

## LMG Honduras Quarterly Report: January – March 2015

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# LEADERSHIP, MANAGEMENT & GOVERNANCE PROJECT

## HONDURAS

QUARTERLY REPORT FOR  
JANUARY- MARCH 2015

April 24, 2015



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## Abbreviations

AIDS	Human Immunodeficiency Virus/ Acquired Immune Deficiency Syndrome
AIDSTAR Plus	AIDS Support and Technical Assistance Resources Plus
AJEM	Youth in Motion Association (Asociación Juventud en Movimiento, in Spanish)
APR	Annual Progress Report
ARV	Antiretroviral drugs
BCC	Behavior Change Communication
CDC	United States Centers for Disease Control and Prevention
CASM	Mennonite Social Action Committee (Comisión de Acción Social Menonita, in Spanish)
CGSSI	Gay Community of San Pedro for Comprehensive Health (Comunidad Gay Sampedrana para la Salud Integral, in Spanish)
CHF	Global Communities
COCSIDA	Center for Guidance and Training on AIDS (Centro de Orientación y Capacitación en SIDA, in Spanish)
CSW	Commercial Sex Worker
DAPS	Department for Primary Health Care (Departamento de Atención Primaria en Salud, in Spanish)
DGD	Department for Decentralized Management (Departamento de Gestión Descentralizada, in Spanish)
ECOSALUD	Ecology and Health (Ecología y Salud, in Spanish)
ECVC	Central American Survey on Sexual Behavior Monitoring and Prevalence of HIV and Sexually Transmitted Infections (Encuesta Centroamericana de Vigilancia de Comportamiento Sexual y Prevalencia de VIH e Infecciones de Transmisión Sexual, in Spanish)
FSW	Female Sex Worker
GHI	Global Health Initiative
GOH	Government of Honduras
JSI	John Snow, Inc.
KAP	Knowledge, Attitudes and Practices
HDI	Human Development Index
HIV	Human Immunodeficiency Virus
IPSL	Integrated PEPFAR Site List
LLM	The Breastfeeding League (La Liga de la Lactancia Materna, in Spanish)
LMG	Leadership, Management, and Governance Project
MOH	Ministry of Health (also known as SESAL or Secretaría de Salud, in Spanish)
MSH	Management Sciences for Health
MSM	Men who have Sex with Men
PAHO	Pan American Health Organization
PEPFAR	United States President's Emergency Plan for AIDS Relief
PMP	Performance Monitoring Plan



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PRODIM	Developmental Programs for Women and Children (Programas para el Desarrollo de la Infancia y la Mujer, in Spanish)
PY	Project Year
Redes	Directorate of Health Networks and Services (Dirección de Redes y Servicios de Salud, in Spanish)
RFP	Request for Proposals
RSD	Regional Health Offices of the MOH (Regiones Sanitarias Departamentales, in Spanish)
STI	Sexually Transmitted Infections
TW	Transgender Women
TOR	Terms of Reference
UAFCE	Unit for the Administration of External Cooperation Funds (Unidad Administradora de Fondos de Cooperación Externa, in Spanish)
ULAT II	Local Technical Assistance Unit for Health II Project (Unidad Local de Asistencia Técnica, in Spanish)
USAID	United States Agency for International Development
UECF	Unit for Extension of Coverage and Financing (Unidad de Extensión de Cobertura y Financiamiento, in Spanish)
UGD	Unit for Decentralized Management (Unidad de Gestión Descentralizada, in Spanish)
UNAIDS	Joint United Nations Programme on HIV/AIDS
UPEG	Unit for Management Planning and Evaluation (Unidad de Planeamiento y Evaluación de la Gestión, in Spanish)
USG	United States Government

## I. Executive Summary

This report describes the main achievements for the Leadership, Management & Governance (LMG) program in Honduras for the January to March 2015 period. This report serves to update the United States Agency for International Development (USAID) Mission in Honduras on project accomplishments and inform of any outstanding issues during this period.

Work during this quarter has been centered on accompaniment to the Unit for the Administration of External Cooperation Funds (UAFCE in Spanish) to evaluate the technical and financial proposal submitted by NGOs as a result from the bidding process to contract out the HIV prevention services package for key and priority populations in Honduras based on the management for results model, providing technical assistance to develop the evaluation templates and train the internal evaluation committee. In addition, LMG advised UAFCE on the development and updating of the bidding process timeline, and well as in the socialization and signature of agreements between MOH and the selected NGOs. During this period, a short list was also developed to contract services for Atlántida and Islas de la Bahía Region as these regions had not been covered in the previous selection of NGOs. Technical assistance was provided to the Unit for Decentralized Management (UGD in Spanish), Health Regions and NGOs on the technical and financial guidelines to implement the agreements. LMG also supported the NGOs with the development of the products according to their technical proposals.

Activities reported during this period are based on the revised Project Year (PY) 3 work plan approved by USAID in December 2014.

The major accomplishments of the LMG Honduras program from January to March 2015 are:

- Accompanied the MOH as they prepared and updated the timeline for the bidding process to contract the HIV prevention services package for key and priority populations in Islas de la Bahía and Atlántida.
- Carried out a workshop to train the internal committee designated by the MOH to evaluate technical and financial proposals submitted by NGOs.
- Provided technical assistance in the development of the templates to evaluate the technical and financial proposals submitted by NGOs and accompanied the MOH during three days on the revision and evaluation of the 12 proposals received (6 aimed at work with the Garífuna population; 3 aimed at work with Men who have sex with men (MSM); 1 with commercial sex workers (CSW) and 2 with hard-to-reach women).
- Provided technical assistance to the UAFCE to prepare the meeting to socialize and sign the agreements between the MOH and NGOs.
- Supported and participated in meetings with the UAFCE and Internal Audit Unit of the MOH in relation to compliance with an action plan prepared in response to the recommendations included in the audit report of Tribunal Superior de Cuentas.



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- Supported and oriented UAFCE in the financial closure for NGO agreements that ended in December 2014, and preparing various reports, including: financial information for the quarterly report, sending inquiries about reports and liquidation requests to USAID, and the In Country Training report.
- Provided technical support to revise and update the administrative guidelines for NGOs and the financial templates for liquidation of NGOs expenses.
- Provided technical assistance to 5 NGOs on the negotiation and realignment of 7 technical proposals to address the observations and meet the requirements of the internal and external evaluation committees.
- Developed 7 monitoring and evaluation templates which will be filled out and submitted monthly by NGOs.
- Provided technical assistance in the development of improvement plans for AJEM and PRODIM, based on the results of the application of the SIMS tool.
- Supported and oriented 7 projects on the development of the following products: Disposal and elimination plan of waste resulted from the rapid testing on HIV; Promotion Plan to promote HIV rapid tests; Plan to perform rapid tests; Mapping of zones where HIV rapid tests services are delivered; Condom distribution plan.
- Provided technical assistance to the UGD on the collection and analysis of PEPFAR indicators for their monthly and quarterly presentations.
- Provided technical assistance to the UGD and UAFCE to help them prepare for the monthly monitoring meetings and quarterly partners meeting with USAID
- Carried out a workshop on Prevention of Gender Based Violence related to HIV. Participants included NGO technical staff working with MSM, CSW and hard to reach CSW, officers from the Health Metropolitan Region of Tegucigalpa, and technical staff from health units that provide family counseling services.

## II. Program Context and Expected Results

### National Context:

Honduras is located in Central America and is divided into 18 administrative departments. The population of Honduras is 8,045,990 people (2010), of which 3,965,430 (49.28%) are men and 4,080,560 are women (50.71%). The population under 18 years of age represents 48.7% of the country's population.

The country continues to experience a difficult structural economic crisis that affects the national health system, particularly the MOH.

It is estimated that approximately 65% of the population lives under the poverty line, 22.1% in relative poverty and 42.4% in extreme poverty.

According to the United Nations Development's Human Development Report 2008/2009, published on December 18, 2008, Honduras ranks fifth among the countries with the lowest Human Development Index (HDI) in the Americas. In 2007, the HDI was calculated to be 0.7, ranking 117 out of 179 globally.

Honduras' urban population is 4,128,652 (51.31%) and rural population is 3,917,338 (48.68%). Life expectancy is 73.6 years, with 77.2 years for women and 70.1 years for men.

Honduras has one of the highest population growth rates in Latin America, calculated to be 2.3% between 2005 to 2010. The department with the highest population is Cortes with 1,529,826 inhabitants or 19% of the national population, followed by Francisco Morazán with 1,406,769 or 18% of the national population. 37% of Honduras populated in is concentrated in the two most important cities in these two departments, San Pedro Sula and Tegucigalpa. The household survey held in May 2009 captured an illiteracy rate of 16.2%. The lowest illiteracy rate is for the 15 to 18 year old population with 5.1%, the national average of schooling is 7.2 years.

### Project Context:

#### **The Government of Honduras' Response to HIV/AIDS**

Over the past decade, the Government of Honduras (GOH) has taken various steps to respond to the HIV epidemic. The current HIV/AIDS National Strategic Plan (PENSIDA III), 2008 – 2012, prioritizes scale-up of prevention efforts for MSM, Garífuna, sex workers and pregnant women. The Sula Valley, North Coast, and the Tegucigalpa metropolitan area are identified as important geographical focus areas due to their higher prevalence rates, and special emphasis is given to HIV diagnosis and treatment and to monitoring and evaluation of the PENSIDA III efforts. The GOH has started the process of drafting PENSIDA IV, written under the umbrella of the National HIV Strategy that was completed in March 2011. The National HIV Strategy formulates a strategic vision for comprehensive HIV and AIDS promotion, prevention, care and support services within the National Health Sector Reform framework, under which the MOH has separated the



stewardship and service delivery functions. Also within this framework, two new units were established to manage the decentralization of health services: the aforementioned

UAFCE (formerly the Unit for Extension of Coverage and Financing (UECF in Spanish) and UGD (formerly the Department for Decentralized Management (DGD in Spanish)).

The National HIV Strategy outlines 14 key activities designed to provide greater access to a basic package of HIV services at the individual, family, and community levels. The strategy includes the definition and operationalization of a basic package of services according to the life cycle and type of services (promotion, prevention, treatment, care and support); reorganization of Sexually Transmitted Infections (STI) / Human Immunodeficiency Virus (HIV) / Acquired Immune Deficiency Syndrome (AIDS) (STI/HIV/AIDS) service provision structure; and the definition of a new management model for results-based service provision.

Additionally, the second Central American Survey on Sexual Behavior Monitoring and Prevalence of HIV and Sexually Transmitted Infections (ECVC, in Spanish) in key populations in Honduras was completed in 2012. The first survey was conducted in 2006. The objectives were to determine the prevalence of HIV and STIs, the risk behaviors in female sex workers (FSWs), men who have sex with men (MSM), and transgender women (TW), the Garífuna, and risk behaviors and STIs in people with HIV, as well as to estimate the size of the population of FSWs and MSM in Tegucigalpa and San Pedro Sula. The results presented in the report will serve as an important source of information for the project and collaborating partners.

### **US Government Assistance in Honduras**

USAID's HIV and AIDS programs in Honduras are implemented as part of the United States President's Emergency Plan for AIDS Relief (PEPFAR) in line with the strategic priorities outlined under the Central American Regional HIV/AIDS Partnership Framework, 2009 – 2013. Activities also directly contribute to the Honduras Global Health Initiative (GHI) Strategy, 2011 – 2015. The overarching GHI country goal in Honduras is to “Improve the health status of underserved and vulnerable populations”. In collaboration with the MOH, other United States Government (USG) agencies/departments and private sector partners, the HIV-related component of the GHI strategy contributes to the achievement of “Priority Area 1: Increased access to quality essential services for underserved and vulnerable populations”, and “Priority Area 2: Improved stewardship and responsiveness of the health system”.

As part of its health portfolio, USAID improves the quality of, and access to, HIV/AIDS care and treatment services through both civil society organizations and the MOH. In close collaboration with the GOH since 1993, USAID has supported HIV/AIDS prevention activities for key populations through financial and technical support to local NGOs. Since 2005, this support has included a range of capacity building initiatives with community health workers from promoting healthy behaviors, to rapid testing of HIV for vulnerable populations.



## Expected Results

All project activities from this quarter contribute to achieve the following two Expected Results of the LMG Honduras program:

- 1) Organizational capacity developed within the MOH to establish and carry out effective funding mechanisms, management and stewardship of HIV prevention services provided by local non-governmental organizations (NGOs) and other non-public institutions.; and
- 2) Organizational capacity developed within local NGOs and other non-public institutions to support the implementation of evidence-based, quality HIV prevention services for key and priority populations in compliance with the new MOH funding mechanisms.

### **III. Intermediate Program Results and Activities**

This section of the quarterly report serves to inform USAID/Honduras of the results achieved from January to March 2015, and to report on specific activities. Results are presented in relation to activities listed according to the approved project year 3 (PY3) work plan.

**Expected Result 1: Organizational capacity developed within the MOH to establish and carry out effective funding mechanisms, management and stewardship of HIV prevention services provided by NGOs and other non-public institutions.**

**Activity 1.1: Strengthen the processes and capacities of the MOH (UAFCE, UGD and the Regional Health Offices (RSD in Spanish) to bid and contract NGOs and other non-public institutions in accordance with the approved Manual to Contract Public and Non-public Institutions.**

Meetings were held with the UAFCE technical and legal teams, as well as with UGD technical staff to update the timeline for the short listed bid process for the contracting of public and non-public institutions to address female sex worker, men having sex with men and Garifuna populations in the areas of the Bay Islands and Atlántida.

Technical assistance was provided on the preparation of the evaluation formats for the financial and technical proposals submitted by the NGOs.

A one day training workshop was carried out with 17 participants (4 men and 13 women) with the objective of training the internal technical and administrative committee designated by the MOH for the evaluation of the technical and financial proposals received during the bidding process. This included 4 UAFCE representatives, 3 from the UGD, 6 from the health regions, 2 from Standardization, and 2 from the General Directorate of Integrated Health Networks.

Training was provided for the members of the internal committee responsible for the financial evaluation of the proposals submitted by the NGOs on the evaluation process and important areas to consider during the financial evaluation. Support was also provided to the internal evaluation committee on the financial review of proposals submitted by the NGOs.

Accompaniment was provided for three days for the review and evaluation of 12 proposals received (6 aimed at serving the Garifuna population, 3 aimed at serving men who have sex with men, 1 aimed at serving female sex workers, and 2 aimed at serving hard-to-reach women). The internal evaluation committee was divided into two sub-committees. One committee was assigned the Garifuna proposals, which included management control technicians from the regions of Cortes, Colon and the San Pedro Sula metropolitan region. The other committee was assigned to proposals for the populations of men who have sex with men, female sex workers, and hard-to-reach women, which included management control technical staff from the regions of Atlántida, the Bay Islands, the Tegucigalpa metropolitan region. Both committees also included representatives from the UGD, UAFCE and Standardization,

Eight projects were pre-selected for review by the external committee, of which seven projects (from 5 NGOs) were selected for negotiation. The following table provides details on the selected projects:

Organization	Population	Location
Liga de la Lactancia Materna	Garífuna	San Pedro Sula
CASM Colón	Garífuna	Colón
CASM Cortés	Garífuna	Cortés
ECOSALUD	Garífuna	Atlántida
Prodim	Female sex workers	Tegucigalpa
Prodim	Hard-to-reach women	Tegucigalpa
AJEM	Men who have sex with men	Tegucigalpa

LMG provided technical assistance to the event in which the management agreements between the NGOs and the MOH were signed and socialized. This event was directed by the UAFCE and included a formal reading of the management agreements. The agreements and bills of exchange were signed by the NGOs. Twenty-five people participated in the event (11 men and 14 women), including 18 from the NGOs (5 directors, 7 project coordinators and 6 administrators), 4 from the UAFCE, 2 from the UGD and 1 from the General Directorate of Networks. As a result, seven agreements were signed in March.

**Activity 1.2: Strengthen the processes and capacities of the MOH (UAFCE) on accountability and transparency in the management of the agreements signed by the MOH and the NGOs and other non-public institutions.**

LMG participated in meetings with the UAFCE staff related to compliance with the action plan developed in response to recommendations from the Superior Tribunal of Accounts, which had not been fully addressed to due to a lack of available accounting information and documentation at the UAFCE.

Once the information and documentation became available, LMG provided advisory services to the UAFCE on the preparation of some of the responses to the recommendations included in the audit report, which were submitted to USAID in advance prior to submission of the final report.

**Activity 1.3: Strengthen the processes and capacities of the MOH (UGD) to perform technical audits of the agreements signed by the MOH and the NGOs and other non-public institutions.**

This activity will initiate in the next quarter following the start of the new contracts.



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**Activity 1.4: Strengthen the processes and capacities of the MOH (Sub-secretariat of Networks including the RSD), to monitor the agreements with the NGOs and other non-public institutions.**

A workshop on the technical guidelines was developed and carried out with the participation of the control and management support staff from the regions of Colon, Atlántida, Cortes, and the metropolitan regions of San Pedro Sula and Tegucigalpa, in addition to the UGD technical staff. During the workshop, the guidelines and formats to be used for implementation of the agreements and technical closings were provided. The dates for technical closings were also socialized

Technical assistance was provided to the UGD on their presentations for the monthly coordination meetings with the UAFCE and USAID, as well as on the preparation of the quarterly technical report.

**Activity 1.5: Strengthen the management capacities of MOH (UAFCE and Sub Secretariat of Networks including UGD and RSD).**

Due to turnover in personnel in the UAFCE during this quarter, it was not possible to carry out specific activities apart from the hands on mentoring and support. This activity will continue in the next quarter.

**Activity 1.6: Strengthen the financial and administrative processes of the MOH to manage the USAID HIV implementation letters.**

Technical assistance was provided to the UAFCE on:

- Financial closings of the NGOs agreements ending on December 31, 2014.
- Preparation of financial information to be included in the UAFCE quarterly financial report to be submitted to USAID.
- Various consultations on reports and requests sent to USAID, including expense liquidations, amendments and financial reports requested by USAID.
- Preparation of the In Country Training report.

In addition, the administrative guidelines for NGOs were reviewed and updated, and technical assistance was provided on the review, updating and modification of the financial formats for the NGO expenses liquidations. As a result, the UAFCE now has updated administrative guidelines for training and delivery to the NGOs to be utilized during project implementation.

**Expected Result 2: Organizational capacity developed within local NGOs and other non-public institutions to support the implementation of evidence-based, quality HIV prevention services for key and priority populations in compliance with the new MOH funding mechanisms.**

**Activity 2.1: Strengthen NGOs and other non-public institutions' technical capacity to develop technical proposals during negotiation with MOH.**

Once the Ministry of Health pre-selected the NGOs technical and financial proposals, LMG provided technical assistance to 5 NGOs for negotiation and revision of 7 technical proposals in order for proposal to incorporate the observations made by the internal and external evaluation committees, and for compliance with all of the requirements included in the terms of reference. This included the participation of administrators, coordinators, and with project and regional educators. A total of 19 people participated, including 13 women and 6 men. As a final result, the 7 technical and financial proposals were ready for signature. The projects approved by the MOH include 4 aimed at serving the Garifuna population in the areas of Colon, Cortes, Atlántida and San Pedro Sula, 1 aimed at serving men who have sex with men in Tegucigalpa, 1 for services to female sex workers in Tegucigalpa, and 1 for services for hard-to-reach women in Tegucigalpa.

LMG provided support and technical assistance to the UAFCE to prepare the presentation, and training was provided on the procedure to follow for financial revision of the proposals based on observations made by the internal evaluation committee.

**Activity 2.2: Strengthen NGOs and other non-public institutions' capacity to improve the quality of HIV prevention services they provide to key and priority populations.**

Agreements were signed with the NGOs at the end of March. Therefore, activities to reinforce technical capacities in the prevention services will initiate during the next period.

Accompaniment was provided to the technical-administrative team of the Breastfeeding League prior to and during the visit made by USAID and CDC Honduras, OGAC, CDC Washington and Guatemala, for the application of the SIMS tools for the purpose of reviewing the means of verification used in their activities.

**Activity 2.3: Strengthen NGOs and other non-public institutions in their technical capacity to implement the agreements in compliance with MOH requirements.**

The workshop on technical guidelines was developed, which included the participation of coordinators and administrators from the 7 projects. During the workshop, guidelines and formats were provided for use in the implementation of the agreements and technical closings. In addition, the dates for the technical closings were disseminated and a review was carried out of the obligations established by each of the parties as established in the agreements.



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In addition, an event was carried for the orientation of new staff in the CASM Cortes project on how to prepare the technical closings to the coordination staff, the administrator, three educators and the pre-financial controller participated.

Seven monitoring and evaluation forms were prepared (one for each NGO) for review by the NGOs. These forms should be filled out and submitted monthly by the NGOs.

In December 2014, USAID with accompaniment from LMG and UGD officer, visited the Youth in Motion Association (AJEM) and the Developmental Programs for Women and Children (PRODIM in Spanish) to apply the SIMS tool. As a result, it was identified that improvements needed to be made in relation to the means of verification in the rapid HIV testing service, condom handling and strengthening knowledge among technical project staff. An improvement plan was prepared with technical teams from both projects, in order for them to comply with all the requirements between the period of March and June 2015.

Each of the project technical proposals approved by the Ministry of Health included the following products as a requirement for the first month of project implementation:

- Plan for disposal and elimination of waste from the rapid HIV tests, to comply with all bio-security standards;
- Plan for the promotion of rapid HIV testing;
- Plan for carrying out the tests;
- Mapping the zones where the rapid HIV test services are provided;
- Plan for the distribution of condoms.

During this period, technical assistance was provided to technical teams from the 7 projects, resulting in the preparation of each of the requested products.

**Activity 2.4: Strengthen NGOs and other non-public institutions on their financial management capacity to comply with MOH standards.**

This activity will initiate in the next quarter with the contracts that were signed at the end of March and any new contracts signed in the next quarter.

**Activity 2.5: Strengthen NGOs and other non-public institutions capacities in transparency, accountability and management.**

This activity will initiate in the next quarter with the contracts that were signed at the end of March and any new contracts signed in the next quarter.

**Activity 2.6: Strengthen NGOs and other non-public institutions capacity on prevention of gender-based violence related to HIV.**

Terms of reference were prepared for contracting a consultant for the workshop on the prevention of gender violence linked to HIV, to reinforce the technical assistance that was provided last year on GBV, stigma and discrimination, and empowering key population to understand and ask questions on the current guidelines and its link to HIV transmission. The terms of reference



included a request for a technical proposal, methodological plans and materials for the development of workshops and advisory services for the NGOs to prepare training plans for the 7 projects as well as updating referral plans.

After a competitive process, a consultant was selected and contracted who submitted a technical proposal including the methodological plan and workshop materials.

The first workshop was directed at NGO technical staff that work with men who have sex with men, female sex workers and hard-to-reach women, with representatives from the metropolitan region of Tegucigalpa, and from the health units providing family counseling services. During this workshop, knowledge was reinforced, especially on socialization of gender, gender roles and standards, sexual and reproductive rights, the critical path and mapping of actors. It also included training plans to be developed with the beneficiary populations in order for the beneficiaries to receive 10 hours of training on this issue, in addition to updating the organizations' referral plan. Both products will be finalized during the next quarter.

Nineteen people participated (5 men and 14 women), including 2 technical staff from the metropolitan region of Tegucigalpa, 3 family counselors from health units in Alonzo Suazo, Las Crucitas and Villadela, 11 NGO technical staff, and 3 LMG staff.



#### **IV. Monitoring and Evaluation**

The Performance Monitoring Plan (PMP) for this fiscal year presents a series of indicators for the project objective and expected results 1 and 2; see Annex 1 for an updated PMP report.

During this period, LMG provided technical support to 1 NGO to prepare for the Site Improvement through Monitoring System (SIMS) visit performed by USAID, CDC and OGAC office and in the preparation of action plans for 2 NGOs based on recommendations resulted from application of SIMS by USAID on December 2014.

## **V. Outstanding Issues, Constraints, Delays and Actions Taken**

The bidding process concluded and while NGOs were selected to implement projects in Cortés, San Pedro Sula and Atlántida regions, the Islas de la Bahía region and Atlántida region (for MSM population) were not covered through projects. Therefore, LMG immediately began to assist with the development and updating of a timeline to conduct a new bidding process through a short list to cover these regions. This process was launched in March with a target date for completion of the selection process of the end of April.

During this period, all key positions inside the UAFCE have been occupied by interim staff and other officers have not continued with their contracts; this has led to delays in responses and difficulties in coordination with the unit, since there are fewer staff. Several attempts to establish coordination meetings with the interim Coordinator of the unit were made but the meetings were not possible. Despite this challenge, LMG continued working with the remaining staff in order to comply with USAID requirements and continue with bidding process, selection and the start-up of the new contracts, which resulted in the signature of the agreements and NGOs received their funds in the last week of March.

LMG was requested by USAID to support the UAFCE compliance of the action plan submitted by the MOH to USAID in relation to the audit report from Tribunal Superior de Cuentas. This audit report was shared with LMG on 12 February 2015, and due to the lack of key UAFCE staff, information and documentation, it was not possible to document all the findings and recommendations included in the audit report. In order to support this activity, LMG supported UAFCE remaining staff to establish coordination with officers from Legal Direction and Internal Audit unit of MOH to follow up and support the compliance of the action plan submitted by MOH, resulting in submission by UAFCE of progress reports on the findings before submission of the final report, which was due on March 31 but UAFCE requested an extension to submit on April 6 because of national Easter holidays.

In accordance with the staffing plan approved by USAID in the PY3 work plan, LMG modified its staffing structure, effective January 15, 2015. A new M&E officer began on March 9. The recruitment process of the other new positions has been delayed since the Finance Officer and the Institutional Capacity Advisor both selected received poor references and the other applicants did not meet the position's requirements, therefore, the recruitment process was launched again in the first week of March.



## VI. Financial Report

Period January'15-March'15	
Pipeline at the beginning of period	\$ 223,335.82
New funds Obligation	\$ 581,400.00
Expenses during the reported period + Accruals	\$ 249,334.24
Pipeline at the end of the period	\$ 555,401.58
Estimated expense burn rate for next period	\$ 331,946.49
Estimated quarters of pipeline	1.67
* Note that this report is a projection of the quarterly balance, as MSH has not yet closed the quarter that ends March 31, 2014.	



## VII. Lessons Learned

At the end of the bidding process, the regions of Atlántida (for MSM) and Islas de la Bahía were not covered through projects, which has led the project to consider that in the future, broader publication of the call for proposals in local media could ensure greater coverage.

This past quarter followed the period of installation of interim staff at the MOH which represented a challenge for the project. The LMG Honduras team initiated coordination efforts and continued their technical support to ensure that there were no gaps in the bidding process and start-up of the new contracts.

The lessons learned include that, despite difficult circumstances, with persistence and close accompaniment, LMG can continue to work with partners to ensure the continuation of processes, during this period several on-site technical assistance and meetings were provided to the remaining staff from UAFCE, and coordination continued with permanent staff of UGD and National Directorate of Networks which facilitated the processes.



## VIII. Coordination with Other Actors

In this past quarter, LMG Honduras was invited to the workshop hosted by AIDSTAR Plus on Results Based Financing.

In addition, LMG participated in the partners meeting on the Implementation of the National Comprehensive Approach on ITS and HIV/Aids in the framework of the *All for a Better Life* Plan, led by the Ministry of Health.



## IX. Gender Component

NGO technical teams serving CSW, MSM and hard to reach CSW have been trained on the prevention of gender-based violence linked to HIV. These NGOs are working in the development of the training plans and update of reference plan for cases of violence. Among the participants were the Health Metropolitan Region of Tegucigalpa and family counselors working at health units.

## **X. Summary of Key Conclusions**

During this quarter, LMG focused its support and assistance on the evaluation of proposals to contract health services providers in 2015 using a results-based financing model, and worked with the UAFCE and UGD to develop and follow up on the timeline of the bidding process through short list for services in the regions of Atlántida and Islas de la Bahía. LMG has supported and followed up to reach signature on the contracts with new service providers, and on ensuring start-up of the projects and provision of services to key and priority populations.

Technical support was concentrated on ensuring the startup of the service provision by NGOs once the contracts are signed and disbursements received, focusing on review and update of manuals, workshops on technical and administrative guidelines and preparation of NGOs plans according to their technical proposals.

The new organizational structure for the project, approved on December 2014, was effective on January 15<sup>th</sup> and there are two positions currently under a recruitment process.

Due to the turnover of key staff in the UAFCE, and the appointment of interim staff, it has been challenging to coordinate, however, processes have continued and once the new staff takes on its positions, LMG will start building up relationships and moving forward in order to socialize and coordinate the development of the technical assistance to the unit.

Delays in appointment of the key staff and coordination positions in the UAFCE may cause delays in the implementation of the activities according to the approved work plan.

According to PY3 work plan, in the next quarter, LMG will focus its support and assistance on the institutional capacity development processes for MOH units and NGOs, in addition, technical support will continue for the new bidding process to ensure services are delivered in the uncovered regions.

## Annex 1: Honduras LMG Project Performance Monitoring Plan (PMP)

### LMG Honduras Project Goal:

Provide technical assistance to the Ministry of Health (MOH) and local NGOs and other non-public institutions in organizational capacity building to provide HIV/AIDS education and prevention services to key and priority populations.

No.	Indicators	Goal Oct 1, 2014 – Sept. 30, 2015		Goal reached October 1, 2014 – Sept.30, 2015		Average reached	Source (s)	Frequency
P.11.1. D	Number of individuals who received Testing and Counseling (T&C) services for HIV and received their test results.	Male:		Male:	2,409	35%	NGOs report	Annual
		Female:		Female:	3,085			
		(<15 years):		(<15 years):	2			
		(15 + years):	<b>15,555</b>	(15 + years):	5,492			
		Positive:		Positive:				
		Negative:		Negative:				
		MSM:	3,067	MSM:	742			
		CSW:	5,526	CSW:	1,234			
		Garifunas:	6,962	Garifunas:	2,833			
		Other indirect groups:		Other indirect groups:	685			
		Individuals:	15,555	Individuals:	<b>5,494</b>			
Couples:		Couples:						
<b>TOTAL:</b>	<b>15,555</b>	<b>TOTAL:</b>	<b>5,494</b>					
P.8.3.D	Number of key populations reached with individual and/or small group level HIV preventive interventions that are based on evidence and/or meet the minimum Standards required	Male:		Male:		N/A		
		Female:		Female:				
		MSM:	1,592	MSM:				
		CSW:	2,712	CSW:				
		<b>TOTAL:</b>	<b>4,304</b>	<b>TOTAL:</b>				



**LMG Honduras Project Goal:**

Provide technical assistance to the Ministry of Health (MOH) and local NGOs and other non-public institutions in organizational capacity building to provide HIV/AIDS education and prevention services to key and priority populations.

No.	Indicators	Goal Oct 1, 2014 – Sept. 30, 2015		Goal reached October 1, 2014 – Sept.30, 2015		Average reached	Source (s)	Frequency
P.8.1.D	Number and percentage of each priority population who completed a standardized HIV prevention intervention including the specified minimum components during the reporting period	Male :		Male :		N/A		
		Female		Female				
		( <15 years):		( <15 years):				
		(15 + years):		(15 + years):				
		Garifunas :		Garifunas :				
		Other indirect groups:		Other indirect groups:				
		<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>4,891</b>	<b>TOTAL</b>				



**LMG Honduras Project Goal:**

Provide technical assistance to the Ministry of Health (MOH) and local NGOs and other non-public institutions in organizational capacity building to provide HIV/AIDS education and prevention services to key and priority populations.

**Result 1:** Organizational capacity developed within the MOH to establish and carry out effective funding mechanisms, management and stewardship of HIV prevention services provided by local non-governmental organizations (NGOs) and other non-public institutions.

No.	Indicators	Baseline		Source (s)	Goal Oct 1, 2014 - Sept. 30, 2015	Frequency	Goal reached Oct 1, 2014 – Sept. 30, 2015
		Value	Year				
1.	Proportion of NGOs and other non-public institutions contracts managed in compliance with MOH policies, protocols, and guidance for contracting, as measured through the following areas in the past 12 months:	N/A	2014	UAFCE reports	100%	Annual	N/A
	o Bidding process based on results undergone timely						
	o Monthly financial reviews based on results						
	o Semi-annual results-focused technical audits						

1.1.	Proportion of technical and financial proposals based on results that have been reviewed and negotiated by the MOH in the past 6 months as part of the competitive bidding process. <sup>1</sup>			UAFCE reports	10	Annual	70% <sup>2</sup>
1.2.	Percent of NGOs and other non-public institutions with approved contracts that have undergone monthly financial reviews by the MOH within the past 3 months. <sup>3</sup>			UAFCE reports	7	Monthly	N/A <sup>4</sup>
1.3.	Percent of NGOs and other non-public institutions with approved contracts that have undergone semi-annual results-focused technical audits by the MOH within the past 6 months.			UGD reports	7	Annual	N/A
1.4.	Percent of financial advance requests and liquidations received from contracted NGOs and other non-public institutions in the past three months that have been reviewed and processed by the MOH.			UAFCE Report	7	Monthly	100% <sup>5</sup>

<sup>1</sup> This indicator will capture the entire bidding process from the design and distribution of the terms of reference per key population to having reviewed, negotiated and approved the new results-based contracts.

<sup>2</sup> Corresponds to 7 proposals revised and negotiated by the MOH

<sup>3</sup> This indicator will also capture the development and distribution of the NGO Administrative and Financial Procedure Manual based on the results-based model.

<sup>4</sup> First disbursement made in March

<sup>5</sup> All 7 projects submitted funds request to MOH



<b>LMG Honduras Project Goal:</b>							
Provide technical assistance to the Ministry of Health (MOH) and local NGOs in organizational capacity building to provide HIV/AIDS education and prevention services to key populations.							
<b>Result 2:</b> Organizational capacity developed within local NGOs to support the implementation of evidence-based, quality HIV prevention services for key populations in compliance with the new MOH funding mechanisms.							
No.	Indicators	Baseline		Sources (s)	Goal October 1, 2014 – Sept.30, 2015	Frequency	Goal reached
		Value	Year				
2.	Proportion of NGOs and other non-public institutions that comply with financial and technical regulations, measured by: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Percentage of funds executed quarterly by the NGOs and other non-public institutions (financial regulation)</li> <li>● Percentage of the NGOs and other non-public institutions project targets achieved quarterly (technical regulation)</li> </ul>	N/A	2014	NGOs' and other non-public institutions Management projects reports	100%	Annual	
2.1.	Percentage of funds executed quarterly by contracted NGOs and other non-public institutions			UAFCE Report		Monthly	N/A
2.2.	Percentage of the NGOs and other non-public institutions project targets achieved in the past 3 months.			UGD Report		Monthly	N/A