



## ZIKA PROGRAM

### HONDURAS

UPDATED MARCH 2020

In February 2016, the World Health Organization declared that clusters of Zika associated microcephaly and other neurological disorders detected in Brazil constituted a Public Health Emergency of International Concern. USAID has been responding to the Zika virus epidemic and its devastating effects in at-risk countries throughout Latin America and the Caribbean since 2016. The overall USAID Zika program is expected to end by June 2020.

## STRATEGIC OBJECTIVES

By investing in Zika prevention, control and innovation USAID has helped strengthen Honduras's capacity to respond to the recent epidemic and future disease threats. USAID's focus is to protect individuals, particularly pregnant women, from Zika by:

- Controlling mosquitoes that spread the virus;
- Increasing awareness of how the virus is transmitted and how to prevent infection;
- Supporting health services for potentially affected women and children; and
- Working with USG counterparts to support disease detection and surveillance.

#### VECTOR MANAGEMENT

Through the Zika AIRS Project, USAID actively reduced populations of the mosquito that carries Zika by building national and regional capacity to conduct vector control and surveillance for Zika and future mosquito-borne outbreaks. Over the course of the project, ZAP technicians conducted more than 2.6 million household inspections to reduce mosquito breeding. This work was complemented by USAID's partnerships with the Pan American Health Organization (PAHO) that supported the Ministry of Health in adapting regional guidelines for integrated vector management, and the US Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC), with entomological surveillance tools and training.

#### MATERNAL AND CHILD HEALTH INTERVENTIONS AND SERVICE DELIVERY

USAID integrated high quality, evidence-based Zika services and guidelines into existing family planning, antenatal, obstetric and newborn care systems. The Applying Science to Strengthen and Improve Systems (ASSIST) project worked with the Ministry of Health and 107 health care facilities at the departmental, regional, and national reference levels to help providers integrate Zika prevention, diagnosis, and care for affected families into routine health services. The Support for International Family Planning Organizations II – International Planned Parenthood Federation project worked to improve access to health services for women of reproductive age in communities at risk of Zika, as well as to build providers' capacity to deliver quality Zika-related health and psychological support services. Across all partners, more than 3,900 health professionals were trained to provide Zika prevention counseling to women of reproductive age. Meanwhile, UNICEF strengthened national systems to ensure access to quality care and support resources for families affected by Zika. Service delivery efforts in Honduras received additional support from guidelines and reference materials developed by the Maternal and Child Survival Program

and from the procurement and delivery of personal mosquito repellent and condoms to prevent sexual transmission of Zika to pregnant women through the Global Health Supply Chain Program.

### **SOCIAL AND BEHAVIOR CHANGE COMMUNICATION**

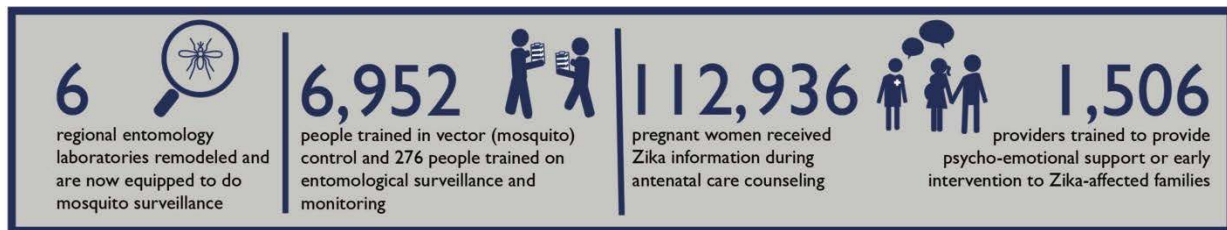
As USAID learned more about Zika, it worked at the national, regional and local levels to inform people of how the virus is transmitted and how to prevent infection. In 2016, SIFPO II – Population Services International (SIFPO II-PSI), launched a multi-channel mass media campaign and disseminated educational materials aimed at reaching pregnant women and women of reproductive age with information about Zika and its risks. In addition, the project supported direct interventions in schools to educate young people on Zika prevention. In 2016, the Health Communication Capacity Collaborative project conducted formative research and mapping of programmatic efforts to inform national Zika social behavior change strategies. The Breakthrough ACTION and Breakthrough RESEARCH projects continued this work with the Honduran government to design, evaluate and implement high quality, evidence-based social and behavior change interventions for Zika. An estimated 14.1 million individuals of reproductive age were reached with Zika messaging.

### **COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT**

USAID leveraged community partners and leadership to disseminate key Zika prevention messages and battle *Aedes aegypti* mosquitoes through low-cost interventions in homes and community clean-up campaigns. Implemented by Save the Children, the Community Action against Zika project worked to reduce Zika risks among the most vulnerable through community-based prevention strategies. Through the Nuestra Salud project, Global Communities partnered with local institutions and local governments to help increase their capacity to support Zika prevention through community mobilization and sustained vector control strategies, focusing on the most at-risk communities, including poor urban areas with elevated rates of Zika and other arboviruses. Over 1,100 volunteers were trained and mobilized in the community-level Zika response, and more than 630 communities in Honduras now have plans in place to respond to Zika.

### **INNOVATIONS**

In 2016 USAID launched *Combating Zika and Future Threats: A Grand Challenge for Development*, which provided funding to 26 potentially game changing solutions to Zika and future threats. In Honduras, awardee Johns Hopkins Center for Communication Programs used the Rapid Social Behavior Change Communication Habits Optimization Tool to help communities adopt new habits to prevent Zika.



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