

## Why GAO Did This Study

U.S. assistance through the President's Emergency Plan for AIDS Relief (PEPFAR) has helped provide treatment, care, and prevention services overseas to millions affected by HIV/AIDS. In 2008, Congress reauthorized PEPFAR with the Tom Lantos and Henry J. Hyde United States Global Leadership Against HIV/AIDS, Tuberculosis, and Malaria Reauthorization Act of 2008 (2008 Leadership Act). The act requires the Department of State's Office of the U.S. Global AIDS Coordinator (OGAC) to report to Congress annually on PEPFAR performance. The U.S. Agency for International Development (USAID) and the Health and Human Services (HHS) Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) also report on PEPFAR program performance. Responding to legislative directives, GAO (1) described key procedures for planning and reporting on PEPFAR performance and (2) examined published PEPFAR performance plans and reports. GAO analyzed performance management documents and interviewed officials at OGAC, USAID, and CDC.

## What GAO Recommends

GAO recommends that OGAC include in its annual report to Congress (1) comparisons of annual PEPFAR results with established targets and (2) information on efforts to verify and validate PEPFAR performance data and address data limitations. OGAC partially agreed with the first recommendation, pending discussions with stakeholders about implementation issues and consequences, and agreed with the second recommendation.

View [GAO-11-785](#) or key components. For more information, contact David Gootnick at (202) 512-3149 or [gootnickd@gao.gov](mailto:gootnickd@gao.gov).

# PRESIDENT'S EMERGENCY PLAN FOR AIDS RELIEF

## Program Planning and Reporting

## What GAO Found

Officials in several offices and divisions in OGAC, USAID, and CDC coordinate and manage PEPFAR program planning and reporting procedures at headquarters and in PEPFAR countries and regions. These procedures, which include PEPFAR-wide annual operational planning and periodic results reporting, support internal agency-specific program management as well as provide information for external reporting on PEPFAR results.

OGAC, USAID, and CDC publicly issued plans and reports on PEPFAR performance in recent years consistent with 2008 Leadership Act requirements and GPRA practices; however, two key elements are lacking. First, although OGAC has internally specified annual performance targets, its most recent annual reports to Congress did not identify these targets or compare annual results with them. According to the 2008 Leadership Act, OGAC's annual reports on PEPFAR program results must include an assessment of progress toward annual goals and reasons for any failure to meet these goals. In addition, the Government Performance and Results Act (GPRA) of 1993 calls for federal agency performance reports to compare program results with established targets. Performance documents published by USAID, jointly with State, and by CDC report program targets and results for two and four PEPFAR indicators, respectively. (See figure.) Second, OGAC's most recently published performance plans and reports do not provide information on efforts to validate and verify reported data, while USAID's and CDC's published performance documents cite such efforts by OGAC. In addition, none of the plans or reports refers to noted data reliability weaknesses or efforts to address these weaknesses. GPRA and prior GAO work emphasize the importance of providing information in public performance documents on data verification and other efforts to address identified weaknesses.

**PEPFAR Indicators, Targets, and Results in OGAC, USAID, and CDC Performance Plans and Reports, Fiscal Year 2010**

Agency or office	OGAC	USAID	CDC
Indicators used	5	2	4
Specifies targets	No	Yes	Yes
Reports results	Yes	Yes	Yes
Compares results with targets	No	Yes	Yes

Source: GAO analysis of OGAC, State, USAID, and CDC information.