



Photo by Warren Zelman

USAID MEDICINES, TECHNOLOGIES, AND PHARMACEUTICAL SERVICES (MTaPS) PROGRAM

Improved Access. Improved Services. Better Health Outcomes.

The MTaPS Program is from the American People through USAID

Based on its decades of expertise in strengthening health systems to save lives and improve the health of people in low- and middle-income countries, USAID supports better governance and integrated, innovative, and sustainable strategies to strengthen pharmaceutical systems.

THE USAID MEDICINES, TECHNOLOGIES, AND PHARMACEUTICAL SERVICES (MTaPS) PROGRAM

Preventing maternal and child deaths, creating an AIDS-free generation, and protecting communities from infectious disease threats need efficient pharmaceutical services and appropriate treatment with safe, effective, and quality-assured medicines.

Controlling the global hazard of antimicrobial resistance and supporting the Global Health Security Agenda rely on robust pharmaceutical systems worldwide.

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THE USAID MTaPS GOAL, OBJECTIVES, AND EXPECTED RESULTS

Funded by USAID and led by Management Sciences for Health and its consortium of partners, the goal of the five-year Medicines, Technologies, and Pharmaceutical Services (MTaPS) program (2018–2023) is to help low- and middle- income countries strengthen their pharmaceutical systems to ensure sustainable access to and appropriate use of safe, effective, quality-assured, and affordable essential medical products and pharmaceutical services by:

1. Strengthening pharmaceutical-sector **governance**
 - Improved transparency and accountability of country pharmaceutical systems
 - Better enforcement of evidence-based medicines policies, laws, regulations, guidelines, norms, and standards
 - Increased stakeholder engagement and empowerment, including civil society and consumers
2. Increasing **institutional and human resource capacity** for pharmaceutical management and services, including regulation of medical products
 - Institutionalization of proven, innovative approaches to building human resource capacity
 - Stronger capacity of government to manage pharmaceutical systems and of private-sector organizations to support pharmaceutical operations
 - Increased medicines regulatory capacity, such as through regional regulatory harmonization



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3. Increasing the availability and use of pharmaceutical **information** for decision making and advancing the global learning agenda
 - Interoperability of pharmaceutical management information systems that link patients and products
 - More and better use of information on pharmaceutical systems for decision making
 - Advancements in pharmaceutical systems-strengthening research
4. Optimizing pharmaceutical-sector **financing**, including resource allocation and use
 - Reductions in financial barriers to accessing medicines
 - Implementation of pharmacy benefits programs and evidence-based strategies to select medicines for coverage
 - More efficient pharmaceutical resource allocation and use
 - Mobilization of additional and sustainable resources to strengthen the pharmaceutical sector
5. Improving pharmaceutical **services**, including product availability and patient-centered care, to achieve health outcomes
 - Increased availability of essential medicines and other health technologies
 - Pharmaceutical care that is more patient centered
 - Improved patient safety and therapeutic effectiveness
 - Better containment of antimicrobial resistance and infection prevention and control
 - Support to countries' achievement of Global Health Security Agenda objectives

Meeting current and future health challenges will require not only continued scale up of successful strategies but also broader systems thinking and updated expertise.

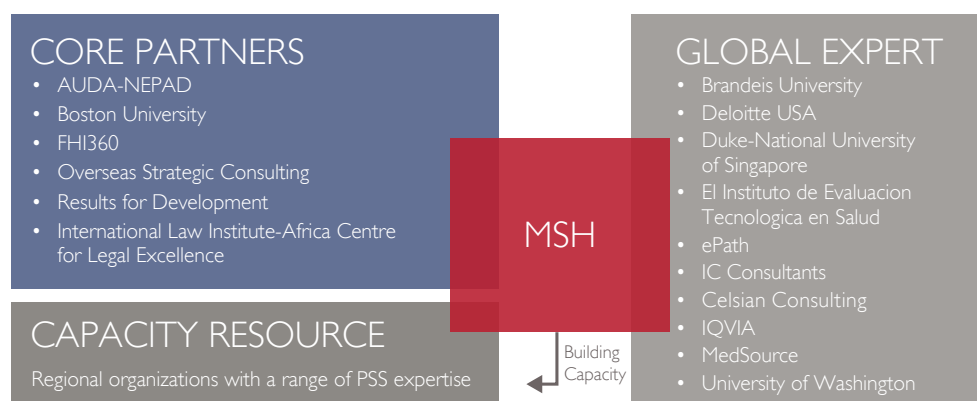
GUIDING PRINCIPLES

The MTaPS approach to strengthening sustainable pharmaceutical systems builds country ownership and self-reliance, drawing on the following guiding principles:

- Utilize a systems-strengthening approach
- Optimize allocation and use of resources for medicines and related functions in health systems
- Build on and strengthen existing systems
- Support integration
- Build/strengthen the capacity of local nongovernmental organizations
- Support country-led coordination
- Provide global technical leadership

The MTaPS Consortium

Led by Management Sciences for Health (MSH), the MTaPS consortium comprises core partners, global experts, and capacity resource partners. Core partners and global experts are listed below. Capacity resource partners include local organizations with regional or country-based knowledge, technical expertise, and networks (African Health Economics and Policy Association, African Collaborating Centre for Pharmacovigilance and Surveillance, Ecumenical Pharmaceutical Network, Kilimanjaro School of Pharmacy, Muhimbili University, Pharmaceutical Systems Africa, U3 SystemsWork, and the University of Ibadan) and other partners (Columbus Consulting, Empower Swiss, and Softworks).



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