AIDSTAR II
PARTNER STRENGTHS

Broad Branch Associates (BBA)
Networking & linkages between organizations, knowledge management, performance-based financing, social insurance

Emerging Markets Group (EMG)
Financial, operational & procurement management, governance & transparency, HIV co-infections, public-sector reform

Health & Development Africa, Ltd. (HDA)
Public-private partnerships, Global Fund support, monitoring & evaluation, capacity-building, HIV research & policy

Initiatives Inc.
Public-private partnerships, agency coordination, linking NGOs to the public health care system, organizational capacity-building, human resource management, NGO training

International HIV/AIDS Alliance
Capacity-building of local NGOs, grant program development, organization and mobilization of vulnerable groups

Management Sciences for Health (MSH)
Technical leadership & institutional capacity-building at national & local levels, strengthening the management capacity of Global Fund country-level institutions, human capacity development, program design & evaluation, service performance assessment

Save the Children Federation, Inc. (SCF)
Community models & partnerships for prevention & care, multisectional responses, capacity-building, strategies for pediatric outcomes, prevention among high-risk youth, data collection & dissemination

World Conference of Religions for Peace (WCRP)
Coordinated faith-based organization response to HIV & AIDS, interreligious network mobilization, stigma & discrimination reduction

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MSH Partners Build the Capacity of Integrated HIV & AIDS Programs

MSH Team Expands Its PEPFAR support

AIDSTAR II represents an exciting opportunity to create lasting change in health organizations and the lives of hundreds of thousands of people. The MSH team is committed to working with partners and local networks, organizations, and staff to extend PEPFAR’s reach and impact by helping to improve and scale up HIV & AIDS services around the world. We have a proven track record with building sustainable health systems, including addressing organizational bottlenecks that hamper implementation.

As the only organization leading both AIDSTAR I and II teams, MSH and our AIDSTAR partners are able to provide a full range of integrated, comprehensive HIV & AIDS services. We work with our local partners to build knowledge and skills in leadership, management, and governance to increase their ability to effectively and efficiently implement programs today, as well as plan for long-term sustainability tomorrow. Our shared goal is to lower infection rates, improve health, and save lives.

ESTABLISHED PARTNERS WITH LOCAL NETWORKS ENABLE RAPID RESPONSE

The MSH team has offices, staff, and strong, local networks in 50 countries. We also have well-established relationships with PEPFAR, the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, USAID, and other organizations addressing public health and institutional capacity-building issues. With our global reach and understanding of our partners’ needs, the MSH team can engage quickly with local stakeholders—many with whom we already work.

We have experience in working closely with national and local government institutions; nongovernmental, faith-based, and civil society organizations; and Global Fund country-level institutions. We know their operations, challenges, and opportunities for improvement.
AIDSTAR—the AIDS Support and Technical Resources Program—Sector Two is a multiple-award indefinite quantity contract with six prime contractors. The award offers USAID missions, other US government agencies, host governments, and the global fund access to HIV-related capacity-building services in resource-constrained settings worldwide. AIDSTAR Sector Two can be accessed through a fair consideration process from either headquarters or field missions. The contract office will make a competitive final award, selected among the six prime contractors. For more information on utilizing technical services through AIDSTAR Sector Two, please contact Christian Fung, the Cognizant Technical officer, at +1 202.712.0488 or cfung@usaid.gov, or Shyami de Silva at +1 202.712.0856 or sdesilva@usaid.gov.

MSH leads expert teams for both AIDSTAR I and II, offering integrated services to achieve both institutional capacity-building and service delivery goals, thereby maximizing long-term sustainability.

The MSH team combines expertise in financial and other key management systems; strategic operational, business, and program planning; human capacity development and resource management; and information management with professional program monitoring and evaluation—creating efficient, cost-effective, and productive management and health systems.

Our partners draw upon an extended global presence and established relationships to initiate and support networking and linkages among those involved in HIV & AIDS activities to leverage resources and optimize outcomes.

MSH team partners have worked to improve the governance, capacity, and management systems of numerous country-level Global Fund institutions.

Our team combines technical expertise in HIV & AIDS with field-tested tools and innovative approaches that enhance leadership and knowledge management through technical assistance, training, and e-learning.

BUILDING KNOWLEDGE AND SKILLS CREATES LASTING IMPACT

Building the knowledge base and skills of organizations and institutions is necessary for capacity-building to be successful and sustainable. The MSH team has extensive experience in providing direct technical assistance, as well as virtual support, in management and leadership capacity-building, management systems, program monitoring and coordination, knowledge management, networking and establishing linkages among partners, and technical leadership in HIV & AIDS. We draw on an array of evidence-based strategies, tools, and best practices to support our local partners in developing efficient, cost-effective, and sustainable health systems.

A COMPREHENSIVE, LOCAL APPROACH

Decades of global health experience enable us to adapt and apply successful strategies, at all service levels, which meet the needs of different countries. The MSH team has proven ability in developing and using local expertise and resources and responding in a sensitive way to cultural dynamics and institutional barriers, promoting the broad acceptance necessary to support organizational change. We have designed strategies to reach key groups such as orphans and vulnerable children and high-risk youth, address gender and discrimination issues, and form partnerships with faith-based organizations.

We know how to work with local institutions to develop and sustain multisectoral partnerships and establish links among these organizations to create a shared vision. Our comprehensive approach fosters local ownership, solidifies gains, and promotes cooperation to meet HIV & AIDS challenges.

Through AIDSTAR II, the MSH team looks forward to continuing our mission of building strong institutions while improving and expanding integrated HIV & AIDS services and programs in low-resource countries around the world.

For more information, please contact Joy Kolin, at +1 617.250.9500 or jkolin@msh.org.

SUCCESS STORIES

STRENGTHENING SERVICES THROUGH NETWORKS

Through the Umoyo Network for Capacity Building for Quality HIV/AIDS Services project in Malawi, SCF provides a comprehensive package of support to at least 15 local non-governmental organizations that provide key HIV-related services (voluntary counseling and testing, community outreach for prevention, reduction of mother to child transmission). This project facilitates networks and partnerships among Malawi’s community-based organizations and increases their effectiveness in service delivery. SCF is implementing the Umoyo Umbrella program in partnership with the Malawi National AIDS Commission and other organizations to reach hundreds of local organizations to strengthen HIV & AIDS services.

IMPROVING SERVICES FOR PREVENTION

In Rwanda—which has serious HIV infection rates—testing and counseling are critical to managing the AIDS epidemic. MSH’s work to scale up HIV & AIDS services through performance-based financing (PBF) increased testing and counseling rates in project areas by 155%, from 4,950 to 7,670 in just nine months. Performance bonuses paid to health facilities provide discretionary income to reward staff and improve infrastructure. Due to the success of the program, USAID and PEPFAR with the help of MSH, worked with the Ministry of Health to develop a national PBF model for health centers in Rwanda.

IMPROVING ORGANIZATIONAL CAPACITY

The AIDS epidemic in Zambia and elsewhere demands rapid expansion of services. Initiatives Inc. developed an organizational capacity assessment process to strengthen the capabilities of HIV & AIDS coordinating bodies, NGOs, and ministries. The self-administered assessment allows organizations to rate their governance, administrative, financial management, program management, and sustainability capabilities. The tool helps them identify strengths and weaknesses, establish a baseline, and measure improvement. To date, 72 districts have conducted the organizational capacity assessment and initiated management improvements.