

For over nine years, APHL has worked in Ghana, providing technical assistance for the Ministry of Health and the Ghana Health Service. During this time, APHL has worked collaboratively with in-country partners to support the scale-up of HIV viral load testing in the PEPFAR regions of Ghana. PEPFAR-supported activities include introducing a barcode label system to streamline specimen workflow, improving HIV patient data transmission, interfacing the Roche COBAS 6800 and GeneXpert test analyzers with the eTracker reporting system and providing quality management system (QMS) mentorships to prepare laboratories for ISO 15189:2022 accreditation. Through the Global Health Security Agenda (GHSA), APHL built capacity for pathogen detection, biosafety and biosecurity training, and implemented EQA program for SARS-CoV-2 and next generation sequencing (NGS) training.

PROJECT HIGHLIGHT #1



APHL collaborated with the National AIDS Control Program and Policy, Planning, Monitoring and Evaluation to interface the Roche COBAS 6800 and Cepheid GeneXpert viral load and early infant diagnosis testing platforms with the eTracker reporting system across testing facilities in the PEPFAR regions. APHL and the team trained users how to submit test requests and push test results into the eTracker system. This interface reduced turnaround time for reporting and eliminated the need to manually enter test results into the eTracker.

PROJECT HIGHLIGHT #2

APHL delivered several hands-on trainings in next generation sequencing wet lab, bioinformatics and QMS to the Ghana Health Service, Genomic and Infectious Disease Laboratory, Kumasi staff on the Illumina and Oxford Nanopore Technologies platform and pathogen discovery and metagenomics. The trainings provided a foundation for sustainable genomic capacity in Ghana while developing and validating a versatile NGS protocol capable of sequencing any pathogen.

