

# African Health Professions Regional Collaborative

## 2016-2017 Updates

Kenneth Hepburn, PhD  
ARC East Summative  
Congress

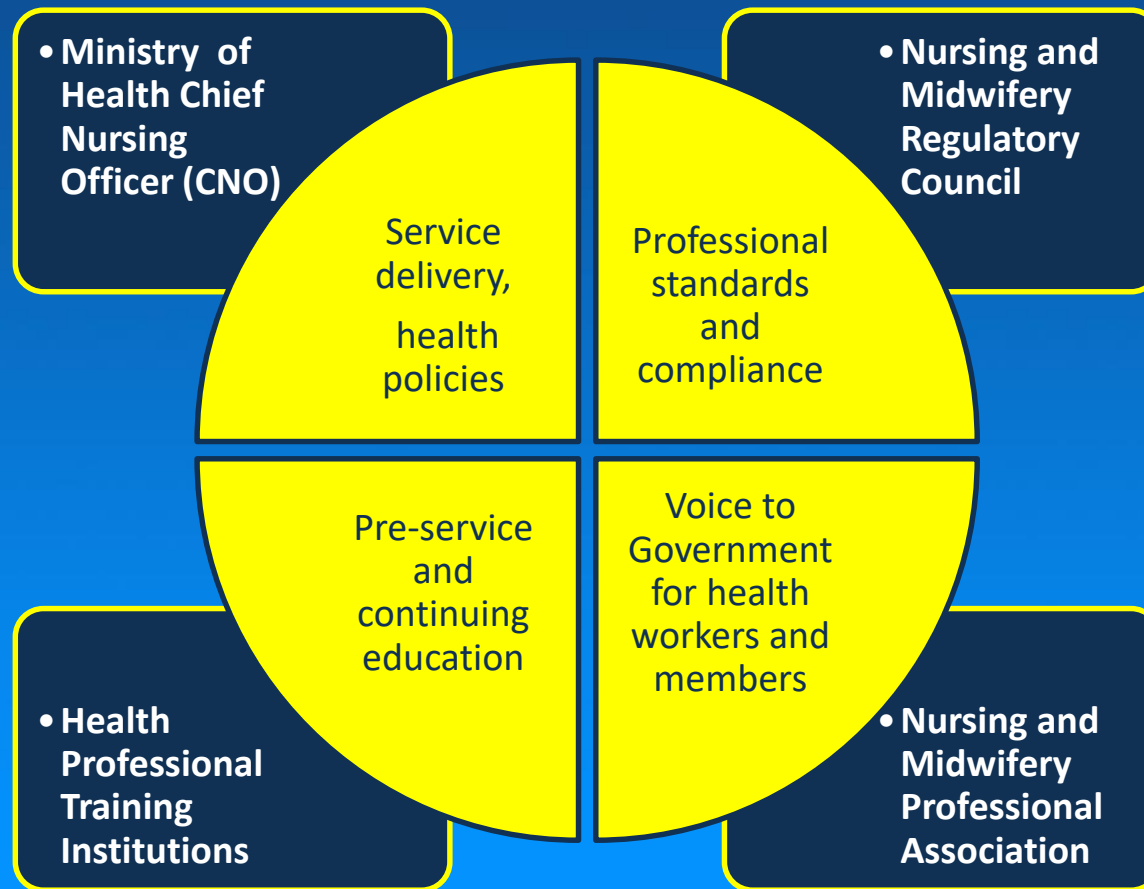
Lusaka, Zambia; July 6, 2017



# ARC Overview

- Multi-year initiative funded through PEPFAR
- Multi-partner engagement and support
- Regional collaborative – sub-Saharan Africa
- Supports nursing and midwifery leaders
- Phase I Goal -- Improving regulation for HIV service delivery

# Key ARC Participants: “The Quad”



**The Quads of Africa:** <http://emorynursingmagazine.emory.edu/issues/2016/spring/features/quads-of-african/index.htm>

# The ARC Approach

Grants

TA

Collaboration

Program  
Evaluation

# ARC I Grants – National Investments

- 7 countries – Establish CPD programs
- 13 countries – Advance CPD programs
- 5 countries – Review and revise SOPs
- 3 countries – Review and update acts/regulations
- 1 country – Decentralize council services
- 2 countries – Develop entry to practice exams

# ARC Impact on Nursing Regulation

## Advancing NIMART – Policy & Regulation

- **Continuing Professional Development**
  - Require select HIV care CPD hours
    - Botswana, Lesotho, Namibia, Zambia, Seychelles, Tanzania
  - Develop NIMART Modules
    - Rwanda (NIMART), Kenya (Pediatric HIV)
  - Trained Nurses and Midwives in NIMART
    - Lesotho (PMTCT), Zambia (B+, Pediatric HIV), Zimbabwe (NIMART/Ped)
- **Scope of Practice** – Authorizing NIMART
  - Botswana, Rwanda, Seychelles, South Sudan, Uganda
- **Accreditation** – Specialty certification for NIMART (South Africa)
- **Licensure** – Advancements by Swaziland and Mozambique

# ARC I Impact on: Teamwork, Organizational Collaboration

- “Prior to ARC each nursing pillar operated individually. There was miscommunication, a lack of coordination and wasted resources...currently the pillars are working together with a common goal.”
- Relations between Quad organizations prior to ARC were described as moderate at best (10 countries). Following ARC, 13 countries report strong or very strong inter-organizational ties.
  - “[Before ARC], there was no communication between the CNO’s office, regulation, and the schools. The Association was not supportive of council activities. All organizations now work together and support each other...messages are disseminated across all organizations.”

# ARC II – PHASE II (2016-2017)

*Supporting quality improvement of HIV care at priority, high-volume sites*

ARC II

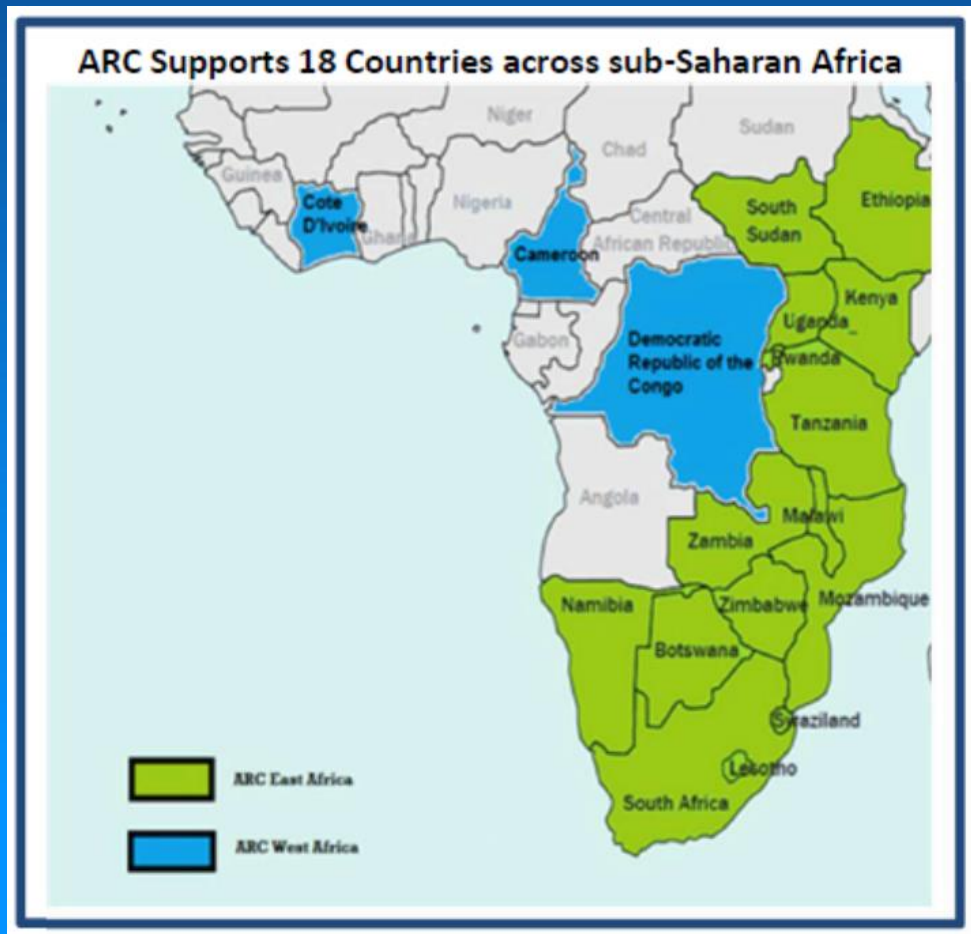
*- Improving nurse-led PMTCT, B+ services and pediatric HIV care*

LARC

*- Addressing bottlenecks in the viral load scale-up*



# ARC II Collaboratives



11 ARC  
East  
Grants in  
August  
2016

3 ARC  
West  
Grants in  
October  
2016

# Facility Assessments

- Facility Assessments – annually
  - Pre- Post- Data – quality improvement projects
- 3 Modules
  - In-depth Interviews – supervisors
  - Surveys – nurses and midwives
  - Program and Materials Audit – supervisors
- 17 countries received grants for baseline; 12 countries for endline
- Data submission due September 1st

# ARC East Grants (August 2016-July 2017)

Populations: All, Pregnant Women, Infants, Children, Adolescents

## Key Strategy

- **Task-Sharing -- Tanzania**
- **Clinical Mentorship—Lesotho, Rwanda, Uganda, Zambia**
- **Quality Improvement & Assurance – Kenya, Zimbabwe, Swaziland**
- **Data Quality and Data Use – Malawi**
- **Patient-Provider Interaction—Ethiopia, Mozambique**
- **Final report due August 14, 2017**

# ARC East Grants –Technical Assistance

- TA for entire year of project, monthly basis
- Conference Calls and Visits
- Liaison with CDC country offices
- Project Scope, Workplan, Tools, Indicators
- Guidance on challenges
- TA Visits to Kenya, Ethiopia, Zimbabwe, Uganda
- M&E Training at Rwanda Learning Session

# ARC West and Central: Grants Ending July 2017

*Improving the quality of nursing practice at priority, high-volume sites*

- **Cameroon** – Improve the quality of PMTCT, Option B+ and Pediatric HIV services through a close supervision program at three high volume sites.
- **Cote d'Ivoire** – Enhance the quality of PTMCT, Option B+ and Pediatric HIV services at three high volume sites *via indicator monitoring*.
- **DRC** – Support to nurses and midwives in improvement of the quality of service provision and management of health data for Option B+ and pediatric HIV.
- *TA Visit January-February 2017 to CDI and Cameroon; TA Visit to DRC in July: Consultants in all 3 countries*



# LARC

- Laboratorian African Regional Collaborative
- Launched: February 18-19, 2016
- Objective: Support viral load scale-up
- Kenya, Malawi, Mozambique, Swaziland, Tanzania, and Uganda
- TA Visits 2 or 3 per year
- Final Learning Session May 2017

# ARC Going Forward

- Technical Assistance for Assessments
- **August 14<sup>th</sup> Project Final Report**
- Share Project Results with Quad Plus and Stakeholders
- Sustainability of Quads –projects among pillars
- Publications



Amelia



Charlott