

## **Box 1.1 The Multi-Country HIV/AIDS Program (MAP) for Africa**

The HIV/AIDS epidemic now poses the paramount threat to development in Sub-Saharan Africa. About 25 million adults and children are living with HIV/AIDS, as estimated by the Joint United Nations Programme on HIV/AIDS (December 2000). Some 17 million have already died from the disease, which may be costing the region 0.5 percent to 1.2 percent of per capita growth each year, with losses likely to grow.

In collaboration with partners (see page 103), the Bank launched in September 2000 the Multi-Country HIV/AIDS Program (MAP) for Africa—the first of its kind. Under MAP, flexible and rapid funding will be committed, on IDA terms, to individual HIV/AIDS projects developed by countries.

- The MAP seeks to dramatically increase access—especially by vulnerable groups—to HIV/AIDS prevention, care, and treatment programs.
- Communities and associations of people affected by HIV/AIDS will help design and implement activities and will control resources.
- Countries benefiting from the MAP in fiscal 2001 include Cameroon, Eritrea, Ethiopia, The Gambia, Ghana, Kenya, and Uganda.
- An initial amount of \$500 million covers the first of three phases. Phase 1 (expected to be fully committed by the end of calendar 2001) aims to help as many countries as possible intensify action against HIV/AIDS and cope with the unprecedented burdens of the epidemic. Phases 2 and 3, respectively, will stress mainstreaming and prevention.
- The MAP aims ultimately to avert millions of HIV infections, alleviate suffering for tens of millions, and protect the development prospects of entire nations.