

× City of  
× Amsterdam

× GGD  
× Amsterdam



## Utilization of Conversation Map in eThekweni

Zonke Ndlovu  
Lubanzi Ulwazi Resource Centre and  
eThekweni PLHIV Sector

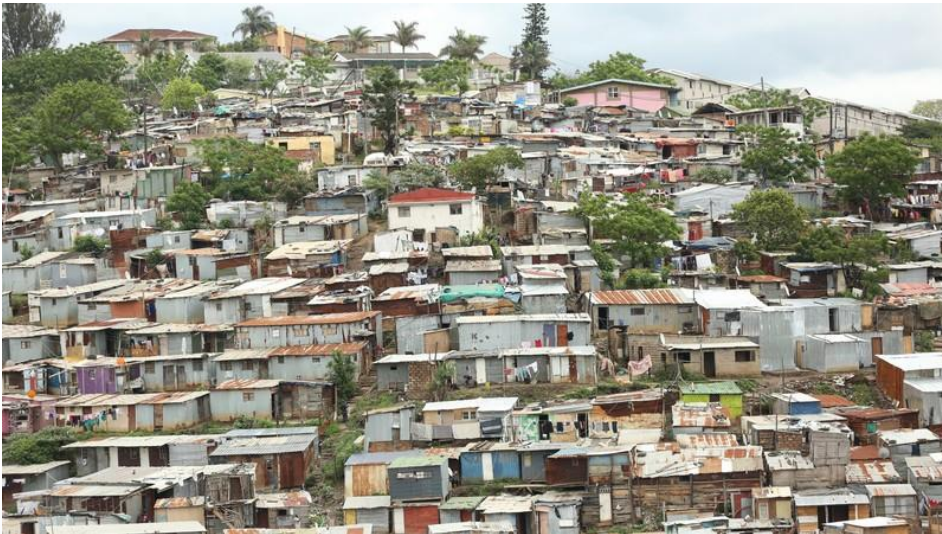
Chalone Savant  
IAPAC - eThekweni

**AUTHORS: Calvin Pugh, Dr. José M. Zuniga, Chalone Savant, Dr. Bulie Magula, Zonke Ndlovu, Phume Ngcobo**

**AFFILIATIONS: International Association of Providers of AIDS Care, Washington, DC; Fast-Track Cities Institute, Washington, DC; University of KwaZulu-Natal; eThekweni PLHIV sector**

## Introduction – eThekweni

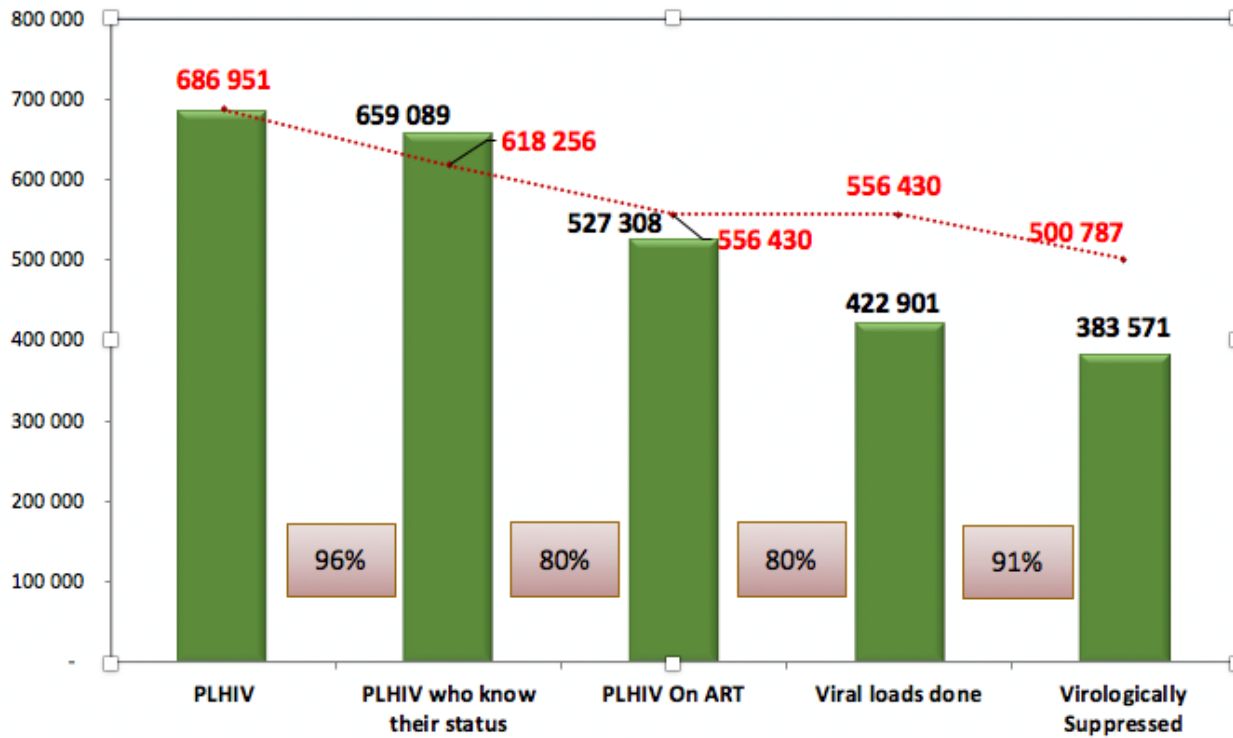
- eThekweni Metro (Durban)
- On the Indian Ocean
- Population: 3,5m
- Beautiful city... many inequities...



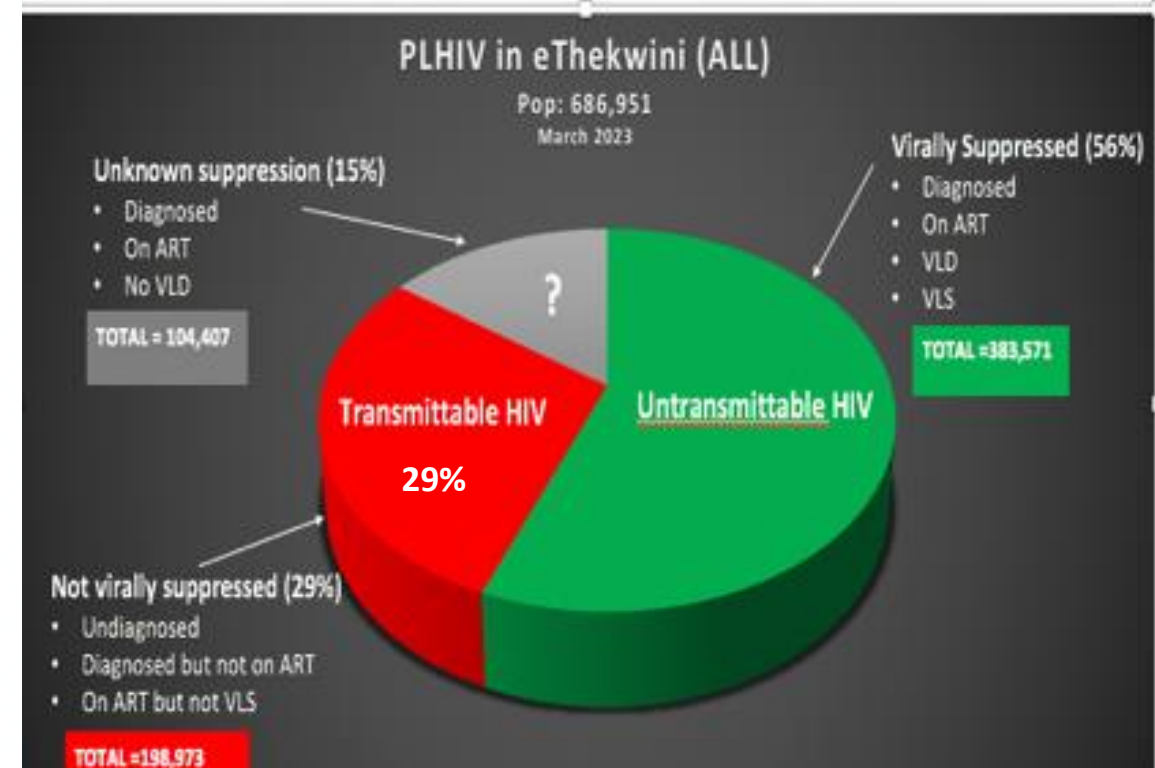
- High levels of poverty, unemployment, and crime including gender based violence
- Generalized HIV epidemic
- HIV Prevalence: 19%

# Introduction – eThekweni HIV (All)

90-90-90 Cascade - Total Population  
eThekweni (Mar 2023) – Public & Private Sector  
Total PLHIV: 686 951



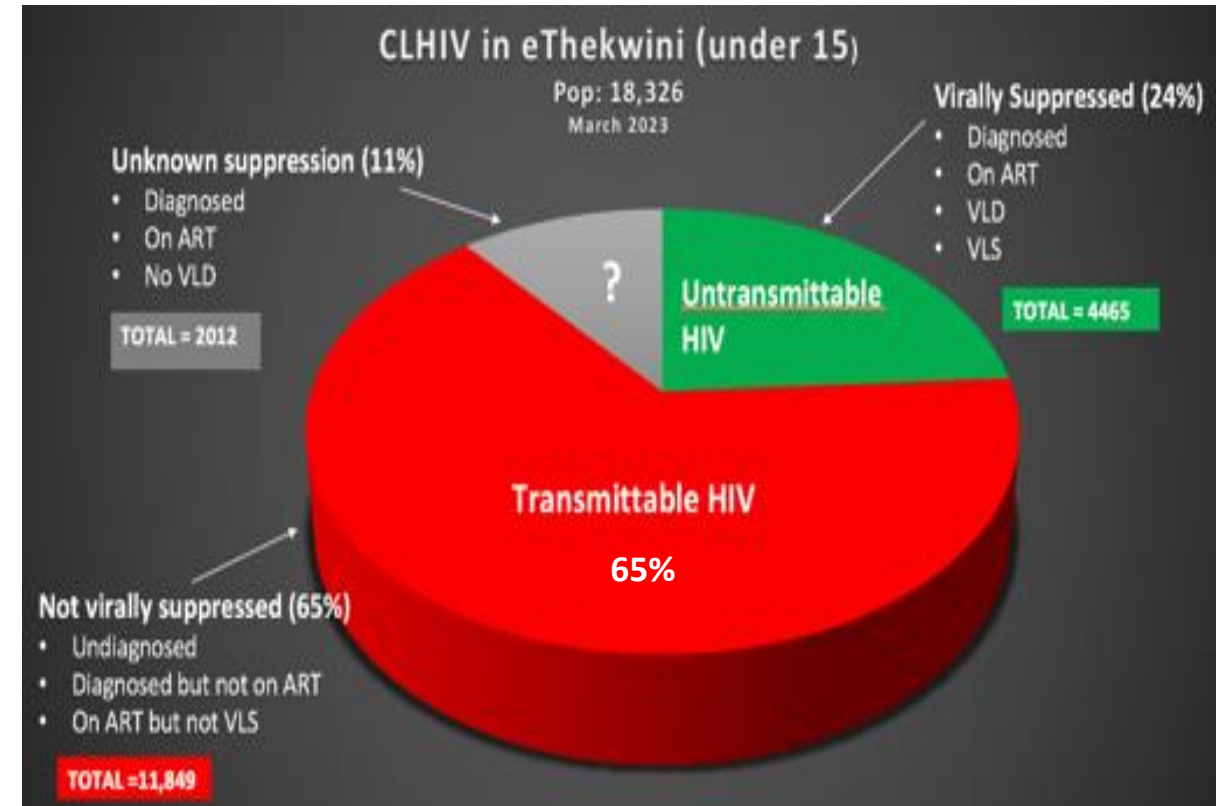
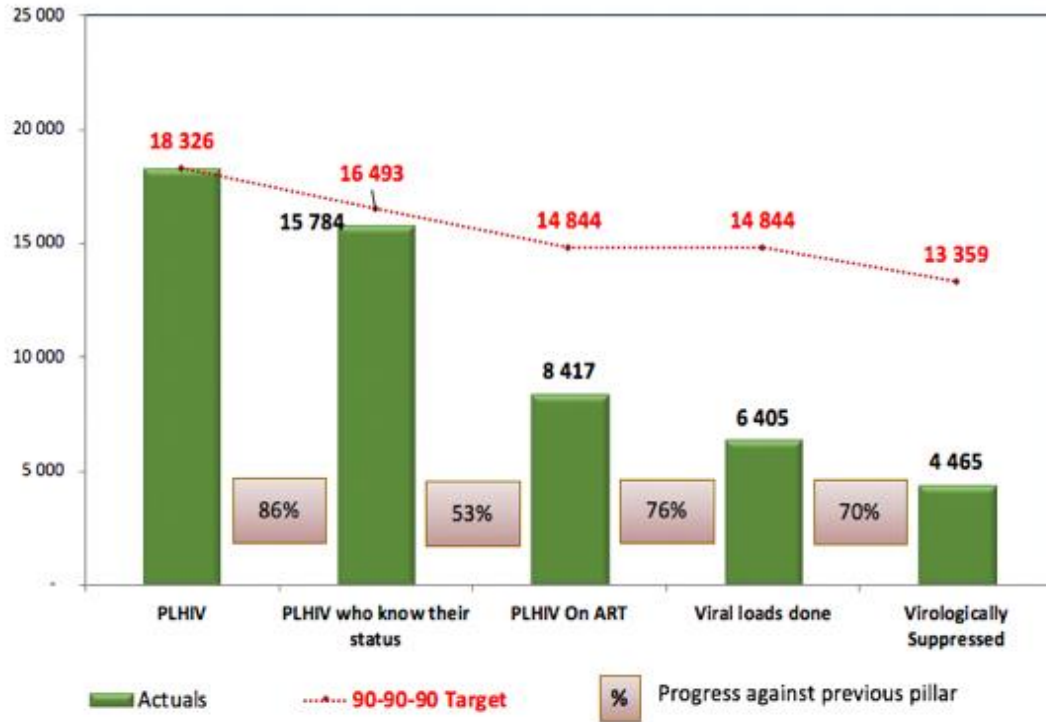
Actuals      90-90-90 Target      % Progress against previous pillar





# Introduction – eThekweni HIV (Children)

90-90-90 Cascade - Children (<15)  
eThekweni (Mar 2023) - Public & Private sector  
Total CLHIV: 18 326

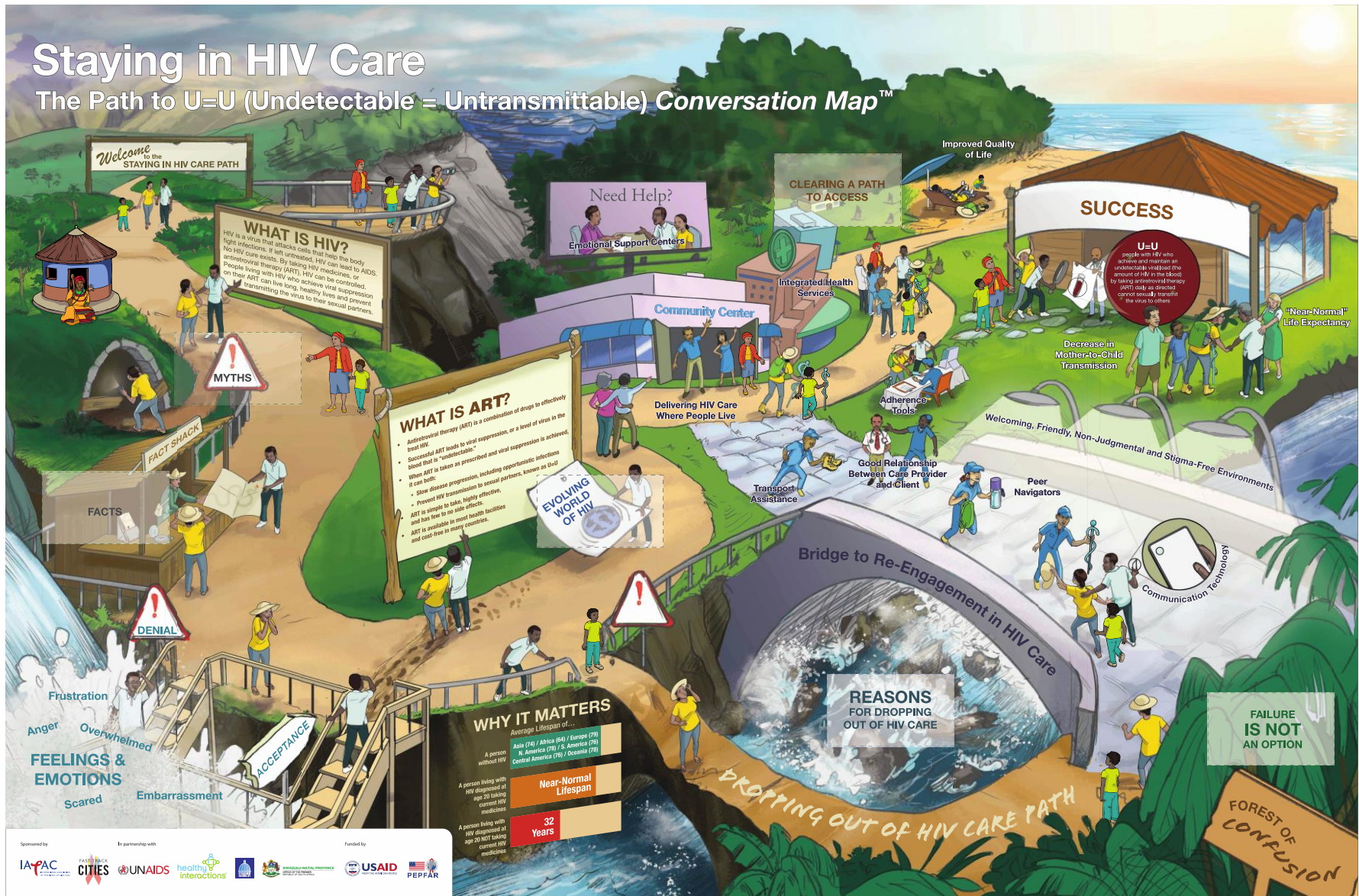


## Project Background

- Lack of awareness of “U=U” (Undetectable = Untransmittable)
- High levels of community and self-stigma
- Sub-optimal health outcomes for PLHIV
- Children living with HIV (CLHIV) are left behind (only 53% on ART)
- IAPAC’s Conversation Map (CM) is being implemented to raise awareness of U=U and improve retention/linkage to care







Sponsored by: IAPAC, FAST TRACK CITIES, UNAIDS, health Interactions, and other partners.  
 Funded by: USAID, PEPFAR, and other partners.









# Trainings

356 individuals reached

- Support group facilitators
- PLHIV support groups
- adherence officers
- children's sector leaders
- child and youth care workers
- Ward AIDS Committees





# The journey from diagnosis to U=U is a powerful story...



# Lessons Learned

- Training participants felt:
  - **Self-aware** and **empowered to disclose**
  - **Motivated** to take action
- 156 facilitator trainees agreed/strongly agreed the CM is easy to understand, easy to use, and topics are relevant
- 99% indicated it would be useful in their ward
- 160 PLHIV and facilitators surveyed post-exposure:
  - 91% “had a better understanding and were willing to achieve U=U”
  - 94% were “extremely likely” to recommend the program
  - 95% felt they had the tools to manage their health





# Recommendations

- The CM provides an important tool in illustrating the journey from diagnosis to U=U and is well received by trainers and community members alike.
- Increasing awareness around U=U and reducing HIV-related stigma are crucial to ending AIDS as a public health threat by 2030.
- **Scaling of the CM is recommended.**



# Conversation Map

