

The Global Health Technical Assistance Project (GH Tech) is a five-year (2006-2011), single award, indefinite quantity contract (IQC) designed to provide the U.S. Agency for International Development (USAID), Bureau for Global Health offices, regional and other bureaus, and missions worldwide with flexible access to a range of technical and program management expertise. The Project is the follow-on contract for the POPTECH, MEDS, and SYNERGY Projects. The GH Tech contract is managed by the QED Group, LLC (QED), and its subcontractors CAMRIS International and Social & Scientific Systems, Inc. (SSS).

GH Tech works in partnership with cooperating agencies, nongovernmental and multilateral organizations, and independent consultants to support USAID objectives and programs. The Project implements a broad range of activities, including assessment, design, monitoring, review, and evaluation using independent, U.S.-based and international consultants qualified in a broad array of technical areas.

Assignments

In 2010, GH Tech completed its fourth year of service and has been successful in providing USAID and its components a wide variety of technical assistance. In Year 4, GH Tech provided technical assistance in the forms of health sector assessments, program designs, assistance in specific technical areas, and program evaluations. In addition to specific technical assistance, GH Tech also provided USAID missions with operational support as well as meetings logistical support. During Year 4, GH Tech worked to plan, implement and complete 189 assignments, not including 20 that were cancelled prior to full implementation.

Among these 189 assignments, GH Tech received the large majority of its assignments directly from mission funding (63.87%), however, the Bureau of Global Health, was also largely representative in tasking GH Tech (28%). This number of mission-driven assignments has seen a large positive direction of growth over the years of the Project. Missions had previously given GH Tech 17 assignments in Year 1, 53 in Year 2, 90 in Year 3 and this has now escalated to 122 in Year 4.

GH Tech's technical expertise in HIV/AIDS, maternal and child health, family planning/reproductive health, tuberculosis, malaria, and nutrition-based programs has been successfully utilized internationally. GH Tech's global portfolio has grown to include: Afghanistan, Angola, Armenia, Azerbaijan, Bangladesh, Benin, Bolivia, Botswana, Brazil, Cambodia, Democratic Republic of Congo, East Timor, Egypt, El Salvador, Ethiopia, Georgia, Ghana, Guatemala, Guyana, Haiti, Honduras, India, Indonesia, Ivory Coast, Jamaica, Jordan, Kazakhstan, Kenya, Kyrgyzstan, Lesotho, Liberia, Madagascar, Malawi, Mozambique, Nepal, Nicaragua, Nigeria, Pakistan, Peru, Russia, Rwanda, Senegal, South Africa, Swaziland, Tajikistan, Tanzania, Turkmenistan, Uganda, Ukraine, Uzbekistan, Vietnam, West Bank/Gaza, Yemen, Zambia, and Zimbabwe. The Project's role in facilitating a variety of projects in these areas has been crucial to the future direction of many USAID health programs, and has been given a significant amount of positive feedback from the missions and the Bureau.

New Developments

GH Tech has grown significantly as a project over the past few years. As a means of growing with the volume of assignments and maintaining the high-quality work, the Project has made an effort to develop its resources to promote efficiency and facilitation. In order to provide top-quality technical assistance to missions and bureaus alike, GH Tech has been continuously working to expand its large collection of consultant curriculum vitae. Currently, the Project's online database, www.ghtechproject.com, has been instrumental in assignment recruitment and has approximately 1400 registered consultants. The database has significantly expanded the skills-base and increased the breadth of experience available to the project and USAID clients. This site is also a platform for communication of project updates and important documents.

In most recent development is the creation of a new online portfolio for sharing public documents, such as reports. The new site, compared to the current, will be more user-friendly, allowing for keyword searches and multi-level sorting. The site is to come live soon, and will be accessible through the current site's homepage. Presently, GH Tech's report site is home to around 74 public documents, and this number continues to grow.