



HEALTH SYSTEMS STRENGTHENING ACCELERATOR

Accelerating Progress Toward Stronger Health Systems

The Health Systems Strengthening Accelerator (Accelerator) is a global initiative funded by the United States Agency for International Development (USAID), with co-funding from the Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation. Its goal is to support countries' efforts to create high-performing, sustainable health systems on their journeys to self-reliance.

A Flexible and Adaptable Approach for Sustainable Health Systems Strengthening

The Accelerator's flexible approach to technical assistance can be applied to almost any health sector challenge from maternal and newborn health and disease-specific challenges to specific components of the system. Using a robust, inclusive country-led process, the Accelerator works with local and regional partners to strengthen the institutions, processes, and resources that will drive progress against specific health sector challenges, while strengthening capacity for continuous health systems improvement beyond aid. Its approach aims to support countries' health systems stakeholders as they apply systemic analysis and adopt innovative systems approaches to health systems challenges based on global and regional learning.

The program is particularly well suited to help countries address health sector challenges that require synchronized changes to multiple parts and levels of the health system.

Adapting to COVID-19

The Accelerator is adapting to ensure that its work is responsive to countries' needs during the COVID-19 pandemic. Through a combination of virtual methods and working through our partners in Cote d'Ivoire, Ghana, Guinea, Liberia and Togo, the Accelerator continues to support countries as they strengthen their systems during the time of acute attention to COVID-19.

Accelerator at a Glance

**5
YEARS**

Global initiative
(2018-2023)

**\$200
MILLION**

Ceiling with USAID and
additional catalytic
funding from the Bill
and Melinda Gates
Foundation

**20
COUNTRIES**

The Accelerator
will work with
stakeholders in
up to 20 countries
worldwide

Program Goals



Increased financial risk protection. The Accelerator partners with countries to reduce financial barriers to accessing essential health services. Drawing on its deep expertise in health financing, the program helps countries accelerate progress towards sustainable, self-financed health systems in support of health for all.



Improved quality of essential health services. The Accelerator improves the quality of services to ensure that essential health services meet the needs of the communities they serve. The program also works with health systems stakeholders to embed collaborating, learning and adapting (CLA) practices into country-led processes to allow for continuous assessment and improvement over time.



More equitable population coverage. The Accelerator helps countries expand coverage of essential health services to all people. The program ensures that health services are responsive to community needs and able to reach all people, including the most vulnerable and marginalized.

Current Activities

The Accelerator is currently supporting **Cote d'Ivoire, Ghana, Guinea, Liberia, Sri Lanka, and Togo** to address near-term challenges, including sustainable HIV financing transition, strengthening the role of civil society, strengthening health insurance and primary health care, improving the design and implementation of community health strategies to accelerate progress toward universal health coverage in West Africa, and integrating mental health and rehabilitation services into primary health care. In Ghana, the Accelerator is supporting the coordination of the national COVID-19 response across sectors, levels and partners.

Additional activities are under development to strengthen the role of health systems and policy research institutions in the Asia region. The Accelerator is also conducting research to generate new evidence on the effectiveness of different vaccination strategies and their ability to strengthen routine immunization delivery systems, as well as on linkages between social behavior change and social accountability.

Partner Consortium

The Accelerator is led by Results for Development (R4D) with the Health Strategy and Delivery Foundation (HSDF, headquartered in Nigeria) and ICF. The Accelerator works through local and regional partners with expertise in a wide range of areas. As the Accelerator's portfolio of support grows, additional local and regional technical institutions are added to the consortium.

Get Involved

Interested in learning more?

USAID Office

USAID missions and country representatives interested in buying into the project should contact Jodi Charles, USAID Agreement Officer's Representative, at jcharles@usaid.gov

The Accelerator

Other interested parties should contact Nathan Blanchet, Interim Project Director, at nblanchet@r4d.org



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