

THE DOMINICAN REPUBLIC AcciónSIDA PROJECT

EVALUATION PLAN

VERSION: 30 de Junio 1998

Santo Domingo, D.N.

ACCIONSIDA PROJECT EVALUATION PLAN DESCRIPTION

DRAFT

1. AccionSIDA PROJECT OVERVIEW

The AcciónSIDA Project represents the third phase of USAID funding in the Dominican Republic designed to channel financial and technical support to NGOs that work in the STD/HIV/AIDS prevention and control. In addition to the NGO grants program, AcciónSIDA will promote and facilitate a process of coordination, mobilization, and consciousness-raising with the principal social players and institutions of the public and private sectors in order to promote changes in the social, legal, and political environments which could increase available resources in the fight against HIV/AIDS. The project is being carried out with the participation of The Academy for Educational Development, AED and Plan International.

The AcciónSIDA evaluation plan formulation process was initiated in January of this year with the discussion of the most outstanding indicators of the AED proposal and their concurrence with the strategic goals of USAID, dividing the measurable indicators into High Level Results (USAID) and Low Level Results (AcciónSIDA).

The current evaluation plan is looking at two types of measurement variables; one that will verify the achievements of the USAID project and another to measure the impact of the AcciónSIDA project. The main differentiation is based on the different target populations in both projects given that USAID's indicators are also included in those of AcciónSIDA. Other results indicators will come from the funded NGO projects and will be incorporated into AccionSIDA's evaluation plan through periodic supervision and monitoring of these projects.

The evaluation plan includes internationally defined results indicators currently used in the fight against AIDS which were incorporated into the original AED proposal. The majority of these indicators do not exist in the studies which have been done in the Dominican Republic due to conceptual and methodological differences.

Available data from different sources show that 71% of women of reproductive age (15-49) in the general population, do not consider themselves to be at risk for contracting HIV/AIDS. This percentage increases for illiterate women (82%); women with a very low educational level (77%); and young women between the ages of 15-19 (84%). Sixty-two percent of men between the ages of 15-64 do not perceive themselves to be at risk for HIV/AIDS, with the percentage increasing for illiterate men (73.5%); men with a very low educational level (67.3%); and young men between the ages of 15-19 (74%). (Encuesta Demográfica y de Salud, ENDESA, 1996)

Among commercial sex workers who participated in “workplace” interpersonal communication programs in Santo Domingo, Puerto Plata, Sosúa and Montellano, 61.5% of those in Santo Domingo and 61% of those in the other three areas do not perceive themselves to be at risk of contracting HIV/AIDS (CESDEM, Encuesta CCAP, 1996).

Among men who have sex with men in Santo Domingo, 23.3% do not consider themselves at risk for HIV/AIDS while 59% consider themselves to be at some risk of becoming infected. (CESDEM, Encuesta CCAP, 1996).

At present, approximately six NGOs provide specialized services for HIV-infected and affected persons in the country, with a growing demand for more information and services. These services are concentrated in the capital city of Santo Domingo, making access extremely difficult for those who live in the interior. HIV-positive support groups have begun to form very recently and the great majority of them are integrated into the “Dominican Network of Persons Living with HIV/AIDS” which formed in 1997.

AcciónSIDA’s programmatic strategy includes the following primary components: Behavioral Change, STI/HIV/AIDS prevention and Policy.

A. Behavioral Change Component

The Behavioral Change component consists of activities directed at increasing risk perception among vulnerable groups. This component includes IEC activities and materials. AcciónSIDA will evaluate the IEC workplans developed by the NGOs, reproduce educational material, design new material and participate in mass media campaigns nationwide.

Although limited funds are designated specifically for mass media endeavors, the project is coordinating closely with the donor community and the private sector to leverage resources to support public awareness campaigns. "Public awareness" reflects the knowledge, attitudes, and beliefs of the general public about HIV/AIDS. AcciónSIDA will work with other donors, the media, and local leadership to solicit support for mass media campaigns and printing of educational materials. The project is working with those partners to develop and disseminate consistent and technically sound messages.

B. STI/HIV/AIDS Component

The STI/HIV/AIDS component consists of working with NGOs and other groups which offer services to target population and support to infected and affected persons. At present, the AcciónSIDA Project is providing funds to a selected grants. NGO'S that have been recommended by the Selection Committee Members during the selection process. Funding cycles are being published in widely read newspapers, that are accessible to a large number of non-governmental organizations throughout the country.

C. Policy Component

The policy component involves political dialogues and advocacy support for HIV/AIDS prevention. The Project will identify existing local groups that operate in this area. Policy activities will be carried out through five thematic working groups : STI, condoms, education, hospitality receptors, and industrial labor.

This component will be integrated by public and private sector representatives, sectorial leaders with expertise in these issues, investigators, entrepreneurs, industrialists, merchants, and people infected/affected by HIV. The particular work dynamic and the specific issues

to be discussed within groups is flexible and open to suggestions and recommendations of the participating institutions and the workplans to be developed.

Local, regional, and national key sectorial leaders, will be identified, to support the efforts displayed, to comply with the advocacy role, and to make recommendations on managing AcciónSIDA project.

A workteam will be formed to define and promote the experiences learned about community support models for people infected/affected by the HIV/AIDS and will be facilitate by AcciónSIDA. Support system symposiums will be held, with the participation of medical doctors, psychologists, sociologists, educators and other professionals, in order to analyze, evaluate and focus methodologic concepts and activities performed while implementing the models.

For the purpose of monitoring and evaluating accomplishments, the Project will use the Policy Environment Score (PES), at two points in time; before and after the implementation of the policies efforts.

11 EVALUATION PLAN BACKGROUND.

The evaluation plan of the AccionSIDA Project is divided in two levels. High Level Results which correspond to STI/HIV//AIDS indicators with the general population and Low Level Results, which correspond to AccionSIDA indicators with specific target populations (particularly vulnerable groups) who will be reached through the program. Therefore the strategic objective 2 and intermediate results 2.1 are the same for each level but targeted to different population, one general and the other specific. Indicators at both levels will be measured through KABP studies and NGOs program reports.

For high level results indicators, USAID will perform three evaluations surveys: baseline, mid-term and end of project. So impact evaluation is considered in this plan. For low level result indicators, AccionSIDA will perform a baseline study and an impact evaluation to be performed at the end of project. An external evaluation firm is recommended.

The evaluation plan indicators were selected according to the Academy for Educational Development Proposal and USAID strategic objective 2. At the moment, numeric goals have not yet been established. They will be established based on baseline study data.

The source for progress indicators as number of people trained through NGOs AcciónSIDA funded, will be obtain from NGOs progress reports.

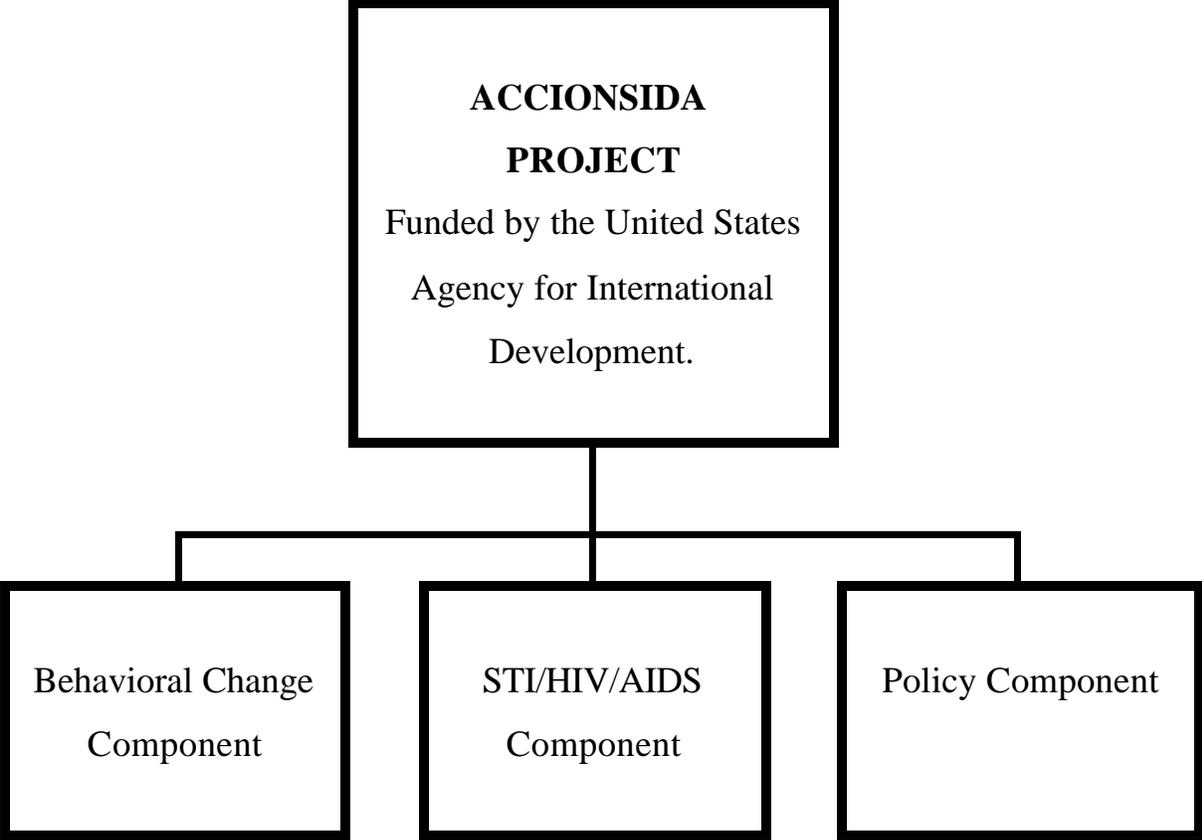


Figure 1. ACCIONSIDA Project's Components.

EVALUATION PLAN

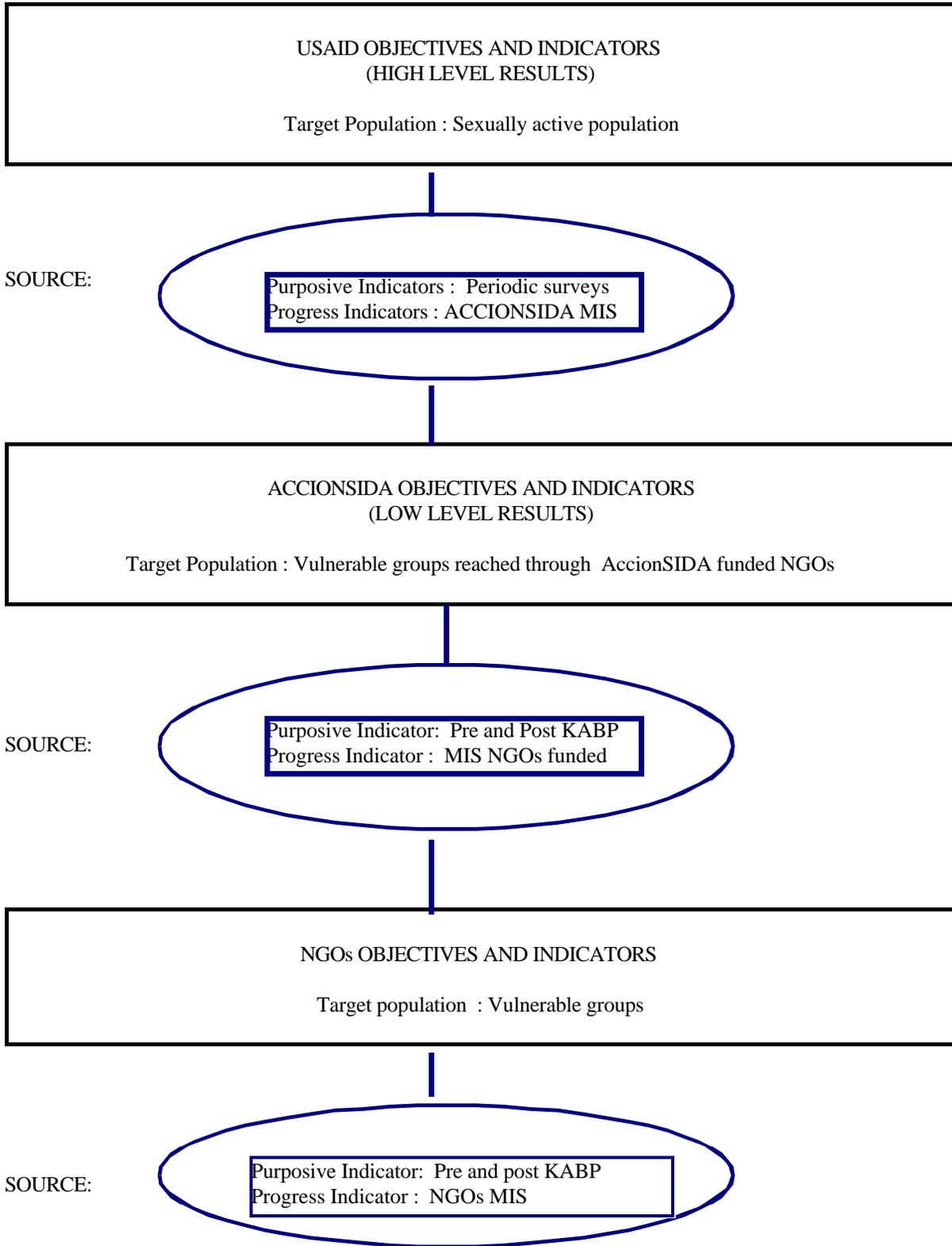


Figure 2. ACCIONSIDA Project's Evaluation Plan.

HIGH LEVEL RESULTS

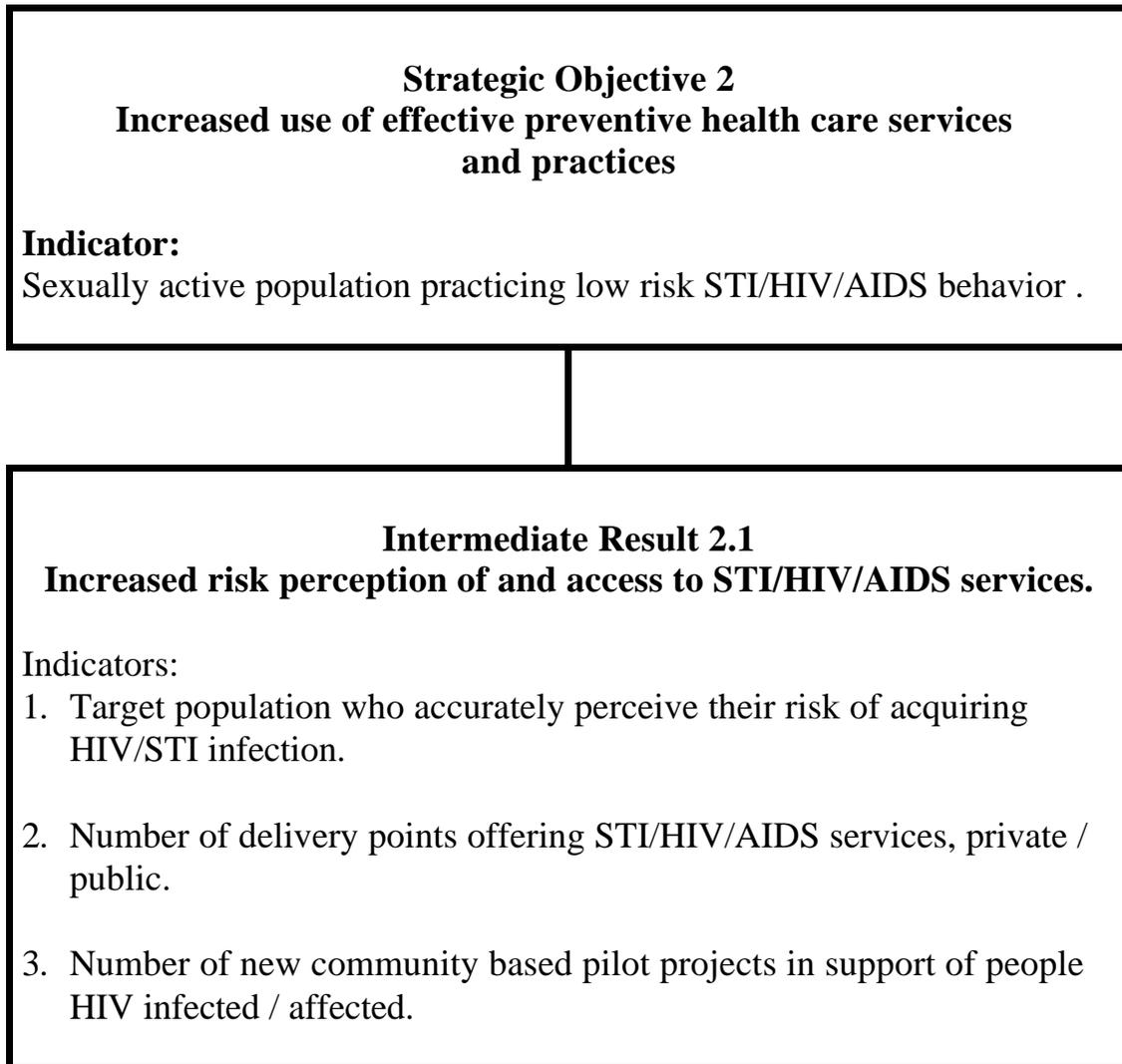


Figure 3. ACCIONSIDA Project Results Framework - High Level Results.

INDICATORS DESCRIPTION

Strategic Objective 2 Indicator Description:

Composite indicator that looks into percentage of target population whose sexual behavior and/or condom use place them at low risk of infection.

Unit of Measure : Percentage

Source : DHS 2002 periodic surveys 1998-2000

Intermediate Result 2.1 Indicators Description.

1. Target population who perceive themselves to be at risk of HIV/STI and whose behavior do in fact put them at risk.

Unit of Measure : Percentage

Source : KABP Studies 1998-2002

2. The present target number of private (NGOs) or public service delivery points USAID funded.

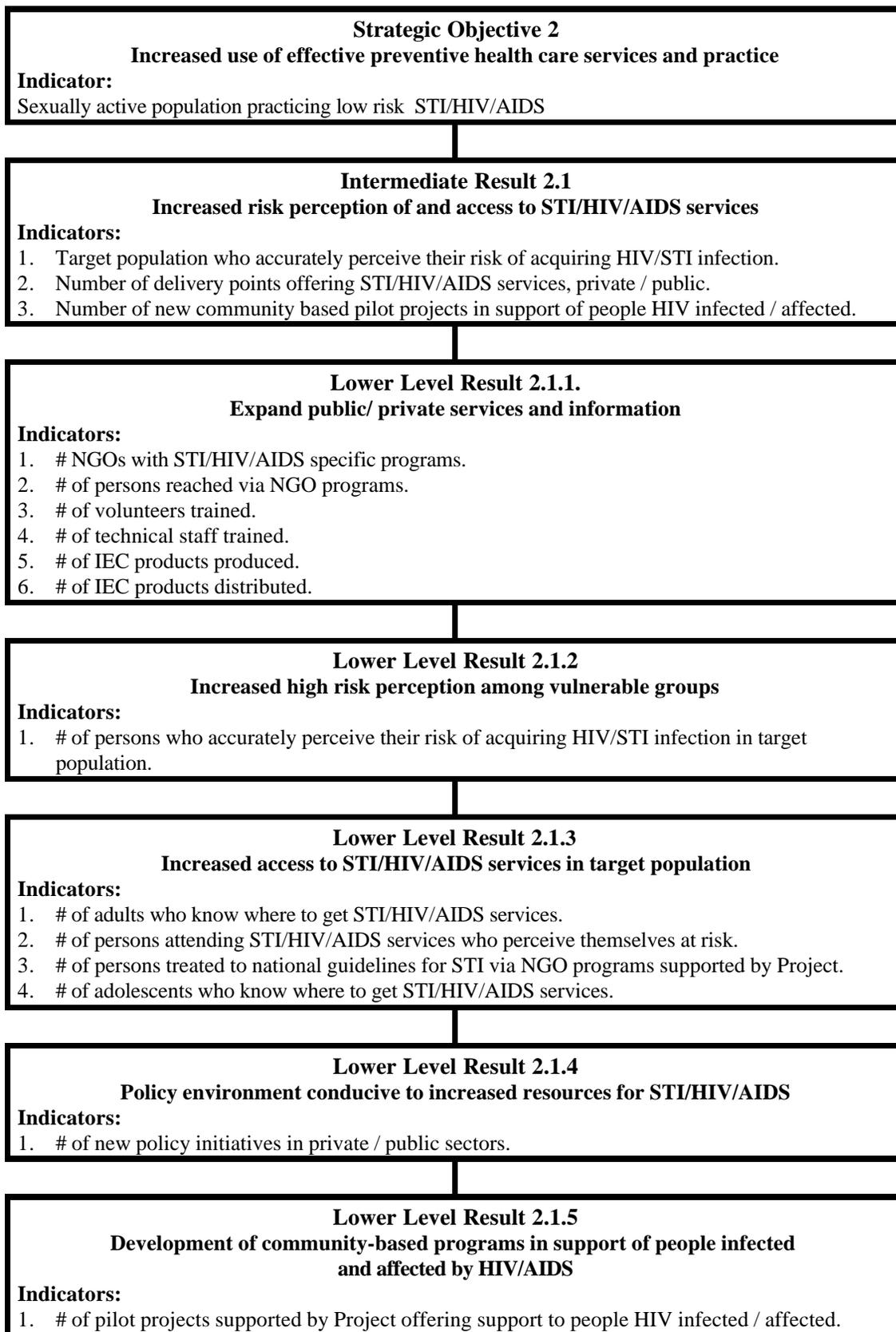
Unit of Measure : Number

Source : Project

3. Number of private (NGOs) or public services offering support of people HIV infected / affected.

Unit of Measure : Number

Source : Project



* Numeric goal will be established after baseline studies.

Figure 4. ACCIONSIDA Project Results Framework - High and Low level results.

Lower Level Result 2.1.1 Indicators Description

1. # of AccionSIDA funded NGOs offering services and information about STI/HIV/AIDS.

Unit of Measure : Number

Source : Project / NGO funded

2. # of persons reached through AccionSIDA funded NGOs .

Unit of Measure : Number

Source : Project / NGOs funded

3. # of volunteers trained through AccionSIDA funded NGOs .

Unit of Measure : Number

Source : Project / NGOs funded

4. # of technical staff trained through AccionSIDA funded NGOs .

Unit of Measure : Number

Source : Project / NGOs funded

5. # of IEC products produced via NGO programs funded by Project.

Unit of Measure : Number

Source : Project / NGOs funded

6. # of IEC products distributed via NGO programs funded by Project.

Unit of Measure : Number

Source : Project / NGOs funded

Lower Level Result 2.1.2 Indicator Description

1. Target population who perceive themselves to be at risk for HIV/STI and whose behavior does in fact put them at risk. Indicator with cross tabulation of perceived risk and safer sex behavior.

Unit of Measure : Percentage

Source : KABP studies 1998-2002

Lower Level Result 2.1.3 Indicators Description

1. # of persons (target population) who know where to get STI/HIV/AIDS services.

Unit of Measure : Number

Source : Project / NGOs funded

2. # of persons attending STI/HIV/AIDS services who perceive themselves at risk.

Unit of Measure : Number

Source : Project / NGOs funded

3. # of persons treated through Project funded NGOs with national guidelines for STI.

Unit of Measure : Number

Source : Project / NGOs funded

4. # of adolescents who know where to get STI/HIV/AIDS services.

Unit of Measure : Number

Source : Project / NGOs funded

Lower Level Result 2.1.4 Indicator Description

1. Reported positive changes in STI/HIV/AIDS policies.

Unit of Measure : Number

Source : Project / NGOs funded / “Coalición ONG”

Lower Level Result 2.1.5 Indicator Description

1. # of private (NGOs) or public services with pilot projects offering support to people HIV infected / affected.

Unit of Measure : Number

Source : Project