



PEPFAR

U.S. President's Emergency Plan for AIDS Relief



2017 PEPFAR Progress Report

In October 2016, ASCP's Center for Global Health (CGH) renewed its President's Emergency Plan for AIDS Relief (PEPFAR) cooperative agreement with the U.S. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC). CGH has since continued supporting laboratory strengthening in resource-limited countries with a number of new developments.

In 2016, CGH added the Caribbean region and Myanmar to its international roster. In line with this growth, CGH has continued to seek opportunities for connections and collaborations that will improve the scope of impact and effectiveness of its global efforts to support PEPFAR's mission to make a safer world, more secure from infectious disease threats. In Myanmar, ASCP has partnered with National Reference Laboratory Australia (NRL Australia) to scale up and strengthen the quality of HIV rapid testing and viral load monitoring.

ASCP has also continued its ongoing efforts in Vietnam, Mozambique, and Ukraine to strengthen the laboratory workforce and support laboratory accreditation initiatives. To meet these objectives, ASCP has brought on a team of local expert consultants in Mozambique to facilitate our work and expedite implementation. Building on ASCP's success in Maputo, ASCP is working to do the same in Ukraine.

In addition to laboratory strengthening and workforce development, ASCP has also initiated projects for surveillance and epidemiology. In Mozambique and Vietnam, CGH is assisting in the planning and rollout of HIV incidence surveillance using the HIV recency assay. This new surveillance program will help epidemiologists and program managers better understand the epidemic and to allocate resources more effectively to stem to spread of new infections. CGH is also working with partners in Mozambique to roll out HIV genotyping capability to support HIV drug resistance testing. Introduction of this highly complex test will present challenges, but the benefits to epidemiology and patient care will be immense.



As CGH enters the new year, the team remains committed to finding innovative and cost-effective ways to support HIV diagnosis, care, and treatment and support our local and international partners as we bend the arc toward achieving epidemic control.