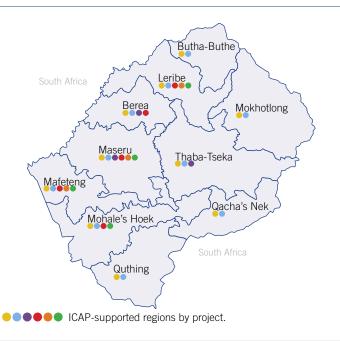


# Lesotho



## **Program Start**

2005

## **Key Technical Areas**

HIV Prevention, Care, and Treatment Health Management Information Systems Population-based Surveys Implementation Science Monitoring and Evaluation Nursing and Midwifery

## **Current Funders**

Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC)
Health Resources and Services Administration (HRSA)
National Institute of Health (NIH)
United States Agency for International Development (USAID)

## **Current Projects**

## Population-based HIV Impact Assessment (PHIA)

ICAP is providing technical assistance and support to Lesotho's Ministry of Health (MOH) to conduct a PHIA assessment to evaluate HIV prevalence, incidence, and access to prevention, care, and treatment services. The project aims to assess the impact of Lesotho's HIV response at the national level to help guide and target future investments and programs. (funded by PEPFAR through the CDC)

## Strengthening Strategic Information Activities in the Kingdom of Lesotho under PEPFAR

Through a five-year cooperative agreement, ICAP is partnering with the MOH to increase system, institutional, and individual capacity in Lesotho for strategic information and health surveillance. Activities aim to: enhance coordination of health management information systems (HMIS) and surveillance activities; support the development, implementation, and use of national HMIS; and support the implementation of an electronic medical records system. Additionally, support and training will be provided to the MOH on the coordination of targeted surveillance activities at the national level. (funded by PEPFAR through the CDC)

## Nursing Education Partnership Initiative (NEPI)

ICAP is working to enhance the capacity of nursing educational institutions in order to increase the number of qualified nurses capable of meeting Lesotho's evolving health needs. The NEPI project aims to improve the quality and relevance of nurse teaching and learning through the introduction of competency-based curricula, innovative learning strategies, academic-service partnerships, and policies and guidelines that support an expanded clinical role for nurses. To successfully meet these aims, ICAP is partnering with the National Department of Health, the National Department of Higher Education, nursing and midwifery schools, educators, and professional associations. Online at nepinetwork.org. (funded by PEPFAR through HRSA)

## Global TA: Accelerating Children's HIV/AIDS Treatment (ACT) Initiative

ICAP is partnering with the MOH and local partners in Lesotho to strengthen monitoring and evaluation systems in order to improve linkage of pediatric patients to HIV care and treatment. This includes: supporting data collection, ensuring data quality, and developing an analysis plan, reporting, and disseminating results. (funded by PEPFAR through the CDC)

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#### Global TA: TB in Miners

ICAP is partnering with the MOH to improve and strengthen linkages to and retention in TB and HIV care for migrant mine workers. This project supports the implementation of a cross-border notification and referral system and provision of integrated TB/HIV screening, diagnosis, care and treatment services at points of care within three regional employment offices that miners routinely visit. (funded by PEPFAR through the CDC)

## Global TA: TB/HIV Evaluation

ICAP is partnering with the MOH to conduct a comprehensive TB and HIV program evaluation that is assessing: 1) intensified TB case finding among all people living with HIV and provide treatment for those diagnosed with TB, and isoniazid preventive therapy (IPT) to those without active TB; 2) HIV testing for all TB patients and patients with presumptive TB, and provide antiretroviral therapy (ART) for those who are HIV-positive; 3) TB infection control measures at facilities to decrease TB



transmission among people living with HIV; and 4) linkage and retention of patients between TB and HIV programs. (funded by PEPFAR through the CDC)

## **Recently Completed Projects**

## **Strategic Timing of AntiRetroviral Treatment (START Study)** (2012 - 2016)

The START study was a cluster site-randomized trial that evaluated a combination intervention package versus the current standard of care with the goal of improving early ART initiation and retention rates during TB treatment, as well as TB treatment success, among HIV-infected TB patients in Lesotho. (funded by PEPFAR through USAID)

## **Strengthening TB/HIV Integration under PEPFAR** (2009 - 2015)

ICAP collaborated with Lesotho's Ministry of Health to integrate TB and HIV services at every level of the health system, enabling a more coordinated response to the nation's dual TB/HIV epidemic. ICAP supported the development of national-level policies and guidelines, and enhanced capacity at the district and health facility level to implement and scale-up services. (funded by the CDC)

## Innovative Strategies to Increase Early TB Case Detection among Miners (2013 - 2015)

ICAP forged a new public-private partnership between Lesotho's Ministry of Health and The Employment Bureau of Africa (TEBA), an agency that recruits men in Lesotho to work in South Africa's mines. The partnership leveraged three high-volume TEBA offices in Maseru, Mafeteng, and Leribe to reach miners and ex-miners—populations with extraordinarily high HIV and TB risk—and their families with much-needed, one-stop health services. (funded by the Canadian International Development Agency through TB Reach and the World Bank through University Research South Africa)

## Enhanced HIV Prevention in Couples Study (EPIC) (2009 - 2015)

The EPIC study focused on feasibility/acceptability research and modeling work to inform the design of a future multi-component study for the prevention of HIV transmission in discordant couples in Lesotho. (funded by the NIH)

## ICAP IN LESOTHO

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