



**HIV, TB AND STIs MANAGEMENT POLICY FOR
THE PUBLIC SERVICE**

ANNEXURE A

2023



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ABBREVIATIONS

| | |
|------|---|
| DPSA | Department of Public service and Administration |
| DOT | Directly Observed Treatment |
| DOTS | Directly Observed Treatment Strategy |
| IC | Infection Control |
| ICF | Intensified TB Case Finding |
| IPT | Isoniazide (INH) Preventive Treatment |
| ISO | International Organization for Standardization |
| M&E | Monitoring and Evaluation |
| M.TB | Mycobacterium Tuberculosis |
| PEP | Post Exposure Prophylaxis |
| SABS | South African Bureau of Standards |
| SANS | South African National Standard |
| STI | Sexually Transmitted Infection |
| TB | Tuberculosis |
| WEF | World Economic Forum |
| WHO | World Health Organization |



PART A: GENERAL

1. INTRODUCTION

The incidence of HIV remains high in South Africa, despite substantial advancements in its control, particularly among priority populations, women, and critical populations. In South Africa, the percentage of PLHIV was 13,5% in 2022, or over 8 million PLHIV and of these 5,1 million were adult women, 2,7 million were adult men, and 0,2 million children. The efficacy of ART in enhancing survival and lowering mortality across all age categories has kept HIV prevalence steady over the past five years. However, the HIV/AIDS epidemic continues to place heavy burden on women. Compared to 13,1% of men, 24,1% of South African women between the ages of 15 and 49 are HIV-positive. HIV prevalence among pregnant women in South Africa decreased from 27% in 2017 to 23,9% in 2022. Globally, it is noted that South Africa has the largest number of people enrolled on ART programme. According to the most recent data, 94,2% of all PLHIV are aware of their status, and 75% of those who were diagnosed were receiving treatment, translating to 71% ART coverage. 92% of the patients who were receiving treatment had their virology controlled. As a result, the UNAIDS new revised target of 95-95-95 was not achieved at 94-78-89 which is still a challenge for the Country. In the HIV cascade, women and girls do better than HIV-positive men and young people. Adult males and females are 95-80-93 and 94-67-92, respectively, while children under 15 are 81-70-69. There has been marked progress in reducing the number of new HIV infections in South Africa. Data shows that in South Africa, there has been a noticeable decline in the number of new HIV infections.

Different provinces have different HIV prevalence rates. Nearly half of the country's total HIV burden is distributed across the provinces of KwaZulu-Natal and Gauteng. Provinces of Gauteng and KwaZulu-Natal had prevalence rates of 21,8% and 17,6%, respectively. KwaZulu-Natal and Mpumalanga provinces have the top 12 districts with the highest HIV prevalence, while the Western Cape and Northern Cape have the top 12 districts with the lowest prevalence.

When compared to 2010, the HIV incidence decreased by 51% in 2021. In order to have less than 100,000 new HIV infections by the year 2022, South Africa needed to reduce its HIV infection rate by 63%. Adolescent girls and young women account for more than a third (37%) of all new infections, which affect nearly two-thirds of all people (64%) who are infected for the first time.



There is a need to increase an awareness of U=U (undetectable = untransmutable) in the workplace to promote treatment adherence and prevent new infections. The U=U (undetectable = untransmutable) campaign disseminates the evidence that PLHIV who are virally suppressed cannot transmit HIV. The U=U campaign primarily targets the mental, emotional and relational benefits of ART by emphasising viral suppression and addressing HIV transmission fears. The U=U message should be simple and clear, there is great hesitancy in communicating the message even among frontline Health care workers who are aware. There are growing calls to fully endorse the U=U message for dissemination in different communication official channels in SA. Current gaps are mainly in defining approaches for integrating U=U in ART initiation, education and adherence counselling in the workplace and community in large.

Tuberculosis Disease Burden in South Africa

South Africa has achieved strides in its fight against TB, as seen by the decrease in TB incidence and mortality. However, the number of missing cases is still significant, and treatment results are insufficient. HIV and TB infections carry a double burden. In 2021, 53% of TB patients also had HIV, and 89% of these people were already taking ART. Regardless of the improved TB treatment in the country, with two-thirds of all TB infections worldwide, South Africa is one of the ten nations with the highest TB burdens in the world. According to a TB prevalence survey conducted between 2017 and 2019, there were 852 instances of TB per 100,000 people in South Africa. To date, screening and awareness campaigns have been the main focus of TB management in the workplace. In 2020, 328 000 persons were diagnosed with TB, and of these, 3% developed multi-drug resistance (MDR)-TB, making it a significant source of morbidity and mortality. Drug-sensitive (DS)-TB has a 79% treatment success rate, compared to MDR-TB's 65%. 71% of TB patients also had HIV infection, indicating a significant rate of HIV-TB coinfection.

WHO has developed a new six point Stop TB Strategy which builds on the successes of DOTS (Directly Observed Treatment, Short-course) while also explicitly addressing the key challenges facing TB. Furthermore the toolkit on management of TB in the workplace launched by World Economic forum, and the South African Bureau of Standards' (SABS) new standard on workplace management of South African National Standard (SANS 16001) will give specific guidance on occupational interventions of HIV&AIDS and TB management also in the Public Service.



The management of TB is implemented in line with the objectives of the TB Recovery Plan of the National Department of Health which are as follows:

- Create demand for TB testing through advocacy and communication to increase finding undiagnosed TB.
- Accelerate implementation of TUTT (targeted universal TB testing)
- Establish reliable linkage pathways.
- Improve retention in care.
- Strengthen TB prevention.
- Strengthen TB programme in mines.
- Improve TB data systems, governance and accountability

Sexually Transmitted Illnesses

STIs are caused by bacteria or viruses that spread from one infected person to another through sexual contact, most commonly through vaginal contact but also through other types of sexual contact. Additionally, during childbirth, mothers may transfer STIs to their unborn children. When people have sores on their genitals from STIs like Herpes and syphilis, it makes it extra easy for them to contract HIV. This is because the HIV virus can easily enter the blood due to exposed sores. As a result, it's critical that STIs are properly managed and that condoms are constantly used. These infections, which are deadly and can result in infertility, disability, and death, are spread through unprotected intercourse.

Syphilis prevalence has significantly decreased, although gonorrhoea and chlamydia incidence have not much decreased during the previous 30 years. An estimated 4.5 million cases of gonorrhoea, 5.8 million cases of chlamydia, and 70 675 cases of syphilis were reported in 2017.

Over the past five years, the whole adult population's hepatitis B test positivity rate was 6.8%. The incidence and prevalence of HIV, TB, and STIs differ by province and demographic groupings. We describe and provide specialized services to important and other priority populations who are at high risk of disease or have obstacles to accessing services.



Key and other priority populations

| Key populations for HIV and STIs | Key populations for TB | Vulnerable populations for HIV and STIs |
|--|--|--|
| Sex Workers | People living with HIV | Interns and young women |
| Sex Workers and their clients | House hold contacts of TB index patients | Mobile (employees)populations |
| Trans and gender diverse people | Health care Professional/ workers | People with disabilities |
| Men who have sex with men (MSM) | Pregnant women | Lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender and Intersex |
| People who use drugs | Diabetics | Contract employees |
| People in prisons and other closed settings/correctional services. | People living in informal settlements | |
| | Correctional official | |

This Policy serves as a broad guide for government public service organizations in responding to HIV, TB and STIs Management. It provides guidelines to the department on how to implement HIV, TB and STI Management programmes in the world of work as part of the overall employee health and wellness initiatives. The policy should be read in conjunction with the EH&W Strategic Framework (2023), Step- by-Step Implementation Guide, the M&E framework.

2. SCOPE

This policy is applicable to all National and Provincial Departments as contemplated in the Public Service Act 1994 as amended.

3. OBJECTIVES

The objective of this policy is to provide guidance to departments in order to:

- 3.1. Break down barriers to achieving HIV, TB and STIs solutions (so1)
- 3.2. Maximize equitable and equal access to HIV, TB and STIs services and solutions (so2)
- 3.3. Sustain health and wellness through building integrated resilient systems for HIV, TB and STIs (so3)



- 3.4.** Resource and sustain an efficient NSP led by revitalized, inclusive, and accountable institutions (so4)

4. MISSION

4.1 The mission of this policy is to-

- 4.1.1. Provide a normative framework that supports effective operationalization of the following three national strategies: Employee Health and Wellness Strategic Framework 2008 as amended, the HIV, TB and STIs Strategic Plan 2017-2022 and Regulations 55 of the Public Service Regulation 2016 as amended.
- 4.1.2. Ensure compliance to International Conventions, protocols, instruments and national legislation and policies on Occupational Health and Safety and Employee Health and Wellness; and
- 4.1.3. Develop individual and organizational capacity to implement, monitor and evaluate HIV, TB and STIs programmes in the Public Service.

5. PRINCIPLES

The HIV, TB and STIs Management programme is underpinned by the following principles:

5.1 Recognition of HIV, TB and STIs co-infection as a workplace issue

HIV, TB and STIs co-infection is a workplace issue, and should be treated like any other serious illnesses or conditions in the workplace. This is because it affects the workforce, which is also part of the local community. Interventions in the workplace have a role to play in the struggle against the control of spread of the dual epidemic in the general community.

5.2 Respect for human rights and dignity

The rights and dignity of employees infected and affected by HIV, TB and STIs should be respected and upheld.



5.3 Gender equality

The gender dimensions of HIV, TB and STIs and disability should be recognized. Women are more likely to become infected and are more often adversely affected by the HIV&AIDS epidemic than men due to biological, socio-cultural and economic reasons.

5.4 Healthy and safe work environment

Healthy and safe work environments should be created as much as practicably possible to prevent occupational exposure and transmission of HIV and TB.

5.5 Social dialogue

Successful implementation of this policy requires cooperation and mutual trust between employers, employees and their representatives with an active involvement of employees infected and affected by HIV, TB and STIs.

5.6 Confidentiality and protection of employees' personal data

No employee or job-applicant will be expected to disclose HIV-related personal information. Access to personal data relating to an employee's HIV-status shall be bound by the rules of confidentiality, and no employer shall disclose such information without a written consent of the employee.

5.7 Non-discriminatory workplace practices

No medical testing or screening shall be required from job applicants or those in employment for purpose of exclusion from employment or work processes.

5.8 Reasonable accommodation

An employee with HIV-related illnesses, like any other illnesses, will continue to work for as long as he/she is medically fit in an available, appropriate work. The department must accommodate an employee in other posts if possible.

5.9 Appropriateness and cultural sensitivity

Prevention of all means of transmission will be through a variety of appropriate and culturally sensitive prevention strategies.



5.10 Access to information and education

Change of attitudes and behavior should be attained through provision of information, and education, addressing socio-economic factors.

5.11 Equal access to all health entitlements

Access to affordable health care and social security services for employees and their dependents will be promoted.

5.12 Continuity of and partnerships

Continuity of care for people infected and affected by HIV, TB and STI shall be promoted, including linkages with other health centre and well established referral mechanisms.

5.13 Alignment to national protocols

All treatment interventions should be aligned to relevant approved national protocols for treatment, care and support.

6. LEGAL FRAMEWORK

This policy should be read in conjunction with the following instruments:

6.1. INTERNATIONAL INSTRUMENTS UNDERPINNING EHW MANAGEMENT

- 6.1.1. WHO Global Strategy on Occupational Health for All
- 6.1.2. WHO Global Plan of Action on Workers 2008-2017
- 6.1.3. ILO Recommendation 200, of 2010
- 6.1.4. ILO Promotional Framework for Occupational Safety Convention 2006
- 6.1.5. United Nations Millennium Declaration and its Development Goals (MDGs)
- 6.1.6. The International Convention on Population Development 1994 (+10)
- 6.1.7. World Summit on Sustainable Development, Johannesburg 2002

6.2. LEGAL FRAMEWORK FOR EHW MANAGEMENT WITHIN THE PUBLIC SERVICE

- 6.2.1. Basic Conditions of Employment Act, 1997 (Act No. 75 of 1997)
- 6.2.2. Decent Work Country Programme 2010-2014



- 6.2.3. Compensation for Occupational Diseases and Injuries Act, 1993 (Act No.130 of 1993)
- 6.2.4. Constitution of the Republic of South Africa Act, 1996
- 6.2.5. Employment Equity Act, 1998 (Act No. 55 of 1998)
- 6.2.6. National Health Act, 2003 (Act No. 61 of 2003)
- 6.2.7. Labour Relations, 1995 (Act No. 66 of 1995)
- 6.2.8. Occupational Health and Safety Act, 1993 (Act No. 85 of 1993)
- 6.2.9. Promotion of Equality and Prevention of Unfair Discrimination Act, 2000 (Act No.4 of 2000)
- 6.2.10. Public Service Act, 1994 (Proclamation No.103 of 1994)
- 6.2.11. Public Service Regulations, 2016 as amended
- 6.2.12. The Medical Schemes Act, 1998 (Act No. 131 of 1998)
- 6.2.13. Tobacco Products Control Act, 1993 (Act No. 83 of 1993)

6.3. STRATEGIC FRAMEWORKS APPLICABLE TO EH&W WITHIN THE PUBLIC SERVICE

- 6.3.1. HIV, TB and STI National Strategic Plan 2017-2022
- 6.3.2. National TB Infection Control Guidelines, June 2007
- 6.3.3. Technical Assistance Guidelines (TAG) on HIV&AIDS and the World of Work, 2012
- 6.3.4. Code of Good Practice on Key Aspects of HIV&AIDS and the World of Work 2012.

6.4. ECONOMIC AND SOCIAL POLICY, PROGRAMMES AND STRATEGY

- 6.4.1. Presidential Pronouncements and Budget Speech
- 6.4.2. Integrated Development Plans (IDP's)
- 6.4.3. National Development Plan
- 6.4.4. Medium Term Strategic Framework
- 6.4.5. National Spatial Development Strategies
- 6.4.6. Provincial Growth and Development Strategies



7. DEFINITIONS

- 7.1. **“HIV”** stands for **HUMAN IMMUNODEFICIENCY VIRUS**. It is a blood borne virus transmitted amongst human beings. HIV attacks the immune system and once it has rendered it incompetent, a person could develop various illnesses because the body will be too weak to defend itself.
- 7.2. **“AIDS”** stands for **ACQUIRED IMMUNE DEFICIENCY SYNDROME**. AIDS is a condition that is present when the body’s defense system is deficient and various life-threatening infections occur. These life- threatening infections are called opportunistic infections or diseases.
- 7.3. **“TB”** stands for **TUBERCULOSIS**. It is an infection caused by an organism called Mycobacterium Tuberculosis, characterized by fever, loss of weight, night sweat, and fatigue. When the infection is in the lungs the person presents with prolonged cough of more than two weeks.
- 7.4. **“Latent TB/ or TB Infection”** is the state of having a small number of mycobacterium tuberculosis bacilli/bacteria present in the body, that are unable to grow due to control by the immune system.
- 7.5. **“TB disease”** when a person develops symptoms of tuberculosis and is falling sick it is referred to as active TB.
- 7.6. **“Extra Pulmonary TB”** refers to the TB disease affecting other parts of the body outside the lungs and is less infectious than the TB disease which occurs in the lungs.
- 7.7. **“Pulmonary TB”** refers to the TB disease which occurs in the lungs and is easily transmitted through droplets produced during cough and sneezing.
- 7.8. **“TB Preventive Therapy / TB Prophylactic Treatment (TBPT)”** Preventive therapy against TB is the use of one or more anti-tuberculosis drugs given to individuals with latent infection with *M. tuberculosis* in order to prevent the progression to active disease.
- 7.9. **“Isoniazide Preventive Treatment (IPT)”** is the use of an anti-TB drug, isoniazide (INH), in TB preventive treatment. This treatment is effective in providing prevention against TB for up to 18 months period.
- 7.10. **Mainstreaming of HIV&AIDS**
“Mainstreaming AIDS is a process that enables development actors to address the causes and effects of AIDS in an effective and sustained manner, both through their usual work and within their workplace.” (UNAIDS Working definition).



7.10.1. **Mainstreaming can further be described as:**

A process based on a systematic analysis 3 Issues:

- how HIV&AIDS and its underlying (direct and indirect) causes can impact on human capital (employees and management) and core business now and in the future (Impact)
- how policies, decisions and actions might pose a risk to the development of new infections and disease contributing to the HIV&AIDS and TB epidemics (Risk)
- what measures can be taken by government, sectors, institutions, departments, programmes, projects (development actors) to respond effectively to the identified impacts and risks posed by the HIV epidemic.

7.10.2. **Gender sensitive, rights based HIV & AIDS Mainstreaming**

“Gender sensitive, rights based HIV&AIDS Mainstreaming into Public Service and Administration is an institutional development process that enables Public Service and Administration policy makers, implementers and other actors to address the underlying causes and the effects of gender inequality, and Human Rights violation/repression when Mainstreaming HIV&AIDS in an effective and sustained manner both through their usual work (external) and within their workplace (internal)” (DPSA, 2011)

“**The HIV&AIDS,STI and TB Coordinator**” is an employee tasked with the responsibility to coordinate the implementation of HIV&AIDS and TB programmes. The HIV&AIDS Coordinator can be professionally trained to perform therapeutic interventions, if not trained, such cases should be referred.

“**The Head of Department**” means head of a national department, the office of the premier, a provincial department, or a head of a national or provincial component, and includes any employee acting in such post.

“**The Designated Senior Manager**” means any member of the Senior Management Service in line with the provisions of the Public Service Act, 1994, who is tasked with championing the HIV&AIDS,STI and TB management programme within the workplace.

“**The Employee**” means a person appointed in terms of the Public Service Act, 1994 but excludes a person appointed as a special adviser in terms of section 12(A).



“The Health and Safety Committee” is a committee that is established by the HOD to initiate, develop, promote, maintain and review measures to ensure the health and safety of employees at the workplace. Such committee shall be constituted by the employer, health and safety representatives and labor unions.

“The Peer Educator” is an employee who is trained to work with his/her peers, sharing information and guiding a discussion using his/her peer experience and knowledge.

“The Steering Committee” is a committee established by DPSA, for all components of Human Resource Management and Development at provincial and national levels. This Committee serves as a vehicle of coordination, communication, collaboration and consultation of the EH&W programmes.

8. ROLE PLAYERS

This policy involves the following role players and functions:

8.1 The Head of Department shall:

- 8.1.1 Take cognizance of the reality of TB which, together with HIV&AIDS, causes health-related problems for the employee and lowers productivity for the organization as well as contributes to the high attrition rate in South Africa, and ensure effective implementation on intervention of prevention and treatment care and support.
- 8.1.2 As far as it is reasonable, ensure that the management of HIV/AIDS is mainstreamed for employees to access appropriate services in line with the departmental mandate and manage other diseases, injuries, and conditions of employees to ensure efficient, effective and sustainable delivery of services
- 8.1.3 Ensure that the initiatives and interventions included in the policy address the following goals and objectives:
 - (a) The Department of Health’s National TB Infection Control Guidelines, which prescribes the following components of good work practice and administrative control measures:
 - (i) Conducting risk assessment for TB transmission;
 - (ii) An infection control plan;
 - (iii) Administrative support for procedures in the plan, including quality assurance;
 - (iv) Education of patients and increasing community awareness; and
 - (v) Coordination and communication with the TB programme.



- (b) The HIV & AIDS and STI Strategic Plan for South Africa 2012-2016 (NSP), which seeks to reduce the number of new HIV infections by 50% and reduce the impact of HIV&AIDS on individuals, families, communities and society by expanding access to appropriate treatment, care and support to 80% of all people diagnosed with HIV.
- 8.1.4 Establish and maintain a safe and healthy environment for employees of the department.
- 8.1.5 Occupational exposure
- a) Identify units or employees within the department that, due to the nature of their work, are at a high risk of contracting HIV and other related diseases, and take reasonable steps to reduce the risk of occupational exposure to HIV, TB and other diseases.
 - b) Take reasonable steps to facilitate timely access to voluntary counseling and testing, and post-exposure prophylaxis in line with prevailing guidelines and protocols for employees who have been exposed to HIV as a result of an occupational incident;
 - c) If testing referred to in paragraph (b) indicates that an employee has become HIV positive as a result of occupational incident, ensure that an employee is assisted to apply for compensation in terms of the Compensation of Occupational Injuries and Diseases Act, 1993 (Act No 130 of 1993).
- 8.1.6 HIV testing
- a) Encourage voluntary counseling and testing for HIV, TB and other related health conditions and, wherever possible, facilitate access to such services for employees in the department; and
 - b) Ensure that no employee or prospective employee of the department is required to take a HIV (TB or other disease) test unless the Labour Court has declared such testing as justifiable in terms of the Employment Equity Act, 1998 (Act No. 55 of 1998).
- 8.1.7 Non-discrimination
- (a) Ensure that no employee or prospective employee is unfairly discriminated against on the basis of her or his HIV (TB or any other disease) status, or perceived HIV status, in any employment policy or practice; and
 - (b) Take appropriate measures to actively promote non-discrimination and to protect HIV positive employees and employees perceived to be HIV-positive from discrimination.



8.1.8 Confidentiality and disclosure

- (a) Create an environment wherein all employees treat information on an employee's HIV status as confidential and shall not disclose that information to any other person without the employee's written consent; and
- (b) Ensure that employees utilizing the EH&W programme are assured of confidentiality, except in cases of risk to self and others or in terms of legislation.

8.1.9 Ethical Behaviour

- (a) EH&W professionals who are registered with their respective professional bodies will have to adhere to codes of conduct of such bodies as well as the code of conduct of the departments.
- (b) As far as possible the generic principles of respect for autonomy, non-maleficence, beneficence, and distributive justice will guide the actions of policymakers, programme managers, researchers and all professionals working in the field of employee health and wellness.

8.1.10 Health Promotion

- (a) Introduce appropriate education, awareness and prevention programmes on HIV&AIDS, STI and TB and other sexually transmitted infections for the employees in the department and, where possible, their families, and as far as possible, integrate those programmes with programmes that promote the health and well-being of employees;
- (b) Create mechanisms within the workplace to encourage openness, acceptance, care and support for HIV-positive employees. Such mechanisms should preferably form part of a comprehensive employee health and wellness assistance programme or health promotion programme;
- (c) Designate a member of the SMS with adequate skills, seniority and support to implement the provisions contained in regulation 55 of Public Service Regulations, 2016 as amended, within the department, and ensure that the member so designated is held accountable by means of her or his performance agreement for the implementation of the provisions;
- (d) Allocate adequate human and financial resources to implement the provisions of regulation 55 of the Public Service Regulations, 2016, and, where appropriate, form



partnerships with other departments, organizations and individuals who are able to assist with health promotion programmes;

- (e) Establish a HIV, TB and STIs committee for the department with adequate representation and support from all relevant stakeholders, including trade union representatives, to facilitate the effectiveness of the provisions of regulation 55 of the Public Service Regulations, 2016; and
- (f) Ensure that the health promotion programme includes an effective internal communication strategy.

8.1.11 Monitoring and Evaluation

A head of department shall introduce appropriate measures for monitoring and evaluation of the impact of HIV, TB and STIs management programme in the world of work.

8.2 The Designated Senior Manager:

8.2.1 Promote capacity development Initiatives to:

- (a) Promote competence development of practitioners;
- (b) Improve capacity development of auxiliary functions (OD, HR, IR, Skills Development, Change Management, etc.) to assist with HIV, TB and STIs prevention at organizational level; and
- (c) Establish e-Health and HIV, TB and STIs information systems.

8.2.2 Establish organizational support initiatives to:

- a) Structure, strategize, plan and develop holistic HIV, TB and STIs programmes in collaboration with other stakeholders;
- b) Ensure Human Resource planning and management;
- c) Develop integrated HIV, TB and STIs information management system;
- d) Provide physical resources;
- e) Ensure financial planning and budgeting; and
- f) Mobilize management support.

8.2.3 Develop governance and institutional development initiatives i.e.:

- (a) Establish HIV&AIDS and TB Management Steering Committee and obtain Stakeholder commitment and development.
- (b) Manage HIV, TB and STIs strategies and policies, e.g. Prevention, Treatment care and support and Human Rights.



- (c) Align and interface HIV, TB and STIs management policy with other relevant policies and procedures.
 - (d) Develop and implement management standards for HIV, TB and STIs. Develop and implement ethical framework for HIV, TB and STIs Management.
 - (e) Liaise with, manage and monitor external service providers.
 - (f) Develop and maintain an effective communication system.
 - (g) Plan interventions based on risk and needs analysis.
 - (h) Monitor and evaluate implementation of HIV, TB and STIs management interventions.
 - (i) Develop and implement a system for monitoring, evaluation and impact analysis.
- 8.2.4 Develop economic growth and development initiatives, i.e:
- a) Mitigate the impact of HIV, TB and STIs infected employee on the economy.
 - b) Ensure responsiveness to the Government's Programme of Action.
 - c) Ensure responsiveness to the Millennium Development Goals.
 - d) Integrating NEPAD, AU and Global programmes for the economic sector.

8.3. The HIV, TB and STIs Coordinator:

- 8.3.1. Coordinate the implementation of HIV, TB and STIs management programmes, projects and interventions;
- 8.3.2 Plan, monitor and manage workplace HIV, TB and STIs according to strategies, policies and budgetary guidelines;
- 8.3.3 Obtain and make condoms and femidom available at the workplace and provide usage education thereof;
- 8.3.4 Initiate and arrange staff training with regard to HIV, TB and STIs including its relationship;
- 8.3.5 Make provision for counselling to individual employees and to their immediate family members;
- 8.3.6 Identify personal development needs for individual employees;
- 8.3.7 Analyze and evaluate data and communicate information, statistics and results to various stakeholders and management;
- 8.3.8 Coordinate activities of Peer Educators;
- 8.3.9 Promote work-life balance for employees;
- 8.3.10 Provide information regarding nutrition and monitor canteen services;



8.3.11 Oversee the functioning of the gymnasium and other physical and recreational activities at the workplace (if applicable); and

8.3.12 Ensure adherence to universal precautions, which include:

- (i) Displaying universal precaution notices;
- (ii) Provision of condoms and dispensers;
- (iii) Provision of first aid kits;
- (iv) Wearing of latex gloves when administering first aid;
- (v) Washing of hands before administering first aid; and
- (vi) Safe disposal of used materials such as needles etc.

8.4 The Peer Educator:

8.4.1. Act as a focal point for the distribution of evidence-based and generic HIV, TB and STIs promotional material at the workplace;

8.4.2. Take the initiative to implement awareness activities, or to communicate HIV, TB and STIs information at the workplace;

8.4.3. Act as HIV, TB and STIs peer educator in the workplace;

8.4.4. Act as a referral agent of employees to relevant internal or external health support programmes;

8.4.5. Be involved with the identification of employees at risks for TB transmission at the workplace;

8.4.6. Support employees on TB and/or ARV treatment to adhere to treatment (act as DOTS supporter /ARV Buddy); and

8.4.7. Submit monthly reports of activities to the HIV, TB and STIs coordinator.

8.5. The Health and Safety Committee:

8.5.1 Make recommendations to the employer and where the recommendation fails to resolve the matter, make such recommendations as may be necessary to an inspector regarding any matter affecting the health or safety of persons at the workplace or any section thereof for which such committee has been established;

8.5.2 Discuss any incident in the workplace or section thereof in which or consequence of which any person was injured, became ill or died, and may in writing report on the incident to an inspector;



- 8.5.3 Oversee the implementation and monitoring of the HIV, TB and STIs policy and programmes in the workplace, including research activities;
- 8.5.4 Make recommendations to the employer regarding any matter affecting the wellness of employees;
- 8.5.5 Keep records of each recommendation made to an employer; and
- 8.5.6 Ensure adherence to standards as set by legislation, regulations, SANS 16001, International Labour Organization and the Department of Health.

8.6 The Steering Committee :(Interdepartmental Committee (IDC) on HIV, TB and STIs)

- 8.6.1 Establish and harmonize communication of the HIV& AIDS, STI and TB Management Policy at provincial and national levels;
- 8.6.2 Serve as a vehicle of coordination, communication, collaboration, consultation of issues pertaining HIV, TB and STIs; and
- 8.6.3 Create avenues through which collaborative initiatives can be forged and meet Quarterly to discuss HIV, TB and STIs policy matters.

8.7 The Employee should:

- 8.7.1 Take reasonable care for the health and safety of himself and other persons who may be affected by her/his acts or omissions;
- 8.7.2 Obey universal precautions as laid down by his/her employer or any authorized person in the interest of prevention of HIV, TB and STIs;
- 8.7.3 Report as soon as practicable any unhealthy situation which comes to her attention, to the employer or to the HIV, TB and STIs management practitioners for the workplace or section thereof;
- 8.7.4 If involved in any incident which may affect his/her health or which has caused injury to him/herself, report such incident to his/her employer as soon as practicable;
- 8.7.5 Support effective HIV and TB prevention and people living with HIV, TB and STIs to lead healthy and productive lives;
- 8.7.6 Contribute to the mitigation of the impact of HIV, TB and STIs; and
- 8.7.7 Contribute to the enabling of a social environment for care, treatment and support.



8.8 Labour Representatives

- 8.8.1 Represent employees in the workplace;
- 8.8.2 Ensure that the employer fulfills the mandates of Public Service Act, 1994 and the Public Service Regulations, 2016 in order to optimize Management of HIV, TB and STIs in the workplace;
- 8.8.3 Sit in HIV, TB and STIs Steering committee meetings; and
- 8.8.4 Make representation to the employer on agreed issues affecting the health and safety of employees at the work place.

9. FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

The cost associated with the implementation of this policy must be met from the individual department's budget.

10. IMPLEMENTATION

The implementation of this policy will follow a result-based model, outlining HIV, TB and STIs management programme inputs, process, outputs, outcomes and impact indicators. The pillars for the implementation should comprise the four functional pillars as reflected in the strategic plan, namely Prevention; Treatment, Care and Support; Human Rights and Access to Justice; and Research, Monitoring and Surveillance, as well as deliverables to operationalise each pillar and its related activities to achieve those intended deliverables and outcomes leading to the desired impact. Implementation of this policy needs department to develop an efficient and effective M&E system to monitor and review progress and results of the implementation.

11. MONITORING AND EVALUATION

Monitoring and evaluation has a significant role to play in wellness interventions as it assists in assessing whether the programme is appropriate; cost effective and meeting the set objectives. The 12 components of an effective Wellness Management M&E System are indicated below:

- 11.1 Organizational structures with EH&W M&E functions;
- 11.2 Human capacity for EHW M&E;
- 11.3 Partnerships to plan, coordinate, and manage the M&E system;
- 11.4 National multi-sectoral EH&W M&E plan;



- 11.5 Annual costed national EH&W M&E work plan;
- 11.6 Advocacy, communications, and culture for EH&W M&E;
- 11.7 Routine EH&W programme monitoring;
- 11.8 Surveys and surveillance;
- 11.9 National and sub-national EH&W Databases;
- 11.10 Supportive supervision and data auditing;
- 11.11 EH&W evaluation and research; and
- 11.12 Data dissemination and use.

12. REVIEW

This policy shall be reviewed as and when there are new developments or after every five (5) years.



PART B: IMPLEMENTATION OF POLICY OBJECTIVES: BREAK DOWN BARRIERS TO ACHIEVING HIV, TB AND STIS SOLUTIONS (SO1)

1. AIM

The aim of this component of the policy is provide measures to change the behaviour factors that facilitate the spread and impact of HIV, TB and STIs as well as harness and promote protective factors.

2. POLICY PRINCIPLES

See section 5 in Part A above.

3. POLICY MEASURES

3.1. Mainstreamed HIV, TB and STIs and its gender and rights based dimensions,

3.2. Reduce vulnerability of young people.

3.3. Address the physical structural impediments for optimal prevention and treatment of HIV, TB and STIs

3.4. Implement and scale up a package of harm reduction interventions to address the harmful use of alcohol and drugs in all districts.

3.5. Reduce risky behaviour through the implementation of programmes that build resilience of individuals, parents and families.

3.6. Increase access to provision of services for all survivors of sexual and gender-based violence.

3.7. Economically empower targeted groups of young people by increasing the availability of economic opportunities.

4. PROCEDURAL ARRANGEMENT

All procedural arrangements for implementation will be the same as identified for the role of the designated senior manager in PART A paragraph 8.2 of this policy. This policy will be implemented further in accordance with the Implementation Guide in Annexure B.



**PART C: IMPLEMENTATION OF POLICY OBJECTIVES:
MAXIMIZE EQUITABLE AND EQUAL ACCESS TO HIV, TB AND STIS SERVICES AND SOLUTIONS (SO2)**

1. AIM

It include increasing knowledge and attitudes that promote the uptake of HIV prevention interventions, optimizing the implementation of high-impact HIV prevention interventions and ensuring that South Africa meets the 95-95- 95 targets for HIV.

2. POLICY PRINCIPLES

See Section 5 in Part A above

3. POLICY MEASURES

- 3.1. Maximized opportunities for testing and screening.
- 3.2. Increase knowledge, attitudes, and behaviours that promote HIV prevention
- 3.3. Reduce new infections by optimizing the implementation of high impact HIV prevention interventions.
- 3.4. Scale up STI prevention by providing high quality health
- 3.5. Strengthen TB diagnosis and support for people with TB, and accelerate the scale-up of innovative processes, diagnostic tools and regimens for the diagnosis, treatment, and care for PWTB.

4. PROCEDURAL ARRANGEMENT

All procedural arrangements for implementation will be the same as identified for the role of the designated senior manager in PART A paragraph 8.2 of this policy. This policy will be implemented further in accordance with the Implementation Guide in Annexure B.



**PART D: IMPLEMENTATION OF POLICY OBJECTIVES:
SUSTAINING HEALTH AND WELLNESS THROUGH BUILDING INTEGRATED RESILIENT SYSTEMS FOR
HIV, TB AND STIS (SO3)**

1. AIM

The COVID-19 epidemic has demonstrated the importance of robust, resilient, and adaptive systems in provision of health services, including HIV, TB and STIs programmes.

2. POLICY PRINCIPLES

See section 5 in Part A above

3. POLICY MEASURES

- 3.1. Reducing disability and death resulting from HIV, STI s and TB
- 3.2. Integrate and standardize delivery and access to mental health services
- 3.3. Maintain optimal health and wellness for people with HIV , STIs and TB
- 3.4. Ensure systems and services remain responsive to the needs of people with HIV and TB.
- 3.5. Strengthen workplace HIV, TB, and STIs responses.
- 3.6. Improve STI detection, diagnosis and treatment
- 3.7. Strengthen adherence counselling.

4. PROCEDURAL ARRANGEMENT

All procedural arrangements for implementation will be the same as identified for the role of the designated senior manager in PART A paragraph 8.2 of this policy. This policy will be implemented further in accordance with the Implementation Guide in Annexure B.



**PART E: IMPLEMENTATION OF POLICY OBJECTIVES:
RESPONSE TO HIV, TB AND STIS IN HUMAN RIGHTS PRINCIPLES AND APPROACHES
RESOURCE AND SUSTAIN AN EFFICIENT NSP LED BY REVITALIZED, INCLUSIVE, AND
ACCOUNTABLE INSTITUTIONS (SO4)**

1. AIM

The aim is to reduce externalised and internalised stigma among people living with HIV and TB by at least 50%. Also address leadership, governance and financing of the EHW programme in the workplace.

2. POLICY PRINCIPLES

See Section 5 under Part A above

3. POLICY MEASURES

- 3.1. Reduce stigma and discrimination among people living with HIV or TB by half by 2028.
- 3.2. Facilitate access to justice and redress for people living with, and vulnerable to, HIV and TB.
- 3.3. Promote an environment that enables and protects human and legal rights and prevents stigma and discrimination.

4. PROCEDURAL ARRANGEMENT

All procedural arrangements for implementation will be the same as identified for the role of the designated senior manager in PART A paragraph 8.2 of this policy. This policy will be implemented further in accordance with the Implementation Guide in Annexure B.

ADDENDUM TO THE POLICY

This information in the table is provided to equip the EH&W Practitioners with understanding of the different stages of HIV Infection as outlined by the World Health Organization (WHO). The section provides information on the implications for workplace intervention at each stage of the disease progress.



PART F: POLICY ANNEXES/TOOLS

- ✓ ANNEXURE B: SYSTEMS MONITORING TOOL (Assess HIV&AIDS and TB Management Systems)
- ✓ ANNEXURE C: GENERIC IMPLEMENTATION PLAN (Assess HIV&AIDS and TB Management Processes)
- ✓ ANNEXURE D: GSRB HIV&AIDS AND TB MAINSTREAMING GUIDELINES (Assess the national priorities, departmental risks and impacts, and develop departmental operational plan)
- ✓ ANNEXURE E: HIV&AIDS AND TB M&E PLAN
- ✓ ANNEXURE F: HIV&AIDS as a Psychosocial Stressor (see SOLVE Guidelines and related booklets).