



USAID | GHANA
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HEALTH

USAID's integrated Health, Population, and Nutrition Program promotes equitable health improvements for Ghanaians.

OVERVIEW

Ghana has made notable progress in health outcomes over the last two decades. Between 2003 and 2017, the mortality rate for children under 5 years of age decreased from 11.1% to 5.2%. In 2017, 79% of women delivered in a health facility, and 98% of women received antenatal care from a skilled provider. Ghana is also one of several countries in the region to have a universal health care scheme. However, Ghanaians are still vulnerable to diseases. For example, 66% of children 6-59 months old suffer from anemia and 19% are stunted. Malaria prevalence in children under 5 years of age was 20% in 2016. HIV remains high within key populations—7% for female sex workers and 18% for men who have sex with men. In order for Ghana to become more self-reliant, high quality health services are still needed.

MALARIA

USAID leads the United States President's Malaria Initiative to reduce the malaria burden in Ghana. Implemented with the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, USAID works to scale up proven malaria prevention and treatment measures. USAID also works with Ghana's National Malaria Control Program and other stakeholders to strengthen Ghana's health system through supply chain strengthening, evidence-based decision-making, and monitoring and evaluation of health services.

MATERNAL, NEONATAL, AND CHILD HEALTH

To improve maternal, newborn, and child health services, USAID integrates maternal services with treatment and prevention of childhood diseases. Assistance focuses on providing necessary healthcare equipment and training healthcare service providers to prevent newborn, child, and maternal deaths.

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NUTRITION

As part of the U.S. Government's Global Health and Feed the Future Initiatives, USAID partners with the Government of Ghana to improve the nutritional status of women and young children. Assistance includes improving community services to treat and prevent severe acute malnutrition and teaching individuals and communities about young children feeding, anemia prevention and management, dietary diversity, and promoting other healthy nutrition-related behaviors.

WATER, SANITATION, AND HYGIENE (WASH)

USAID works to increase access to safe drinking water and sanitation facilities. USAID encourages individuals and communities to adopt positive WASH behaviors and builds their skills to plan, manage, and sustain WASH programs on their own.

HIV/AIDS

The U.S. Government President's Emergency Plan for AIDS Relief Initiative in Ghana provides targeted assistance in line with Ghana's HIV and AIDS Strategic Plan 2016-2020. Assistance supports effective and sustainable interventions to provide prevention and treatment services to key populations and to accelerate the scale up of antiretroviral therapy treatment initiation and retention.

HEALTH SYSTEMS STRENGTHENING

USAID supports the Ghana Health Service to strengthen the overall national health care system and policy environment. USAID invests in sustainable supervision structures to ensure that a high quality of care is provided at all levels of Ghana's health system. USAID also assists with health financing, operations research and data for decision-making, leadership development, supply chain reform, and management systems at decentralized levels of the health sector.

SOCIAL PROTECTION

USAID, in partnership with UNICEF, has supported the Government of Ghana to target cash transfers to poor households with pregnant women and infants through the Livelihood Empowerment Against Poverty 1000 program. The program targets 6,000 poor households and aims to improve the nutrition of infants during the crucial first 1,000 days of life, when the consequences of malnutrition are particularly severe. USAID also provides support to the Ministry of Gender, Children, and Social Protection to accelerate the Government of Ghana's Care Reform Initiative, which aims to prevent unnecessary family separation and, when feasible, reunify orphaned children with their families.