



Case-based Surveillance

Goal and Proposed Outcomes

NASTAD's goal in Haiti was to build Ministry of Health (MSPP) capacity for sustainable disease surveillance, M&E, and strategic information use. Specific targets included 1) national implementation of a functional HIV CBS system; 2) collection of timely, accurate and high-quality CBS data from testing sites and treatment facilities; and 3) capacity building for MSPP to use these high-quality data to describe disease impact and for planning and monitoring HIV-related programs.

Strategy and Approach Used

NASTAD Haiti's primary partners in this effort were government officials within four national divisions of the MSPP: the National HIV Program; the National Division of Epidemiology, Laboratory and Research; the National TB Control Program; and the National Family Health Program. Significant partnering occurred with sub-national MSPP staff at the regional level, and with personnel working at clinical sites to ensure that CBS reporting was consistent and accurate. In addition, NASTAD worked in close collaboration with the three national health networks, and their health information management information systems to facilitate efficient, routine data exchange between their EMRs and the CBS system.

NASTAD worked with these partners to:

- Provide surveillance and public health management competency-driven training, TA and mentoring to the MSPP to allow for collaborative CBS planning, implementation and system expansion
- Develop a simple yet effective CBS reporting platform and tools, with an emphasis on use of



existing data, staff, and health information systems

- Design and implement training and supportive supervision to all levels of the health system to facilitate country-wide CBS roll out
- Improve the quality and completeness of CBS data by providing TA and mentoring for the development of a M&E framework, and support to implement routine M&E and continuous quality improvement (CQI)
- Assure that CBS data are analyzed and used effectively to guide the national HIV response.

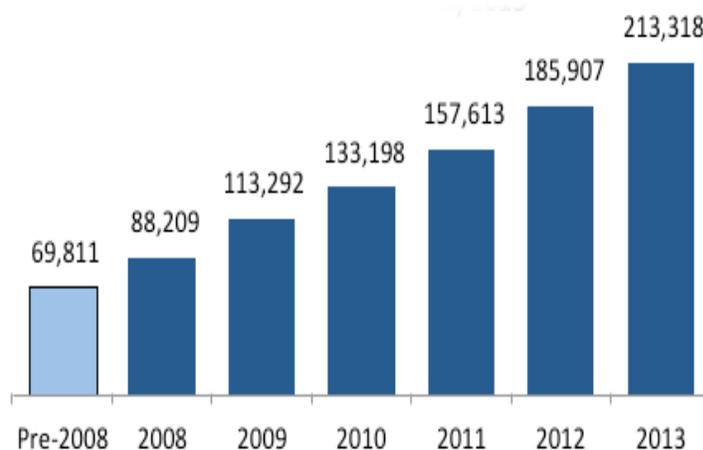
These activities were facilitated by the formation of a team of dedicated, volunteer TA providers recruited from U.S. state epidemiology programs and through development of a local NASTAD office staffed by a team of 10 Haitian physicians and public health experts. The U.S. TA team, which consisted of 12 epidemiologists representing eight state health departments, worked with both MSPP and NASTAD Haiti staff to share best practices, with a focus on CBS tools and CQI. The NASTAD Haiti staff collaborated continuously with their MSPP colleagues in order to implement and maintain the system.

Results

Over the last five years in Haiti:

- NASTAD ensured implementation of Haiti's national HIV surveillance system
- NASTAD trained more than 800 people in CBS system use and 200 in data analysis techniques
- More than 213,000 unique HIV cases were reported to the system (see Figure)
- Evaluation data show that the CBS data are of high quality
- CBS data are analyzed and trends are reported at least quarterly.

Cumulative HIV Diagnoses Reported in Haiti through December 30, 2013



Summary of Outcomes and Impact from NASTAD's Technical Assistance

Specific outcomes and system impacts achieved during the past five years include:

- **Full implementation of HIV case-based surveillance (CBS) in Haiti.** One of the few functioning CBS systems in the developing world, Haiti's system collects crucial data in order to monitor changes and identify demographic and behavioral drivers of the HIV epidemic. In addition, longitudinal patient care data are obtained to allow monitoring of patient care linkage, retention and health outcomes.
- **Implementation of active perinatal case surveillance.** NASTAD and MSPP collaborated to establish an enhanced perinatal surveillance system to help eliminate perinatal HIV transmission. The system features PMTCT case management facilitated by a low-barrier electronic interface where reminder flags signal case managers to schedule appointments with patients to assure linkage to care and treatment.
- **Development of integrated TB case surveillance.** NASTAD partnered with the National TB Control Program to pilot integrated TB CBS, which uses the same electronic reporting platform developed for HIV/AIDS case surveillance. The system provides real-time data about new TB diagnoses and treatment outcomes.
- **Increased MSPP capacities related to analysis and use of CBS data and management of the CBS system.** NASTAD mentored and encouraged MSPP to analyze the rich data gathered by CBS. Reports are routinely produced in order to describe the epidemic, show the impact of treatment and care, and to guide in allocating resources. Additionally, a cadre of public health professionals, both at MSPP and the NASTAD Haiti office, capable of joint administration and routine maintenance of the CBS system.

This work was supported by the cooperative agreement #U2GPS001617 from the U.S. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC). The contents are solely the responsibility of the authors and do not necessarily reflect the official views of the CDC.