



Bafia District, Cameroon. Photo Credit: USAID HRH2030

Quality and Equity: Improving Healthcare for Women and Children

Every day, **830** women die from preventable causes related to pregnancy and childbirth. Every day, **7,000** newborns and **15,000** children under five die from mostly preventable causes. And every day, Chemonics works to reduce these numbers to **zero**.

We do this by identifying local resources and stakeholders — public, private, and civil society — and together, we address key bottlenecks in delivering essential health services for women, children, and their families.

To drive results, we focus on the highest need and hardest to reach populations such as youth, the economically disadvantaged, and the geographically remote to ensure equitable access to quality, high-impact maternal, newborn, and child health (MNCH) services.

A Systems Approach to Advancing Maternal, Newborn, and Child Health

At Chemonics, we address health systems challenges to improve efficiencies and increase resources for MNCH services. Our programs strengthen health supply chains to ensure that commodities for mothers, newborns, and children are available when and where they are needed. We support governments to develop health workforce policies that improve the quality of MNCH services at the facility and community levels. Through grants and capacity building, we empower community organizations to expand outreach and coordination for MNCH activities.

SNAPSHOT OF MNCH ACHIEVEMENTS



576

Private practicing midwives
ASSISTED WITH ACCREDITATION
in the Philippines



25,050

COMMUNITY HEALTH
WORKERS TRAINED
to address critical MNCH
service areas in Rwanda

Our Global Efforts to Address Critical MNCH Needs

- Our teams facilitate global collaboration and foster supportive environments for health commodity security. We strengthen supply systems to increase the availability of Zika prevention products through public and private services in Dominican Republic, El Salvador, Guatemala, Haiti, Honduras, Jamaica, and Nicaragua.
- In **Rwanda**, we provided training to healthcare providers in emergency obstetric and neonatal care. We improved intrapartum care to reduce birth asphyxia and promoted the integration of Kangaroo Mother Care into essential newborn care.
- In **Zambia**, we worked alongside government partners to address the widespread lack of adequate logistical and financial planning during pregnancy. We created an easy-to-use visual Pregnancy Care Planner, which provided information and reminders about key steps to take each month during pregnancy.
- In **Palestine**, we helped integrate communities into health system decision-making by supporting the establishment of community clinic boards responsible for identifying and responding to local health priorities, such as MNCH needs, in 82 communities in the West Bank.

Increasing Access to Priority MNCH Medicines and Supplies

We provide technical assistance to increase access to essential MNCH commodities in more than 15 countries in Africa, Asia, and Latin America and the Caribbean. The medicines and supplies we procure for MNCH include:

- Medicines to prevent and manage postpartum hemorrhage, such as oxytocin
- Medicines for essential newborn care, neonatal complications, and child health including medicines for pneumonia and diarrhea such as gentamycin, amoxicillin dispersible tablets, oral rehydration salts, and zinc
- Mosquito repellent to prevent the transmission of the Zika virus
- Medical equipment for newborn resuscitation
- Basic facility and essential surgical equipment
- Laboratory diagnostics (rapid test kits and point of care diagnostics)
- Medical supplies for priority primary care services (gloves, needles, and syringes)



Left photo by Andi Gultom/Chemonics; middle photo by Lan Andrian/USAID GHSC-PSM; right photo by Chris Norman/Chemonics



CASE STUDY

Protecting Child Welfare in Colombia

Decades of armed conflict, civil strife, and internal displacement have crippled Colombia's social services, and left vulnerable children without the help they need. Chemonics is working to protect the security of at-risk children living in rural Colombia by increasing national and district-level human resource capacity to provide child welfare and protection services. We work closely with the Colombian Family Welfare Institute (ICBF) to strengthen family and community networks to prevent violence and promote the well-being of children. Our support is strengthening the effectiveness of ICBF's programs, which reach more than eight million Colombians.