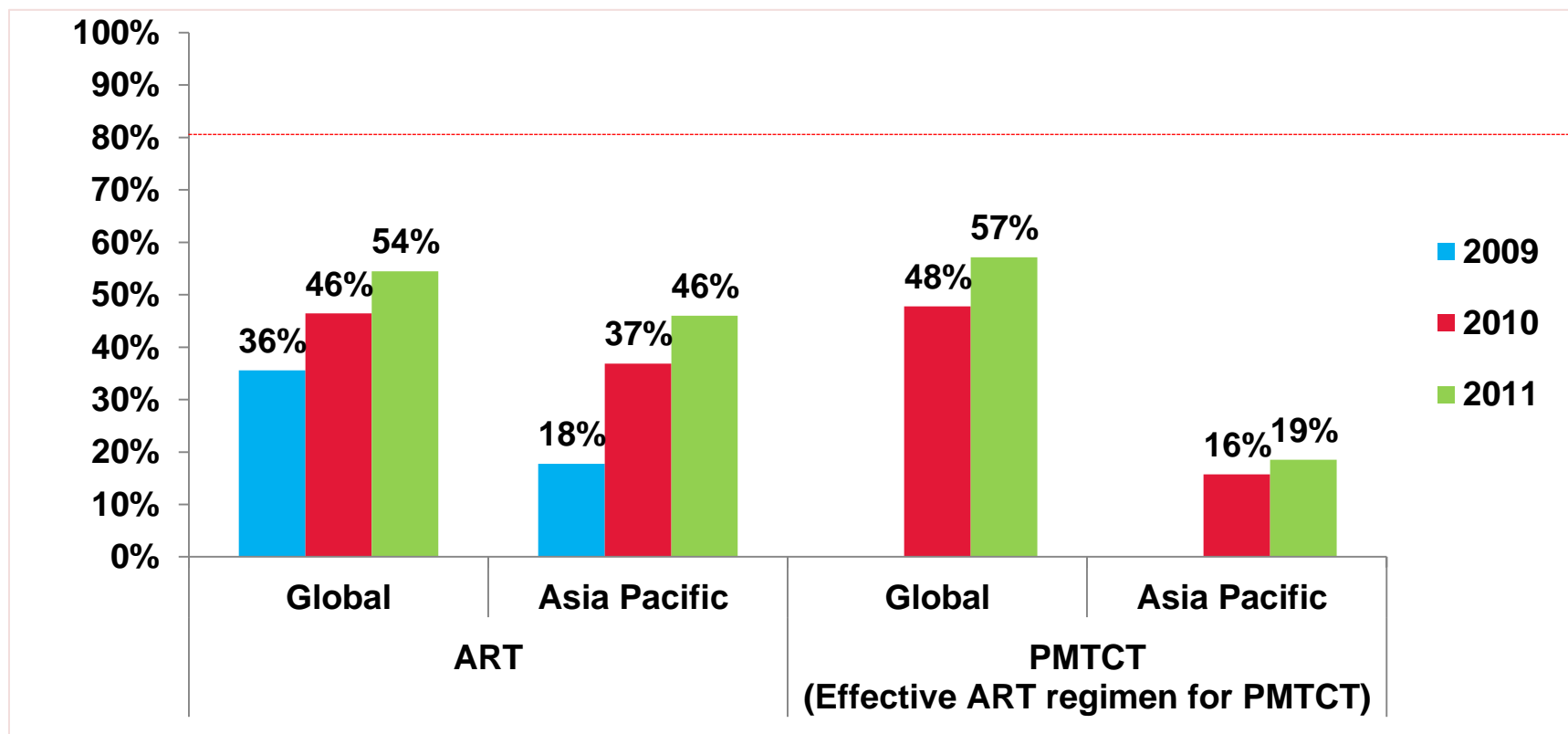


Getting to zero



# 1.1 million people are receiving antiretroviral therapy – expanding but lagging behind global trend .....

Recent trends in global and Asia and the Pacific ART and prevention of mother-to-child transmission (PMTCT) coverage



Getting to zero



# 2011 General Assembly Political Declaration on HIV/AIDS: A Global Commitment to Eliminate HIV/AIDS

**Bold new targets and commitments**

**Recognized key populations: men who have sex with men, people who inject drugs, and sex workers**

**Committed to: creating enabling legal, social and policy frameworks**



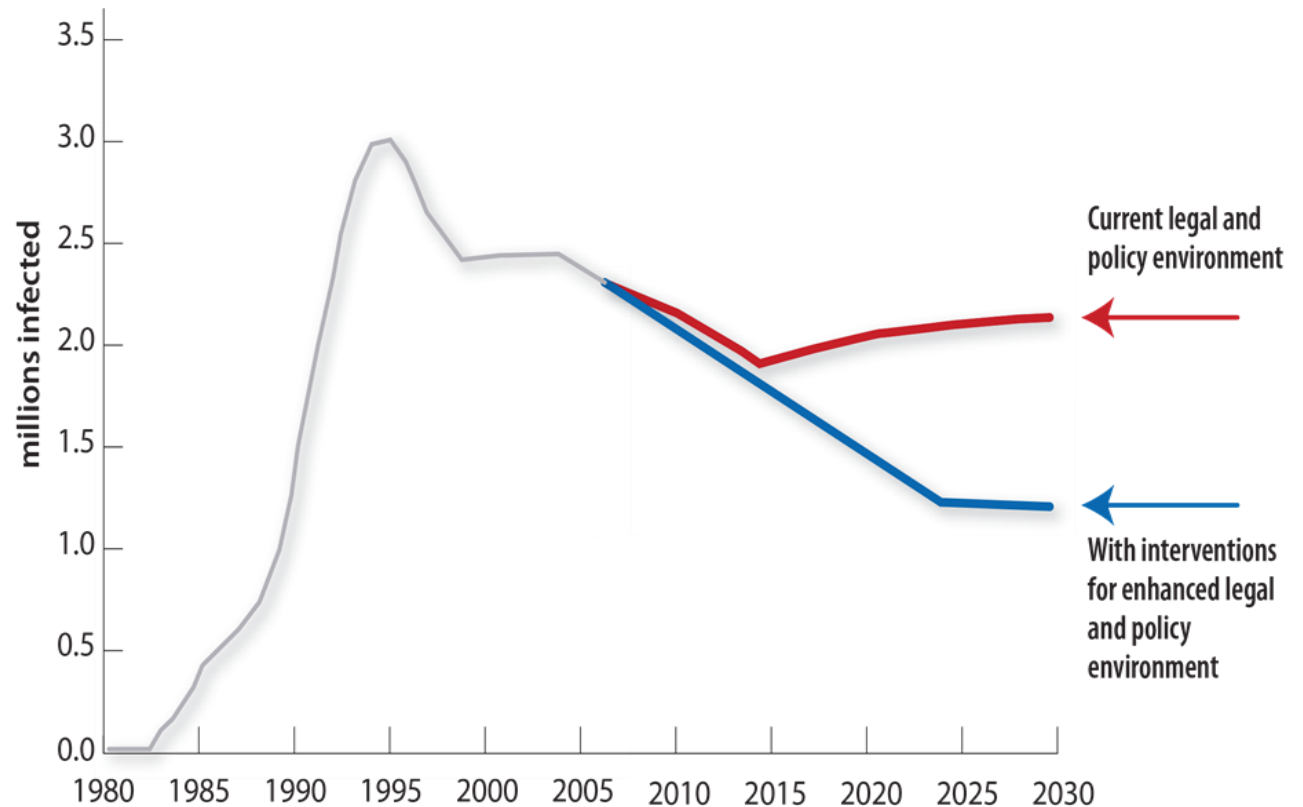
# Why the law matters?

## WHY THE LAW MATTERS

Annual number of new HIV infections among adults aged 15–49

- historical trend
- current trend
- structural change\*

\* change to legal and policy environment



Source: *Global Commission on HIV and the Law*

## **ZERO DISCRIMINATION:**

### **Legal and political challenges remain in the 38 UN Member States in Asia-Pacific**

- 11** impose some form of restriction on the entry, stay and residence of people living with HIV based on their HIV status
- 37** criminalize some aspect of sex work
- 11** compulsory detention centres for people who use drugs
- 15** provide for the death penalty for drug-related offences
- 18** criminalize same-sex relations

# Other aspects of the legal environment that impact on the HIV response:

- Criminalization of HIV transmission
- Violence against women and children
- Gender-based discrimination in marriage, property and inheritance rights
- Intellectual property regimes that hinder production and trade of generic medicines
- Access to services in prisons/detention
- Access to HIV services for young people

# Progress towards zero discrimination

- **India:** Delhi High Court decriminalised same sex practices through annulment of *Section 377* of the Penal Code
- **Fiji:** Parliamentary law reform to decriminalize same sex practices in 2010
- **Nepal and Pakistan:** Supreme Courts directing governments to recognize/protect rights of transgender people
- **Vietnam:** Law reform to end compulsory detention of sex workers in administrative detention centres in 2012
- **Malaysia:** Moving away from punitive approaches to drug use through “Cure and Care” Centres
- **China:** World’s largest expansion of opiate substitution therapy ever!
- **Mongolia:** Amended HIV law in 2013 removed HIV-related travel restrictions and eliminated criminalization of HIV transmission



“Today, we have a chance to end this epidemic once and for all. This is our goal: Zero new HIV infections, Zero discrimination, and Zero AIDS-related deaths.”

UNITED NATIONS SECRETARY- GENERAL BAN KI-MOON  
AT THE UNITED NATIONS GENERAL ASSEMBLY HIGH LEVEL MEETING  
ON AIDS, JUNE 2011