



## RUCHE PROJECT

“PUTTING USERS AT THE HEART OF THE FIGHT AGAINST HIV IN GUINEA AND COTE D'IVOIRE”

# Empowerment of community stakeholders and people living with HIV to improve access to quality HIV care in Guinea and Côte d'Ivoire

Côte d'Ivoire and Guinea are lagging far behind in the fight against HIV/AIDS, despite the relatively good decentralisation of health care provision. In Côte d'Ivoire, the main problem for people living with HIV (PLHIV) remains access to knowledge of their status: one in two PLHIV (61%) still do not know their serological status. In Guinea, only 58% of PLHIV know their status, of whom only 51% are receiving ARV treatment and 19% have an undetectable viral load. **These results call into question the quality of care and its experience for patients and carers.** In this context of delays in reaching the objectives of the three 90s in the fight against AIDS, the project aims to act in synergy with the other interventions developed in the fight against HIV in Guinea and Côte d'Ivoire to improve the most critical stage in terms of coverage of needs in each country: access to knowledge of one's serological status in Côte d'Ivoire and the quality of care in Guinea.

### KEY INFORMATION



**Project duration :** 3 years (2020-2023)



**Beneficiaries :** People living with HIV, health care teams, community and civil society actors, representatives of health authorities



**Sources of finance :** AFD, Unitaïd, The Caritas Foundation and the Paris City Council



**Partners :** In Guinea: Ministry of Health, FEG and members of the inter-associative collective for the promotion of the rights of people living with HIV (REGAP+, REFIG, FEG, FMG, ASFEGMASSI, Afrique Arc en Ciel Guinea). In Côte d'Ivoire: Ministry of Health and Public Hygiene, Ariel Glaser Foundation, the NGO Heartland Alliance International, Espace Confiance, Blety, Aprosam, Ruban Rouge Côte d'Ivoire, Eloé



**Countries of intervention :** Guinea & Côte d'Ivoire

## OBJECTIVES

### Contribute to improving the coverage of HIV care needs in Côte d'Ivoire and Guinea

To this end, the project aims to put users back at the centre of the fight against HIV, by implementing a capacity-building approach aimed at users, carers and decision-makers in order to improve compliance, retention in care and access to testing for people who are not currently tested. In Guinea, the RUCHE project reinforces the first phase of the project "[PACTES](#) : "Patients at the centre of treatment and care" implemented in Guinea since 2017.

*"The PACTES project has placed communication at the heart of the patient care system both by empowering healthcare staff and patients." A. CISSÉ - In charge of psychosocial support at AFSEGMASSI and national trainer in psychosocial support*



## EXPECTED RESULTS

-  An enabling environment for the roll-out of HIV self-testing is in place in target countries
-  The capacities of health care teams (including psychosocial mediators) and patients are strengthened in order to implement a service offer that is attentive to users' needs.
-  The capacities and power to act of Guinean civil society and the Guinean inter-associative collective are strengthened according to their needs
-  National capacities are strengthened to ensure the transition of the intervention are strengthened



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