Managing Hundreds of Improvement Teams

Recognizing the notable scale of USAID Applying Science to Strengthen and Improve Systems (ASSIST) Project activities and sizable number of improvement teams, which in some cases is close to 1,000 improvement teams managed in one country at a point in time, we sought to answer the questions: How do we manage hundreds of improvement teams in one country alone? How do we manage more than 4,000 improvement teams globally? The leaders of our improvement programs manage such efforts as though they are second-nature, without pointing to the specific skills and strategies needed to manage thousands of teams. This paper was developed to capture the lessons, considerations, and insights shared in discussions with leaders on the USAID ASSIST Project, including country Chiefs of Party and Regional Directors. More specifically, this paper seeks to describe what is involved in scaling up and managing large numbers of improvement teams.

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<tr>
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<th>FY15</th>
<th>FY16</th>
<th>FY17</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Number of countries</td>
<td>19</td>
<td>28</td>
<td>33</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Number of government and implementing partners</td>
<td>107 (73 PEPFAR)</td>
<td>143 (96 PEPFAR)</td>
<td>159 (77 PEPFAR)</td>
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<tr>
<td>Number of health facilities for improvement work</td>
<td>2802 (2136 PEPFAR)</td>
<td>2781 (2375 PEPFAR)</td>
<td>3,111 (1,740 PEPFAR)</td>
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<tr>
<td>Number of communities for community-level improvement work</td>
<td>906 (840 PEPFAR)</td>
<td>1562 (1327 PEPFAR)</td>
<td>2,020 (1,499 PEPFAR)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Number of quality improvement teams</td>
<td>3156 (2459 PEPFAR)</td>
<td>3145 (2697 PEPFAR)</td>
<td>4,004 (2,777 PEPFAR)</td>
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<tr>
<td>Catchment population</td>
<td>111 million (77 million PEPFAR)</td>
<td>104 million (95 million PEPFAR)</td>
<td>112 million (91 million PEPFAR)</td>
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</tbody>
</table>

Read the article [here](#) [2]

[Community Health](#) [3]
[Health Workforce Development](#) [4]
[Improvement Science](#) [5]

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Organization(s): USAID Applying Science to Strengthen and Improve Systems (ASSIST) Project/URC
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