

Catalyzing COVID-19 Action Project

THE CATALYZING COVID-19 ACTION (CCA) PROJECT IS A UNITAID- AND FIND-FUNDED INITIATIVE, RESPONDING TO THE GLOBAL COVID-19 PANDEMIC.

Critical gaps along the COVID-19 cascade concerning access and utilization of screening, testing, and effective therapeutics in management of the disease remain, particularly in low- and middle-income countries (LMIC). Key barriers preventing enhanced access and uptake include:

- a dearth in evidence around the acceptability, feasibility and effectiveness of existing and upcoming diagnostic tools and treatments across LMICs;
- limited implementation of integrated COVID-19 delivery models in health services;
- limited capacity of health systems and platforms;
- weak procurement systems; and
- a lack of accelerated regulatory pathways for COVID-19 commodities to reach LMICs.



CCA GOAL: Accelerate end-to-end access to novel solutions in responding to the COVID-19 pandemic through testing, isolation, care, and treatment approaches adapted to meet the needs of Kenya, Cameroon, and Zimbabwe.

OBJECTIVES



EVIDENCE GENERATION

on acceptability, feasibility and effectiveness of COVID-19 services and delivery models



CATALYTIC IMPLEMENTATION and SUPPLY CHAIN

strengthening of COVID-19 solutions within existing health system platforms



ADVOCACY

for enabling environment for policy and guideline development and regulatory approval to accelerate access to effective test and treat solutions



DEMAND CREATION

for increased access to COVID-19 services, including linkage to vaccination



TRANSITION

and scale-up through linkage to national programs and other funding sources



Elizabeth Glaser
Pediatric AIDS Foundation
Fighting for an AIDS-free generation



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KEY ACTIVITIES



AREA 1:

EVIDENCE GENERATION

Generate evidence through protocol development, data generation, and analysis to identify key gaps and areas for improvement in cost-effectiveness of integrated models; provider perception on feasibility and integration; and clinical outcomes from new COVID-19 therapies. Protocols will include:

- Assess the effectiveness of SARS-CoV-2 RDT integration in maternal, neonatal and child health (MNCH), TB clinics in Cameroon and Kenya
- Evaluate clinical outcomes of SARS-CoV-2 patients presenting to Harare COVID Center of Excellence
- Integrate rapid antigen testing for SARS-CoV-2 in MNCH, HIV and TB services in Cameroon and Kenya



AREA 2:

CATALYTIC IMPLEMENTATION AND SUPPLY CHAIN STRENGTHENING

- Decentralization of testing services and enhanced linkage to treatment through a hub and spoke model
- Develop and implement integrated approaches to provide COVID-19 testing in HIV, TB, and MNCH clinics
- Provide national level support through the COVID-19 taskforce in the introduction of COVID-19 therapeutics
- Set up a Center of Excellence for COVID-19 patient management with new therapeutics in Harare



AREA 3:

ADVOCACY FOR ENABLING ENVIRONMENTS

- Establish strategic dialogue and advocacy through the national COVID-19 response concerning COVID-19 testing, integration, and management with the introduction of novel therapeutics
- Support governments to introduce and implement a basic COVID-19 care package



AREA 4:

DEMAND CREATION

- Conduct rapid assessments gaging community perceptions towards SARS-CoV-2 rapid testing
- Engage CSOs to create demand for COVID-19 services (testing, treatment, vaccinations)
- Support CSOs in engagement of social sectors (schools, churches) to develop and disseminate COVID-19 messaging, promote access to testing, anti-stigma messaging, and conduct campaigns for testing and vaccinations



AREA 5:

EFFECTIVE TRANSITION AND SCALE UP

- Engage with MOH to design transition plans
- Establish advocacy plans to engage with parliamentarians and other stakeholders to ensure domestic resources are allocated to COVID-19 responses
- Collaborate with MOHs and stakeholders to guide project design, implementation and monitoring

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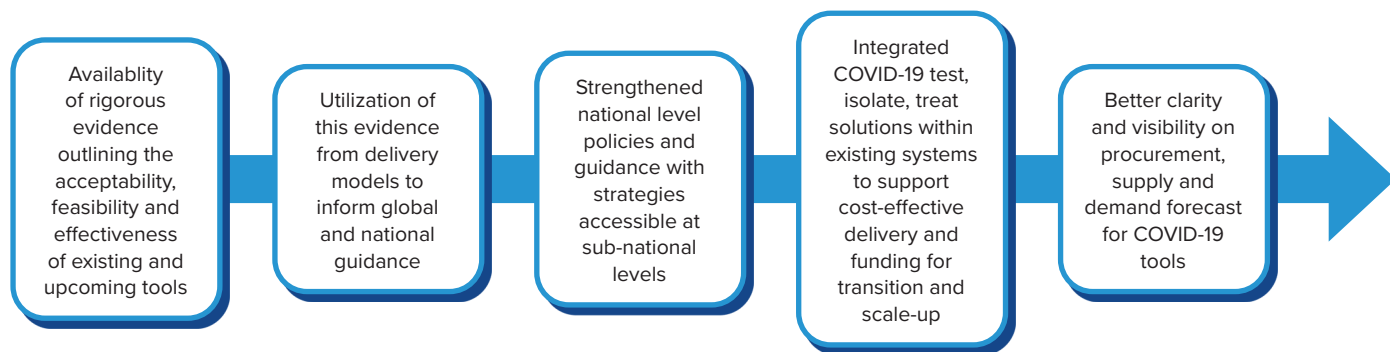
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OUTCOMES

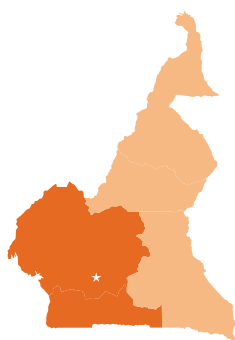
Improved access to and uptake of effective COVID-19 test and treat solutions within health care systems in LMIC



COUNTRY DETAILS

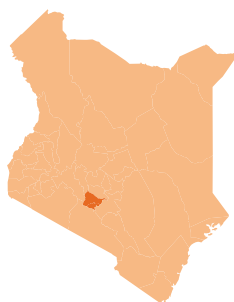
EGPAF will implement CCA in three countries – Cameroon, Kenya, and Zimbabwe focused on the five objectives aligned to the overarching aim of reducing mortality and severe disease from COVID-19 through increased access to high quality diagnostics and therapeutics.

CAMEROON



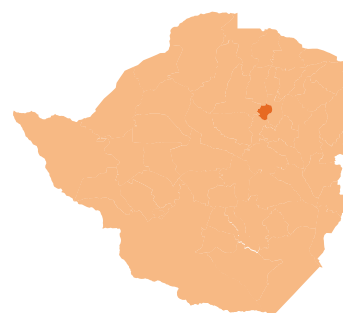
- 5 hub facilities
- 25 spoke facilities
- Located in Centre, Littoral, and West Regions

KENYA



- 2 hub facilities
- 30 spoke facilities
- Located in Nairobi and Kiambu

ZIMBABWE



- 1 Center of Excellence
- 4 feeder facilities
- Located in Harare

