

## ASCP Institute: Improving Laboratory Quality in Africa

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aka Fundisile (Zulu name meaning "she taught us")

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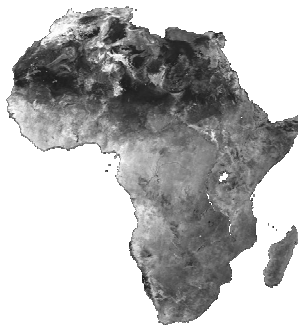
## Objectives

**Upon completion of this presentation, the participant will be able to:**

- Write out the words for PEPFAR and list 3 countries in which ASCP is working.
- Describe ASCP's involvement with CDC and other partners to support laboratory training and quality improvement for diagnosis and monitoring of HIV/AIDS patients in PEPFAR countries.
- Outline the process related to the PEPFAR Program: needs assessment, development of educational materials and presentation of workshops.
- Access more PEPFAR information and determine your willingness to volunteer.

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ASCP Institute's PEPFAR Initiative



## PEPFAR

First announced in President Bush's State of the Union address on January 28, 2003.

On May 27, 2003, President Bush signed [P.L. 108-25](#), the United States Leadership Against Global HIV/AIDS, Tuberculosis, and Malaria Act of 2003, the legislative authorization for the Emergency Plan.

[Ambassador Mark R. Dybul](#) is the current U.S. Global AIDS Coordinator.

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## PEPFAR

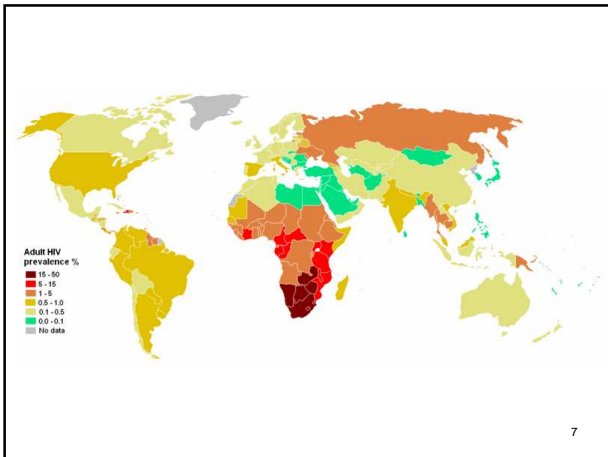
**President's  
Emergency  
Plan  
for  
AIDS  
Relief**

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## PEPFAR Focus Countries

- 15 countries most severely affected
- Home to about half of the world's estimated 40 million HIV-positive people and to almost 8 million children orphaned or made vulnerable by HIV/AIDS.

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## PEPFAR countries

Ethiopia  
 Tanzania  
 South Africa, Lesotho, Swaziland  
 Zambia  
 Kenya  
 Malawi  
 Nigeria  
 Namibia  
 Rwanda  
 Cote d'Ivoire (Ivory Coast)  
 Guyana and Haiti

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## PEPFAR

Through the Emergency Plan, the U.S. Government is working with international, national and local leaders worldwide to support integrated [prevention](#), [treatment](#) and [care](#) programs.

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## HIV/AIDS Statistics

- There are some 40 million people living with HIV/AIDS in developing nations.
- In Zambia, for instance, some 1.2 million people are affected.
- In developing countries, the disease has affected nearly one in five adults and orphaned 650,000 children.
- In Ethiopia, more than four million citizens are infected with the HIV virus.
- About one-third of all Ethiopian hospital beds are occupied by HIV carriers.

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## PEPFAR funding

From the U.S. Dept. of Health and Human Services and Centers for Disease Control and Prevention through a cooperative agreement.

It is a \$15 billion international relief effort over 5 years (2003-2008).

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## ASCP's Start

- **April 9<sup>th</sup>**, 2004 – met with ASCP staff to begin cooperative agreement application
- Requested \$150,000

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## ASCP's role

Enhance laboratory testing practices and services

thereby improving care and treatment for individuals with HIV/AIDS

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## August 2005

What:

The U.S. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) awarded the ASCP a "cooperative agreement" (grant)

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## August 2005

Why:

To support lab training and quality improvement for diagnosis and lab monitoring

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## August 2005

Who:

HIV/AIDS patients in resource-limited countries that are part of PEPFAR

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## PEPFAR

Consultants work with ASCP staff and other ASCP volunteers in training laboratorians and helping build laboratory infrastructure mainly in sub-Saharan African countries severely affected by HIV/AIDS.

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## Why is ASCP involved?

- High-quality laboratory science is based on accurate testing, reliable diagnosis and effective treatment monitoring.
- Apart from being the "right" thing to do, ASCP has long been dedicated to educating laboratory professionals and assessing their ongoing competency.
- That's why ASCP was picked by the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) and the Association of Public Health Laboratories (APHL) to implement quality assurance programs and laboratory training in the PEPFAR countries.

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## ASCP programs include:

Basic training modules in chemistry, hematology and CD4 testing

Quality improvement programs for diagnosis and laboratory monitoring of HIV/AIDS patients in resource-limited countries.

Phlebotomy training

Curriculum review

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## Process

- On-site assessment
  - Lab site visits
  - Meet with leadership to obtain support
- Create, review, modify training materials
- Train the Trainers
- Conduct training
- Provide technical assistance

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## Initial Projects

- Ethiopia
  
- Kenya

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## First Country: Ethiopia

- To date:
  - Initial assessment
  - 4 basic training trips
  - 2 Train the Trainer trips
  - Lab Retreat
  - Technical Assistance
  - Trips to interior as well as in Addis Ababa
  - Currently
    - Assisting with prep for accreditation by JCI
    - Curriculum assistance for schools

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## Recent Trips

- Tanzania Strategic Planning Meeting (March 10 – 14)
- Ethiopia Lab Retreat (March 20 - 21)
- Ethiopia Technical Assistance (January 21 – March 20)
- Rwanda Pre-Service and Assessment (March 17-21)
- Nigeria Harmonization Workshop (March 17 – 21)
- Tanzania Pre-service Curriculum Finalization – (March 24 – 30)
- Ethiopia Curriculum Review Workshop – (March 31 – April 4)

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## Ethiopia

- ASCP consultant spent 2 months providing technical assistance to National Reference Lab in prep. for JCI accreditation
- 2<sup>nd</sup> ASCP consultant now there
- By end of 2008: JCI initial accreditation assessment

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## South Africa

- Phlebotomy training
- Technical assistance
- Goal: accreditation of all labs by end of 2008 (SANAS = South African National Accreditation System)

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## Phlebotomy training

- **May 2-4, 2007**
- training workshop for 16 phlebotomists in Johannesburg, South Africa.
- Didactic and hands-on venipuncture experience.
- Facilitated by ASCP consultants Kathleen Finnegan, MS,MT(ASCP)SH and Catherine Murphy-Vetter,MS,MT(ASCP)SCT and ASCP staff.

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## Technical Assistance Trips

- **June and September 2007**
- ASCP Consultants, Patricia J. Ellinger, MSED, MT(ASCP)<sup>CM</sup>SBB<sup>CM</sup> and Dr. Kathleen McEnerney traveled throughout South Africa.
- Provided technical assistance to the Field Epidemiology and Laboratory Training Program (FELTP).
- Taught one-day courses on quality assurance as it relates to HIV patient monitoring.
- Participants will complete a quality assurance project within six months.

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## Current Project in Mozambique

ASCP Institute joined forces with:

- WHO-AFRO (World Health Org – Africa)
- PEPFAR
- Goal: develop consensus stds on lab tests, instrumentation, and supplies to help overcome HIV/AIDS, TB, and malaria

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## Mozambique Project funded by:

- World Bank
- US CDC
- Global Fund to Fight AIDS, TB and Malaria
- Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation
- Clinton Foundation

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## Mozambique Process

- January consensus conference
  - Created list of supplies and tests needed at each level of the lab network
  - Guide standardization of lab equipment
  - Develop maintenance/service contracts
  - Prepared written declaration of the global commitment

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## Final Consensus Report

- Michele Best, MT(ASCP) – responsible for leading development of the final report
- Tentatively due for completion this summer

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## Additional Funding to ASCP

- Sept. 2007 – Aug. 2008
- More than \$2.8 million (\$1.2 in previous year)
- Cote d'Ivoire, Ethiopia, Haiti, Kenya, Lesotho, Namibia, Nigeria, Rwanda, Swaziland and Tanzania

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## Upcoming Trips

- Ethiopia Curriculum Review Workshop – (March 31 – April 4)
- Swaziland TA – (March 14 – June 20)
- Swaziland TA assistance (April 21 – May 2)
- Lab Management and Basic Lab Operations Training in Haiti – (April 21-May 2)
- Lesotho Lab Management and BLOT (June 2 – 11)
- Nigeria Chemistry, Hematology & CD4 TOT (tentative June 16-27)
- Nigeria Pre-service Assessment ( June 27-June 30)
- Kenya Pre-service Assessment (July 1 – July 4)

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## Latest Initiatives

- Technician/technologist training
- Management training

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## School Pilot Project - Tanzania

- Initial assessment (pre-service meeting)
- The ASCP team performed a gap analysis with faculty and school principals.
- Purpose:
  - Suggest and collaborate on developing psychomotor, cognitive and affective exercises
  - Expand lecture notes
  - Expand specific goals and aims, appropriate learning objectives, in-service/clinical rotation checklists, exams and assessment tools.

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## School Pilot Project - Tanzania

- Initial assessment
- Helped revise curriculum
- Taught teaching techniques
- Procured equipment, books and computers for all 5 schools

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## Management

- Marian Cavagnaro, MS, MT(ASCP)DLM and Michele L. Best, MT(ASCP) met with representatives from CDC-Tanzania, Ministry of Health-Tanzania, AMREF and in-country implementing partners in July.

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## Management

- Reviewed the newly developed facility-level laboratory management modules.
- The materials currently being modified based on country-specific needs.

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## Management Modules:

- Leadership Concepts
- Overview of Quality Systems
- Personnel Management
- Equipment and Supply Chain Management
- Document Control and Record Management
- Internal and External Assessments
- Customer Service
- Information Management
- Financial Management

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## How Can You Help?

- Contact ASCP for volunteer opportunities  
– [www.ASCP.org](http://www.ASCP.org)
- Worldwide Lab Improvement, Inc.  
– [www.wvlab.org](http://www.wvlab.org)
- Mercy Ships (2 weeks to 1 year)  
– [www.mercyships.org](http://www.mercyships.org)
- Lab equipment and books  
– [www.projectcure.org](http://www.projectcure.org)  
– [www.clintonfoundation.org](http://www.clintonfoundation.org)

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## ASCP Job Description

- **The responsibilities of an ASCP PEPFAR consultant may include:**
- Traveling to designated PEPFAR countries
- Participating in needs assessments and strategic planning
- Developing training materials
- Training laboratorians in Chemistry, Hematology, and CD4 Testing
- Evaluating the long-term effectiveness of the training programs
- Providing one on one technical assistance

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## Position Requirements

- ASCP member; Pathologist (MD) or Medical Technologist/Technician
- Minimum of 5-10 years of laboratory management and/or clinical experience
- Expertise in hematology, chemistry or CD4 testing
- Trainer/faculty of Ed. events, MT/MLT educator, or Lab Continuing Ed. instructor
- Teaching stamina (teaching for 8 – 10 hours per day)
- Recent experience using equipment (calibration, correlation, maintenance, etc.)
- Strong communication skills (written and oral)
- Diplomatic skills; ability to persuade and influence stakeholders
- Comfortable managing ambiguity/changing priorities
- Excellent problem-solving skills and critical thinking abilities
- Familiarity with the role of consultant (assist and support)
- Technologically astute
- Culturally sensitive
- Sense of humor
- General good health

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## Parlez-vous Francais?

- **French Speaking Members needed to Support ASCP's Activities in PEPFAR Countries**
- **As ASCP moves forward in French-speaking countries such as Cote d'Ivoire, Haiti and Rwanda, members who are fluent in French are needed to support in translation, in-country training activities and technical assistance consultancies.**
- **If you are fluent in French and are interested in contributing to this project, please send an e-mail of interest and your CV or resume to [pepfar@ascp.org](mailto:pepfar@ascp.org).**

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## More Information

- [www.ASCP.org](http://www.ASCP.org)
  - Click on Outreach: Mozambique
  - Click on More . . .

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## What is the condition of laboratories in Africa?

- Wide range of conditions
- Small, less well-equipped, laboratories in clinics
- Well-equipped labs in larger institutions
- Dedicated staff

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## Review Objectives

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Questions?

Thank you!

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