



MSH has worked in all 18 West African nations, for more than two decades. Our work helps build the capacity of local organizations and health leaders to manage and strengthen health care systems, improves service delivery at the clinic level, strengthens democracy and governance, and fosters equity in and access to health care.

## RESULTS & PROGRESS

- Advance Africa helped bring family planning back to the fore, improved access to and quality of reproductive health services, and contributed to mitigating HIV & AIDS via programs in **Benin**, **Nigeria**, and nine other countries.
- In **Mali**, MSH worked with the military in 2007 in 10 of its health centers to increase the use of modern contraceptives. This pilot program brought together all those involved in family planning in the country and shows promise for scaling up.
- In **Senegal** the percentage of service delivery points with at least one provider trained in postabortion care increased from 39% to 100% from 2003 to 2005.
- The COMPASS Project in **Nigeria** distributed more than 72,000 insecticide-treated bed nets for malaria prevention to families with children.

Management Sciences for Health provides a full range of services to help West African health care managers and leaders strengthen health systems to deal with the challenges of ill health, unmet need for family planning, urbanization, civil conflict, and environmental degradation.

### Building Capacity and Creating Networks

MSH provides technical assistance to West African nongovernmental organizations (NGOs) and national and regional organizations to develop their capabilities to address their highest-priority challenges. These organizations have included regional research and training institutions and national International Planned Parenthood Federation affiliates. MSH also fostered the development of the Francophone Regional Advisory Committee, a network of reproductive health managers whose members include 80 decision-makers from 12 West African countries.

### Improving Services and Increasing Access to Care

The MSH-led **Family Planning and Health Activity in Guinea** (1997–2006) integrated family planning and HIV prevention into all health centers and nearly all health posts in two remote rural regions. The project achieved a more than 100% increase in the contraceptive prevalence rate in its target area. Evaluations revealed significant advances in drug management, and the project helped the Ministry of Health remobilize a network of community-based agents to distribute contraceptives and services. MSH also helped community-based management committees set up performance-based agreements to improve health services by using local resources to provide incentives to service providers. This innovation has enhanced communities' participation in their health facilities while improving access to and quality of care.

MSH provides leadership in child health in **Nigeria** through COMPASS, an integrated health and education project led by Pathfinder International. MSH's technical assistance focuses on immunization, nutrition, malaria, acute respiratory infection, and diarrheal disease services for children.



## SPOTLIGHT ON PHARMACEUTICAL MANAGEMENT

The **Supply Chain Management System Partnership** is working in **Côte d'Ivoire** and **Nigeria** and has opened a state-of-the-art regional distribution center in **Ghana**.

Since 1992, the **Rational Pharmaceutical Management Plus Program** and now its follow-on, **Strengthening Pharmaceutical Systems**, have worked to improve access to and use of essential medicines and health commodities in developing countries by coordinating efforts with other global initiatives—such as Integrated Management of Childhood Illness, Stop TB, and Roll Back Malaria—that target major health problems.

In **Ghana**, MSH assisted in finalizing the national antimalarial drug policy and helped develop malaria treatment guidelines. In **Mali**, we worked with the national malaria control program and other partners to develop an antimalarial treatment policy. In **Benin**, we are providing assistance to implement artemisinin-based combination therapy for malaria.

## Improving Services and Increasing Access to Care, *continued*

MSH's program also includes a large polio eradication effort, in which we train vaccination and campaign coordination teams, track gaps in coverage, alert agencies to problems, and mobilize communities to participate in campaigns. The COMPASS project has nearly doubled immunization rates in targeted areas and contributed to a 78% decrease in polio cases in one year.

Through two major projects from 2000 to 2006, MSH contributed to improving the quality of and access to maternal and reproductive health services in five regions of **Senegal**. The PRE-MOMA project improved supervision, which increased providers' compliance with standards and protocols for prenatal care, family planning, and prevention of infections. Family planning services were expanded with the introduction of the fixed interval method. After PREMOMA worked with the National Pharmacy to minimize stock-outs of contraceptive products in the districts, 87% of service delivery points had basic contraceptive products available 90% of the time.

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## West Africa Regional Experience

### 1993–2009 BASICS (Basic Support for Institutionalizing Child Survival Project)

works in **Benin, Ghana, Guinea, Mali, Nigeria, and Senegal** to improve coverage and expand effective newborn and child health interventions. BASICS focuses on newborn health, essential nutrition actions such as vitamin A supplementation, immunization, Integrated Management of Childhood Illness, treatment of diarrhea and pneumonia, and malaria control. The project also provides expertise in pediatric AIDS.

### 2000–2010 M&L/LMS (Management and Leadership/Leadership, Management and Sustainability)

works in **Nigeria** and numerous other countries with organizations that provide family planning, primary and reproductive health care, maternal and child health services, HIV & AIDS services, and treatment for infectious diseases. For example, MSH provides technical support to 12 Nigerian civil society organizations that offer community-based HIV & AIDS prevention, treatment, and care to enable them to receive direct funding under PEPFAR. MSH also provides assistance to the National TB and Leprosy Control Program, the Federal Ministry of Women's Affairs OVC division, the National AIDS and STI Control Program, and the Country Coordinating Mechanism for the Global Fund.

### 2003–2008 AWARE-RH (Action for West Africa Region)

works in 21 countries to facilitate development of a network of Regional Technical Leadership Institutions. The project strengthens these institutions through strategic planning and leadership development so that they can identify, document, and replicate regional best practices. The objective is to improve the quality of family planning, reproductive health, infectious disease, and child survival services. AWARE-RH also facilitates advocacy for needed health policies that can reach all the countries in the region. Recently, AWARE-RH has helped replicate in **Sierra Leone** a peer health education program for malaria that was successful in the **Gambia**.

### 2000–2005 Advance Africa

worked in 11 African nations to strengthen reproductive health and family planning services in order to increase the impact and scale of services, especially those for underserved populations. Advance Africa supported both clinical and nonclinical programs in repositioning family planning, improving access to and quality of reproductive health services, and mitigating HIV & AIDS.

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