



COVID-19 Pandemic Response

Tailoring Strategies to Address an Emerging Health Crisis

Funded by the U.S. Agency for International Development (USAID), the Reaching Impact, Saturation, and Epidemic Control (RISE) project assists countries to build sustainable responses to the HIV epidemic and COVID-19 pandemic, providing technical assistance, service delivery, and health systems support to address global health emergencies. The global project supports COVID-19 efforts in 17 countries: **Afghanistan, Bangladesh, Cameroon, Ecuador, Ethiopia, Ghana, Guinea, India, Kenya, Lesotho, Mozambique, Namibia, Nigeria, Rwanda, Sierra Leone, South Africa, and Zimbabwe.** Utilizing system-focused strategies that are responsive, holistic, and flexible to meet each country's specific circumstances, RISE provides contextually appropriate technical assistance to address gaps identified through consultations with ministries of health, USAID Missions, and other national and subnational stakeholders.

COVID-19 Mitigation Highlights

- **21,349,535** COVID-19 vaccines administered
- **6,539** facilities supported with COVID-19 case management technical assistance
- **24** RISE-supported pressure swing adsorption plants for oxygen generation
- **75,107** health workers trained on COVID-19 case management
- **57** national policies, protocols, and guidelines developed or adapted with U.S. Government and RISE support

RISE technical areas are parts of a holistic solution



RISE builds upon partners' HIV expertise with hard-to-reach populations, community-based care facilities, and demand generation to mitigate the effects of COVID-19 on populations and health care systems, while pivoting to protect global investments by the Global Fund and U.S. President's Emergency Plan for AIDS Relief (PEPFAR). Increasing vaccination rates, strengthening capacity to care for COVID-19 patients, and ensuring a sustainable national supply of oxygen are at the

center of RISE COVID-19 pandemic planning.

Vaccines

RISE began planning for COVID-19 immunization long before a vaccine was ready, adapting World Health Organization templates and collaborating with government programs on readiness assessments that informed national vaccination plans. RISE's support varies from combating misinformation and increasing acceptance, to preparing mobile vaccine brigades to reach the farthest terrains and vaccinate people often left out of national health care plans. In all cases, RISE utilizes its depth of experience in reaching vulnerable adult and adolescent populations to inform vaccination strategies. Past logistics support for frontline care led to successful vaccine distribution plans:

- Establishment of new vaccination sites for adults, with well-trained frontline workers in some cases pivoting from HIV prevention services
- Mapping of populations for micro-planning at national and subnational levels
- Supportive supervision on effective vaccine handling and distribution and on adverse events following immunization

Clinical Case Management and Basic Emergency Care

RISE is ready to ameliorate deficits identified through skills assessments, such as the lack of case management or basic emergency care proficiency seen in COVID-19 wards. In partnership with the Johns Hopkins University Center for Global Emergency Care and academic leaders around the world, RISE strengthens country clinical care and infectious disease surveillance and optimizes emergency operations:

- Early support included modification of standard operating procedures, protocols, and clinical algorithms for triage and stabilization to meet the sudden demands of COVID-19 cases and optimize patient flow.
- Building on two decades of HIV pandemic support, RISE is piloting a test-to-treat approach for early detection and treatment of COVID-19 to halt disease spread.
- RISE works with national governments to leverage new and existing data to predict hotspots in need of immediate resources.



Oxygen

RISE technical assistance seeks to grow the capacity of partner countries to meet immediate demands while leaving new infrastructure in place to strengthen local health systems. As COVID-19 spread, demand for and availability of medical oxygen reached crisis levels. USAID stepped in to alleviate this need with a variety of oxygen equipment donations and called on RISE for support with technical assistance.

- Oxygen interventions focus on best practices in clinical care and maintenance of oxygen devices for maximum production. Medical providers are trained to manage hypoxia and apply safe titration for optimum oxygen therapy.
- RISE partners with ministries of health and other stakeholders to conduct national needs assessments that strategically grow the local oxygen ecosystem, then develop policies, procedures, and job aids to institutionalize learning.
- Biomedical engineers and technicians are introduced to the latest, evidence-based manuals to maintain or repair oxygen resources such as pressure swing adsorption or liquid oxygen plants and patient respiratory devices such as bilevel positive airway pressure, continuous positive airway pressure, and high-flow nasal cannula.
- RISE supports hospital administrators to build and employ oxygen dashboards for system-wide planning and forecasting.

Key Award Information

RISE is led by Jhpiego in consortium with ICAP at Columbia University, Management Sciences for Health, ANOVA Health Institute, BAO Systems, Johns Hopkins University Center for Public Health and Human Rights, and Mann Global Health

Award ceiling: \$391 million

Period of performance: April 2019–December 2027

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