



# UNCLASSIFIED

## Activity Narrative:

The USG program has adopted a holistic approach to the care and support of orphans and other children made vulnerable by HIV/AIDS. All are served in community-settings, while residing with relatives/care givers or in child-headed households. Special attention is paid to OVC who have lost more than one set of caregivers and especially those living in child-headed households. Community and home-based volunteers oversee and monitor the condition and needs of OVC as an extension of palliative care (before and after the parent's death). Both volunteers and trained counselors provide psychosocial support to build resilience, advocate for full participation in local society (attending school and receiving all available benefits and services), and include OVC in prevention-education as they are also amongst the most vulnerable for infection. Several communities have created after-school clubs/activities for OVC, which include supplemental nutrition and programs offering tutoring, mentoring, after school activities and psychosocial supports. In FY 05, its partner, Catholic AIDS Action the country's largest provider of community-based support to OVC will provide comprehensive support to over 20,000 OVC.

The USG program will continue to support the OVC management unit of the MWACW and the OVC PTF, which guides OVC programming nationally based on its 5-Year Strategy. USG technical assistance supporting the GRN's capacity to effectively administer its social welfare system will result in an additional 5000 OVC (indirect support) in need receiving government assistance. The USG will continue to provide a long-term technical advisor to support the MWACW, the OVC PTF (see country context for a detailed discussion of goals and functions) and its four working groups involving approximately forty community-based and GRN representatives. Training will be conducted in each of the country's 13 political regions, involving approximately 25 stakeholders for a total of 325 total. A newly established focus will be on recruitment and training of prospective foster parents in three pilot regions. Support will also include capacity building in the management of the OVC Trust Fund and maintenance of the OVC Data base.

As the epidemic of HIV & AIDS matures, the needs of orphans and other children made vulnerable by HIV/AIDS also increase in priority at both family and community-level. While FBO partners, ELCAP and ELCIN AIDS ACTION, have provided some support to OVC in the past, only recently has this become a distinct area of service for both. Volunteers are now trained in the provision of psychosocial supports and about the range of services to which all children – especially those in greatest need – are entitled. They work directly with OVC as well as with local caregivers and community leaders, to ensure that basic human rights are upheld and to help build the children's internal capacity to cope with their situation. In FY 05, ELCIN expects to conduct 40 trainings involving 400 volunteers on OVC-related issues. It will register the orphans, in conjunction with guidelines set forth by the MWACW. Through this process, ELCIN will provide psychosocial and emergency assistance to at least one thousand orphans.

ELCAP through its 62 congregations (sites) will combine its trainings at a regional and sub-regional level. In FY 05, ten refresher courses will be conducted for 100 volunteers. At least 1500 OVC will receive direct support. Volunteers will also provide a monitoring function in the event of child abuse or -neglect, promote will writing wherever appropriate, and refer both children and their caregivers for health services. Both organizations' volunteers facilitate the full participation of OVC in school (at least through grade 7), including the provision of fees, books and supplies and uniforms to those in greatest need.

TKMOAMS is a significant provider of home-based care services in the four high prevalence north-central regions of Namibia, which also have the largest concentration of OVC (Oshana, Omusati, Ohangwena, Oshikoto) and works closely with the MoHSS providing counseling in Oshakati Regional Hospital. It is therefore in a unique position with access to a significant number of households with OVC. This NGO works at village level but not necessarily through a particular church or formal community structure. It functions more on a house-to-house basis. They will train at least 100 volunteers in OVC care and support and ensure that at least 500 OVC are adequately cared for.

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In FY 05, the USG program will support to help TKMOAMS identify and build the capacity of local grass roots organizations through small grants to help expand the USG OVC program. It will leverage support from and partner with the Yelula Project of IBIS/Namibia – an international capacity-building NGO based in the north-central regions, to provide additional organizational and technical assistance for these grass-roots organizations.

One of the USG program objectives is to develop, mobilize, facilitate and increase OVC psychosocial well-being through peer support. This is accomplished through experiential learning programs for and by OVC (1,200). The first phase of the program trains group leaders (150) between the age of 16 – 21 in Listening and Responding Skills. The course's overall aim is to train young people to listen and know how to respond to peers and to determine who of the young people have leadership skills or potential to be further developed as Youth Leaders. During group discussions the OVC will discuss what they see as their strengths and what they see as challenges. The second phase of training takes place over six days during an experiential learning camp for OVC between the ages of 6 - 18, and focuses on counseling OVC and helping them develop skills to deal with grief, stigma and risk factors. FBO youth organizations as well as Student Representative Councils from secondary schools participate in this program. The USG hopes to expand the experiential learning program by identifying and securing a dedicated facility for this purpose.

Church Alliance for OVC (CAFO) is a national interfaith organization dedicated to the development and sustainability of grass-roots support programs for orphans and other children made vulnerable by HIV/AIDS. With over 360 member congregations nationwide, it works through local churches and FBOs, and in cooperation with GRN and other coordinating bodies. It hosts national and regional training programs, mobilizing for the involvement of local community groups and their leaders, training in basic program-management skills, advocating for OVC, and providing a small grant-fund to assist with the start-up of community-projects. During the funding period CAFO will train at least 150 church representatives and provide direct support to 4,000 OVC.

The USG program will continue to focus on reducing the vulnerability of children in the epidemic by addressing discrimination and promoting a human rights-based approach to HIV/AIDS through the AIDS Law Unit. The USG program will support access by people living with HIV/AIDS to information and advice on adequately providing for their children after death including wills, insurance and alternative mechanisms for financial security; as well as to ensure non-discriminatory access by children orphaned by HIV/AIDS to foster care, adoption and places of safety, where appropriate. Ten community-education trainings will be conducted, involving at least 150 participants and rights and benefit assistance provided to over 5,000 OVC.

The total number of OVC reached for the sum of these activities will be 25,000, because it is expected that some OVC will be receiving services from more than one partner.

## Activity Category

- Human Resources
- Information, Education and Communication
- Infrastructure
- Linkages with Other Sectors and Initiatives
- Local Organization Capacity Development
- Quality Assurance and Supportive Supervision

## % of Funds

33%  
7%  
6%  
12%  
15%  
4%

- Strategic Information (M&E, IT, Reporting)
- Training

6%  
17%

**Targets:**

		<input type="checkbox"/> Not Applicable
Number of OVC programs	8	<input type="checkbox"/> Not Applicable
Number of OVC served by OVC programs	25,000	<input type="checkbox"/> Not Applicable
Number of providers/caretakers trained in caring for OVC	1,375	<input type="checkbox"/> Not Applicable

**Target Populations:**

- Caregivers
- Community members
- Faith-based organizations
- Government workers
- HIV/AIDS-affected families
- Orphans and other vulnerable children
- Volunteers

**Key Legislative Issues:**

- Gender
  - Increasing gender equity in HIV/AIDS programs
  - Addressing male norms and behaviors
  - Reducing violence and coercion
- Volunteers
- Stigma and discrimination

Coverage Area: **National**

State Province:

ISO Code: