Introduction

Management Sciences for Health (MSH), a global health nonprofit organization, uses proven approaches developed over 40 years to help leaders, health managers, and communities in developing nations build stronger health systems for greater health impact. MSH works to save lives by closing the gap between knowledge and action in public health. MSH has been working in South Africa since 1997. MSH’s South Africa office is a local as well as regional office, providing technical assistance to strengthen health services with a particular focus on primary health care, district development, leadership development, management information systems, family planning, orphans and vulnerable children, medicines supply and pharmaceutical services, and priority health programs such as HIV and AIDS and tuberculosis.

Current projects include:

- Building Local Capacity for Delivery of HIV Services in Southern Africa Project (BLC)
- Systems for Improved Access to Pharmaceuticals and Services (SIAPS)
- South Africa Sustainable Response to HIV/AIDS and TB Services (SA SURE)
- Development of a Swaziland Male Circumcision Strategic and Costed Operational Plan

For more information contact:
Management Sciences for Health
Ditsela Place, 1204 Park Street (Cnr Park and Jan Shoba Streets), Hatfield, Pretoria, South Africa
Tel: +27 12 364 0400; Fax: +27 12 364 0416
www.msh.org

STRONGER HEALTH SYSTEMS. GREATER HEALTH IMPACT.
Building Local Capacity for Delivery of HIV Services in Southern Africa Project (BLC)

Project vision

By 2015, our partners (CSOs, government and intergovermental institutions, and private sector companies) are stronger, more resilient, and able to support community, national, and regional structures to competently respond to HIV and AIDS issues, resulting in improved overall health in the southern African region.

BLC has a twin focus on country-level interventions and regional-level activities that benefit the entire southern Africa region. Currently the BLC project is operating regionally and in six countries (Angola, Botswana, Lesotho, Namibia, South Africa, and Swaziland), and has funding for activities in 12 distinct program areas. BLC’s key program areas include: 1) care and support for orphans and vulnerable children; 2) HIV prevention; 3) community-based care.

Results

- Improved technical and/or leadership, management, and governance capacity of:
  - 15 SADC countries
  - 149 organizations and government ministries
  - 10,821 individuals from these organizations
- Provided HIV prevention services:
  - Prevention messages to more than 118,000 people
  - HIV counseling and testing to more than 46,000 people
- Provided care and support services to more than 75,000 orphans and vulnerable children and caregivers
- Strengthened capacity of 8 regional CSOs to qualify for USG funding
- Partnership with CSOs to deliver services to priority and key populations

BLC’s contribution to the HIV response in the region

Approach

BLC’s activities fall within four interconnected levels: regional, national, civil society, and health facility. BLC support is customized to a particular context and need within a particular level, similar to a complex puzzle where BLC fills the gaps and connects various levels as depicted to the left.

Capacity building for results:

- Provision of grants to deliver services (quantity)
- Technical capacity for improved programming (quality)
- Institutional capacity for improved sustainability (long-term impact)

Primary contact:
Donald Harbick
BLC Project Director
dharbick@msh.org

Project life:
2010-2015

Donor/s:
USAID and PEPFAR

Access BLC publications online:
www.hivsharespace.net/collection/blc

STRONGER HEALTH SYSTEMS. GREATER HEALTH IMPACT.
Systems for Improved Access to Pharmaceuticals and Services (SIAPS)

Project vision

The goal of the SIAPS South Africa program is to strengthen the capacity of pharmaceutical systems at all levels to support the South African Government’s priority health programs and initiatives.

SIAPS aims to improve access to quality pharmaceutical products and effective pharmaceutical services through systems strengthening for lasting positive health outcomes. SIAPS works with South Africa’s National Department of Health (NDoH) and provincial and local government health authorities using systems-strengthening approaches and tools and supporting local capacity to develop and support adoption of sound pharmaceutical policies, effective management, strengthened regulatory systems, equitable financing, and assured product quality and safety practices.

Approach

- Strengthen pharmaceutical sector governance toward accountable and transparent management and organization
- Build human resource and institutional capacity for more sustainable organizations
- Address information needs related to products and patients to support decision-making
- Strengthen financing strategies and mechanisms to assure adequate funding and efficient use of resources
- Increase access to effective pharmaceutical services that meet the needs of the patient and achieve desired health outcomes

Results

- On-going roll-out of RxSolution, an electronic pharmaceutical management system used to manage inventory, purchase orders, stock for health facilities, and medicines dispensing, to more than 300 health facilities. RxSolution has been adopted by the NDoH as the official system to be installed at all public health facilities.
- Pharmaceuticals Leadership Development: Trained more than 160 pharmacy managers to lead and help resolve workplace challenges using MSH’s Challenge Model. One example of the positive results of such training: a graduate of SIAPS’ Pharmacy Leadership Development Program, Vuka Zenzele, won a gold award for ‘Outstanding achievement for service delivery innovation and best practice’ during the KwaZulu-Natal Member of the Executive Council (MEC) for Health’s Annual Service Excellence Awards in 2013.
- Supported NDoH to develop and launch the Essential Medicine List Electronic Application on mobile phones, which provides healthcare professionals with easy access to up-to-date information on Adult Standard Treatment Guidelines and Essential Medicines.

Primary contact:
Bada Pharasi
Country Project Director
bpharasi@msh.org

Project life:
2011-2016

Donor/s:
USAID

For more information about RxSolution, visit:
http://siapsprogram.org/rxsolution/
**South Africa Sustainable Response to HIV/AIDS and TB Services (SA SURE)**

**Project vision**
SA SURE aims at strengthening the public health system in South Africa in 12 districts spread over five provinces, with a specific focus on HIV and TB services. The project is implemented by Health Systems Trust (HST), with MSH as a sub-partner.

MSH’s contribution to the project includes:

- **Leadership and Management**
  - Develop the leadership capacity of HST mentors to implement the project in the districts and facilities
  - Develop the leadership and management capacity of facility managers, clinicians, district, and sub-district managers to identify and address workplace challenges
- **Pharmaceutical Services**: train clinicians, pharmacists, and pharmacist assistants on medicines supply management to improve availability of essential medicines in health facilities
- **Laboratory Services**: focus on pre- and post-analytical laboratory services at facility level, including assessing lab services at facility level, identifying gaps in services, and developing and implementing corrective measures

**Results**
Through the Leadership Development Program, MSH has developed the capacity of HST mentors and district healthcare providers to lead health care teams to strengthen the health system and work effectively as teams, using available resources to produce the desired results. The value-add to this approach is demonstrated by the recent achievement of the uMzinyathi District in receiving three Member of the Executive Council Gold Awards from the KwaZulu-Natal provincial Department of Health for outstanding result in Maternal and Child Health, HIV, and TB (all priority programs of SA SURE). The District Manager of uMzinyathi has attributed this success to the support, mentoring, and coaching by the SA SURE team in the district.

---

**Development of a Swaziland Male Circumcision Strategic and Costed Operational Plan**

**Project vision**
The key objective of the project is to develop a robust Ministry of Health-led voluntary medical male circumcision (VMMC) strategic plan for 2014-2018 and a detailed costed operational plan to enable successful implementation of the VMMC program by the Ministry of Health and its partners in Swaziland. The project has four major phases: 1) Situational analysis; 2) Stakeholder consultation and engagement; 3) Strategic plan development; and 4) Costed operational plan development.

**Results**

- Conducted 12 (8 regional and 4 national-level) consultation meetings with stakeholders including donors, NGOs, government ministries and departments, youth groups, women’s groups, traditional and religious leaders, and regional coordination structures.
- Through MSH’s application of leadership and management skills, there has been increased participation by key VMMC stakeholders in the process of developing the Strategic Plan, which has significantly improved country ownership.
- The consultation approach has facilitated improved coordination of similar processes in Swaziland, such as VMMC and early infant male circumcision (EIMC) modeling by Futures Institute, EIMC strategic plan development led by Jhpiego, and development of a costed operational plan for the extended National Strategic Framework.

---

**Primary contact:**
Jackie Sallet
Technical Advisor
jsallet@msh.org

**Project life:**
2011-2016

**Donor/s:**
CDC

---

**Primary contact:**
Donald Harbick
BLC Project Director
dharbick@msh.org

**Project life:**
Nov 2013 - Jun 2014

**Donor/s:**
Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation

---

**STRONGER HEALTH SYSTEMS. GREATER HEALTH IMPACT.**