Collaborating with traditional healers for HIV prevention and care in sub-Saharan Africa - The ultimate goal of this effort is to improve access to and quality of health services for the clients of both systems. Previous research and documents have identified initiatives that involved traditional healers. A model strategy that can be adapted for reaching out to traditional healers together with the necessary steps for building trust among traditional healers and biomedical health practitioners sharing critical information from both sides creating mutual support mechanisms and monitoring and evaluating the successes and failures of each endeavor. A background is given to the role that traditional medicine plays in HIV and health care generally in the region. Examples of collaboration are given and some reviewed according to UNAIDS best practice criteria: effectiveness, ethical soundness, efficiency, sustainability, soundness. As a result, criteria for project selection and lessons learned are detailed. Training of trainers is a specialty and yet another calling in addition to simply being a healer. A traditional healer has to be called to become a trainer of other future healers.