



PEPFAR's Medical and Nursing Education Partnership Initiatives

The Medical Education Partnership Initiative (MEPI) and Nursing Education Partnership Initiative (NEPI) are initiatives developed to address the critical shortage of health care workers in sub-Saharan Africa by strengthening the quality and capacity of nurses and midwives throughout Africa.

These models are intended to support PEPFAR's goal of increasing the number of new health care workers by 140,000, strengthen medical education systems, and build clinical and research capacity in Africa as part of a retention strategy for faculty of medical schools including clinical professors.

Medical Education Partnership Initiative (MEPI)

- Intends to provide up to \$130 million over five years in grants to African institutions in a dozen countries, forming a network including about 30 regional partners, country health and education ministries, and more than 20 U.S. collaborators
- The sub-Saharan African region addresses 25% of the global burden of disease with under 3% of the world's health care workers
- MEPI strengthens educational resources and infrastructure, invests in innovative technologies, and decentralizes educational opportunities
- MEPI countries: Botswana, Ethiopia, Ghana, Kenya, Malawi, Mozambique, Nigeria, South Africa, Uganda, Tanzania, Zambia, and Zimbabwe

Nursing Education Partnership Initiative (NEPI)

- Intends to strengthen the quality and capacity of nursing and midwifery education institutions, increase the number of highly skilled nurses and midwives, and support innovative nursing retention strategies
- Key objectives include conducting countrywide assessments of nurse training capacity in selected countries; provision of training and continuous quality improvement support; and design and implementation of an evaluation strategy in collaboration with the partner educational institutions
- Also supports Ministries of Health and Education to: identify three to six nursing schools in each of the countries to receive funding; prioritize interventions that strengthen nursing and midwifery programs; and scale up innovative approaches in nursing and midwifery education
- NEPI countries: Zambia, Malawi, Lesotho, Ethiopia, South Africa, and the Democratic Republic of the Congo

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