

GAVI Civil Society Strengthening Project 2013-14

The Project

The Global Alliance for Vaccines and Immunization (GAVI), in partnership with Catholic Relief Services (CRS) as fund manager, has selected MACIS to implement the Civil Society Strengthening Project 2013-14. The project complements the Uganda's National Expanded Program on Immunization (UNEPI) and aims at maximizing the impact of UNEPI by building a functional civil society platform capable of engaging in decision making processes at different levels on health systems strengthening and immunization policies.

The Civil Society Strengthening Project aims at maximizing the impact of Uganda's National Expanded Program on Immunization (UNEPI)

In this project, MACIS brings together CSOs involved in immunization activities across Uganda, raising one voice at senior decision making forums like HPAC, NCC, ISS and HSS. The project will train Immunization Champions in each district to be able to lead and coordinate CSO immunization activities in their districts. This network will thrive on exchanging field experience and technical advice between the secretariat and its members, facilitated through the election of a Technical Advisory Group (TAG) among the CSO members. The secretariat will establish a sustainable communication mechanism that allows members to interact through regular meetings and online exchange of ideas, as well as sharing relevant information and materials.



The Role of CSOs

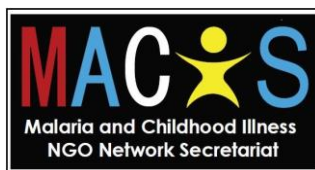
We believe that CSOs have an important role in increasing accountability for effective implementation of the Uganda's Expanded Immunization Program (UNEPI). The outcomes of the GAVI Civil Society Strengthening Project will see:

- ❖ CSOs involved in decision making in health and immunization policies
- ❖ CSOs take an active and sustainable role in UNEPI, ensuring coordination between the national policy and the district-level implementation
- ❖ CSOs involved in analysis and reporting on immunization progress and challenges in Uganda
- ❖ CSOs mobilize and sensitise communities on immunization
- ❖ CSOs participate in joint supervisory visits with districts and Ministry of Health staff

UNEPI and the GAVI Initiative

For 2013-14 alone, GAVI has committed \$21m for Uganda's Immunization Systems Strengthening (ISS) and Health Systems Strengthening (HSS) efforts. These funds will support UNEPI to overcome barriers to immunization and increase access to life-saving vaccines in Uganda.

MACIS' role in this effort is to maximize the impact of UNEPI through CSOs engagement to ensure that more people have access to life-saving vaccines.



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