

VIRTUAL

FAST-TRACK CITIES 2020

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Supporting “City Multilateralism” to End Urban HIV, TB, and HCV Epidemics

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WHAT IS 'CITY MULTILATERALISM'?

- *Diplomacy and action at the local level to coordinate with global peers on transnational concerns*
- **Urban initiatives striving to make progress on global agendas (SDGs, New Urban Agenda)**
- **Achieving coordination with national governments and global movements, including on pandemic preparedness**
- **An addition to (not replacement for) national health diplomacy**
- **Harm mitigation when nations fail to lead (i.e., COVID-19)**



FAST-TRACK CITIES

- **Fast-Track Cities launched World AIDS Day 2014 in the City of Paris**
 - ✓ 26 original cities signed *Paris Declaration on Fast-Track Cities Ending the HIV Epidemic*
 - Amended in July 2018
 - ✓ 300+ cities joined the network in every region since 2014
 - ✓ Some countries have critical mass of Fast-Track Cities (Brazil, France, Portugal, South Africa, Spain, UK, USA, etc.)



WHY CITY MULTILATERALISM?



Urban Growth

- Two-thirds of global population will live in urban centers by 2050
- 90% of this growth in:
 - ✓ Sub-Saharan Africa
 - ✓ East and South Asia
- Mostly unplanned growth
- 75% of cities have grown less equal over the past 20 years

The Ten Largest Urban Areas

● 1985 ● 2035



Source: UN Department of Economic and Social Affairs.

COUNCIL on
FOREIGN
RELATIONS



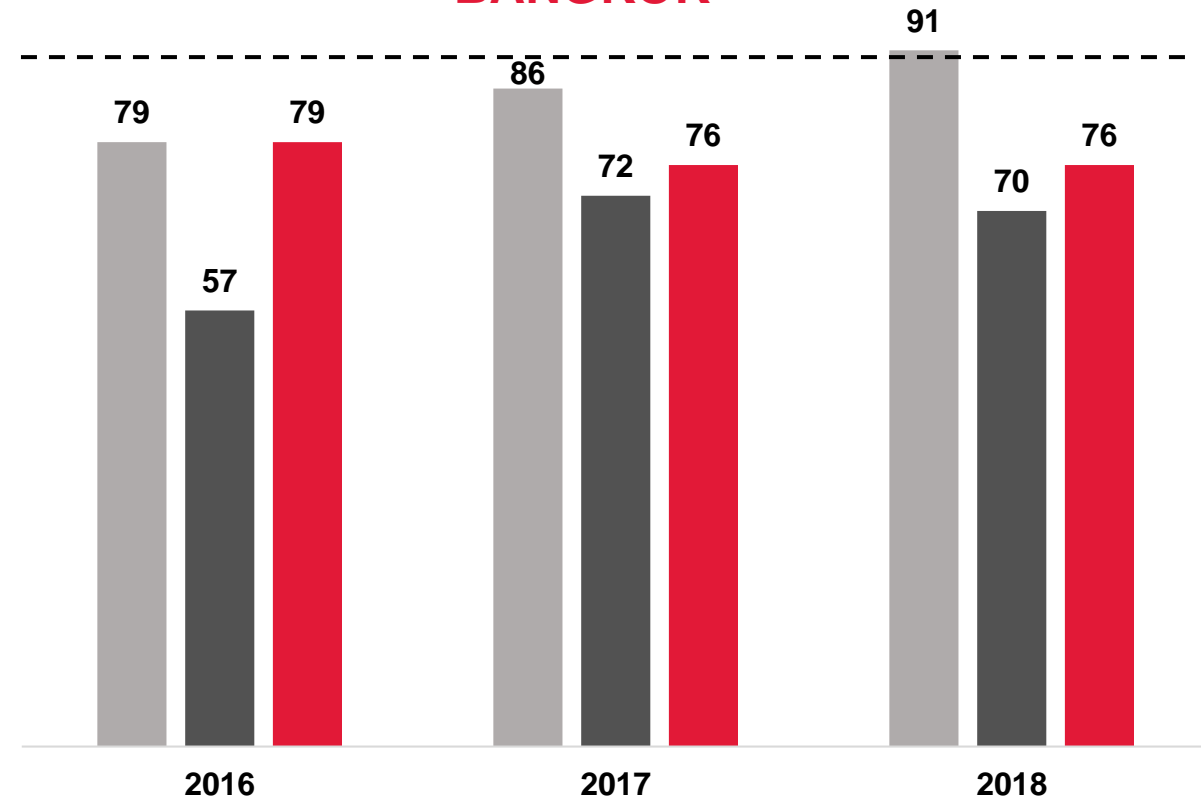
Risk and Opportunity

- Urban growth is a risk given infectious disease impact on cities
- City and municipal leaders are stepping up to the global table
- Healthy, resilient societies require a 'right to the city' that asserts a city as a place that strives to guarantee a decent and full life for all its inhabitants

HIV 90-90-90 TARGETS



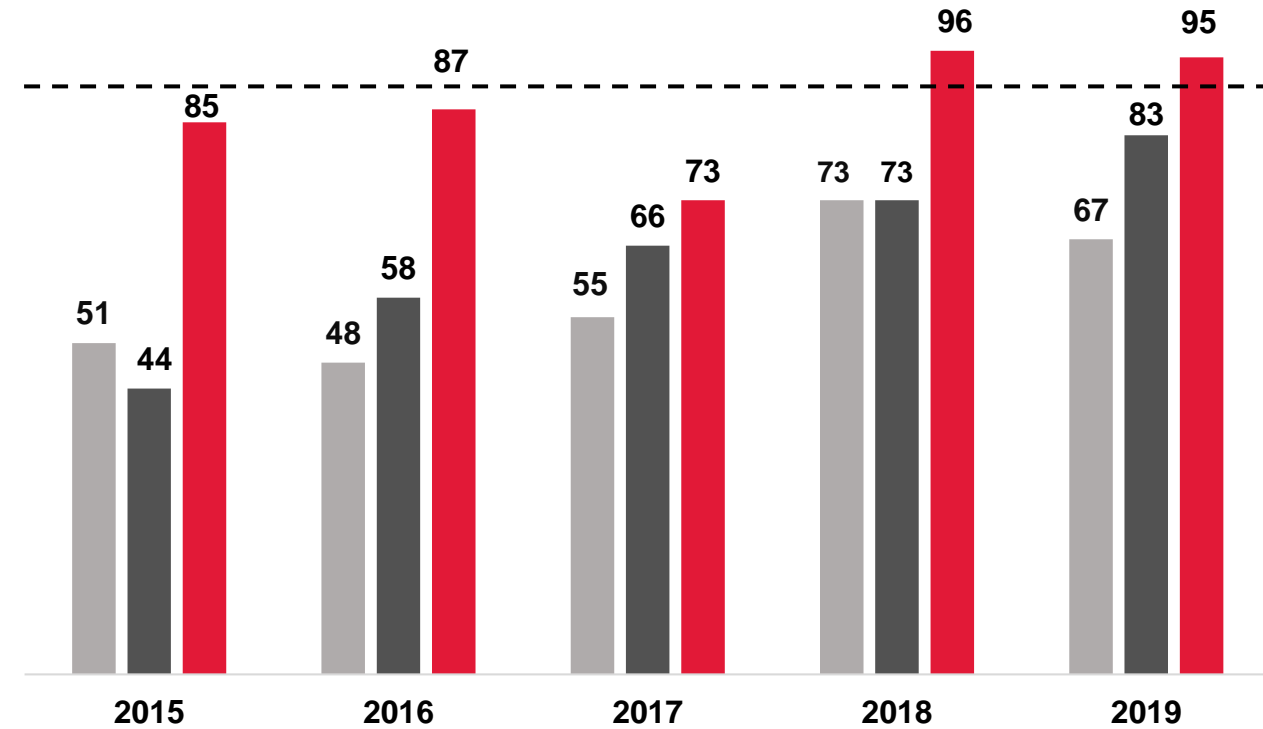
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HIV 90-90-90 TARGETS (continued)



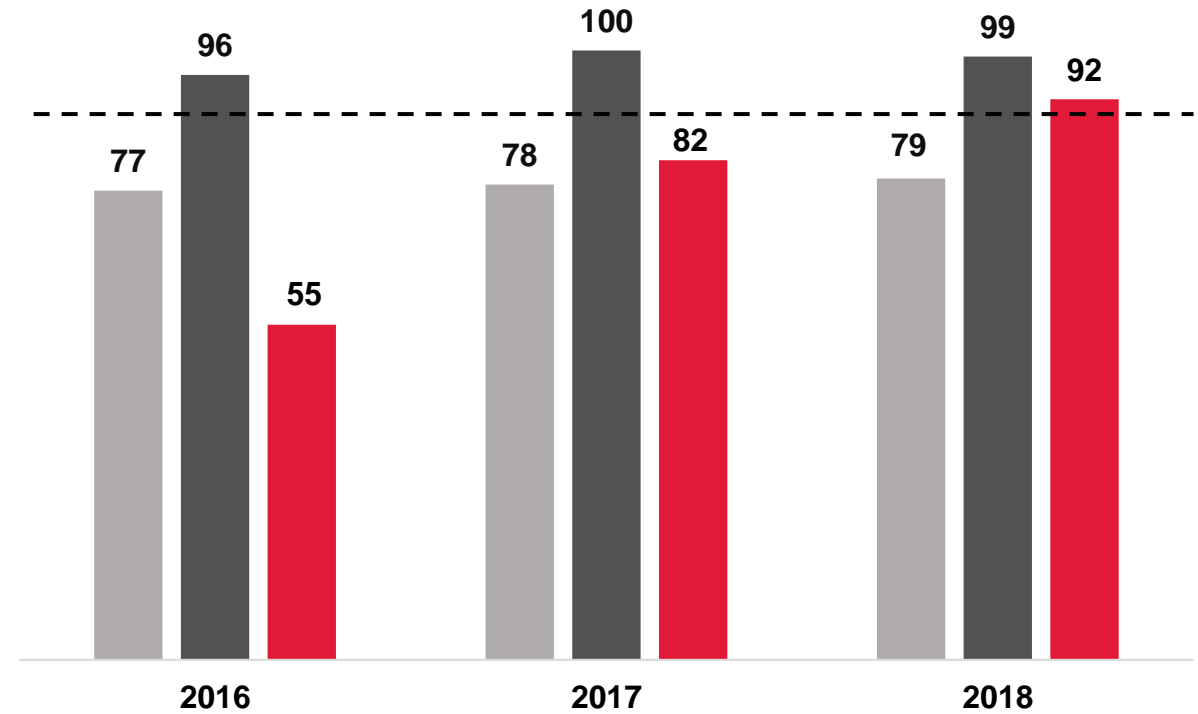
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HIV 90-90-90 TARGETS (continued)



NAIROBI COUNTY

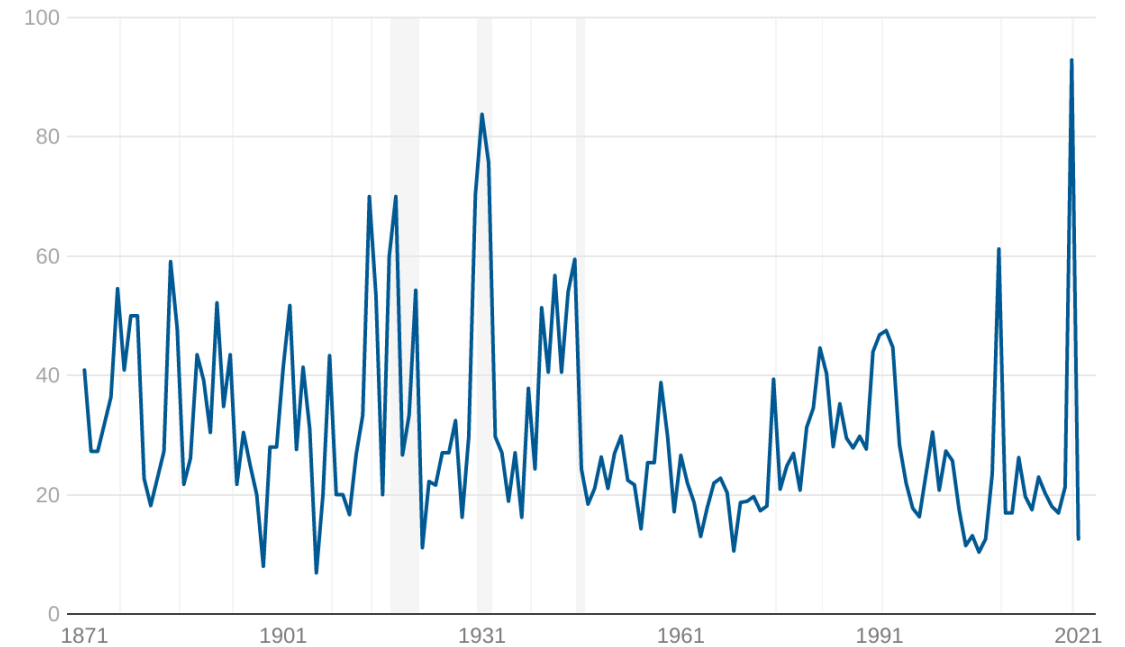


WHAT HAS COVID-19 REVEALED?

- Human (and financial) costs of endemic infectious diseases, emerging pandemics reflect existential threat
- COVID-19 has revealed a lack of pandemic preparedness (emerging and re-emerging)
 - ✓ In part due to 'unenforceable' International Health Regulations

Most countries are expected to face recessions in 2020

Share of economies in recession, 1871-2021



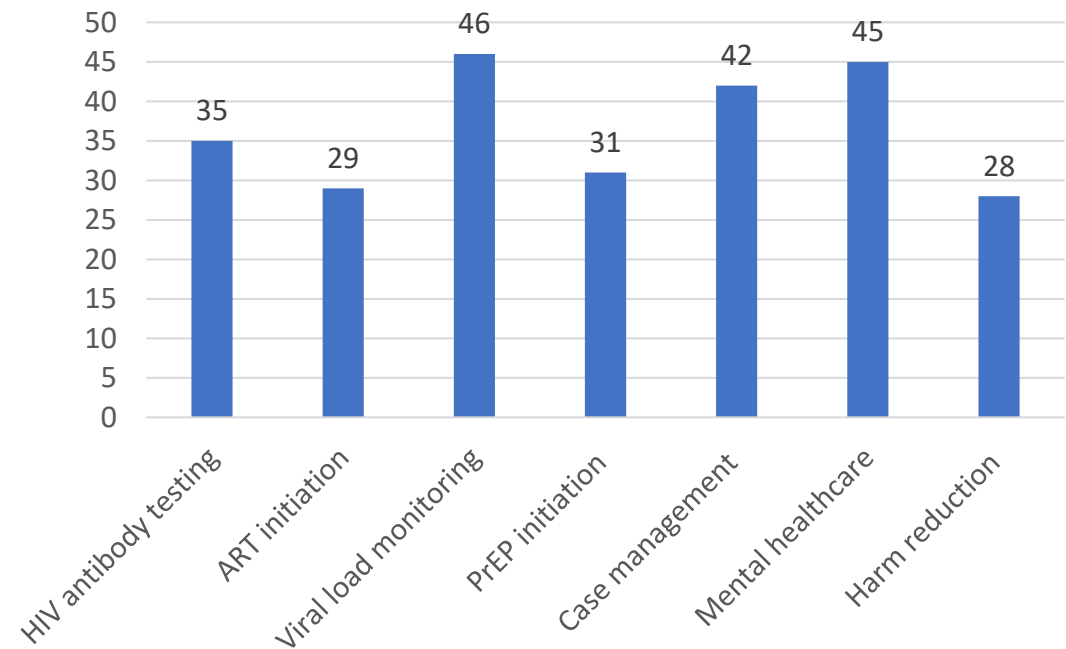
The proportion of economies with an annual contraction in per capita GDP. Shaded areas refer to global recessions. Data for 2020-21 are forecasts.

Source: World Bank

LEVERAGING HIV PLATFORMS

- COVID-19 has also revealed fragility in HIV and other health responses (e.g., TB, HCV)
- HIV infrastructure, including health workforce, leveraged for COVID-19
 - ✓ Attenuating impact?
- Need continued investment in HIV responses, but also to address fragility and ensure continuity of HIV and other health services

Percent of HIV Providers Reporting Service Disruptions during COVID-19 Pandemic



COVID-19 AND CITY MULTILATERALISM



Atlanta

- Coordinated state government, but also with CDC and philanthropists
- Followed recommendations of CDC and WHO regarding closures, masks, etc.
- Persisted despite confusing and politicized federal and state responses
- Faced down Governor who filed lawsuit to end city's closures and mask mandate



São Paulo

- Saw cases early in COVID-19 pandemic, especially in favelas
- Municipal leaders worked with state leaders to prepare hospitals (canceling elective procedures, expanding ICUs, acquiring PPE supplies)
- Mocked by President who encouraged people to defy lockdown measures

DECENTRALIZING HEALTH DIPLOMACY

LINKAGES BETWEEN SDG 11 AND OTHER SDGS



SOURCE: UN HABITAT

- Not calling for wide-scale decentralization of traditional health diplomacy model with nation-states as central actors
 - ✓ Seeking recognition of and actioning of city multilateralism
- SDG 11 interwoven with virtually every SDG, including SDG 3
 - ✓ Creating sustainable cities and communities a local priority
 - ✓ Cities cannot act in isolation

ADVANCING WITH NATIONAL PARTNERSHIPS



HIV and COVID-19

- Avoid becoming obstacles
- Empower cities to take measures
 - ✓ Especially regarding inequities
 - ✓ Innovation on minimizing in-person contact for HIV care
 - ✓ Addressing social determinants of health (housing, socio-economic opportunity, stigma)



Long-Term Cooperation

- Make space to forge and sustain meaningful national-urban partnerships on infectious diseases
- Forge national-urban partnerships to coordinate public health efforts
 - ✓ Health-related SDGs
 - ✓ Pandemic preparedness

CONCLUSIONS

- Cities must be at forefront of public health, human rights
- Cannot relegate urban leaders to sidelines, expect them to play central role in health crises
- City multilateralism needed so urban zones can serve as engines for change, innovation
- National leaders should see city multilateralism as opportunity



