

Accomplishments in Fighting HIV and AIDS

Total Control of the Epidemic (TCE) was launched in India in 2006 on the outskirts of Delhi by Humana People to People (HPP) India, with support from the Irish Aid Embassy. TCE in India focuses on high risk groups like migrant and mobile population, building their capacities in self-risk assessment and equally empowering them to prevent HIV infection.

According to UNAIDS statistics of 2017, India has the third largest HIV epidemic in the world with 2.1 million people living with the disease. The main factors contributing to India's large HIV-infected population include inter-state migration, low literacy levels, gender disparity, sharing of needle and syringes during injecting drug usage and sex work. HPP India's interventions therefore focus on female sex workers and migrant workers due to lack of awareness of HIV and AIDS, lack of empowerment and decision-making related to self-health care, low risk perception and weak economic and social security.

HPP India runs five community-based HIV prevention, treatment and care programmes, working with both government and private agencies to bring about maximum impact. TCE and HOPE Humana Centres are implemented through community mobilization and linkages with public health facilities.

TCE is a community mobilization program with a focus on preventing HIV transmission and empowering people to liberate themselves from the epidemic. Under this approach, HPP India field workers support household members in assessing their risk to HIV transmission, provide motivation and mobilize for HIV testing. In 2019, the TCE strategy was applied in four projects run by HPP India in the states of Delhi, Uttar Pradesh and Telangana. In Uttar Pradesh, the principles of TCE are being applied in the Link Worker Programme that addresses HIV prevention, care, support and treatment.

HOPE Humana Centres have adopted targeted interventions of the National AIDS Control Programme of India, aiming to curb HIV transmission among high-risk groups such as female sex workers, MSM and migrant workers through behavior change communication, condom promotion, managing sexually transmitted infections (STIs) and creating an enabling environment for safe sex and health-seeking practices.