

FACT SHEET

Health and Education Office

Saath-Saath Project

In support of the Government of Nepal (GON), USAID's Saath-Saath Project reduces the transmission and impact of HIV and AIDS and improves reproductive health among key affected populations.

Nepal's first HIV case was detected in 1988. Today, the country has a concentrated HIV epidemic with almost 40,000 adults and children living with HIV, and an estimated overall adult HIV prevalence (15-49 years) of 0.20 percent, the highest among South Asian countries.¹

In 2013, USAID commemorated 20 years of continued support and partnership to the GON's national HIV response. USAID helped develop epidemic-tailored programs for Nepal's Key Affected Populations² (KAPs) and people living with HIV and their families. USAID's efforts have also improved access to services designed to prevent and manage sexually transmitted infections. At the same time, USAID's programs have led to improved HIV-related prevention, care, support, and treatment services in Nepal, supporting Millennium Development Goal 6: Combat HIV/AIDS, malaria and other diseases.

PROJECT OVERVIEW

The \$24 million Saath-Saath Project builds on the successes and lessons of the highly successful Advancing Surveillance, Policies, Prevention, Care and Support to Fight HIV/AIDS (ASHA) Project – USAID's previous activity to combat HIV and AIDS in Nepal. The Saath-Saath Project's primary goal is to reduce the transmission and impact of HIV/AIDS and improve reproductive health among selected KAPs.

The project is guided by four key principles: strengthening host country and local ownership; increasing effectiveness; institutionalizing coordination and collaboration; and building local capacity.



HIV prevention messages are provided to KAPs by trained outreach workers using various innovative educational materials.

SNAPSHOT

Life of Project: October 2011 to September 2016

Goal: To reduce the transmission and impact of HIV and AIDS and improve reproductive health among selected KAPs in a manner that supports the Government of Nepal's services.

Implementing Partners: FHI 360 Nepal, in partnership with Association of Medical Doctors of Asia and more than 40 local implementing partner agencies.

Geographic Focus: 33 districts nationwide

¹ National Centre for AIDS and STD Control (NCASC), 2014

² The existing National HIV and AIDS Strategy 2011-2016 and Nepal HIV Investment Plan 2014-2016 identify people who inject drugs, female sex workers and their clients, migrant workers and their spouses, and men who have sex with other men as key affected populations (KAPs).

Saath-Saath Project will deliver results in five areas:

- Decrease HIV prevalence among selected KAPs, primarily female sex workers;
- Improve reproductive health among KAPs;
- Increase GON and civil society capacity to plan, collect, and use strategic information to increase evidence-based programming and ensure optimal impact of collective efforts;
- Increase the quality and use of HIV services, such as home-based care, and the clinical management of people living with HIV and AIDS;
- Strengthen coordination among all HIV/AIDS partners to ensure streamlined and high-impact efforts across all KAPs.



Saath-Saath Project provides expanded integrated health services to KAPs.

PLANNED OUTCOMES

By 2016, the Saath-Saath Project will achieve the following results:

- Reduce new HIV infections among female sex workers;
- Reach 43,000 female sex workers with targeted HIV prevention services;
- Increase family planning use among migrant couples from 24 percent to 30 percent in four migrant-focused districts;
- Reach 150,000 migrants and their spouses with targeted HIV prevention services;
- Integrate family planning services with HIV services for KAPs;
- Treat 25,000 KAPs for sexually transmitted infections;
- Provide testing and counseling services to 100,000 KAPs;
- Provide care and support services to 10,000 people living with HIV/AIDS;
- Reach 7,500 female and transgender sex workers with specific interventions that address HIV/AIDS as it relates to gender-based violence and coercion.

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