



## “PRIORITIES OF HEALTH ECONOMICS IN AFRICA”

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### **Parallel session 4: Financing and reporting health research results**

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#### **PS 04/9**

#### **Resource Allocations for HIV and AIDS in Ghana ~ Alignment with the National Strategic Priorities**

*Asante, F., Poku, A., Ahiadeke, C., Guthrie, T.*

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#### **Background:**

The Ghana AIDS Commission undertook a National AIDS Spending Assessment for the years 2005/6 and 2006/7.

#### **The objectives** of the NASA were to:

1. Compare levels of spending, both domestic and international, for HIV/AIDS in Ghana.
2. Measure the spending according to the National Priorities.
3. Identify the beneficiaries of the spending.
4. To make recommendations for improved funding mechanisms to enhance efficiency of spending.

#### **Methods:**

This study applied the NASA approach, which tracks the funds from source, through financing agent, to provider and ultimately to the activities and beneficiaries of spending. The data was analyzed in Access and Excel.

#### **Results:**

The total expenditure on HIV/AIDS activities in Ghana increased from \$28,414,708 in 2005 to \$32,067,635 in 2006, representing an 11.4 percent increase. External sources contributed almost 70% to the total in each year. Considering the spending priorities of public and external sources found that prevention spending accounted for 23%, treatment and care for 22%, OVCs very little at 1%, 10% going to HIV-related research, and the bulk (40%) going to general programme development and systems strengthening activities. In 2006, PLWHA only benefitted from 30% of the spending, while the largest portion (56%) went to the general population (mainly due to the spending on prevention activities).

Many obstacles were identified in the absorption of funds, and in the equitable allocation of resources.

Conclusions: the study findings made many recommendations with regard to priorities of spending for HIV and AIDS, for improved efficiency of financing, and for enhanced financial information systems, and thus will enhance evidence-based decision-making in Ghana regarding HIV/AIDS financing.