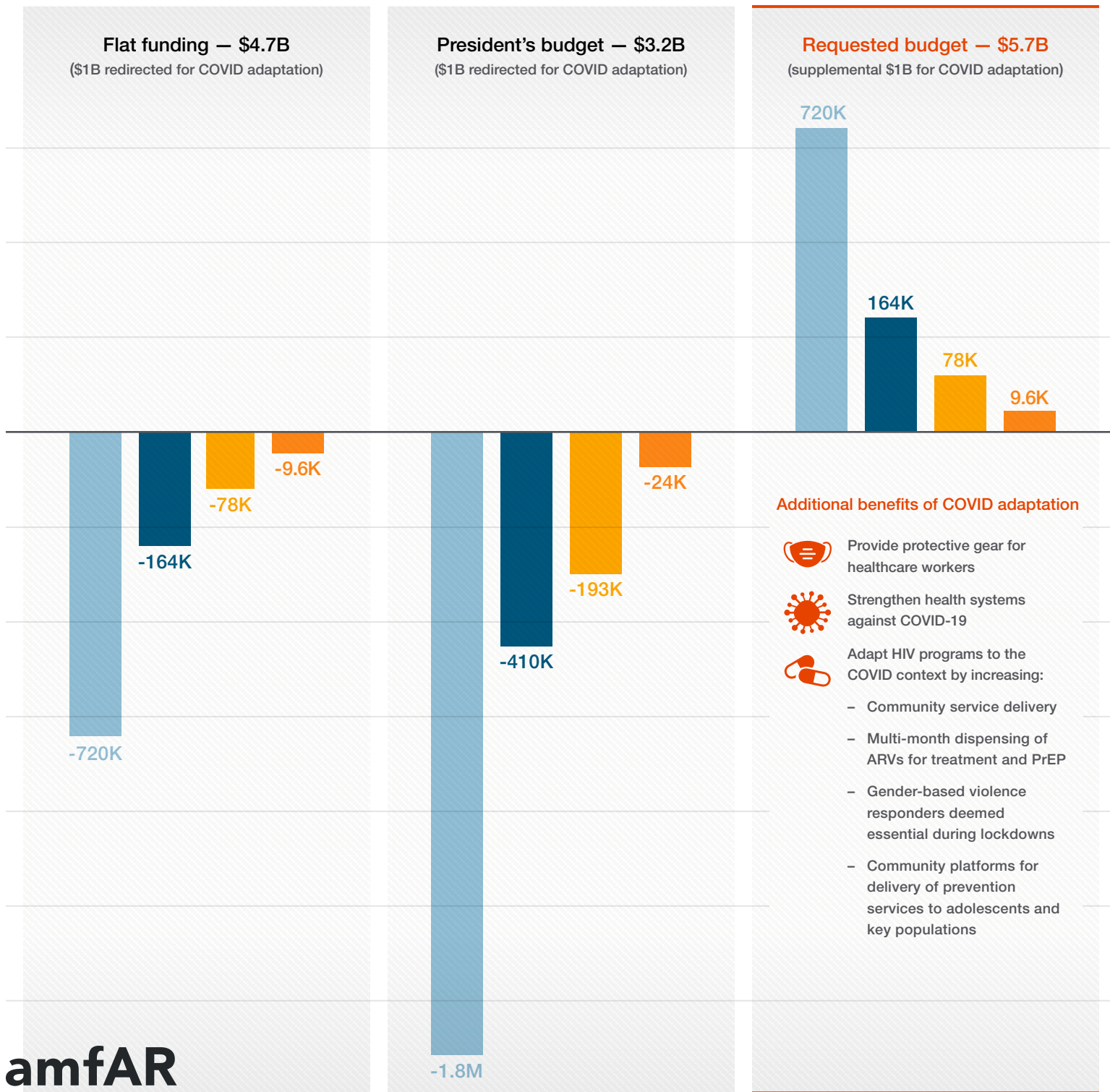


# PEPFAR in the Age of COVID-19: The Human Impact of the Unmet Gap and the Need for Supplemental Funding

The U.S. government's efforts to fight the global AIDS pandemic through both the President's Emergency Plan for AIDS Relief (PEPFAR) and the Global Fund have been transformative in saving lives, preventing disease, and strengthening health systems. But the COVID-19 pandemic has meant needing to make costly program adaptations in order to maintain these gains, and PEPFAR faces a budget hole of \$1 billion as a result. This shortfall alone threatens hard-won progress against HIV, potentially resulting in thousands of HIV treatment disruptions, new infections, and preventable AIDS-related deaths. Instead of providing additional resources to address these urgent needs, the Administration has proposed cuts that would decrease funding to PEPFAR by a further \$1.52 billion in Fiscal Year 2021.

**PEPFAR needs a supplemental \$1 billion to adapt its lifesaving programs and avert the known harms of COVID-19.**



### Additional benefits of COVID adaptation

- Provide protective gear for healthcare workers
- Strengthen health systems against COVID-19
- Adapt HIV programs to the COVID context by increasing:
  - Community service delivery
  - Multi-month dispensing of ARVs for treatment and PrEP
  - Gender-based violence responders deemed essential during lockdowns
  - Community platforms for delivery of prevention services to adolescents and key populations