

Global Program Country Profile: ZAMBIA

NASTAD

The National Alliance of State and Territorial AIDS Directors (NASTAD) represents the United States' chief state and territorial health department program directors responsible for coordinating, administering, and managing HIV prevention, care, and support services. NASTAD's Global Program works to build the organizational, programmatic and human resource capacity of its regional/state public sector AIDS program counterparts across the world. In Zambia, NASTAD works in partnership with the CDC/Zambia, the U.S. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention Global AIDS Program (CDC/GAP) as part of the unified U.S. response to the HIV pandemic through the U.S. President's Emergency Plan for AIDS Relief.

HIV/AIDS IN ZAMBIA

The Republic of Zambia is a landlocked country in Southern Africa sharing land borders with seven other African countries. Zambia is divided into nine provinces and is home to an estimated population of 13,046,508.¹ Almost 47 percent of Zambia's population of 13 million is aged 14 or younger, and life expectancy is 52.4 years.² In 2009, UNAIDS estimated that approximately 1 million people were living with HIV in Zambia, which translates to a prevalence rate of close to 14 percent³. This is consistent with information

obtained through the Zambia Demographic and Health Survey (ZDHS) conducted in 2007 which found the prevalence among Zambians aged 15 to 49 to be 14 percent, though it varied significantly between provinces, from 21 percent prevalence in Lusaka province to 7 percent prevalence in both Northern and North Western provinces. HIV prevalence is also higher in urban residents (19.7 percent) compared to rural populations (10.3 percent). Additionally, prevalence among women was higher than among men, both in rural and urban areas⁴. The 14 percent HIV prevalence puts Zambia among the most-affected countries in sub-Saharan Africa by the disease.

The Government of the Republic of Zambia created the National HIV/AIDS Council (NAC) to provide national leadership for coordination of the national AIDS response and to support planning, monitoring, and resource mobilization.

The NAC is committed to achieving "the three ones", and to this end, CDC/Zambia provides technical leadership in the areas of strategic information and systems strengthening. One of the priority areas for CDC/Zambia and NAC is to ensure a strong decentralized approach to HIV/AIDS-related activities, and to support a comprehensive monitoring and evaluation (M&E) system to provide data for action.

¹ Zambia Central Statistical Office,
<http://www.zamstats.gov.zm/index.php>

² <https://www.cia.gov/library/publications/the-world-factbook/geos/za.html>

³ Global Report: UNAIDS Report on the Global Epidemic 2010

⁴ 2007 Zambia Demographic and Health Survey, HIV Prevalence Fact Sheet,

<http://www.measuredhs.com/pubs/pdf/HF29/HF29.pdf>

ACTIVITIES

In Zambia, NASTAD works in partnership with CDC/Zambia, NAC, and the University of Zambia (UNZA) as part of a technical assistance (TA) and capacity building initiative. NASTAD has worked hand-in-hand with the NAC to assess, design, implement, and support a decentralized national M&E system. NASTAD has worked with UNZA to strengthen the curriculum and materials for the University M&E short-course.

Capacity Building

In 2005, NASTAD, identified areas for targeted capacity building within the Zambia's decentralized response to HIV/AIDS. The PATFs and DATFs, the bodies responsible for HIV related planning, monitoring, and coordination at the provincial and district levels, were identified as key partners. Through 2006, NASTAD worked with NAC, CDC/Zambia, and other partners, to build capacity for M&E at the provincial and district levels, including the design and implementation of a multi-day cascade-training for over 240 Provincial and District AIDS Task Force members.

Through 2010, NASTAD has provided TA to provincial AIDS Coordinators to build their capacity related monitoring and evaluation. NASTAD has also facilitated three initiatives for national-level capacity building in the area of HIV/AIDS M&E: The establishment of a Center of Excellence in Planning, Monitoring and Evaluation at the University of Zambia (UNZA); the placement of a M&E technical advisor at NAC; and the development of a week-long training on epidemiology and data use (EDU) in collaboration with CDC-Zambia and additional in-country partners.

National HIV/AIDS M&E System

For more than three years, NASTAD has worked with Zambia's NAC, to develop, implement, and support a single, unified national HIV/AIDS M&E system. In close partnership with NAC, NASTAD has developed training curricula, manuals, data collection tools, enhancing capacity at the national and provincial level.

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Products

- *Training Modules: Introduction to M&E, Data Collection, Data Quality, Data Use, Local Research Development, Stakeholder Engagement, Stakeholder Mapping, Communication and Collaboration, Committee Development, Management, and Leadership*
- *Zambia's HIV/AIDS research agenda; HIV/AIDS Bibliography*
- *Community AIDS Task Force (CATF) Training Manual*

Evaluation

In 2008, NASTAD conducted an External Assessment of the technical assistance provided in 2006 and 2007. The assessment found that the respondents valued the TA support services provided by NASTAD in M&E activities. Respondents found the technical support activities were of high quality and would improve the M&E system and consequently the overall response to the epidemic.

Next Steps

In 2011 and beyond, NASTAD will continue to support the ongoing development of Zambia's national M&E system. NASTAD looks to continue its focus on human capacity development through the provision peer-to-peer technical assistance, strengthening of NASTAD's in-country capacity, and to assist with follow-on for the EDU trainings at the provincial and district level. NASTAD also looks to continue its work with UNZA to assist in the growth and strengthening of the M&E center of Excellence.

CONTACT INFORMATION

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