



The African Comprehensive HIV/AIDS Partnerships (ACHAP) adherence to principles of accountability

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Issues: An examination of accountability processes and procedures followed by the African Comprehensive HIV/AIDS Partnerships (ACHAP) in carrying out its mission to support Botswana's fight against HIV/AIDS.

Description: ACHAP both as an entity and for each of the projects it undertakes with the government of Botswana (GOB) incorporates a disciplined, outcomes-driven approach with documented objectives, measurable goals, and timelines. When ACHAP was formed, the three partners - The Merck Company Foundation/Merck & Co., Inc., the Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation, and the GOB - outlined overall goals and objectives for the program, a management structure, and the roles and responsibilities of each partner. Accountability for the program includes: oversight by a Board of Directors, compliance with US not-for-profit corporation rules and with local Botswana regulations, audits conducted by independent organizations, and guidance from the GOB. ACHAP has developed action plans and frameworks that guide overall operations and at the program level, each project contains measurable objectives and a comprehensive monitoring and evaluation component.

Lessons Learned: Layers of accountability and oversight ensure compliance with regulations and enable objectives to be met.

Recommendation: Adherence to imposed and voluntary measures of accountability and oversight allows for the smooth operation of complex HIV/AIDS initiatives and provides validity for the accomplishment of goals.

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