



## Key Population Integrated Bio-Behavioral Survey Papua New Guinea Partnership

Cardno manages U.S. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention's (CDC) and the President's Emergency Plan for AIDS Relief's (PEPFAR) Office of the U.S. Global AIDS Coordinator and Health Diplomacy (S/GAC) inputs to Key Population (KP) Integrated Bio-Behavioral Survey Papua New Guinea (IBBS) Partnership.



### Overview

This KP IBBS Partnership is a multi-stakeholder partnership among government, non-government, academic research, donors, and international agencies with implementing partners Oil Search Foundation, CDC Papua New Guinea, the National AIDS Council Secretariat, Institute of Medical Research, and the National Department of Health, which are leading the implementation of KP IBBS, known as "Kauntim mi tu." The partnership conducted the first size estimation of female sex workers (FSW) and men who have sex with men (MSM)/transgender (TG). It also collected representative bio-behavioral data about these KPs to inform HIV/sexually transmitted infection (STI) prevention, treatment, and care programming and policy development. The study was implemented in three high HIV burden cities of Papua New Guinea (PNG) – Port Moresby, Lae, and Mt. Hagen. In May 2018, the PNG Minister of Health, Hon. Puka Temu, officially launched the IBBS summary report at an event for the public and media.

#### Partners:

Oil Search Foundation, National Development of Health, National AIDS Council Secretariat



**Sector:**  
Health

#### Key Services:

- > Partnership Management
- > Contracts & Funds Management
- > Monitoring, Evaluation, and Reporting
- > Communication & Knowledge Management



**Location:**  
Papua New Guinea



**Award Value:**  
US\$900,000

#### Client:

U.S. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC)



**Duration:**  
August 2015 – May 2018

## Results

The study found that the HIV epidemic in PNG is a mixed epidemic – HIV affects both the general population as well as KPs with HIV in some parts of the country. The study identifies the need for PEPFAR mainly focusing on promotion of safe sex practices and intensifying the Test and Start approach to provide access to treatment services for KPs.

The survey's sample size requirements were met for FSW (2,092 for three sites) and MSM in Port Moresby and Lae (752 total), allowing for size estimations from each site. The prevalence of STIs was high with 52-60% of FSW diagnosed with one or more STIs, excluding HIV. HIV prevalence among FSW in Port Moresby, Lae, and Mt. Hagen was 14.9%; 11.9%; and 19.6%, respectively, while FSW engagement with outreach workers was limited (i.e., 30-50% of FSW never interacted). HIV prevalence among MSM/TG populations in Port Moresby and Lae was 8.5% and 7.1%, respectively. This is more than seven times greater than the national PNG adult estimate of 0.9%. The majority (58%) of MSM in Port Moresby had never tested for HIV, and 34% of these MSM were diagnosed with one or more STIs, excluding HIV.



### Port Moresby

The IBBS survey was conducted in Port Moresby in 2016 with 674 FSW and 400 MSM and TG women. The study results indicated:

- High rates of HIV and STIs and high-risk sexual behaviors in both groups
- 8.5% HIV prevalence in MSM and TG
- 58.2% of MSM and TG had never tested for HIV
- 34% of MSM and TG had one or more STIs in the past 12 months, excluding HIV
- Estimated 7,487 MSM and TG women in Port Moresby
- Estimated 16,053 FSW in Port Moresby
- 14.9% HIV prevalence in sex workers and women engaged in transactional sex
- 32.1% of FSW had never tested for HIV
- 52.1% of FSW had one or more STIs in the past 12 months, excluding HIV.

### Lae

The IBBS survey was completed in 2017 with a sample size of 709 FSW and 352 MSM/TG. The study results indicated:

- 11.9% HIV prevalence in FSW
- 7.1% HIV prevalence in MSM/TG
- 35.3% prevalence in urogenital chlamydia in FSW
- Estimated 6,100 FSW and 4,700 MSM/TG in Lae
- 42% prevalence of STIs (i.e., hepatitis B virus, syphilis, chlamydia, and gonorrhoea) in MSM/TG.

### Mt. Hagen

Recruitment for IBBS Mt. Hagen completed in 2017 with enrollment of 709 FSW. The study results indicated:

- 19.6% HIV prevalence in FSW, more than 10 times greater than national PNG adult female estimate of 1.1%
- Estimated 2,600 FSW in Mt. Hagen.

In addition, 110 MSM/TG were screened and referred for HIV/STI/tuberculosis services.

## Technical Outputs



- IBBS Port Moresby Report
- IBBS Lae Report
- IBBS Mt. Hagen Report
- IBBS Multi-site Report
- Report for Development of Interventions to Increase Key Population Access to STI/HIV Prevention and Services

**For more information contact Cardno:**

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