



How MEASURE Evaluation Has Benefitted PEPFAR and Ministries of Health

The President's Emergency Plan for AIDS Relief (PEPFAR) aims to achieve epidemic control by taking effective interventions to scale, applying a continuous learning approach to program performance, and intensifying efforts to identify HIV/AIDS cases.¹ MEASURE Evaluation's work has advanced PEPFAR's aim in two primary ways:

- Supporting the implementation, management, and capacity building of the Data for Accountability, Transparency and Impact Monitoring (DATIM) system, and
- Increasing the capacity of health information systems (HIS) and improving enabling environments for HIS improvement at global, regional, and country levels—especially in PEPFAR countries.

MEASURE Evaluation's direct contributions to the implementation of DATIM and leveraging DATIM resources are extensive. Our work encompasses **data exchange, help desk support** to enhance system and data use, and **capacity building** for DATIM users, as well as administration and oversight of a constellation of DATIM subcontractors. Under U.S. government (USG) leadership, MEASURE Evaluation has also contributed significantly to realization of the goals of the PEPFAR–Ministry of Health (MOH) **data alignment** activity. Data alignment supports joint monitoring of country HIV programs by PEPFAR and national health ministries, encouraging joint data review, discussion, and programmatic decision making.

The DATIM work that we have helped PEPFAR accomplish is innovative and pioneering, enabling continuous, **near real-time review of program performance**. This helps USG and other program implementers mount effective HIV programs at a scale that can impact the epidemic in the 63 PEPFAR countries. Importantly, the **data are publicly available** through the PEPFAR dashboard (<https://data.pepfar.gov/>). The scope and scale of these efforts are evident in the table below, which shows the numbers of users, data sets, organizational units, data values, and dashboards from May 2016 to May 2019.

Table 1. Technical and managerial support expanded DATIM user base

DATIM Attributes	May 2016	May 2019
Users	10,000+	20,000+
Data sets	39	138
Organizational units	74,000+	109,863
Data elements	2,185	8,032
Data values	19,328,507	95,482,835
Dashboards	1,370	2,640

¹ PEPFAR 3.0. Available at <https://www.pepfar.gov/documents/organization/234744.pdf>

Implementation, Maintenance, and Capacity Building

MEASURE Evaluation has provided technical expertise, thought leadership, and robust management services to make DATIM successful in its aim to improve data availability, quality, and use. Our accomplishments:

- **Provided technical assistance for five DATIM training events** including a regional training in 2016, the PEPFAR Data and Systems Applied Learning Summit (PALS) in 2017, and the PEPFAR-MOH Data Alignment Virtual Workshop in 2018. These trainings improved USG capacity to use the DATIM system.
- **Managed Tier I, II, and III DATIM support**, ensuring timely and high-quality responses to user queries, providing help desk support, updating guidance, and managing system security and compliance
 - Our support has reached more than 10,000 DATIM users in 50+ countries.
- **Improved the system's efficiency, through help desk support to users** as evidenced by the drop in the number of new help-desk tickets for the April 1–May 15 reporting period, from more than 3,000 in 2015 to an average of 300 in 2019
- **Managed contributions to the development of DATIM** from the University of Oslo, Regenstrief Institute, BAO Systems, and 2Paths—providing PEPFAR with coordinated implementation
- Supported the development of an **interoperable version of DATIM** with automated data submission functionality, adding value to the OpenHIE stack and contributing significantly to improvements in PEPFAR's capability for interoperability
- Was the primary contributor to the Health Data Collaborative's **Health Information System Interoperability Toolkit**, an innovative global good that aids in sequencing HIS improvements: <https://www.measureevaluation.org/resources/tools/health-information-systems-interoperability-toolkit/health-information-systems-interoperability-toolkit>
 - The toolkit was used in Uganda, Ghana, Guatemala, and is currently being applied in five other East African countries. In Uganda, application of the toolkit led to a digital health security and privacy guidance document, which the MOH is reviewing.
- Enabled PEPFAR to expand and prioritize **expenditure and patient-level data collection**

Establishing and Managing the PEPFAR Data Exchange Implementers Community

- **Established the PEPFAR Data Exchange Implementers Community** in October 2015, and continue

to host monthly calls to support USG agencies and implementing partners (IPs) to import their Site Improvement through Monitoring (SIMS) and Monitoring, Evaluation, and Reporting (MER) data into DATIM

- Community members: USAID, United States Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, Department of Defense, United States Health Resources and Services Administration, Peace Corps, and IPs
- Successfully supported data import into DATIM since 2015 and **built USG and IP capacity to prepare and submit import files**
 - As of May 2019, nine IPs and two USG offices import MER data into DATIM.

Supporting PEPFAR-MOH Data Alignment

- Under the leadership of the Office of the Global AIDS Coordinator, **supported USG and MOH staff in 23 countries to complete PEPFAR-MOH data alignment**: mapping indicators, reconciling facility lists, and exchanging data between PEPFAR and MOH systems
 - To date, 18 of 23 countries have completed all data alignment milestones, including data sharing: Botswana, Burundi, Côte d'Ivoire, Eswatini, Ethiopia, Haiti, Kenya, Lesotho, Malawi, Namibia, South Sudan, Tanzania, Uganda, Zambia, and Zimbabwe.
- Conducted a three-week workshop with all 23 participating countries through the **PEPFAR Virtual Academy**
- Supported **testing and application of the Facility Reconciliation tool** to align PEPFAR-MOH health facilities, which significantly reduces time and effort needed for reconciliation tasks
- Completed and updated **mapping of PEPFAR- and MOH-supported facilities**, to enable data sharing by MOH data systems and DATIM to help countries:
 - Understand the full data landscape and inform best approaches to reach epidemic control
 - Collate facility-level data on key indicators throughout the country (not just at PEPFAR-supported sites)
 - Build efficiencies by strengthening national systems
 - Emphasize system interoperability and work towards the “collect once, use multiple times” paradigm
- The data alignment activity also enabled site-level analysis to identify and resolve discordance between MOH and PEPFAR results for indicators at the site level, to identify overarching issues affecting data quality and completeness, and inform ongoing conversations with country teams and MOHs.