PEPFAR’s Focus on Country Ownership: Implications for Funding Strategies to Achieve an AIDS-Free Generation

FCAA Webinar

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PEPAR’s HIV/AIDS programs must be sustainable and country-driven

- PEPFAR shift from emergency response to sustainable country programs
- The original PEPFAR program was an emergency response to the AIDS epidemic – the focus was on meeting targets to put an increasing number of people on treatment
- As PEPFAR evolved, the focus has shifted to sustaining these initial results by embedding a country’s ability to respond to the AIDS epidemic within its existing health system
- Sustainable programs must be country-owned and country-driven
- The PEPFAR program is designed to strengthen partner government capacity to lead the response to the HIV/AIDS epidemic and other health demands
What is the role of private funders as the PEPFAR model shifts to one of country ownership?

As PEPFAR shifts to country ownership, private funders grapple with several questions:

1. Should private funders augment existing multi-lateral programs of catalytic funders (i.e., PEPFAR, GFATM) or fill identified service gaps that are not receiving funding?

2. Should funders fund direct services or capacity building/technical assistance? What is the appetite of private funders for service delivery projects? Is this most appropriately achieved by funding local NGOs or international NGOs?

3. Is there a role for private funders to play in providing bridge funding to fill critical gaps during the transition period?
J&J’s Government Capacity Building Approach

- J&J has shifted its strategic approach - as the PEPFAR model evolved, J&J followed suit
  - FROM: funding service delivery programs implemented by PEPFAR-funded NGOs on the ground
  - TO: build the capacity of governments and Ministry of Health officials in order to strengthen the healthcare system for addressing EMTCT in African countries

- J&J believes engaging with government, particularly at the local levels (provincial and district health offices) is critical to ensuring country ownership of management of the HIV/AIDS epidemic

- This strategic approach compliments PEPFAR funding to NGOs who have been tasked to strengthen local governments
J&J programs reinforce the capacity of local governments to address their own health challenges

• By training African government officials, J&J hopes to build a strong, integrated health system that recognizes the unique challenges of EMTCT

• These programs are a direct response to the PEPFAR principles of country ownership, and reinforces the capacity of local governments to address their own health challenges
Community-Based Organizations

• What is the role of private funders in funding community-based organizations?
  – As PEPFAR funding for community-based organizations declines, private funders have a critical role to play to keep communities engaged
  – Capacity building of community NGOs
  – Most At Risk Populations
    • J&J MARPs/MSM funding
  – Gender-based programming
Integrated Health Systems

How are private funders reacting to efforts to address integrated health systems?

• Appetite for disease-specific funding
  – J&J Pillars:
    1. Saving & Improving the Lives of Women and Children
    2. Preventing Disease in Vulnerable Populations (HIV and chronic disease)
    3. Strengthening the Healthcare Workforce

• Integrated programming