



**USAID**  
FROM THE AMERICAN PEOPLE



# HEALTH

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Inclusive, equitable access to healthcare is the cornerstone to preventing maternal and child deaths, controlling the spread of HIV, and combating infectious diseases like COVID-19.

## COUNTRY CONTEXT

**FUNDING:** Haiti relies heavily on international funding to provide health services. More than 80 percent of funding for health services comes from the international donor community. USAID is the largest bilateral health donor in Haiti and represents 25 percent of total health spending in Haiti. These investments are critical as the percentage of Haiti's national budget dedicated to health spending has been decreasing for ten years.

**HUMAN RESOURCES FOR HEALTH:** Attracting and retaining qualified health professionals is an increasingly urgent problem in Haiti, with as few as 10 health professionals per 10,000 inhabitants. This ratio is staggeringly low when compared to the World Health Organization's recommended ratio of 45 health professionals per 10,000 inhabitants.

**POOR INFRASTRUCTURE:** In a fragile socio-political environment, recurrent natural disasters exacerbate an existing lack of adequate infrastructure for health facilities, reliable electricity, clean water services, and sanitation systems.

MATERNAL AND CHILD SURVIVAL PROGRAM / USAID

**COVID-19:** As of April 2022, approximately one percent of the Haitian population is vaccinated, creating significant risk of ongoing transmission that can fuel new virus variants. Even as COVID-19 vaccinations become more accessible in the country, low demand for these vaccines and widespread misinformation are impeding the progress of Haiti's vaccination program. The recent fuel crisis and ongoing insecurity further disrupt the distribution of vaccines.

## USAID STRATEGY

USAID is heavily invested in meeting the immediate health needs of Haitians today, while working with the Haitian government to build long-term solutions for the chronic health challenges affecting the nation. To promote a more resilient and healthy population, USAID activities are focused on three main areas; improving health infrastructure; incorporating nutrition into economic development; and strengthening health service delivery. Through these areas of concentration, USAID is working to strengthen the healthcare system, improve access to healthcare and ultimately facilitate better health outcomes for the Haitian people.

## CURRENT ACTIVITIES

**IMPACT Youth** activity ensures linkage to care, treatment, and viral load suppression for HIV infected children and pregnant women in the 10 departments. Pregnant women are also enrolled in mothers' clubs and receive support for household economic strengthening through savings groups. Prevention activities are implemented to keep adolescent girls and young women HIV free.

**MOMENTUM Routine Immunization Transformation and Equity** activity applies best practices and explores innovations to increase equitable immunization coverage. The activity is scaling up access to COVID-19 vaccines by establishing a vaccine emergency operations center at the Ministry of Public Health and Population and combating vaccine hesitancy with demand generation activities. The project contributes to ongoing global efforts to mitigate the impact of COVID-19 on immunization services.

**Meeting Targets and Maintaining HIV Epidemic Control - EpiC** activity is helping Haiti respond to the COVID-19 pandemic by improving oxygen availability and expanding access to, and demand for vaccines in the earthquake-affected South, Nippes, and Grande Anse departments. Furthermore, EpiC will provide technical and financial assistance to ensure coordinated and high-quality service delivery.

**Health Assistance for Prisoners** activity aims to provide essential health education on HIV/AIDS and tuberculosis prevention, care, and treatment to current and former incarcerated persons, their families, and affected communities. The activity also provides COVID-19 care and vaccines in the prison setting.

**Global Health Supply Chain - Procurement and Supply Management** activity creates one streamlined supply chain across the health sector by consolidating the procurement, warehousing, and distribution of commodities in HIV/AIDS; population and reproductive health; and maternal, newborn, and child health.

**Ranfose Abitid Nitrisyon pou Fe Ogmante Sante (Reinforce Nutritional Habits to Improve Health)** activity works to expand the local production, importation, and consumption of fortified foods (wheat flour fortified with iron, folic acid, zinc, and Vitamin B; oil fortified with Vitamin A; and salt fortified with

iodine) to combat micronutrient deficiencies in Haiti, particularly among children under five and women of reproductive age.

**Haiti Health Management Information System** activity works with Haiti's Ministry of Public Health and Population to build a comprehensive and sustainable health information system by improving the management and oversight of data assets to ensure accessibility for evidence-based decision making.

**Project Santé** works to strengthen and expand essential health services to nearly 4.2 million Haitian people. The project supports the work of 164 hospitals and clinics nationally to provide quality care. Through a patient-centered approach, Santé provides integrated maternal and child care to Haitian families, with a particular focus on immunization, reproductive health, nutrition services, and HIV prevention, care, and treatment.

**Health Leadership Project** strengthens the Government of Haiti's ownership of its financial and human resources while reducing its reliance on external partners to finance and deliver quality health services. Two local partners implement the activity: Group Croissance and Centre de Formation et d'Encadrement Technique.

**BRIDGE** activity works to control the HIV epidemic in Haiti by reaching underserved, mobile populations crossing the border from Haiti to the Dominican Republic. The purpose of this activity is to expand and strengthen the public and private sectors' provision of a full package of HIV prevention and treatment and care services as well as COVID-19 vaccines at permanent and mobile outreach clinics.

**Epidemic Control Among Priority Populations - ECP2** activity improves HIV case identification, treatment, and prevention services to priority populations in addition to providing targeted technical assistance to the Ministry of Public Health and Population and the National Program against HIV/AIDS. ECP2 is also implementing Global Vaccine Access activities to provide COVID-19 vaccines to priority populations, HIV vulnerable groups, and their communities.

**Social Medicine Stigma Provider Attitude - RISE Spotlight** activity works to address and mitigate health provider bias against HIV patients and supports the Ministry of Public Health and Population to develop an approved national set of competencies for HIV providers.

**SWITCH Undetectable = Untransmittable** is a campaign to increase treatment literacy and adherence to treatment among persons living with HIV through key messages. The campaign is implemented in health sites throughout Haiti. In addition, PANOS, the local implementing partner, implements high quality COVID-19 communication activities to generate demand for these vaccines.

**Vérification pour Résultats en Santé (Audit for Health Results)** activity works in partnership with USAID's Project Santé to verify the quality of health service delivery at the 164 USAID-supported hospitals and clinics. The activity also supports the results-based financing portfolio in Haiti.

## KEY ACCOMPLISHMENTS

**INCREASED ACCESS TO MATERNAL CHILD HEALTH SERVICES:** Since 2020, over 375,000 children and 200,000 pregnant women received nutrition support from USAID's nutrition

programs. Over 360,000 women of reproductive age used a modern family planning method, and over 64,000 youth used family planning health services, ensuring that more women had access to the resources necessary to achieve healthy timing and spacing of pregnancies and/or preventing unwanted pregnancies.

**TREATMENT FOR MALNUTRITION IN CHILDREN:** Since 2020, USAID has worked with local partner Fonkoze to provide over 165,000 vulnerable children with malnutrition screenings. This massive screening campaign led to the identification of over 10,000 moderately nourished children and over 3,000 severely malnourished children. All 13,000 children identified as malnourished were provided with food supplementation and the necessary care to regain a healthy weight.

**HIV PREVENTION AND TREATMENT AMONG VULNERABLE POPULATIONS:** USAID interventions have helped maintain the HIV rate in Haiti at two percent for the past decade. Over 500,000 individuals were offered HIV prevention, testing, and counseling services. Of the 17,456 diagnosed with HIV, over 98 percent received lifesaving anti-retroviral treatment. At the end of 2020, over 119,000 orphans and vulnerable children and their caregivers were given critical services to decrease vulnerability to HIV/AIDS and its socio-economic effects. Nearly 99 percent of the HIV-infected orphans and vulnerable children were put on antiretroviral therapy.

**WORKFORCE DEVELOPMENT EXPANSION:** USAID helped 1,400 health workers, including over 900 community health workers and educators provide health services and disseminate key health messages to rural communities. USAID is also supporting the Ministry of Public Health and Population to update training materials for health workers, an essential step to achieving universal health coverage.

**HEALTH SYSTEMS STRENGTHENING:** USAID provided access to essential family planning and antiretroviral pharmaceuticals. During the past two years, USAID also built the capacity of two local partners, Groupe Croissance and Centre de Formation et d'Entraînement Technique, who both became USAID direct awardees. USAID also worked with the Ministry of Public Health and Population to support the development of the 2021-2031 National Strategic plan.

*Since 2010, the American people have committed over \$4 billion to help the Haitian people to develop a more resilient, democratic future. To find out more about USAID's work in Haiti, please see <https://www.usaid.gov/haiti>, and follow @USAID/Haiti on Twitter and Facebook.*