



# IAEA

*Atoms for Peace: The First Half Century*

1957-2007

## Supporting the UNAIDS-WHO African Aids Vaccine Programme

### *The challenge...*

The HIV/AIDS epidemic is a major public health challenge for Africa. HIV is a major killer of children less than 5 years of age. Ninety-five per cent of the individuals infected live in low income countries, making the affordability of treatment very difficult.

### *The project...*

The IAEA has combined efforts with WHO-AFRO, the African AIDS Vaccine Programme (AAVP) and UNAIDS by providing equipment, reagents and training to local reference laboratories. Training focuses on obtaining information about genotypes, which is important for deriving an effective vaccine against HIV. This approach offers the best long-term method for controlling the HIV/AIDS pandemic.

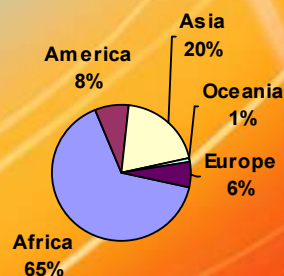
Additionally, using sensitive nuclear techniques in molecular biology, it is possible to evaluate vaccine efficacy and detect the early appearance of drug-resistant strains of HIV.



### *The impact...*

The five participating countries (Cameroon, Ethiopia, Kenya, South Africa and Uganda) have established a network of laboratories to provide information to national programmes aimed at controlling HIV.

Persons living with AIDS - 40 million (WHO 2006)



Deaths due to AIDS - 2.9 million (WHO 2006)

