Project HOPE in Ethiopia

Project HOPE established an office in Addis Ababa in 2017 to support HIV/AIDS prevention, care, and treatment, and to increase access to maternal and child health services. Today, Project HOPE continues to work with a range of stakeholders to improve outcomes for HIV, maternal, newborn, and child health, global health security, health information systems, local capacity building, and water, sanitation, and hygiene.

HIV/AIDS

Project HOPE is the prime implementing partner for the PEPFAR/USAID-funded Community HIV Care & Treatment (CHCT) project, a seven-year program aimed to expand access to comprehensive HIV prevention, care, and treatment services. The program works through 28 local implementing partners (LIPs), people living with HIV (PLHIV) networks, and health bureaus with three specific objectives: strengthen community health and support systems for service delivery; improve organizational and technical capacity structures; and increase support for data collection and use for learning and program improvement.

Differentiated Service Delivery Models for Treatment Adherence and Retention

Project HOPE’s adherence and retention programs use Community Adherence Groups to improve adherence and retention among PLHIV. As of May 2022, there were a total of 3,334 groups, comprised of over 17,000 members. Project HOPE provides training to community health workers on HIV treatment, adherence, pharmaceutical care, proper logistics’ management, and other skills.

Project HOPE Impact

14 local partners supported for prime readiness

Implemented eCHIS system for community case management among multiple partners

Supported more than 17,111 PLHIV with life saving treatment

Distributed 320,000 N95 respirator masks for health care workers through donations

Screened over 39,600 children under five years old for malnutrition
Local Partner Capacity Building

Project HOPE provides tailored technical assistance and capacity building to LIPs and, since FY21, five LIPs have become prime recipients of PEPFAR support as a result of Project HOPE’s capacity building interventions. A key component of our capacity-strengthening approach is an Organizational and Technical Capacity Assessment Tool (OTCA) that is used to review LIPs’ readiness and increase their ownership of the transition plan. The OTCA tool identifies the LIP’s strengths, gaps, and improvement areas, utilizes progress monitoring tools to ensure prime readiness, and can be adapted for a range of program areas.

Community Health Information Systems

Project HOPE uses CommCare to develop modules tailored to specific programmatic needs and languages. The CommCare application is an open-source system with robust data collection, case management, and bi-directional referral linkage capabilities. It has the ability to track individual-level data longitudinally and it incorporates bi-directional referral linking across sites, which is a critical feature for confirming referrals and capturing feedback. Under the CHCT program, Project HOPE uses CommCare to track case finding, linkage to treatment, and case management and retention among 29 LIPs. CommCare is inter-operable with DHIS2 and is endorsed by the Ethiopian government as an electronic community health information management system (eCHIS).

Maternal, Newborn, and Child Health

As a partner on the five-year, USAID-funded TRANSFORM Health in Developing Regions (T-HDR) project, Project HOPE is leading the neonatal and child health components. This has included establishing centers for Comprehensive Emergency Obstetric and Newborn Care (CEmONC) and instituting mini blood bank services.

CEMONC

Project HOPE is working with the National Obstetric Society to develop a comprehensive mentorship and improvement program for CEmONC services, following extensive assessments of the intervention sites. The program currently is providing a mentorship program for 13 hospital sites.

Immunization Support

Project HOPE has supported immunization services in developing regions through offering health care worker trainings and orientations, revitalizing outreach activities, strengthening defaulter tracing, increasing vaccine management, supporting cross-border activities, bolstering mid-level management, and strengthening post-polio free certification activities. With funding from the Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation, Project HOPE is also conducting a national evaluation on reaching zero dose children in remote areas and implementing emergency polio and immunization campaigns for internally displaced persons camps.

Global Health Security

Pandemic Preparedness and Response

With support from USAID, Project HOPE implemented a six-month project to strengthen COVID-19 prevention, preparedness, and case management for the health systems in Somali Regional State. The program supported 327 outpatient health facilities and 68 inpatient health facilities and trained 653 health care staff on COVID-19 preparedness and response.

Emergency Humanitarian Response

As a result of the conflict in the northern part of Ethiopia, millions of people were displaced and required urgent humanitarian assistance. Project HOPE deployed two mobile health and nutrition teams (MHNTs) using its own funds. With sponsorship from the Elsa & Peter Soderberg Charitable Foundation, Project HOPE is currently tripling MHNTs in the region.