

Program approaches

Family-centered care: offering care and support to meet the needs of the entire family.

Comprehensive care: providing holistic care for people living with HIV/AIDS, TB, sexually transmitted infections, and other opportunistic infections.

Service linkages: leveraging existing resources and training skilled health workers.

Sustainable approaches: strengthening existing CSOs and increasing their capacity to mobilize and manage resources.

Fostering partnerships: promoting partnerships at all levels—local, regional, national, and international.



Community-level monitoring and evaluation

Strengthening Communities' Responses to HIV/AIDS participates in national and regional technical working groups to refine national monitoring and evaluation systems at the community level. The project also works with CSOs to harmonize and simplify their reporting forms and systems, enabling them to interpret and present data and information more effectively.

Partners

Strengthening Communities' Responses to HIV/AIDS is funded by USAID's AIDS Support and Technical Resources (AIDSTAR) program. The prime contractor is PATH, an international nonprofit organization that creates sustainable, culturally relevant solutions, enabling communities worldwide to break longstanding cycles of poor health. PATH's international partners are the International HIV/AIDS Alliance, International Relief & Development, International Training Education Center for Health, and Westat.

Our main in-country partners are the Ministry of Health and the HIV/AIDS Prevention and Control offices at the federal and regional levels. We also work with hundreds of local partners through the provision of technical support and grants.

For more information

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Strengthening Communities' Responses to HIV/AIDS in Ethiopia



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HIV/AIDS prevention and treatment successes in Ethiopia will depend on communities taking action. Strengthening Communities' Responses to HIV/AIDS, a USAID project implemented by PATH and its partners, brings much-needed HIV/AIDS services to urban and peri-urban areas and towns—where the majority of the population lives and HIV/AIDS prevalence is high. At the heart of this three-year project are strategies to improve the ability of Ethiopian communities to respond to the HIV/AIDS epidemic.

Civil Society Organizations (CSOs) in Ethiopia have a history of successfully helping communities achieve health and economic improvements centered on HIV/AIDS. These organizations provide services tailored to their communities to extend care beyond the health facility. Strengthening Communities' Responses to HIV/AIDS coordinates with key governmental partners, including the Ministry of Health and the HIV/AIDS Prevention and Control offices, to maximize CSO capacity in three areas: technical, managerial, and financial management of care and support; HIV counseling and testing; and economic strengthening activities. CSOs play an integral role in communities and are both ubiquitous and highly committed. Building their organizational and human resource capacity will therefore equip them to reach more people and reduce the impact of HIV/AIDS.

Integral to this project is its commitment to addressing poverty. Through integrated economic strengthening and health intervention activities, people infected and affected by HIV will gain the business skills needed to increase their assets and improve their ability to care for their families.

Geographic areas and services

Strengthening Communities' Responses to HIV/AIDS will support service delivery by CSOs in areas where antiretroviral treatment is available, targeting 300 towns in the regional states of Afar, Amhara, Benishangul Gumuz, Gambella, Oromia, SNNPR, and Tigray, as well as Dire Dawa City Council. Project activities are divided into five service areas:

Community-based care and support services (palliative care)

Support to CSOs that provide individuals and families with a range of services to mitigate the impact of HIV/AIDS, including clinical and non-clinical palliative care; counseling; adherence support; health and nutrition information; educational support for orphans and vulnerable children; and referrals to other services.

HIV counseling and testing services

Home and community-based HIV testing and screening for tuberculosis (TB) through a partnership with the Health Extension Program and local CSOs, led by the project's own technical experts. Together these players will pioneer and scale up home-based counseling and testing services.

Economic strengthening services

Economic strengthening services, including skill-building to assess economic vulnerabilities and opportunities, designing or adapting agricultural and other business development models, and leveraging microfinance and microenterprise opportunities. Families affected by HIV and TB can receive economic strengthening support, in addition to the project's clinical and non-clinical services.

Capacity building for community-based HIV/AIDS services

Technical and organizational capacity building among CSOs enables them to deliver services to people. These services include providing community-based care to individuals and families and health center referrals.

Human capacity development for HIV/AIDS services in the community

The project helps strengthen social work pre-service education, preparing students and new graduates to provide high-quality, community-based HIV/AIDS care and support. This work includes establishing a fellowship program to deploy graduates to CSOs to provide clinical and non-clinical services in communities.

