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# Health and Human Development

Contributing to better results in health

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## Overview

At a time when health funding is being squeezed, there has been increased attention on ensuring that money spent achieves maximum impact. With our expertise in delivering better results in development, Itad is ideally suited to contribute to enhancing results in health capacity.

Over the last decade we have witnessed unprecedented global spending on health. Without doubt this investment has produced results. There are encouraging signs that the HIV/AIDS epidemic has begun to be curbed, and there has been a dramatic decrease in infant mortality. However, following a historic high of \$28.2 billion in 2010, development assistance for health has levelled out. As programmes respond to the demand to demonstrate value for money, an understanding of how to achieve better results in health is now more critical than ever.

We combine over 15 years of experience in evaluative and analytical consultancy with in-depth technical knowledge – on health issues such as **HIV/AIDS, health diplomacy, value for money in health, programming, aid effectiveness** and **global multilateral health institutions**.

Our health work covers four overlapping areas:

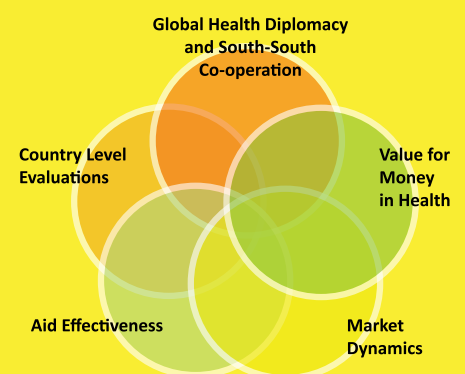
- We have extensive experience of conducting **Impact Evaluations** at country level and programme level.
- Our **Organisational Evaluations** in the health sector have included a number of high profile assignments, incorporating assessments of UN agencies and international NGOs. One of our key strengths is our ability to convene bespoke, multidisciplinary teams of expert consultants, who provide a balance of evaluative and analytical skills, as well as sectoral expertise.

- Our diverse portfolio of **Programme Evaluations** covers a wide range of disease areas, health issues, health systems strengthening, access to medicines, and global health policy. We are experts in using mixed methods for both formative and summative evaluations.
- We provide **Strategic/M&E Advisory Services** that are tailored to the specific needs of our clients. Our roles include advising on how to better measure and deliver Value for Money, developing Theories of Change for organisations wanting to better articulate their work, evidence-based strategy development, and other advisory services that help programmes and organisations perform better.



We have extensive experience in **country level evaluations**, and are developing our portfolio in **value for money in health** programmes. Through a variety of projects, we are also positioning ourselves at the forefront of thinking on monitoring and evaluation in the emerging field of **global health diplomacy and south-south cooperation** and ongoing developments in the area of **aid effectiveness**. In our projects linked to **market dynamics**, we make full use of the broad-ranging institutional expertise within Itad.

The breadth of our work in the health sector means that we are constantly evolving and adjusting our approach to meet the challenges of complex assignments. However, generating a strong evidence base and applying state-of-the-art tools and methodologies is at the heart of our approach.



## OUR PROJECTS

### Independent Multi-Disciplinary Review of the Malawi National Response to HIV/AIDS for the Financial Years 2010-2013

Although Malawi has a current HIV prevalence of around 10%, this does represent a decline over the last decade. Its achievements in getting more HIV+ people on antiretroviral drugs over recent years is widely recognised as a success story in Africa. Malawi's National AIDS Commission (NAC) was established in July 2001 as a public trust to lead and coordinate the national response to HIV and AIDS.

Itad was contracted to undertake a series of annual reviews of NAC. For each review, we have mobilised a multi-disciplinary team consisting of both international and Malawian experts, who work together on an intensive in-country mission. The chief objective of the reviews is to provide NAC and its partners with an independent assessment of performance against an integrated annual work plan. The assessment is based on the National HIV Monitoring & Evaluation Framework.

➤ To find more about this project visit [www.itad.com/projects/independent-multi-disciplinary-review-of-the-malawi-national-response-to-hiv-aids-for-the-financial-years-2010-2013](http://www.itad.com/projects/independent-multi-disciplinary-review-of-the-malawi-national-response-to-hiv-aids-for-the-financial-years-2010-2013)

### 5-year independent evaluation of UNITAID

UNITAID is an innovative global health initiative largely financed by a levy on air tickets. Established in 2006 by the governments of Brazil, Chile, France, Norway and the United Kingdom, it provides sustainable funding to tackle inefficiencies in developing countries' markets for medicines, and diagnostics and prevention for HIV/AIDS, TB and malaria. Itad was commissioned to evaluate the first five years of UNITAID's work.

The UNITAID Board commissioned the evaluation to help inform its thinking and positioning for the next period, in particular:

➤ To assess UNITAID's effectiveness and determine how to build on its achievements, particularly by overcoming bottlenecks and challenges.

➤ To examine how UNITAID could play a more effective role in using market-based approaches to improve public health by increasing access to quality products to treat, diagnose and prevent HIV, TB, and malaria in developing countries.

Our evaluation findings endorsed the UNITAID business model and highlighted significant achievements. It also made a number of recommendations for how UNITAID could improve performance. UNITAID's 2013-2016 strategy was published in 2013 and incorporated responses to all 17 of the recommendations from the evaluation.

➤ To find more about this project visit [www.itad.com/projects/5-year-evaluation-of-global-health-initiative-unitaid](http://www.itad.com/projects/5-year-evaluation-of-global-health-initiative-unitaid)



*Improving health clinics to prevent future nutrition emergencies. Photo credit: Noor Khamis/Department for International Development*

### Assessing the impact of UNAIDS

UNAIDS is a United Nations programme that supports ten UN organisations and works with partners to coordinate the global HIV/AIDS response. In 2001, Itad was commissioned to evaluate whether UNAIDS had achieved its goals over its initial five years. A second evaluation was commissioned in 2007, also from Itad, to assess UNAIDS' performance in the changed context of UN organisational reforms, the AIDS epidemic and the global response.

Itad led both evaluations, partnering in 2001 with the Netherlands Royal Tropical Institute (KIT), staff at the London School of Hygiene and Tropical Medicine and six regional partners, and with the Health and Life Sciences Partnership (HLSP) in 2007. As the first step, evaluation frameworks were developed to explore key evaluation questions and identify sources of information with which to answer them.

The first evaluation found that UNAIDS had succeeded in establishing something that had never existed before – a clear, global mandate with objectives that could be used to hold international leaders to account in the fight against HIV/AIDS.

The second evaluation confirmed that UNAIDS had adapted to a changing context and forged new partnerships. It set out 24 recommendations to make UNAIDS more focused, strategic, flexible, responsive, accountable and efficient – most of these recommendations were implemented.

➤ To find out more about these projects, please visit: [www.itad.com/projects/first-and-second-independent-evaluation-of-unaid](http://www.itad.com/projects/first-and-second-independent-evaluation-of-unaid)



*© Kpando Medical Clinical 141. Photo credit: Nora Morgan*

### Measuring health care reforms in India and China

Itad, in collaboration with the Institute of Development Studies (IDS), has been working with NICE International in India and China to evaluate the piloting, scale up and replication of evidence-based health care reforms. NICE International is a not-for-profit division of the UK National Institute of Health and Care Excellence that gives advice to other governments and organisations on evidence-based approaches, for the better use of resources in health systems.

In India and China, the evaluation has considered reforms including the application of clinical guidelines and quality standards in local hospitals, the effects of UK-China-India health diplomacy in promoting the use of evidence in national policy-making, and South-South capacity support in delivering cost-effective health care. Itad has worked with NICE International and country partners in Beijing and Kerala to design country-specific theories of change and conduct a baseline assessment and final evaluation of the programme.

➤ To find more about this project visit [www.itad.com/projects/me-of-the-nice-international-health-partnerships-scheme](http://www.itad.com/projects/me-of-the-nice-international-health-partnerships-scheme)



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## CASE STUDY

### Strengthening Nigeria's health system

The Partnership for Transforming Health Systems Phase II (PATHS2) is a six year programme funded by the UK Department for International Development (DFID). It aims to improve the delivery and use of effective, replicable and affordable health services for the management of common health problems that affect poor people in Nigeria. Itad was commissioned to complete a mid-term evaluation of PATHS2.

The focus of PATHS2 is to improve planning, financing and delivery of sustainable and replicable pro-poor health services for common health problems in five states in Nigeria – Enugu, Jigawa, Lagos, Kaduna, and Kano. By influencing and changing processes of health systems governance at federal and state level and encouraging citizen engagement and participation, PATHS2 aims to improve health outcomes for poor and socially excluded people in these five focal states.

The PATHS2 mid-term evaluation was managed by Itad in association with ORB International and the Nigerian based survey company Practical Sampling International (PSI). It comprised two components:

➤ A **large scale household survey** examined the demand side of health services delivery

in Nigeria by collecting data on healthcare seeking behaviour and satisfaction with services provided at government health facilities, as well as assessing public information and knowledge regarding disease prevention and access to care.

➤ A **comprehensive facility evaluation** integrated the results of a facility survey, a provider survey, and a logistics review. This component examined the supply side of health services delivery in Nigeria by assessing the preparedness of facilities for delivering health services. It assessed the quality of health services infrastructure, staffing needs and levels of qualification, experience and knowledge of healthcare professionals, availability of medical supplies including drugs, and types of maternal and new-born health services provided.

The results of this mid-term evaluation were used to inform the ongoing implementation of PATHS2 and provided decision-makers with clear evidence of areas where the demand and supply issues around Key Performance Indicators were greatest.

➤ To find out more about this project, please visit: [www.itad.com/projects/nigeria-paths2-mid-term-evaluation-study](http://www.itad.com/projects/nigeria-paths2-mid-term-evaluation-study)

Generating a strong evidence base and applying state-of-the-art tools and methodologies is at the heart of our approach.



Image © Arusha HIV/AIDS awareness. Photo Credit: Rémi Kaupp

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