Since its independence from South Africa in 1990, Namibia has developed into an upper middle-income country. But 44% of its people continue to live in poverty. HIV prevalence—much improved from its peak of 22% in 2002—is still the leading cause of death in Namibia for adults and its prevalence among pregnant women is 17.2% and 8.3% among the general population (Namibia Country Operational Plan, PEPFAR 2020).

Due to its classification as an upper middle-class country, Namibia faces a new challenge of foreign development assistance which has been steadily decreasing over years and is expected to decrease even further. As a result, the Namibian government must allocate more resources to sustain HIV programs and its entire health workforce. To sustain its gains on national HIV/AIDS response, the Government of Namibia is increasing its domestic funding.

Since 2006, IntraHealth International, with support from USAID, has worked with the Namibian government, faith-based organizations, and local partners to make HIV counseling, testing, prevention, care, and treatment services more widely available in high prevalence areas. We also provide training, mentoring, and supportive supervision to help health workers deliver high-quality, comprehensive health services.

IntraHealth Namibia, established in 2014, is a local entity (section 21 company) that supports and assists the government of Namibia and local institutions as they build the capacity of Namibia’s human resources for health and client-level data systems.
Key Populations - Strengthening Technical Assistance and Response for Sustainable HIV Prevention and Treatment (KP-STAR) (2020–2025)

The KP-STAR team—IntraHealth Namibia, IntraHealth International, Walvis Bay Corridor Group, and key population-led civil society organizations Rights not Rescue Trust, Rights for All Movements, and Wings to Transcend Namibia Trust—brings together local and international nongovernmental organizations, key population-led civil society organizations, and the private sector and offers decades of collective experience supporting the scale-up of clinical and community-based services for key and vulnerable populations in Namibia.

KP-STAR will support Namibia to rapidly accelerate the coverage of systematic, data-driven, key population-competent interventions to achieve results under the three activity components:

1. Increase demand for and access to comprehensive HIV prevention and treatment services and interventions for key populations;
2. Strengthen the capacity and sustainability of civil society and other key stakeholders to advocate for and implement HIV activities for and by key populations; and
3. Strengthen data management and processes for planning, monitoring, and quality assurance of key population programs.

Information System Strengthening, Continuous Quality Improvement, and Enhanced Surveillance to Sustain Epidemic Control (2020–2025)

IntraHealth International, in close partnership with IntraHealth Namibia, is leading the new five-year CDC-funded project aimed to strengthen the Namibia Ministry of Health and Social Services to enhance and use their current electronic patient management system at both the national and facility levels. The first year of the project has been focused on the technical development, refinement, and select data use processes for Namibia’s HIV data collection system, Quantum. Using a collaborative and pragmatic needs-based approach, IntraHealth is working to support the Government of Namibia in improving Quantum functionality and reporting.

Global Health Supply Chain Program-Procurement and Supply Management (GHSC-PSM) (2016–Present)

IntraHealth is partnering with Chemonics to implement the USAID GHSC-PSM. PSM activities focus on targeted technical assistance to the ministry on Central Medical Store reform in such areas as warehousing, transportation, procurement, and financing.

Workload Indicators of Staffing Needs in Namibia (2013–Present)

In 2013, IntraHealth worked with the Ministry of Health and Social Services to help Namibia become the first country to conduct a national assessment using the World Health Organization tool, Workload Indicators of Staffing Needs.

IntraHealth helped update staffing norms for all public health facilities and the ministry has since used the WISN observations to assist in their restructuring efforts and to advocate for finance for additional staffing.

In 2018, IntraHealth helped the ministry develop a national Human Resources for Health Situational Analysis and estimated workforce projections up to 2030. These analyses are used to create an HRH Strategic Plan and implement National Health Workforce Accounts in the country.

Past projects and funders

- DREAMS/Twagamenwa (“We are Safe”) (2018–2021)
- Coordinating Comprehensive Care for Children (4Children), 2017–2018 (USAID)
- CapacityPlus, 2012–2015 (USAID)
- The Capacity Project, 2006–2008 (USAID)
- The Southern Africa Human Capacity Development Coalition, 2006–2009 (USAID)

CONTACT
Isabel Mendes-Siyamba
Chief of Party, Namibia
imendes-siyamba@intrahealth.org
264-61-303-793