

# HIV/AIDS



Performing an HIV/AIDS-related drama in Ukraine.



An HIV/AIDS awareness march in Mozambique.



Sharing reproductive health information in Mozambique.



A nutrition improvement program in Cambodia.

Over the last 10 years, International Relief & Development (IRD) has developed effective programs to improve the health of millions of people. IRD HIV/AIDS programs include support for home-based care, awareness and prevention, stigma reduction, and organizational development for local groups doing HIV/AIDS work. However, our multi-sectoral approach looks beyond traditional sector boundaries to comprehensively address health and other development issues, since families, especially those in fragile situations, often cannot neatly compartmentalize

their day-to-day challenges into health, economic, or educational categories. Many of our programs include some level of HIV awareness or support people living with HIV/AIDS, even if it is not a formal component. For example, our many nutrition improvement programs reach out to many vulnerable groups, including people living with HIV/AIDS. We work closely with affected communities to develop innovative solutions that are appropriate for their environment, and we provide training so they can continue the program once our role has finished.



## Multiple Countries

### Primary Health Care Initiative (Armenia, Georgia, and Ukraine)

- **Improved conditions of medical facilities in rural areas.**
- **Established community health committees.**
- **Trained health care providers in emergency care, family medicine, and facility management.**

Donor USAID/World Council of Hellenes  
 Date September 2002 - March 2005  
 Amount \$1.6 million

The Primary Health Care Initiative improved access to quality primary health care services for over 60,000 beneficiaries in three countries. In Armenia, IRD rehabilitated and equipped PHC facilities in Lori Marz, as well as implementing the other components of the initiative. The approach was acknowledged by the Armenia National Institute of Health and used as a model for enhanced learning outcomes. In Georgia, IRD increased the professional level of providers and improved the conditions of six medical facilities in the Tsalka region of Georgia. In Ukraine, IRD developed HIV/AIDS and cardiovascular disease awareness programs for the general population of Mariupol and surrounding areas through health education and prevention services, and a public awareness campaign. IRD promoted healthy behavior through interactive peer education sessions in schools, involving 10,000 youth between grades 5-11.

## Azerbaijan

### Family Planning and Reproductive Health Initiatives

- **Developed mass media public education campaign.**
- **Trained peer educators from 56 communities.**
- **Rehabilitated 10 reproductive health facilities.**

Donor USAID/Save the Children  
 Date 2003-2005  
 Amount \$681,756

IRD created family planning and reproductive health pilot programs including a basic package of family planning and reproductive health knowledge for married women, men, and adolescents. Through the project, IRD has trained 180 peer educators who have trained 45,000 adults and adolescents; organized seven reproductive health festivals; and developed and distributed 60,000 family calendars, 30,000 leaflets, and 5,000 posters.

## Cambodia

### Improving Nutrition in Cambodia

- **Improves health of children in low-income households.**
- **Supports people living with HIV/AIDS.**
- **Bolsters school attendance and completion.**

Donor USAID  
 Date October 2007 – September 2008  
 Amount \$100,000

Supported by the USAID's Food for Peace office, IRD is implementing Improving Nutrition in Cambodia Program, which aims to promote and increase attendance in schools in Kampong Chhnang through school feeding activities; aid treatment and promote counseling of HIV/AIDS patients; aid the families and patients in home-based care through distribution of nutritious foods through a network of local NGOs; and aid the convalescence of patients in the pediatric and infectious diseases wards in the Kampong Chhnang Referral Hospital. IRD will assist 5,500 people and distribute 75MT of vegetable and lentil blend packages.

## Mozambique

### Capacity Building of Community Care Coalitions

Donor World Vision  
 Dates November 2007- present  
 Amount \$120,000

IRD provides technical assistance for building organizational capacity to 27 of World Vision's



Community Care Coalitions (CCCs) operating in Zambezia Province. The CCCs are made up of community leaders and other community members who conduct home visits of people living with HIV/AIDS and other chronically ill people, and provide care assistance for orphans and vulnerable children. Some CCCs also have accredited home-based care (HBC) volunteers, providing HBC services to those HIV/AIDS patients who are in the latter stages of the illness. IRD's technical team provides intensive training and mentoring to the leaders and members of the CCCs so that they will have the institutional systems and capacity to successfully operate as independent entities.

**Home-Based Care in Inhambane Province**

- **Helps local organizations develop the skills to care for HIV/AIDS patients in their homes.**
- **Coordinates with local government.**

Donor Embassy of Ireland (Irish Aid)  
 Date December 2008 – February 2010  
 Amount \$1,082,355

This project supports community-based organizations to provide home-based care for patients, specifically HIV/AIDS patients, in coordination with the Provincial Directorate of Health in Inhambane. The project also provides financial support to the CBOs and increases coordination between the various organizations doing the work.

**Positive Organizational Development Program**

- **Developed ability of local organizations to provide care for people living with HIV/AIDS.**
- **Provided sub-grants for income-generating activities.**

Donor National AIDS Council of Mozambique  
 Date June 2005 – July 2006  
 Amount \$151,000

In partnership with the National Network of Associations of People Living with HIV/AIDS, IRD worked with three local associations of people living with HIV/AIDS in Inhambane province. The project provided institutional capacity building training,

including leadership, financial management, project planning, and monitoring and evaluation; and operational capacity building through various training programs in home based care, pre- and post-test counseling, and ART adherence counseling. IRD has since received funding from CIDA, AED, and USAID/World Vision for these activities.

**Women First Program**

- **Uses community-based health care approach.**
- **Trains women in small business skills.**
- **A model of a successful public private partnership.**

Donor World Vision/Canadian International Development Agency  
 Dates June 2005 – present  
 Amount \$342, 325/\$91,000

The Women First program was initiated through established women's groups from the Women's Society of the United Methodist Church, in Inhambane Province. In partnership with household supply company Unilever, IRD uses an intensive small business training program, facilitates an in-kind micro-credit scheme, and establishes a sustainable product supply chain. In addition to the small business component, the Women First project is training peer educators to raise health and HIV/AIDS prevention issues with women in their groups, as well as bringing these messages home to their families and communities. In 2006, IRD expanded the program to Zambezia Province with funding from World Vision. The project has since added more distributors and varied the types of products it sells. The project will expand into two more districts and to 20 more groups in the fall of 2008. Women First was selected by UNDP for its Growing Sustainable Business program.



## Serbia

### Community Revitalization through Democratic Action (CRDA)

- **Implemented over 1,000 activities prioritized by local communities.**
- **Provided technical assistance, training, monitoring, and oversight to ensure the sustainability of projects.**
- **Encouraged development of local NGOs.**

Donor      USAID  
Date        July 2001 – July 2007  
Amount     \$40 million

IRD implemented a broad range of activities under CRDA, including family planning, reproductive health, and HIV/AIDS awareness, as well as community mobilization and development, solid waste management and environmental public awareness, community infrastructure, economic revitalization, and women's initiatives. Over 5.5 million people benefitted, with additional income for participants of \$34 million.

## Ukraine

### Reducing the Stigma and Discrimination Associated with HIV Infection and AIDS

- **Gives voice to those affected by HIV/AIDS.**
- **Promotes a supportive environment for people living with HIV/AIDS through strategic communications.**
- **Protects the rights of those affected by HIV/AIDS.**

Donor      USAID  
Date        September 2004 - September 2008  
Amount     \$2.4 million

IRD hosts public events and is training a network of specialists on anti-stigma and discrimination issues regarding HIV/AIDS. Over 150,000 people in Crimea and the Donetsk region have been reached through music and theater performances, photo exhibits, public debates, round tables, and summer camps.

---

For more information, visit [www.ird.org](http://www.ird.org)

---