

INFECTIOUS DISEASE DETECTION AND SURVEILLANCE (IDDS) PROJECT



PROJECT AT A GLANCE

Consortium Partners ICF (lead) FHI 360 PATH Abt Associates African Society for Laboratory Medicine Gryphon Scientific Metabiota

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BACKGROUND

Known and newly emerging diseases pose a serious threat to global health security due to increased global movement of goods and people, changing rural and urban populations, and increased contact between humans and animals. At the same time, increases in antimicrobial resistance threaten the availability of treatment options for common infections. Robust surveillance and diagnostic systems are essential to address these known and emerging threats to public health.

DESCRIPTION

The U.S.Agency for International Development (USAID) is working to control new and existing infectious diseases worldwide.As part of these efforts, the Infectious Disease Detection and Surveillance (IDDS) project supports countries to detect priority diseases and antimicrobialresistance through building national and sub-national capacities of countries to improve diagnostic networks and surveillance systems. This assistance adheres to the holistic One Health approach, which recognizes that people, animals, and their shared environment are interconnected.

OBJECTIVES

The primary objectives of IDDS are to strengthen detection of priority diseases including tuberculosis (TB); improve identification of antimicrobial-resistant pathogens; and increase real-time surveillance. This will help countries avert the spread of these diseases, prevent, and mitigate outbreaks, and inform interventions to reduce associatedmortality and morbidity. IDDS is a cross-cutting project that supports country goals for theGlobal Health Security Agenda (GHSA) and TB.

The technical activities of IDDS will expand country capabilities through a systems-strengthening approachthat will:

- **Build upon existing partner platforms.** and work with country disease programs such as,the GHSA and national TB control programs to fillgaps and work toward collective objectives.
- Expand access to diagnostic testing, including capacity for sample collection, transport, and testing, as well as data reporting and use across national, subnational, district, and community levels.
- Integrate and/or coordinate and align diagnostic network and surveillance reporting systems within and across humanand animal sectors, geographic levels, and disease control programs to improve efficiencyand detection of public health threats.

STRATEGIC FOCUS AND APPROACHES

The IDDS team will take a flexible approach to support policymakers, technical experts, and other stakeholders across human and animal health sectorsto increase technical capacity and strengthen systemsfor diagnostic access and surveillance of AMR and priority diseases, including TB. This approach will be aligned with national priorities while supporting countries on their pathway to self-reliance. IDDS understands the importance of cross-cutting components, including One Health, health workforce strengthening, capacity building, and publicprivate sector partnership. IDDS focus areas and approaches include the following:

 Strengthen national diagnostic network and surveillance systems through enhanced.



A life-saving diagnosis: Sample Transport, reducing the time delay in monitoring and diagnosing. © Reuters

governance structures, policies, costed plans, and implementation, as well as improved national qualitymanagement systems.

- Support enhancements in the core components that make up a comprehensive diagnostic network, such as ensuring functional equipment, improving specimen referral, and supporting improvements to commodity supply chain systems.
- Strengthen surveillance capacity and coverage forhuman and animal priority pathogens and AMR through indicator and event-based surveillance systems.
- Strengthen interoperability between diagnostic and surveillance systems to analyze, interpret, and use data for decision-making and action at all levels of the health system.

