

An Advocate's Checklist for Lenacapavir for PrEP Introduction

May 2026

Background:

The [lenacapavir \(LEN\) for PrEP](#) landscape has shifted from anticipation to early implementation. With WHO having released guidelines in July 2025, and Global Fund & PEPFAR supporting an [initial 12 early adopter countries](#) as of February 2026, with ten more planned, the focus has moved towards procurement, site readiness, improved demand forecasting and generation, and accelerating introduction in anticipation of generics in 2027.

A [comprehensive tracking tool of global efforts is online here](#) and is continuously updated. In addition, [country-specific updates are here](#).

This checklist provides a set of immediate steps to move LEN for PrEP introduction forward:



Regulatory & Policy Alignment

- Update National Guidelines: Ensure LEN is not just “approved” but formally integrated into the National HIV Prevention Guidelines and Method Mix, alongside oral PrEP, injectable cabotegravir (CAB-LA) and the Dapivirine Vaginal Ring (DVR).
- Push for inclusion of HIV self-testing in LEN guidance.
- Address Licensing Gaps: If your country is excluded from the Gilead voluntary license (VL), advocate for government use of compulsory licensing or direct procurement negotiations where appropriate to ensure access before 2027.



Financing & Procurement (The “3 Million in 3 Years” Target)

- Pressure-test PEPFAR/Global Fund Commitment: The joint commitment to reach 3 million people by 2028 is described as a floor not a [ceiling](#).
 - If your country is among the “Early Adopter” expansion (now at 24 countries) to secure 2026-27 supply, be sure robust demand forecasts are developed and GC8 concept notes incorporate funding for both procurement and programs.
 - If your country is not among the early adopter list, advocate with your Ministry of Health, Global Fund CCM and/or the US Embassy to push for inclusion and supply.
- Target Setting for 2026-2028: Use the [current PrEP data in your country](#) and tools like [PrEP-It](#) to [set ambitious LEN targets](#) based on current CAB-LA and oral PrEP uptake data, ensuring LEN adds to, rather than replaces, prevention choices. Where low historical uptake was driven by daily oral dosing burden rather than stigma or low demand, manually adjust LEN targets upward; the PrEP-it tool alone will underestimate the influx of new users attracted to a long-acting injectable.
- Clarify Population Priorities: Demand programs allow for broad availability of LEN, including young women and adolescent girls and pregnant and breastfeeding people and all key and vulnerable populations.

- Advocate for a time-limited, volume-capped humanitarian procurement mechanism sitting alongside the Global Fund channel, not replacing it. This mechanism will expand access to populations such as refugees, internally displaced persons, etc. who currently fall outside existing procurement structures.



Supply Chain & Site Readiness

- Map Implementation Sites: Use the [PrEP Site Implementation and New Product Readiness Assessment Tool](#) to identify which facilities are ready to handle a twice-yearly injectable.
- Monitor “Real Access” vs. Commitments: Track orders that have gone to the Global Fund and which shipments have actually reached central warehouses.
- Identify Bottlenecks: Contact the Ministry of Health, PrEP programme implementers and technical assistance providers (supported by Unitaid, CIFF and PEPFAR) to ensure training for healthcare workers is funded and inclusive.



Demand Generation & Community Leadership

- Define the “Ideal Scale-Up”: Work with community groups to define what a successful introduction looks like (e.g., “no-wait” appointments, community-led delivery, health service integration).
- Combat “Slow Roll-out” Narratives: Push back against messaging that suggests programs must wait for generic supplies in 2027. Demand access to the “no-profit” Gilead supply immediately. Collaborate with country teams/economists to quantify the cost of delay in real numbers—specifically, the number of preventable HIV infections occurring per quarter of delay.
- Integrate into ongoing “Choice Campaigns”: Ensure demand generation does not “silo” LEN. It should be marketed within a comprehensive Prevention Choice framework such as the [HIV Prevention 2030 Access Framework](#) and [The Choice Manifesto](#).
- Identify demand generation targets that speak to supply/volume; coordinate and align demand generation efforts by CSOs across projects and funders. Integrate LEN for PrEP into demand generation campaigns for prevention. Work with Ministries of Health, community groups and others to implement cohesive campaigns.
- Track [implementation science](#) projects:
 - If there is a project in your country, what specific questions is it seeking to address? Are there additional questions to ask? Is there a clear connection and/or pathway to the studies influencing programmatic rollout in real-time?
 - If there isn’t a project in your country, is there a need for one?

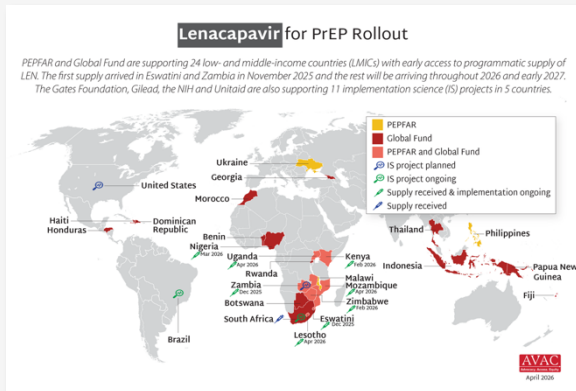


Accountability & Monitoring

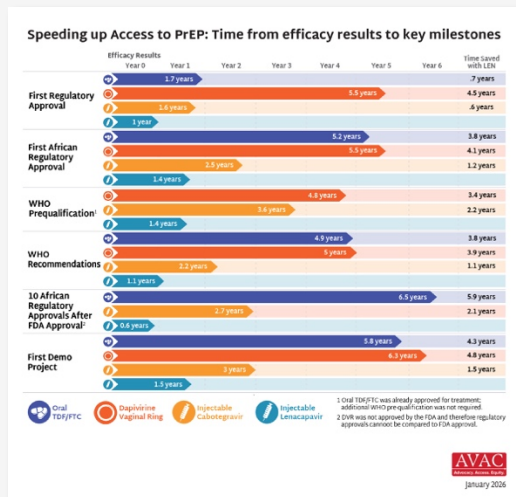
- Formalize CSO Roles: Secure a seat for Civil Society on the National Technical Working Groups (TWG), specifically for the “Long-Acting PrEP” sub-committees.
- Track Generic Timelines: Coordinate with global coalitions to monitor the six licensed generic manufacturers. Advocate for manufacturers to publish their regulatory dossier submission dates per country and increase transparency in their [regulatory approval timelines](#) to ensure a 2027 market entry.

- Community-Led Monitoring (CLM): Empower local advocates to track stock-outs and document access barriers (e.g. providers only offering LEN to certain groups) disaggregated by population group, facility type and geography.
- Strengthen CSO coordination: Integrate LEN advocacy into national PrEP dialogues with representation across funders and projects (e.g. CASPR, Health GAP, UNDP Key Pop projects, GBGMC, Aidsfonds' EmpowHER projects, EJAF-supported CHAI advocacy, COMPASS, etc.).

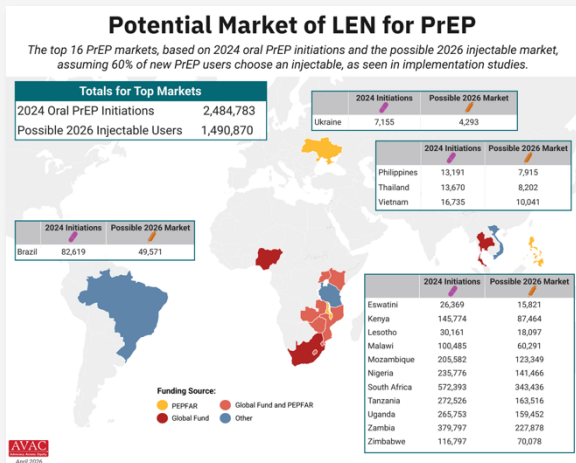
Additional Resources



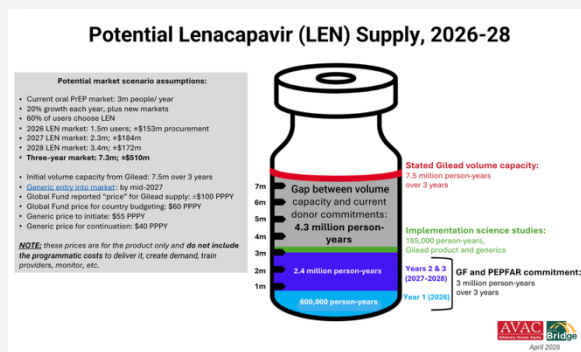
LEN for PrEP Rollout



Speeding up Access to PrEP



Potential Market of LEN for PrEP



Potential LEN Supply, 2026-28

This guide was created by the Civil Society Caucus as part of the Coalition to Accelerate Access to Long-Acting HIV PrEP, convened by the Global Fund, PEPFAR, Unitaid, UNAIDS and WHO, with AVAC as the Secretariat. For more information on the CS Caucus and the Coalition, visit www.prepwatch.org/coalition-long-acting-prep/. AVAC is an international non-profit organization that leverages its independent voice and global partnerships to accelerate ethical development and equitable delivery of effective HIV prevention options, as part of a comprehensive and integrated pathway to global health equity. Find more at www.avac.org and www.prepwatch.org.