PEER Forum Accra

Data and Technology Solutions for Development Decision Making

Sheila Mensah, USAID/West Africa
WEST AFRICA: GLOBAL AND REGIONAL INITIATIVES

West Africa faces a number of the biggest development challenges in the world, with some of the highest rates of the population growth, food security incidents, power shortages, and frequent epidemics – including high concentration of HIV/AIDS prevalence in key populations. Improved socio-economic status and resilient systems within the West African region is essential to advancing development goals on a global level.

Global and regional initiatives mapped here represent a platform for strategic collaboration among multiple stakeholders to provide targeted support to development challenges in the region. USAID/West Africa Mission’s Regional Health Office is the lead stakeholder in some of these initiatives and seeks to improve regional integration by establishing catalytic and collaborative partnerships with others.

Source: USAID, The Global Fund; Ouagadougou Partnership; Global Health Security Agenda | Date Created: May 2019
WEST AFRICA: FAMILY PLANNING AND REPRODUCTIVE HEALTH

Unmet Need

*The color and size of the circles depict the level of unmet need

Cape Verde
Contraceptive Prevalence Rate: 57.1
Total Fertility Rate: 2.3
Unmet Need: 16.7

Source: DHS; UN Population; WHO
#ZERO DISCRIMINATION
Against People Living With HIV / AIDS

People who report they would not buy vegetables from a shopkeeper living with HIV

The epidemic began in a cloud of fear because no one knew how it was spread.

This led to widespread stigma & discrimination against people living with HIV/AIDS.

In response, public health officials worked tirelessly to provide the general public with accurate information.

Despite the efforts, people with HIV/AIDS are fired from jobs, evicted from homes, and denied access to medical care and social services.

“We will not achieve our vision for health or realize any of the Sustainable Development Goals if we do not confront discrimination.”

Michel Sidibe, UNAIDS Executive Director

DATA SOURCE: UNAIDS, 2012

Infographics by USAID West Africa Regional Program Office
At least **200 MILLION** girls and women alive today have undergone FGM.

An estimated **3 MILLION GIRLS** are at risk of undergoing FGM.

The majority of girls are cut before **15 YEARS**.

**Education & FGM**

FGM prevalence among girls and women, by education background (%).

**Ending FGM**

In most countries where FGM is practiced, the majority of girls and women think it should end.
WORLD HEALTH DAY

Universal Health Coverage
Everyone, Everywhere

Universal Health Coverage (UHC) means that all people can obtain the health services they need without suffering financial hardship.

IF WE DON’T ENSURE QUALITY, AFFORDABLE HEALTH SERVICES, IT WILL BE HARD TO OBTAIN SDG1

#HealthForAll

- The common global goal of ending poverty

At least half of the world’s population still do not have full coverage of essential health services

About 100 million people are still being pushed into “extreme poverty” (living on $1.90 (1) or less a day) because they have to pay for health care

Over 800 million people spent at least 10 percent of their household budgets to pay for health care

Supporting the Governments of Burkina Faso, Mauritania, Niger and Togo to strengthen their health commodity supply chains in order to realize universal health coverage

Supporting the Government of Cameroon to identify and cost its essential health package for universal health coverage

Supporting Government of Togo to develop its roadmap to include the informal sector in its national health insurance scheme
$2.3 billion USG
Investment in Gavi
In 2015, USAID pledged $1 billion
to immunize 300 million additional
children by 2020

86% of infants
vaccinated
During 2016, about 116.5 million
infants received 3 doses of DTP3
vaccine worldwide

84% drop
Measles deaths between 2000 and
2016 worldwide, dropped due to
measles vaccination

West Africa is almost
polio-free
Today, only Nigeria remains polio-
endemic

If we increase vaccine coverage in low- and middle-
income countries by 2030, we could prevent 24
million people from falling into poverty due to health
expenses

- Chang AY “The Equity Impact Vaccines May Have On Averting
Deaths And Medical Impoverishment In Developing Countries,” 2018

Infographics by: USAID | West Africa Regional Program Office
Data Source: WHO, DHS
World Population Day

The world population will reach **9.8 billion** in 2050, up 31% from an estimated **7.5 billion** now.

**Niger, Chad, and Somalia** have the highest total fertility rates in the world. The worldwide average is **2.6**.

**Populations will double in 30 countries by 2050, nearly half are in Africa.**

West Africa's population is the fastest growing in the world, with a five-fold increase since 1950.

**The Demographic Dividend agenda:**
Putting theory into action in West Africa

The ECOWAS Resolution
In June 2021, the 40th Assembly of Health Ministers of the ECOWAS adopted a resolution to promote good practices in task shifting in family planning and reproductive health programs.

Parliamentarians of ECOWAS, Mauritania and Chad Commit to Financing Health
In July 2021, the Speakers of the National Parliaments of ECOWAS Member States, Mauritania and Chad committed to a demographic transition that will reduce the negative impact of high fertility on individual health and national development.

African First Ladies Platform
In July 2021, Africa’s First Ladies, pledged to champion adolescent girls and women’s empowerment, on the margins of the 9th Ordinary Session of the Assembly of Heads of State and Government of the African Union.

Transformational Faith-based Partnership
In July 2021, more than 300 Muslim leaders attended an international symposium in Chad, supported by UNFPA, WICARD and the World Bank, on how Islamic leaders can partner to share knowledge with their followers and improve access to family planning.

Private Sector adding Momentum
Innovative engagement with the private sector on the demographic dividend agenda which only for more local private sector involvement with governments and emphasizing on the importance of innovation and human capital investment.

Investments in Family Planning today are investments in the health and well-being of millions of women for generations to come. - Dr. Natalia Kanem, UNFPA Executive Director

DATA SOURCE:
2020 World Population Data Sheet from the Population Reference Bureau, 2021
UNFPA Regional Office for West and Central Africa Annual Report 2022
United Nations World Population Prospects
Thank You

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