



PHOTO CREDIT: PMI Impact Malaria

# **USAID MALI**

# **HEALTH PROGRAM OVERVIEW FACT SHEET**

## **OVERVIEW**



USAID has supported health programs in partnership with Mali's Ministry of Health and Social Development for more than 60 years. In 2022, USAID managed a \$95 million portfolio improving the overall health and well-being of the Malian people. USAID health activities align with U.S. and Malian government strategic health priorities. Focus areas include health systems strengthening; maternal and child health and family planning; the prevention, detection and treatment of infectious diseases including malaria, HIV/AIDS, COVID-19, and other emerging global health threats; promotion of nutrition; and water,

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sanitation, and hygiene. USAID/Mali's integrated health programs increase Malians' ability to plan, finance, and manage their own health at the individual, household, community, district, regional, and national levels. Scaling local solutions in a country characterized by compounding and protracted crises is essential to fostering a healthier, more resilient Malian population. USAID-supported health programs are implemented in 54 of Mali's 65 health districts in the regions of Sikasso, Kayes, Koulikoro, Segou, Mopti, Gao, Tombouctou and Bamako, accounting for 20 million people, over 90 percent of Mali's population.

### PREVENTING MATERNAL AND CHILD DEATHS

USAID prioritizes the reduction of maternal, newborn, and child mortality using high impact primary health care services and promoting healthy behaviors. Activities increase the availability of quality antenatal and obstetric care, newborn and child health services, and family planning. Interventions include training providers in antenatal care, basic and emergency obstetric care, and essential newborn care; improving access to and quality of antenatal services; ensuring skilled attendance at birth and care for low-birthweight babies; and treating neonatal infections. The program includes activities focused on preventing childhood illnesses including diarrhea, pneumonia, and malaria; and improving routine immunization. Since malnutrition accounts for approximately 45 percent of deaths in Malian children under the age of five, USAID also works to improve infant and young child feeding; increase local production of nutrient-rich foods; train community health workers in the management of acute malnutrition; and conduct micronutrient supplementation campaigns to distribute vitamin A to young children, and iron and folic acid to pregnant women. USAID supports improved access to voluntary family planning services through a private sector approach, ensuring community access to a full range of contraceptive methods and information. USAID promotes the adoption of healthy behaviors through social and behavior change, leveraging interpersonal communication and social and mass media, including community radio.

#### **COMBATING INFECTIOUS DISEASES**

To combat infectious diseases and emerging global health threats, USAID programs focus on the prevention, detection, care, and treatment of malaria, HIV/AIDS, neglected tropical diseases, COVID-19, and other emerging infectious diseases. Malaria is the leading cause of child mortality in Mali. USAID approaches to fighting malaria include: the procurement of essential commodities including insecticide-treated bed nets, rapid diagnostic tests and treatment medications, and the provision of seasonal malaria chemoprophylaxis to prevent malaria in children under the age of five during the high-transmission season. USAID supports training and supervision of health workers in the diagnosis and treatment of malaria. USAID also supports HIV prevention, testing, and linkages to treatment services for key populations who have a much higher HIV prevalence than the general population. USAID works closely with the Government of Mali, and national and global partners to control the spread of COVID-19, ensuring that Malians have information on how to protect themselves, and access COVID-19 vaccines.

#### SYSTEMS STRENGTHENING AND SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT

USAID/Mali's health systems strengthening and community health activities are cross-cutting at all levels of the health care pyramid (including the public and private sectors.) Systems strengthening investments build capacity of the national health commodity logistics system and procure essential medicines to ensure adequate quantification, supply, and distribution from the national level to community service delivery points. Key health system investments include strengthening and digitizing Mali's health management information systems; strengthening the governance and accountability of primary health care services; improving in-service training for health workers; and adapting human resource strategies to facilitate localized recruitment and retention for resilience in the context of mounting insecurity across the country. USAID also works to strengthen human and animal laboratory networks, biosafety and biosecurity, pharmaco-vigilance, and waste management. In addition, the program aims to expand innovative health financing modalities for universal health coverage and village savings funds for referrals and community resilience. All USAID/Mali health programs are designed to increase self-reliance and resilience at the community level and enable communities to hold health workers and local governance officials accountable for the availability and quality of health services; elevate community health platforms to increase engagement with and ownership of local health services; and reduce local cultural barriers to the adoption of healthy behaviors.