



Fogarty International Center

# ADOLESCENT HIV IMPLEMENTATION SCIENCE ALLIANCE (AHISA) 2024 Evaluation Results

Fogarty-led AHISA takes a collaborative approach to advancing HIV science by bringing together a network of researchers, policymakers, program implementers, and youth to promote the use of implementation science to enhance uptake of evidence and overcome implementation challenges.

**Evaluation Goal:** understand the value of AHISA’s approach, its impact, and how to best support network goals moving forward.



## Results Overview



**Research Funding:** +\$75,000,000 follow-on funding and informed new NIH funding opportunities



**Publications:** +1,200 peer-reviewed publications



**Training and Career Development:** +250 people trained



**Partnerships and Engagement:** new partnerships and collaborations with 85 institutions



**Program and Policy Changes:** evidence-based initiatives added to three country-level HIV guidelines

## Research Funding



The AHISA network’s activities resulted in members successfully receiving **follow-on funding** and contributed to the development of a new **NIH funding program**.

### NIH Follow-On Funding

AHISA members attributed **\$75,293,704 USD** in new NIH funding between 2018-2024 to their work with AHISA. In total, 60 NIH awards were received by teams either as a direct result of, or in relation to, their AHISA projects, 78% of which had a direct implementation science focus.

### AHISA network informs new NICHD funding opportunity

AHISA’s 2017 launch meeting was critical to the design of **NICHD’s Prevention and Treatment through a Comprehensive Care Continuum for HIV-Affected Adolescents in Resource Constrained Settings (PATC3H)** and the subsequent **PATC3H-Implementation Science Network (PATC3H-IN)** funding announcements.

Today, PATC3H/PATC3H-IN and AHISA members participate in joint annual meetings, and AHISA serves on the leadership board for the PATC3H-IN network. Specifically, of the eight UG1 award projects under PATC3H-IN, five include an AHISA member as a PI or co-PI and one project has AHISA-affiliated country leads in Kenya, Malawi, Nigeria, and Zambia.

## Expanding the Pool of Independent Investigators in Implementation Science in Nigeria through HIV Research Training (EXPAND)

In 2022, AHISA Central and West Africa Implementation Science Alliance (CAWISA) PIs received a Fogarty training grant to increase the pool of independent investigators in implementation science in Nigeria, building on their existing CAWISA model. The grant also aims to provide training to local scientists, implementers, and policymakers.

## Publications

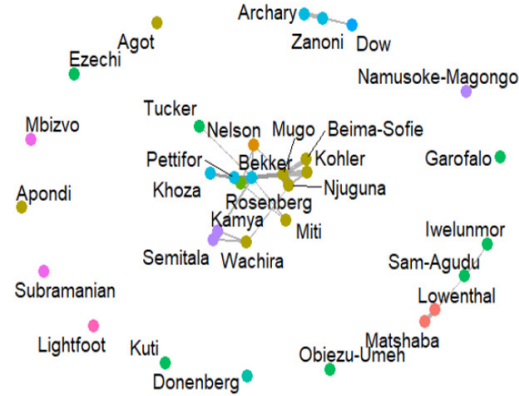


AHISA members have enhanced the scientific evidence base for implementation science and adolescent HIV through journal articles, commentaries, conference presentations, toolkits and more.

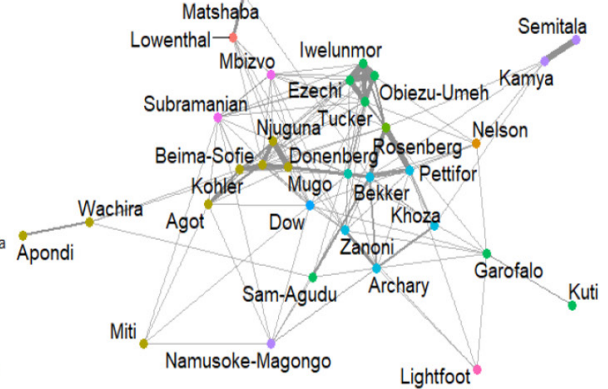
- **1200+** peer-reviewed articles related to implementation science and/or adolescent HIV since 2018
- **One special issue** in *AIDS & Behavior* on collective learning of AHISA
- **50+** presentations, abstracts, toolkits, satellite sessions, and newsletters reported

## AHISA member co-authorship showcases network's ability to foster global implementation science research collaboration

2015-2017



2021-2023



\*Nodes represent AHISA PIs and the lines indicate member co-authorship



### Training & Career Development

**250+** people were trained and mentored in implementation science. Overwhelming majority of trainees were from SSA and nearly a quarter were youths.

#### Select training outcomes included:

- Early-career researchers became successful NIH grantees
- Trainees got promotions, accepted new positions and fellowships
- Existing training materials adapted to local contexts
- New curriculums developed
- Early-career researchers developed skills on manuscript writing and research dissemination
- Implementation gaps and potential evidence-based initiatives identified

### AHISA local alliances strengthen implementation science capacity at the regional and local levels

- **Training and Mentorship:** 131 trainees trained in implementation science across all seven alliances, including one youth-focused alliance aimed at supporting the Gates 30-under-30 research program
- **Publications and Presentations:** 60+ peer-reviewed journal articles published across the seven local alliances; nearly 20 international and local conference presentations on local alliance activities
- **Partnerships and Collaborations:** AHISA local alliances reported collaborations with local researchers, health ministry officials, clinicians, and HIV/AIDS program implementers



### Partnerships & Collaborations

AHISA fostered the development of new partnerships and collaborations between AHISA members and individuals across more than **85 unique institutions**.



### Policy & Program Changes

AHISA teams have conducted a range of activities focused on engaging policy makers and program implementers, including training government officials, engaging youth in advocacy, involving national officials in AHISA activities, and engaging with multilateral agencies.

### AHISA small award projects move evidence into action in Zambia, Uganda, and Kenya

- The evidence-based Project YES! intervention is now incorporated into the Zambian differentiated service delivery model, partially due to advocacy of the Youth Task Force supported by an AHISA single-year project
- The Uganda Adolescent HIV Implementation Science Alliance's (UAHISA) work on TB prevention in HIV/AIDS patients has now been included in Uganda's guidelines
- Evidence-based ATTACH intervention is incorporated into draft national policy guidelines; policymakers reached out to the AHISA team to participate in drafting process; ATTACH transition readiness assessment also incorporated into electronic medical record system in one Kenya province