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HEALTH SYSTEMS STRENGTHENING

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USAID is building the capacity of key Haitian organizations and the Government of Haiti to strengthen the country's health systems through locally-led solutions.

COUNTRY OVERVIEW

Haiti's health systems continue to face complex challenges, including the lack of governance and sector coordination; financial and geographical barriers to accessing health services; and shortages of healthcare workers and essential medicines. Despite some areas of progress, past marginal gains are hindered by recent crises, including the COVID-19 pandemic, the assassination of President Jovenel Moïse, the 2021 earthquake, political unrest, social instability, fuel shortages, and gang violence. Consequently, Haiti's health systems are working in the fray of protracted crises that test their ability to find new ways to continue providing essential health services, such as virtual platforms to complete follow up visits and data collection. Qualified health care professionals are leaving the country due to rising insecurity, resulting in the most dramatic brain drain the country has seen, and those who remain in Haiti are deterred from joining the workforce by poor working conditions and low salaries offered by the Ministry of Public Health and Population (in French, *Ministère de la santé publique et de la population* (MSPP)). The growing risk of kidnapping prevents medical professionals from going to work to deliver essential health services.

USAID GOALS

USAID's Health Systems Strengthening activities in Haiti address six building blocks of strong health systems: service delivery; health workforce; health information systems; access to essential medicines; health systems financing; and leadership and governance. In each building block, USAID emphasizes the important role of communities, civil society, the private sector, the public sector, and international organizations. Engaging these key stakeholders in identifying problems, developing solutions, and implementing programs is essential to ensure sustainable impact and local ownership. USAID activities leverage relationships among the health systems' building blocks and stakeholders to advance equity, transparency, and resource optimization to ultimately achieve improved measurable health outcomes.

USAID'S HEALTH LEADERSHIP PROJECT supports the Government of Haiti's (GOH's) efforts to strengthen a health system that is accessible, accountable, affordable, and reliable by strengthening the financial and human resources systems to improve health services. This project works through two activities led by local partners: 1) The Human Resources for Health Activity aims to improve the GOH's planning and oversight of the health workforce; and 2) The Health Financing Activity aims to build the Haitian government's capacity to lead and finance the health sector.

THE COUNTRY HEALTH INFORMATION AND SYSTEM USE (CHISU) ACTIVITY works with the MSPP 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.

THE GLOBAL HEALTH SUPPLY CHAIN-PROCUREMENT AND SUPPLY MANAGEMENT ACTIVITY reinforces the supply chain system in Haiti to build capacity, resilience, and ultimately support an optimized, integrated national supply chain led by the MSPP and managed through a public-private partnership.

KEY RESULTS

DEVELOPED THE HAITI HEALTH MASTER PLAN 2021-2030, in collaboration with the MSPP and stakeholders, to strengthen the health sector with a first Triennial Plan 2022-2024 for priorities and interventions in each department.

IMPROVED HOSPITAL FINANCIAL MANAGEMENT by installing 54 electronic cash registers in 20 hospitals in 2022 and 2023 to improve management of internal revenues with increases from 8 to 77 percent in some institutions.

EXPANDED THE REPORTING DATABASE: The MSPP's comprehensive reporting database, implemented by USAID, captures key indicators for the GOH to make data driven decisions. All MSPP-recognized health facilities use the system.

IMPLEMENTED RESULT-BASED FINANCING INCENTIVES to improve utilization and quality of health services. USAID partners with the World Bank to use results-based financing to drive sustainable performance improvements.

BUILT THE LEADERSHIP CAPACITY OF TWO LOCAL ORGANIZATIONS: Two local organizations are direct recipients of USAID funding, fully equipped, responsible and accountable for implementing and achieving the results.

BOLSTERED NATIONAL SUPPLY CHAIN: USAID works with the MSPP to manage the nation's integrated national supply chain of health commodities and its logistics management system. Despite the country's deteriorating conditions, USAID's partners ensure no stock-out of HIV antiretrovirals or family planning commodities in USAID-supported facilities and delivery of commodities on-time to remote sites.

USAID works to build a stable and viable Haiti, and provides life-saving humanitarian assistance to Haiti's most vulnerable and hard-to-reach people. <https://www.usaid.gov/haiti> and follow @USAID/Haiti on X and Facebook.