

HIV Cure

Our ambition: an HIV cure for everyone, everywhere

We invest in science, strengthen partnerships, and advocate for a cure that is accessible to all people living with HIV.

- > 40.9 million**

people were living with HIV worldwide in 2025.

- > 32.1 million**

were accessing antiretroviral therapy, about 78% of all people living with HIV. Treatment controls HIV but does not eliminate it.

- > €6M+ invested since 2018**

by Aidsfonds in HIV cure research and partnerships

Why cure still matters

“It is mind-blowing, I never thought in my lifetime I would be cured of HIV. I felt I had won the lottery. When I was diagnosed with cancer, I received compassion and love, whilst in the years I was living with HIV I kept it a secret, because with HIV you get hate and shame.”

– Adam Castillejo, the London Patient

Adam Castillejo, the London Patient, was diagnosed with HIV at 23. After later receiving a stem cell transplant for life-threatening cancer, he became the second person reported cured of HIV.



Lifelong treatment

HIV can be controlled, but not yet eliminated

Unequal and fragile access

Treatment depends on sustained access to medicines and care.

Life beyond viral suppression

People continue to experience stigma, uncertainty, and long-term health challenges.

Barriers to cure

The challenge is not only finding a cure, but making it durable, developable, scalable, and accessible.

Efficacy

Many HIV cure approaches still need stronger evidence on durability, safety, reservoir targeting and whether the intervention can achieve meaningful remission.

Delivery and Scalability

Future cure options must be feasible to manufacture, finance and deliver, including in high-burden and resource-limited contexts

Clinical and Regulatory Uncertainty

The field still lacks aligned endpoints, validated reservoir measures, clear trial pathways, and long-term follow-up standards

Investing in cure science

Investing in pioneering HIV cure research

Since 2018, Aidsfonds has supported HIV cure research across fundamental, translational, clinical and social science – while strengthening early-career researchers, African Sciences and Europe-Africa collaborations.

From €6M committed to €17.5M mobilised

Aidsfonds' €6M commitment has helped mobilise an estimated €11.5M in additional support through strategic partnerships, co-funded calls and follow-on grants – expanding the total HIV cure portfolio to approximately **€17.5M**.

“I am confident a cure will be found and that it will happen in my lifetime. My biggest motivation is all those young people who have died. One out of four people with HIV do not have access to treatment. A cure is the only way out. My promise to people with HIV is that I will do anything to find a cure.”



– Anne Wensing, MD, PhD is a Clinical Virologist at the University Medical Center Utrecht, Netherlands

Shaping an equitable global HIV cure research ecosystem

Advocating for sustained HIV cure commitment in EU and global policy agenda

> **Community voices at the center**

Ensuring people living with HIV helps shape research priorities and definitions of an acceptable cure.

> **Political and funding commitment**

Advocating for HIV cure to remain visible in global policy and financing discussions.

> **Equity and access from the start**

Promoting cure approaches that are relevant, affordable and deliverable in high-burden countries, not only in wealthy settings.

EU - Africa Collaboration

Strengthening HIV cure research through EU-Africa collaboration and emerging scientific leadership

SPIRAL

EU-Africa cure consortium focused on HIV-1 subtypes and populations that have been underrepresented in cure research.

“These studies must be conducted within the African context because there is a significant gap in research here. The scientific foundations of current interventions are incomplete, as previous research has largely bypassed this region. SPIRAL aims to fill this crucial gap in knowledge by focusing on locally relevant evidence.”



– Prof. Thumbi Ndung'u, Director for Basic and Translational Science, Africa Health Research Institute (AHRI), South Africa

Unlocking catalytic financing

Mobilising new capital

Attract philanthropic, public, and impact-investment partners beyond traditional research grants.

Development of the HIV cure Impact Fund

A proposed blended-finance platform combining a grant-funded incubator for early-stage cure and remission approaches with an impact investment fund for more mature opportunities – helping promising science move toward product development, clinical readiness, and equitable access.

Join Us!

Partner with us

Bring scientific, community, policy, development or investment expertise to build partnerships, financing, and access pathways needed for an equitable HIV cure

Invest in the next steps

Support the set-up phase to move from concept to implementation of the HIV Cure Impact Fund

For follow-up

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