

OUR ACADEMIC AND SCIENTIFIC INTERVENTIONS

Solthis was established by university doctors, supported by a scientific group of health and development experts. We have developed numerous partnerships with research and public health institutes, university hospitals, universities and faculties, networks of partners, particularly in Africa, and with other humanitarian organizations. Since its inception, Solthis has participated in major international conferences on global public health.

Women Deliver

Kigali, Rwanda, 17-20 July, 2023

The Women Deliver conference is a critical event on sexual and reproductive rights and health. The organizers focused on intersectional feminist principles to address the complex issues affecting women and girls and to collectively identify and act on evidence-based solutions. **The SANSAS project team was represented and took part in the AFD session entitled «Catalyzing action to move forward on the neglected challenges of Sexual and Reproductive Health and Rights (SRHR)»** and presented their work on «Approaches put in place to better meet the specific SRHR needs of young people».



AIDS Impact

Stockholm, Sweden, 12-14 June 2023

AIDS Impact is an annual international conference on behavior and psychosocial sciences that addresses issues related to HIV and AIDS prevention, treatment and care. In 2023, Solthis was selected for **an oral presentation** entitled: «Estimating HIV self-testing positivity rate and linkage to confirmatory testing and care: a telephone survey in Côte d'Ivoire, Mali and Senegal» as well as **a poster** entitled: «Knowledge, attitude and practices towards HIV testing following the introduction of self-testing: the case of the ATLAS project in Côte d'Ivoire». Both were based on research results of the ATLAS project.

Scientific publications

Alongside our projects and technical assistances we conduct research works, some of the results of which have been published.

In 2023, **six papers were submitted and published in different scientific journals**. Two of them related to ATLAS, a project to introduce HIV self-test kits, which closed out in 2022 but related research work continues to deliver results. One article presented results from the AIRPOP project, which enables blood samples to be transported by drone to reduce turnaround times for infant HIV test results. Another presented results from the TB-Speed project, which closed **out** in 2022 and aimed to strengthen pediatric TB management and improve early detection. The other two articles involved technical experts from Solthis, as part of projects outside the organization.



Find out more about our academic and scientific

OUR ADVOCACY WORK

Through our projects in West Africa, our scientific roots and links with French and international institutions, Solthis develops its advocacy work based on analyzing its projects and results from research. The objective behind our advocacy work is two-pronged:

- ▶ to scale up projects that have shown promise;
- ▶ to share our experience, and that of partners, with the international community to improve health policies and the functioning of international initiatives.

Solthis also contributes to holding the French government and international institutions to account on their role in global health, through participating in collectives of committed organizations, such as Collectif Santé Mondiale and Coordination Sud.

ADVOCACY THAT HAS A MULTIPLIER EFFECT: STRENGTHENING TEAMS AND PARTNERS

The main objective of our advocacy work is part of our multiplier effect approach, drawing on evidences from our projects and knowledge produced with national partners, institutions, civil society and communities to bring about changes in policies and approaches of health actors and strengthen patients' rights and health systems.

In this regard, in 2023, Solthis took the opportunity of several projects closing out to **organize or participate in workshops to share key messages from our interventions and those of our partners**. For example, in Niger, the JADES II project on SRHR enabled advocacy messaging from Young Leaders to be shared on «Zero violence in schools». While the AIRE project close out in Dakar provided an opportunity to promote the introduction of the pulse oximeter to detect respiratory distress in children. In Guinea, the RUCHE project has strengthened the rights of HIV patients to ensure a better balance in the care provider - patient relationship.

Our 20-year anniversary celebrations in each of the countries where we operate was an opportunity to take advocacy messaging to the national level with our partners and highlight results from our projects. These tangible interventions have also [fed into our commitment to combat violence against women and gender-based violence](#), which was shared on 25 November. Our advocacy approach is embedded in our

programmatic work, from self-defense workshops under the POUVOIR project in Côte d'Ivoire, to developing an SRHR app with Ablogui in Guinea, or establishing a care pathway for victims of GBV in Senegal.

As part of our work to continue taking concrete action to improve health policies, Solthis, supported by AFD, conducted training sessions to strengthen civil society teams and partners in the countries of intervention on advocacy issues.

GLOBAL INTERVENTIONS TO IMPROVE GLOBAL HEALTH

Solthis contributes to influencing the global health agenda through having a presence at conferences, on various coordination bodies, and in coalition with its partners, **demanding that funding and policies are adapted to global health priorities**, in a way that is favorable to the most vulnerable countries and populations.

At global level, our presence on the French National Council for Development and International Solidarity (known as CNDSI), as a civil society representative on the steering committee of France's global health strategy, as part of Coordination Sud, Groupe Initiative, and Collectif Santé Mondiale, we are able to present our demands, and those of our partners, either directly, or through letters, forums or social network campaigns.

In 2023, we were present at various conferences, including Women Deliver and the annual meeting of the Ouagadougou Partnership, to talk about SRHR issues.

We were also able to promote approaches to respond to the impact of climate change on health within the OSH Forum, during an international event in Lyon, where our CEO spoke on behalf of NGOs to ensure commitments on this issue are delivered on.

We also work in coalition to ensure that major multilateral mechanisms (Global Fund, UNITAID, Gavi, etc.) and donors respond as closely as possible to the real needs of the most vulnerable populations, from the local to the global level.



See official standpoints co-signed by Solthis