

Catholic University of Mozambique Joins Forces with University of Pittsburgh to Scale Up HIV/AIDS Care and Treatment Services

With an estimated HIV prevalence rate of 16 percent, Mozambique is currently home to 1.3 million PLWHA with a projected 500 more joining those ranks each day. Like many resource constrained countries, Mozambique also faces a severe shortage of trained caregivers necessary to scale up ART services at pace with the country's needs.

In support of a Ministry of Health initiative to train additional healthcare workers to provide quality HIV/AIDS-related care and treatment, the Twinning Center has, with funding from PEPFAR, established a partnership between the Universidade Católica de Moçambique (UCM) and the University of Pittsburgh.

The partners are collaborating to develop a model clinic and training site to improve educational and skills-building opportunities for healthcare professionals in Sofala Province. To this end, partners are working to establish an organizational structure for UCM's HIV/AIDS training center, defining clinical competencies, designing training curricula and monitoring and evaluation policies and procedures, and establishing formal relationships with local HIV treatment clinics, among other activities.

In accordance with Ministry of Health guidelines, partners are also focusing on faculty training and development, as well as in-service training for healthcare providers, particularly mid-level and lower-level workers.

