

## What is the CASPR Project?

CASPR, designed by AVAC in collaboration with key partners and supported by USAID, is a network of strategic partnerships and an interconnected array of activities supporting the development & sustainability of an Africa-centered network to accelerate biomedical HIV prevention research. The CASPR project encompasses AVAC's body of work focused on advocacy and engagement around HIV biomedical interventions in the research and development process, and brings together experienced partners united by a commitment to a collaborative and responsive HIV prevention research movement. CASPR will undertake activities in four major objective areas:



### Advocacy Networks

*Strengthen and expand an informed, action-oriented global advocacy network that facilitates HIV prevention research.*



### Research Translation

*Strengthen information sharing & translation of research into policies & practices to ensure support for research, & research agendas that reflect stakeholder needs & interests.*



### Research Preparedness

*Ensure that rights & interests of trial participants, eventual users & communities are represented & respected throughout research to rollout process.*



### Policy Engagement

*Develop and advocate for policies and processes to facilitate the expeditious & ethical development, introduction and use of new HIV prevention options.*

## Why is CASPR needed?

A core challenge for the HIV prevention field in the coming years is to pursue scale-up of available tools while sustaining momentum in research and development (R&D). CASPR addresses this challenge by supporting the HIV R&D pipeline in the context of a comprehensive response to the epidemic, which includes delivering the treatment and prevention options already available, demonstrating the added value of emerging strategies, and developing long-term solutions.

## What partners will be engaged under CASPR?

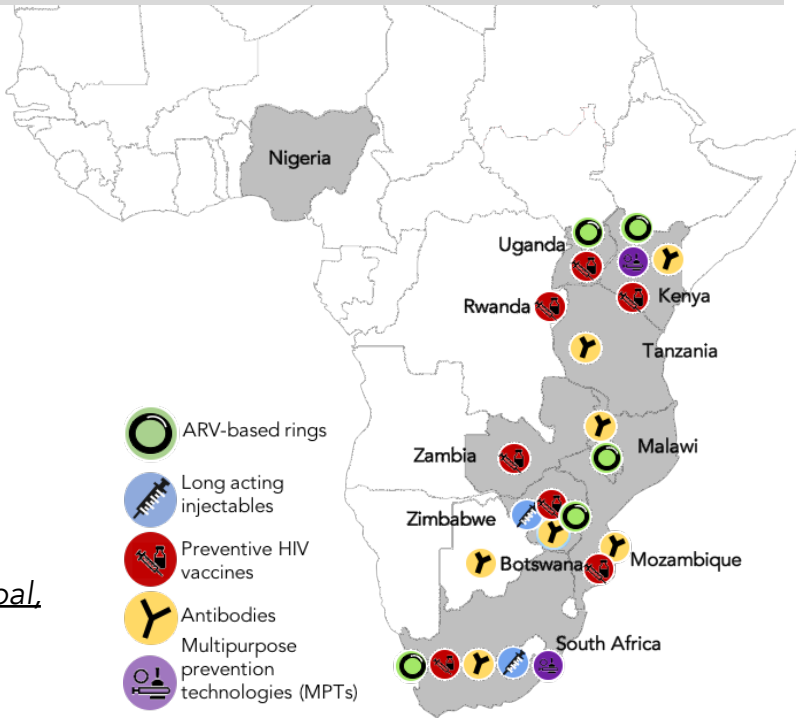
CASPR is comprised of experienced partners that provide the network with an African "center of gravity" for leveraging local capacity and ensuring activities strengthen and utilize local structures, including: *Advocacy for Prevention of HIV & AIDS (APHA)*, the *HIV/AIDS Vaccine Ethics Group (HAVEG)* in South Africa, the *New HIV Vaccine & Microbicide Advocacy Society (NHVMAS)*, *WACI Health*, and *Wits Reproductive Health & HIV Institute*. CASPR partners also represent organizations and individuals with longstanding engagement and global leadership in the region, including: *Avenir Health*, *FHI 360*, *International AIDS Vaccine Initiative (IAVI)*, and *Internews*. While the core members will provide the network with strategic direction and execute the bulk of activities, CASPR will engage a range of stakeholders throughout its five year duration, and the coalition will expand as necessary to reflect the evolutions in HIV prevention research.



# What is the focus?

CASPR focuses efforts primarily in key African countries (highlighted in gray on the map) with the highest burden of new HIV infections and in which biomedical HIV prevention research is ongoing or planned.

Planned & Ongoing HIV Prevention Research in Africa



While CASPR will prioritize key African countries, the network will expand as necessary to reflect relevant evolutions in the science and to allow for inclusivity and diversity in membership and geography.

Below are key CASPR activities at the global, national and regional levels:

## GLOBAL

- Develop a virtual Advocacy Institute to provide training & support to advocates, policy makers and researchers globally.
- Develop a pan-prevention, open-access research literacy platform to allow audiences to find desired materials with precision.
- Expand resource tracking for R&D financing and prevention programming.
- Expand Good Participatory Practice (GPP) through establishment of Africa-based GPP Center or Excellence and development of GPP theory of change.
- Conduct mathematical modeling to estimate the harms, benefits, feasibility, costs and cost-effectiveness of biomedical HIV prevention.

## REGIONAL

- Formalize a Network of African HIV Advocates as an organizing body for regional advocacy.
- Support regulatory capacity building systems for HIV prevention R&D.
- Support development and review of guidelines around R&D conduct and antiretroviral-based prevention.
- Continue advocacy to increase domestic financing for HIV research.

## COUNTRY

- Collect data on national prevention planning budgeting & research agendas.
- Build capacity of partner groups to conduct data analysis on biomedical prevention R&D.
- Recruit and support R&D and key population-focused advocates.
- Build relationships between journalists & researchers to promote informed reporting of science.

For more information on HIV biomedical prevention research, please visit [www.avac.org](http://www.avac.org)

