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MATERNAL AND CHILD HEALTH

Program Goals: Accelerate reductions in maternal and child deaths

Over the past twenty years, Madagascar has made significant progress towards reducing child deaths and under-five child mortality is estimated to be approximately 50 per 1,000 live births. However, progress towards reducing maternal mortality, which stands at 353 maternal deaths per 100,000 live births, has been much slower. Currently, 10 women die each day as a result of pregnancy or birth-related complications. In addition, 100 children die each day in Madagascar from preventable causes.

KEY AREAS OF INTERVENTION

Improve Community Based Service Delivery



- Support social and behavior change communication to promote antenatal care, nutrition, immunization, and use of misoprostol and chlorhexidine
- Strengthen maternal and child essential nutrition actions
- Improve integrated management of childhood diseases (diarrhea, respiratory infections, and malaria)
- Implement Reach Every Child/ Reach Every District (REC/RED)
- Conduct disease surveillance

Strengthen Community and Malagasy Health Care System Linkages

- Promote health care seeking behaviors (especially among pregnant women and children under five)
- Strengthen the referral system between community health volunteers (CHVs), health facilities, and the emergency transport system
- Provide basic equipment for newborn resuscitation and vacuum extraction devices



Strengthen Health Education and Training



- Develop curricula and classroom resources
- Improve clinical governance
- Develop emergency maternal and newborn care training materials
- Strengthen trainer and health provider competencies at primary health facilities and hospitals
- Support 355 social franchise private clinics to deliver maternal, neonatal, and child health services

MATERNAL AND CHILD HEALTH PROJECTS AND IMPLEMENTING PARTNERS

USAID provided \$12 million during fiscal year 2017 to fund the following projects:

1. Mikolo / MSH
2. Mahefa Miaraka / JSI
3. Integrated Social Marketing / PSI
4. Maternal and Child Survival Program / Jhpiego
5. Health Development Credit Authority (DCA) / AccèsBanque
6. Surveillance and Data for Management / Institut Pasteur de Madagascar

KEY ACHIEVEMENTS FISCAL YEAR 2017

- USAID and partner advocacy resulted in the First Lady of Madagascar assuming an increased role in the Campaign for the Accelerated Reduction of Maternal, Newborn and Child Mortality in Africa (CARMMA), including promoting the culture of excellence for quality care at primary health facilities
- USAID helped Madagascar's Ministry of Public Health organize a national exclusive breastfeeding campaign focused on early initiation of breastfeeding and promoting maternal nutrition for lactating mothers
- Supported national midwives association in standardizing public and private teaching institution curricula and provided training and materials for their skills lab
- Supported Madagascar's national measles campaign
- Conducted pre-test of a community dialogue training kit developed to enable providers to manage community misinformation around vaccines



428,462
children treated
for pneumonia



1 million+
women reached
with exclusive
breastfeeding
education



PHOTO: ANNE DAUGHERTY/USAID

WOMEN EMPOWERING WOMEN

UNITY IS STRENGTH

Florence is a USAID supported community health volunteer (CHV) in Madagascar's northwestern Melaky region. As the Vice President of the Ampela Sambatsy Women's Association, in the Maintirano district, Florence works towards her goal of decreasing the maternal and child mortality rate in her area.

The Ampele Sambatsy Women's Association entered the 'Malagasy Women's Week' contest in March 2018 as part of the Ministry of Population, Social Protection and Promotion of Women's International Women's Day celebration. Florence and her association submitted a proposal for a vegetable cultivation project that would provide economic opportunities for mother's in the district. Vegetables in this area are often overpriced, and women in this area are unable to purchase them regularly.



PHOTO: ANNE DAUGHERTY/USAID



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Ampela Sambatsy's project, one of 359 submissions, won first place and a cash prize of 20 Million Ariary (\$6,200 USD). Owing to Florence's leadership and creativity, the association was able to successfully implement its vegetable project and improve the lives of its members and surrounding community.

Florence's dedication, as a volunteer, CHV, and mother, is inspiring. "As a CHV, I will advise and encourage women in my community to improve the nutrition and health of their families with this vegetable project."

Nutritious food will be grown and provided year round in Florence's region, where the price of vegetables is high due to the import costs. Florence is hopeful this vegetable cultivation project will be recreated in other villages, as more and more community members become involved.

Florence is proud of the contributions she has made to her community through her work promoting the health and economic empowerment of women. Florence is embodying her motto, "Unity is Strength."



PHOTO: ANNE DAUGHERTY/USAID