



NIGERIA

Nigeria needs more high-quality health workers to meet the health needs of its 173 million people. Although Nigeria has one of the largest health workforces¹ in Africa—with 20 nurses, midwives, and doctors for every 10,000 people—health workers are inequitably distributed and there are wide disparities in health status and access to care across the country.

Nigeria accounts for almost 10% of the global burden of HIV², with 3.4 million people living with HIV. Women have an average of six children, a 1 in 29 lifetime risk of dying in childbirth³, and only 38% of births are attended by skilled health workers⁴. Due in large part to deaths from AIDS, Nigeria has an estimated 17.5 million orphans and vulnerable children.

As lead of the USAID-funded *CapacityPlus* project, IntraHealth International assisted Nigeria's health leaders to increase the number of high-quality health workers and improve their distribution. We are continuing this collaboration, focusing on improving health workers' ability to provide HIV/AIDS and other critical services.

In Nigeria, IntraHealth has:

- Supported the federal and six state ministries of health to develop health workforce strategic plans.
- Helped 21 health worker training schools increase the numbers of new health workers produced and improve the quality of midwifery and community health extension worker (CHEW) education. As a result at least 450 new midwives and 114 new CHEWs became qualified to practice in Nigeria.
- Provided scholarships to more than 3,000 midwifery and CHEW students, who were more likely to graduate and qualify on certification exams than other students in the same schools.



Helped 21 health training institutions increase the number and/or quality of their graduates



Awarded scholarships to more than 3,000 midwifery & community health extension worker students



Assessed the social service workforce to improve care of orphans and vulnerable children

¹ WHO, 2014; ² UNAIDS, 2014; ³ Save The Children, 2014; ⁴ WHO, 2015



- Trained teachers on current clinical practice guidelines, including prevention of mother-to-child transmission of HIV, allowing them to deliver that information to their students.
- Built capacity at health professional councils and state ministries of health to implement and use IntraHealth's iHRIS software to track health worker qualifications and manage the health workforce.
- Collaborated with federal and six state ministries to map and assess child protection systems and strengthen the social service workforce to improve care of orphans and vulnerable children.

HIV/AIDS Service Delivery through Human Resources for Health Systems in Nigeria (2015–2017)

Through this USAID-funded project, IntraHealth is focusing on creating a stronger, more equitably distributed health workforce to address HIV in Nigeria.

IntraHealth is working closely with national and state governments to strengthen Nigeria's existing health workforce, attract and retain more skilled workers, and ensure they are available and qualified to provide high-quality, integrated HIV services at high-burden facilities in USAID/Nigeria's four focus states: Akwa Ibom, Cross River, Lagos, and Rivers.

This project is implementing a suite of health workforce interventions that will allow Nigeria to assess and strengthen its health workforce capacity at the national, state, and local levels, and to develop evidence-based interventions that will help the country achieve an AIDS-free generation.

Together, IntraHealth and partners will use state- and facility-level data on the health workforce and HIV to:

- Implement data-driven solutions that are in accordance with national and international HIV guidelines
- Help pilot and evaluate new health worker task-shifting policies
- Institute global best practices in health workforce development and management.

Past projects and funders

- CapacityPlus, 2009–2015 (USAID)
- PRIME II Project, 1999-2004 (USAID)

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IntraHealth

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