

**PROGRAMME TITLE: UGANDA DISTRICT BASED HIV/AIDS TB PROGRAM – EASTERN REGION
UGANDA**

Client	USAID
Partners	Partners: Management Sciences for Health (MSH) (Prime Contractor)
Year (s)	2009 – 2014

CONTEXT

Uganda has had considerable success in reducing prevalence of HIV/AIDS over the past 15 years. The current HIV seroprevalence is now 6.4 percent. However, despite initial successes of the late 1980s and early 1990s, the decline in prevalence has stagnated over the past five years and no longer shows a downward tendency. A leading concern in the resurgence of HIV/AIDS is its association with TB.

USAID/Uganda has awarded two Cooperative Agreements in distinct geographic areas to provide HIV/AIDS and Tuberculosis (TB) prevention, treatment, care and support services. MSH, with LSTM/LATH support, won the contract for the Eastern Region and for the Lot Quality Assurance Sampling (LQAS) component which cuts across regions. LSTM/LATH's role is providing technical leadership for the implementation of the LQAS component which is focused to scale up this useful technique to a national level. LSTM's [Dr. Joe Valadez](#) is leading LSTM/LATH's technical role for the LQAS work.

PROGRAMME OBJECTIVES

The overall goal of the program is to increase access to, coverage of and utilization of quality comprehensive HIV/TB prevention, care and treatment services within district health facilities and their respective communities. The specific objective of the LQAS component is to provide technical support for the further development and application of LQAS for monitoring in the health sector, especially in support of HIV and TB monitoring in the two USAID regional projects. The work is also supporting the Government of Uganda to establish a sustainable capacity to coordinate LQAS activities in the future.

APPROACH

LSTM/ LATH are supporting MSH, the Government of Uganda and partners in the design and implementation of a Lot Quality Assurance Sampling strategy to provide monitoring results for HIV/TB activities in three regions in Uganda. Support includes developing a LQAS sampling design, supporting implementation in specific applications in Uganda, and assisting in monitoring and interpreting the results of LQAS applications for use by the projects that depend on the information.

The team has established an LQAS Coordination Office in Kampala, responsible for building capacity in all project regions to carry out LQAS monitoring of key HIV/TB indicators. We are training national and regional trainers to supervise district-level teams with the USAID regional contractor responsible for strengthening HIV/TB services.

EXPECTED OUTCOMES

The LQAS team and Kampala Office will:

1. Produce standardized training materials and questionnaires (based on existing instruments), translated into local languages
2. Work with regional contractors to establish standards of practice and annual targets against which work will be appraised
3. Establish a national Technical Advisory Group (TAG) to monitor work, interpret results, and advise the national effort

RESULTS TO DATE

- A detailed implementation plan and LQAS questionnaire has been developed in conjunction with local counterparts.
- LQAS training has been facilitated at region wide workshops in Sironko, Pallisa, Busia and Butaleja.
- LQAS Training of Trainers workshops have been facilitated in Kampala, Mbale and Tororo.
- LATH Consultant, [William Vargas](#), has successfully completed an extended TA assignment building technical capacity to collect, tabulate and analyze community based programme data using the LQAS method.
- Health facility assessment materials and tools have been developed and utilised in health facility assessment activities.
- From July 2010 work has focussed on the LQAS database, statistical analysis and management support.
- In July 2010, LSTM International Health Group's Statistician, [Caroline Jeffery](#), travelled to Uganda to support the Assessment of 2009 Data Reliability, Longitudinal Analysis of National 2003- 2009 LQAS Databases and to support the Biostatistical Curriculum Development.