

South-to-South Consulting: West African Specialists Solve West African Problems

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Blueprints for Success

Technical Support to Global Fund Grants



South-to-South Consulting

West African Specialists Solve West African Problems

West African specialists are providing solutions to West African challenges.



Photo: Marc Péchevis

Dah El Hadj Sidi (L) and Eustache Akpané (R) advise West African nations on ways to improve the effectiveness of their multimillion-dollar grants from the Global Fund to Fight AIDS, Tuberculosis and Malaria.

GMS provides urgent, short-term technical support to countries to better manage their grants from the Global Fund. For more information, visit www.gmsproject.org.

In today's global workforce, international development experts who manage large-scale health, education and development projects are often citizens of the countries they serve. Dr. Dah El Hadj Sidi and Mr. Eustache Akpané are two such persons.

Dah, a Mauritanian pharmacist, is expert in establishing pharmaceutical standards. Dah once worked for the private sector, but what brought him to the attention of Grant Management Solutions (GMS) was his superb work as a technical advisor to Mauritania's Ministry of Health; his experience compiling his country's proposals to the Global Fund to Fight AIDS, Tuberculosis and Malaria; his diplomacy; his fluency in French and Arabic. Today, Dah's expertise in pharmaceutical management, training and consolidation of Global Fund grants put him in high demand in francophone Africa.

Eustache Akpané, from Côte d'Ivoire, specializes in international auditing and management. He has drafted financial and monitoring manuals in the private and public sector, including for the World Health Organization and agencies of the United Nations. His vast technical knowledge and standing as a professor explain why many have asked him to lead seminars throughout West Africa, where he teaches about monitoring and evaluation systems, internal auditing, leadership. For GMS, Eustache provides guidance on both governance and management to national bodies providing oversight and management of Global Fund grants.

As mid-career professionals, Dah and Eustache exemplify the new shape of international development: local nationals leading solutions to vexing national macroeconomic and health-system problems, with help from outside sources such as the U.S. government. Dah and Eustache have worked in almost every francophone African country, including the Democratic Republic of the Congo. There they recently worked together in 2009, helping grant recipients there sign two new Global Fund grants worth more than \$570 million.



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