

Project Title	Uganda District Based HIV/AIDS TB Program – Eastern Region-Uganda
Client	USAID
Partners	Management Sciences for Health (MSH) (Prime Contractor)
Year	2009 – 2014

Context

Uganda has had considerable success in reducing prevalence of HIV/AIDS over the past 15 years. The current HIV seroprevalence is now 6.4 percent. However, despite initial successes of the late 1980s and early 1990s, the decline in prevalence has stagnated over the past five years and no longer shows a downward tendency. A leading concern in the resurgence of HIV/AIDS is its association with TB.

USAID/Uganda has awarded two Cooperative Agreements in distinct geographic areas to provide HIV/AIDS and Tuberculosis (TB) prevention, treatment, care and support services. MSH, with LSTM/LATH support, won the contract for the Eastern Region and for the Lot Quality Assurance Sampling (LQAS) component which cuts across regions. LSTM/LATH's role is providing technical leadership for the implementation of the LQAS component which is focused to scale up this useful technique to a national level. LSTM's Dr. J. Valadez is leading LSTM/LATH's technical role for the LQAS work.

Programme Objectives

The overall goal of the program is to increase access to, coverage of and utilization of quality comprehensive HIV/TB prevention, care and treatment services within district health facilities and their respective communities. The specific objective of the LQAS component is to provide technical support for the further development and application of LQAS for monitoring in the health sector, especially in support of HIV and TB monitoring in the two USAID regional projects. The work is also supporting the Government of Uganda establish a sustainable capacity to coordinate LQAS activities in the future.

Approach

LSTM/ LATH will support MSH, the Government of Uganda and partners in the design and implementation of a Lot Quality Assurance Sampling strategy to provide monitoring results for HIV/TB activities in three regions in Uganda. This will include developing an LQAS sampling design, supporting implementation in specific applications in Uganda, and assisting in monitoring and interpreting the results of LQAS applications for use by the projects that depend on the information.

The team will establish an LQAS Coordination Office in Kampala, to be responsible for building capacity in all project regions to carry out LQAS monitoring of key HIV/TB indicators. We will train national and regional trainers to supervise district-level teams with the USAID regional contractor responsible for strengthening HIV/TB services.

Expected Outcomes

The LQAS team and Kampala Office will:

1. Produce standardized training materials and questionnaires (based on existing instruments), translated into local languages

2. Work with regional contractors to establish standards of practice and annual targets against which work will be appraised

3. Establish a national Technical Advisory Group (TAG) to monitor work, interpret results, and advise the national effort

Results to Date

The project has just begun and is now to begin implementation of activities.