



USAID HIV/AIDS E-Newsletter



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A monthly update on activities of the U.S. Agency for International Development Office of HIV/AIDS and its partners to prevent and mitigate HIV/AIDS across the developing world. We encourage you to circulate this publication to colleagues.

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XV INTERNATIONAL AIDS CONFERENCE, BANGKOK

USAID and Partners Plan Full Slate of Sessions

USAID and its partners are planning a series of satellite sessions and other activities in conjunction with the XV International AIDS Conference in Bangkok, Thailand, July 11–16.

- Three USAID-sponsored satellite sessions will take place on July 11 in Room D of the IMPACT Convention Center. The topics include: "Taking a Closer Look at the 'ABCs' of HIV Prevention," "Models of Strategic Action to Support Orphans and Other Vulnerable Children Affected by HIV/AIDS," and "Reducing Mother-to-Child Transmission of HIV—Challenges and Successes: Where We Are and Where We Are Going." [More](#).

USAID will also host a postconference seminar on August 5 to report on findings from the XV International AIDS Conference. The seminar will be held at the Dorothy Betts Theater at The George Washington University in Washington, D.C. [More](#).

- The International AIDS and Economic Network will hold a preconference symposium on AIDS and economics July 9–10, at the Sofitel Central Plaza. [More](#).
- At a panel discussion and reception co-hosted by EngenderHealth and the John D. Rockefeller Foundation on July 12, advocates and scientists will examine the emerging social movements that address gender inequalities in the fight against HIV/AIDS and how these movements can be better integrated with scientific advances in the field. [More](#).
- The CORE Initiative will host two presentations. An Interfaith Exhibit, supported in collaboration with USAID and the International AIDS Society, will be on display July 12–15 at stand 148. Up to 50 faith-based organizations are expected to exhibit and to distribute materials that focus on best practices. On July 14, Sarah Degnan Kambou, of the International Center for Research on Women, will present a briefing titled "Participatory Monitoring and Evaluation for Faith-based Organizations." [More](#).

NEWS

USAID Awards \$6 Million to Support Medical Injection Safety Programs

USAID recently awarded \$6 million to enhance medical injection safety programs to reduce the transmission of HIV, sometimes the result of unsafe and unnecessary medical injections in developing countries. The awards will support projects in Ethiopia, Mozambique, Namibia, Nigeria, and Uganda. USAID partner organizations Chemonics International and John Snow, Inc., and University Research Corporation have each received awards to improve medical injection safety through provider training, logistics management, reduction of unnecessary injections, and improved health care waste disposal. [More](#).

USAID Announces HIV/AIDS Grant Winners

Four organizations will share \$400,000 in grants for HIV/AIDS projects under USAID's Community REACH program. The projects will focus on improving support to orphans and vulnerable children through focused study and research. The four winners, all local nongovernmental organizations, are the Banyole Youth Development Agency in Uganda, Tanzanian Essential Strategies against HIV/AIDS, Training and Resources in Early Education in South Africa, and Action for Integrated Rural and Tribal Development Social Service Society in India. [More](#).

Church Leaders to Mobilize against HIV/AIDS at African Summit

Influential leaders of the Christian faith in Africa are uniting for the first-ever “Heads of Denominations HIV/AIDS Summit” to discuss the epidemic and design a road map for prevention and care in their churches. Population Services International and the All Africa Conference of Churches, whose 169 denominations represent more than 120 million Christians in Africa, are coordinating the event. The summit aims to strengthen existing faith-based HIV/AIDS programs, motivate the creation of additional sustainable programs, and impress upon leaders the need for a theology of compassion, not judgment, when dealing with the pandemic. The summit, to be held in Nairobi, Kenya, in June, represents the first phase of an initiative funded by USAID. [More](#).

New Campaign in Nigeria Based on Abstinence Attitudes

New research that reveals the complex views of Nigerian youth toward abstinence and sexuality is the basis for an upcoming abstinence campaign to be implemented by Population Services International (PSI) with the help of faith-based organizations. PSI’s Nigerian affiliate, Society for Family Health, is using the insights of faith-based organizations and statistical information from previous studies to develop a multimedia campaign on delayed sexual debut among teenagers. The campaign will begin in July. [More](#).

Research Leads to Expansion of HIV Services

The formation of RedPAV, a national network of voluntary counseling and testing sites in the Dominican Republic, shows how HIV research can fuel the rapid expansion of HIV/AIDS services. RedPAV evolved from voluntary counseling and testing services developed by the Family Health International IMPACT Project. [More](#).

News Editors Provide a Voice for Children

An Internews Nigeria “Local Voices” workshop in April inspired six Nigerian news editors from radio stations in Abuja, Lagos, and Kano to organize the Voice of Orphans and Vulnerable Children, an association that will address the needs of children, especially those who have lost parents to HIV/AIDS or are infected themselves. Local Voices is a USAID-funded program that works with radio journalists, talk show hosts, deejays, and station managers to improve HIV/AIDS reporting in Nigeria and Kenya. [More](#).

Microbicide Product Being Tested

The Population Council recently launched a large-scale efficacy trial of its lead candidate microbicide, Carraguard. Microbicides would substantially reduce the transmission of HIV when applied prior to intercourse. Carraguard has been found to be safe for use in several studies. The current 30-month efficacy study aims to enroll 6,270 women in three South African locations. At the upcoming XV International AIDS Conference in Bangkok, researchers will present data from three other Carraguard trials. [More](#).

UPCOMING MEETINGS AND EVENTS

Pharmaceutical Management Training Course Starts in August

Management Sciences for Health’s USAID-funded Rational Pharmaceutical Management Plus (RPM Plus) Program is offering a course designed to provide health care professionals working in the developing world with a framework to better understand and address management problems related to the availability and use of pharmaceuticals and possible interventions for improvement. “Improving Health Outcomes through Effective Pharmaceutical Management” will be held August 30 to September 3, in Arlington, Virginia, and will cover a range of pharmaceutical management issues, including effective procurement strategies and scaling up of health programs. [More](#).

RECENT EVENTS

International HIV/AIDS Alliance Celebrates 10 Years

The International HIV/AIDS Alliance, created with support from USAID and other donors, recently marked its tenth anniversary of supporting community action on AIDS in developing countries. To take stock of a decade of accomplishments, the Alliance brought together representatives from its country offices and from partner organizations, April 1–2, in Brighton, Sussex, United Kingdom, to discuss approaches to fostering community responses, to applying resources to evaluation and

sharing of information about successful responses, and to boosting community capacity for using funds more effectively. The Alliance also hosted a roundtable meeting to identify ways that nongovernmental organizations can have a greater impact on the epidemic through an expanded, multisectoral response. Dr. Peter Piot, Executive Director of UNAIDS, and Under Secretary-General of the United Nations, was the keynote speaker. [More](#).

HIV-Positive Women Participate in Leadership and Advocacy Workshop

The CORE Initiative sponsored a five-day leadership and advocacy workshop in May for HIV-positive women from Asia to support women's leadership and activism in HIV/AIDS issues through the Asia Pacific Network of People Living with HIV/AIDS. The workshop aimed to build the confidence and competence of key women activists to act as facilitators at a regional level. Women completed leadership and advocacy action plans for their own country situations for use in follow-up activities after the workshop. [More](#).

PUBLICATIONS

Report Analyzes Human Rights and HIV/AIDS in Nepal

POLICY/Nepal has released "HIV/AIDS and Human Rights: A Legislative Audit," a research report that assesses the situation of people living with HIV/AIDS in Nepal and discusses addressing stigma and discrimination through legal reform. [More](#).

Guidelines for Tackling Stigma and Discrimination Released

POLICY/South Africa's *Siyam'kela* project has issued three sector-specific sets of guidelines for combating HIV/AIDS-related stigma and discrimination. The guidelines are designed for faith-based groups, people living with HIV/AIDS, the media, and workplaces. [More](#).

Study Surveys Impact of HIV/AIDS on the Lives of Orphaned Children and their Guardians

The IMPACT Project has produced a qualitative study of the psychosocial and emotional needs of orphans and vulnerable children in four districts of Zambia. "Voices from the Communities," a collaboration between IMPACT's Zambia office and Strengthening Community Partnerships for the Empowerment of Orphans and Vulnerable Children, is a follow-up to a qualitative survey produced in 2001. [More](#).

USAID Project Offers Snapshots from the Field

The IMPACT Project has begun a series of articles on compelling aspects of its USAID-funded activities. "Snapshots from the Field" is designed to give program planners, implementers, managers, and other practitioners quick access to information they can use to improve their work in the field. The first two editions in the series feature case studies on voluntary counseling and testing from Africa and an overview of youth activities in Haiti. [More](#).

Publication Highlights Situation of Older Caregivers

The International HIV/AIDS Alliance and HelpAge International have published "Building Blocks: Africa-wide Briefing Notes on Supporting Older Carers," which discusses the impact of HIV/AIDS on older people and the contribution older people are making to the care of orphans and other children made vulnerable by HIV/AIDS. The publication is the latest in a set of seven intended to increase the effectiveness of communities to support orphans and vulnerable children. [More](#).

Guidelines to Facilitate Procurement of HIV Tests Updated

Management Sciences for Health's Rational Pharmaceutical Management Plus (RPM Plus) Program has released the second edition of "HIV Test Kits Listed in the USAID Source and Origin Waiver: Procurement Information Document." Funded by the USAID Office of HIV/AIDS, the document provides guidance on the procedures used by USAID Missions and implementing agencies to procure HIV test kits for their programs. [More](#).

New Manual for Multisectoral Approach to Scaling Up HIV/AIDS Programs Now Available

Management Sciences for Health's Management and Leadership Program has developed "Scaling Up HIV/AIDS Programs: A Manual for Multisectoral Planning." The manual guides cross-sectoral teams through the process of crafting national or regional plans for going to scale by helping to define the role of each partner and their relationships, to develop cross-cutting core functions needed to manage implementation, and to design detailed summary and partner budgets. The planning tool features a methodology for partnership planning and calculating resources for scaling up, along with checklists for each step of the planning process, country examples, facilitation tips, and references. This process was used successfully in Tanzania to obtain funding from the Global Fund to Fight AIDS, Tuberculosis and Malaria. [More](#).

Horizons Publications Focus on HIV/AIDS Care, Support, Treatment, and Stigma

The Horizons Program announces the publication of the following reports and research updates:

- "Maximizing Resources to Meet Client Needs" describes findings from an evaluation of YRG CARE, an NGO offering comprehensive services to HIV-positive clients and their families in India. [More.](#)
- An update on Horizons' research in Kenya to develop a directly observed therapy strategy for improving adherence to antiretroviral therapy. [More.](#)
- A report that discusses the positive impacts of a program in Zambia to train youth to provide care and support to AIDS-affected households, and to address community stigma. [More.](#)

EngenderHealth Publishes New Training Resource

EngenderHealth has created "Reducing Stigma and Discrimination Related to HIV and AIDS: Training for Health Care Workers," a resource designed to guide participants through an investigation of the root causes of stigma and discrimination while teaching standard precautions and proper infection-prevention techniques. [More.](#)

Youth InfoNet No. 6 Available Online

Youth InfoNet No. 6 includes summaries and links to global reports on young mothers, youth progress, policy tools, education, intergenerational issues, youth voices, and more. Research summaries from Burkina Faso, China, Nigeria, Tanzania, Uganda, Uzbekistan, Zambia, Zimbabwe, and other countries include findings on community group participation, provider attitudes, HIV data, youth behaviors, and bone density. [More.](#)

ONLINE RESOURCES

Synergy Resource Center Highlights What's New

The Synergy HIV/AIDS Resource Center contains more than 3,300 searchable online documents relevant to HIV/AIDS project management, research, and reproductive health issues. [More.](#)

Online Forum Lets Practitioners Discuss Children Affected by HIV/AIDS

Join Children Affected by HIV/AIDS, an online discussion forum that facilitates dialogue and information exchange among advocates, researchers, and health care practitioners to mitigate the effect of HIV/AIDS on children and families around the world. More than 700 subscribers in 35 countries use the forum to discuss orphan and vulnerable children programs, events, and job opportunities, and to share documents and training materials. The Synergy Project hosts the forum on behalf of USAID. [More.](#)



The Synergy Project publishes this newsletter on behalf of USAID's Office of HIV/AIDS.

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