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Financing HIV/AIDS responses in Africa: impact evidence from Uganda

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ABSTRACT Although HIV/AIDS has been tamed medically into a chronic disease through advances

in treatment drugs, the full economic costs of keeping people on treatment and implementing

prevention measures are still not fully quantified and are still unfolding. This paper assesses the long-

term economic impact of domestic and external sources of financing HIV responses using a dynamic

computable general equilibrium model. Taking Uganda as a case study for analysis, our study shows

that increasing government HIV funding facilitates higher GPD growth and lower government debt

relative to the baseline. Earmarked taxes and foreign-aid are potential sources of fiscal space for HIV.

Keywords: Economic Development; HIV/AIDS; HIV financing; Computable General Equilibrium;

Sub-Saharan Africa; Uganda

JEL classification: D580, I130, 011

1 Introduction

Despite remaining a major killer in Africa, the HIV pandemic has been tamed medically into

a chronic disease through advances in treatment drugs – antiretroviral therapies (ARTs). However, the

full economic costs, over a lifecycle horizon, of keeping people on treatment and implementing

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