

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

Zambia is a landlocked country in Southern Africa. Almost 46 percent of Zambia's population of 11.7 million is aged 14 or younger, and life expectancy is 38.6 years.¹ According to UNAIDS, the overall HIV prevalence in Zambia is estimated at 15.2 percent, with approximately 1.1 million total cases of HIV/AIDS, and about 600,000 children orphaned by AIDS.²

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.

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.

ACTIVITIES

NASTAD works in partnership with CDC/Zambia and NAC as part of a technical assistance (TA) and capacity building initiative. For three years, NASTAD has worked hand-in-hand with the NAC to assess, design, implement, and support a decentralized national M&E system.

Capacity Building

In 2005, NASTAD, identified areas for targeted capacity building within Zambia's decentralized response to HIV/AIDS. The Provincial AIDS Task Force and the District AIDS Task Force, PATFs and DATFs respectively, are 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

¹ <https://www.cia.gov/library/publications/the-world-factbook/geos/za.html>

² http://www.who.int/globalatlas/predefinedReports/EFS2008/full/EFS2008_ZM.pdf

and implementation of a multi-day cascade-training for over 240 PATF and DATF members.

Through the first quarter of 2009, NASTAD has provided targeted TA to four provinces to build the capacity of the community and district workers responsible for HIV/AIDS 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 placement of four provincial level staff to support M&E activities at district level. NASTAD has partnered with Volunteer Services Overseas (VSO) to place these staff.

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.

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 2009 and beyond, NASTAD will continue to support the ongoing development of Zambia's national M&E system. NASTAD will continue its focus on human capacity development through the provision of peer-to-peer technical assistance, twinning U.S.-based state M&E experts with Zambian peers, and contribute to the growth of the University of Zambia's Center of Excellence in M&E. In addition, NASTAD will continue the development of a national M&E toolkit to foster ongoing support in the dissemination of M&E knowledge and leadership.



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May 2009