The USAID | Health Policy Initiative, Task Order 1, developed several HIV modeling tools that can be used for various HIV and AIDS policy development and implementation exercises. The tools are user-friendly Excel- or Windows-based models that can be used to help in-country partners understand the magnitude of health challenges, explore policy and resource options, and set priorities.

The HIV modeling tools are designed to answer many questions, including “what if” questions related to resources, healthcare providers and services, and service coverage. The “what if” refers to factors that can be changed or influenced by public policy. This brief presents a summary of each HIV costing tool included in this package.
Spectrum System of Policy Models

Spectrum is a Windows-based system of integrated policy models that includes HIV, family planning, and reproductive health tools. Spectrum includes the following HIV-related models:

**AIDS IMPACT MODEL**
- Uses assumptions about adult HIV prevalence to project the consequences of the HIV epidemic, including the number of people living with HIV, new infections, and AIDS-related deaths by age and sex.
- Projects the demographic and social impacts of AIDS, new tuberculosis cases, and children orphaned by AIDS.

**GOALS MODEL**
- Estimates the resources required to implement specific interventions to achieve national goals, such as the reduction of HIV prevalence and expansion of HIV treatment, care, and support.
- Can enhance strategic planning by bringing together information on costs and evidence of program impacts as they relate to trends in a country’s HIV epidemic.

**Capacity Module**

The Capacity Module is an Excel-based tool that estimates the human resources required to effectively reach a specific number of individuals with various interventions. It was developed in conjunction with the Goals Model.

**Male Circumcision Decision Makers’ Program Planning Tool**

This tool can help policymakers understand and plan for the potential cost and impact of various options for scaling up male circumcision (MC) services. It can be used to:
- Calculate the cost of MC services by mode of delivery (e.g. hospital, clinic, mobile van);
- Estimate the impact of MC on the HIV epidemic;
- Examine the potential cost and impact of MC by varying coverage levels and speed of scale-up; and
- Estimate HIV incidence and prevalence, number of AIDS-related deaths, overall costs, and net cost per HIV infection averted as a function of the number of MCs performed.

**Resource Needs Model**

This Excel-based tool is used to calculate the total resources needed at national and district levels to inform budgeting and strategic planning efforts by estimating:
- The resources needed to achieve expected coverage of specific population groups; and
- Possible implications of extending interventions and coverage and introducing unit cost changes.

When used with the Goals Model, it can support strategic planning by linking program goals and funding.


**Workplace Policy Builder**

This interactive software program uses a participatory approach to guide companies and organizations through a step-by-step process of writing an HIV workplace policy.