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FROM THE AMERICAN PEOPLE

**Maternal and Child
Survival Program**



Photo: Jmpiego

HIV AND TB

While steady progress has been made in the HIV pandemic, women are still disproportionately affected in many countries where USAID's flagship Maternal and Child Survival Program (MCSP) works, especially adolescent girls and young women. In sub-Saharan Africa, women accounted for 56% of new HIV infections among adults.

The Program is contributing to the global goal of ending the AIDS and TB epidemics by increasing access to prevention, treatment, care and support services. We assist governments throughout the region to ensure that HIV testing and treatment is afforded to women and their children when accessing MCSP-supported maternal and child health services.

In Haiti, MCSP works to strengthen the quality of HIV prevention, treatment, care and support services in 45 PEPFAR-supported facilities. The Program also supports community-based services with a focus on retention and care for all people living with HIV in the Santé de Qualité pour Haïti (SSQH) network. We focus on supporting the increased efficiency of HIV testing to ensure those most at risk to be living with the virus are identified early and offered antiretroviral therapy (ART). Gender-specific barriers to uptake and adherence to treatment are addressed through ensuring peer education and support are culturally relevant.

KEY FACTS

- Nearly half (46%) of the estimated 36.7 million people living with HIV globally are accessing treatment (UNAIDS)
- HIV self-testing is becoming a reality for many people worldwide (WHO)
- TB is curable, yet in 2015, 1.8 million people died of the disease; it is the leading cause of death from an infectious disease (WHO)
- More than 200,000 cases of active TB occurred among pregnant women globally in 2011 (The Lancet)

In Namibia, the Program supports efforts in PEPFAR priority regions to achieve high rates of targeted HIV testing and counseling through the Health Extension Program (HEP), with active linkages to care and treatment in the community. MCSP will continue to focus on 16 health districts in 7 of the country's 14 regions (Kavango, Zambezi, Ohangwena, Omusati, Oshana, Oshikoto and Khomas), areas selected on the basis of population density and high HIV prevalence rates.

The Program's support will expand access to and improve the quality of integrated HIV/sexual and reproductive health services for adolescents and young women in Namibia Planned Parenthood Association clinic catchment areas. MCSP will also support progress towards UNAIDS' 90:90:90 goals by continuing to strengthen health extension services for vulnerable populations — including children, adolescents and young women — and using the HEP platform to integrate community-based HIV testing and counseling services, including partner tracing and community ART refill services.



Photo: During HIV/AIDS Counseling at the King Fahad IBN Abdul-Azezz Women and Children's Hospital, Sani Abubakar counsels a client who has come in to get her results (Karen Kasmauski/MCSP)

ABOUT MCSP

The Maternal and Child Survival Program (MCSP) is a global, USAID Cooperative Agreement to introduce and support high-impact health interventions with a focus on 25 high-priority countries with the ultimate goal of ending preventable child and maternal deaths within a generation. The Program is focused on ensuring that all women, newborns and children most in need have equitable access to quality health care services to save lives.

MCSP supports programming in maternal, newborn and child health, immunization, family planning and reproductive health, nutrition, health systems strengthening, water/sanitation/hygiene, malaria, prevention of mother-to-child transmission of HIV, and pediatric HIV care and treatment.

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