

MSH IN ETHIOPIA

MANAGEMENT SCIENCES FOR HEALTH (MSH) is a global nonprofit advisory organization that provides governments, health organizations, and the private sector with the strategies, tools, and management support to effectively and efficiently deliver high-functioning health systems.

Photo Credit: MSH Staff

Since 2003, MSH has worked with Ethiopia's Ministry of Health to make tuberculosis (TB) services accessible to 55 million people—more than half the country's population. Our efforts to combat HIV have focused on integrating HIV services into antenatal care and labor and delivery by training health providers and providing supportive supervision and other services. We supported the introduction of clinical pharmacy services, helped draft the national strategy to prevent and contain antimicrobial resistance (AMR), and introduced systems to support patient-centered pharmacy services.

OUR APPROACH

In partnership with Ethiopia's Ministry of Health and local governments, we empower leaders, train pharmacy workers, help health facilities select and procure medicines more cost effectively, and design information systems that support evidence-based decision making. Our work has helped address critical health workforce challenges, bolster management and regulatory skills, promote evidence-based planning and decision making, and accelerate diagnostics for COVID-19.



World TB Day activity in Tigray, Ethiopia.
Photo Credit: MSH Staff

ENGAGING COMMUNITIES TO ELIMINATE TB IN ETHIOPIA

Our work in Ethiopia brings new partners to the fight to end TB. Through our global program in high-burden countries to reduce TB with health financing and leadership and our support across Ethiopia to engage the government and local communities, we are expanding locally led efforts to eliminate TB.

To prioritize awareness within schools, which can be high-risk areas for the spread of TB among staff and students, our work includes facilitating TB sensitization trainings. Participants discuss strategies for prevention and treatment and ways to boost awareness of TB among 12- to 17-year-olds. Trainings include a call to action to establish strong relationships with schools and communities and involve school principals to use students' HIV clubs, gender clubs, and other clubs to offer consistent TB prevention and treatment education. TB training of health workers such as Tadelch Tefera, a TB clinical nurse, resulted in further TB education within communities. Prompted by her training, Tefera reached more than 100 local mothers living with family members with confirmed TB and encouraged them to start their children on preventative treatment.

OUR WORK

Eliminate TB Project

The USAID-funded Eliminate TB Project builds on MSH's contributions to Ethiopia's TB control efforts over the past 15 years. Collaborating with the KNCV Tuberculosis Foundation and local partners, MSH is working to reduce TB incidence and mortality by engaging public- and private-sector players to improve the quality and sustainability of TB services. Our work has strengthened public and private health systems, helping increase access to early TB diagnosis and treatment and alleviate unnecessary patient costs, introducing screening tools and boosting prevention and treatment for latent TB infection, and emphasizing country ownership and sustainability by working with the Ethiopian government to mobilize and use domestic resources to implement and manage programmatic activities. In response to civil conflict and COVID-19, the project extended TB and COVID-19 screening into areas with internally displaced persons, provided psychosocial support for health workers in conflict-affected areas, and contributed to the national rapid response plan for TB case management during conflict.

Health Systems for TB (HS4TB) Project

The USAID-funded HS4TB Project seeks to transform the way leaders and managers understand and work toward TB control and elimination. HS4TB focuses on countries with high burdens of TB—currently working in Bangladesh, Ethiopia, and India—where we help countries increase domestic financing, use key TB resources more efficiently, build in-country technical and managerial competence and leadership, and support policy formation and dissemination. HS4TB prepares local organizations to transition into the role of primary technical assistance providers; become recipients of direct donor support; and engage marginalized groups—including women and youth—in co-creating activities with national TB programs, professional associations, civil society, and other stakeholders.

Medicines, Technologies, and Pharmaceutical Services (MTaPS) Program

Through the USAID-funded MTaPS Program in Ethiopia, MSH has strengthened the performance of the country's pharmaceutical system, particularly in establishing the appropriate use of antimicrobials and other medicines. Our work supports the containment of AMR and promotes infection prevention and control policies and practices for COVID-19 and other emerging threats.

Access to COVID-19 Tools Accelerator (ACT-A)

Through ACT-A in Ethiopia, MSH developed a novel approach for integrating TB and COVID-19 screening and diagnostics, helping bring greater efficiency to health services and disease control programs. MSH partnered with key stakeholders to enhance the country's laboratory system and the COVID-19 response, including the Ethiopian Public Health Institute.

Ethiopia Health Workforce Improvement Program (HWIP)

USAID-funded HWIP led strategies to improve health workforce management—including those in health emergencies such as COVID-19. We worked with human resources managers to strengthen planning, policies, and practices; use data to quantify, establish, and revise staffing levels and standards; scale the national performance management system; and promote coordination among stakeholders to improve the work environment and better retain workers.

SOURCES OF SUPPORT

In addition to the Government of Ethiopia, our partners have included the US Agency for International Development (USAID), US President's Emergency Plan for AIDS Relief (PEPFAR), Global Fund, Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation, and FIND, the global alliance for diagnostics.

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For more information on our work in Ethiopia, please visit www.msh.org or contact us at communications@msh.org.