



**IntraHealth**  
INTERNATIONAL  
Because Health Workers Save Lives.



# MALI

**Mali is one of 57 countries identified by the World Health Organization as having a health workforce crisis.** Producing enough skilled, well-deployed health workers to overcome the current shortage and unequal distribution is a challenge exacerbated by the fact that Mali has one of the fastest-growing populations in the world.

IntraHealth International has been working in Mali for more than 15 years, strengthening the health workforce and expanding access to high-quality health services. Together with the Malian government, we have:

- Improved health worker education and training using performance improvement and competency-based approaches.
- Strengthened a model rural nursing school in Gao.
- Improved accessibility and quality of family planning counseling and maternal health services.
- Strengthened services for repair and prevention of obstetric fistula.

## CapacityPlus: Strengthening Human Resources for Health (HRH)

Mali is one of three emphasis countries for the global CapacityPlus project that are intended to be models for comprehensive human resources for health (HRH) strengthening. The USAID-funded, IntraHealth-led CapacityPlus works with Mali's Ministry of Health and Public Hygiene, local training institutions, and other local partners to strengthen health workforce leadership, provide technical support in expanding human resources information systems using IntraHealth's open source iHRIS software, strengthen preservice education, and, following the crisis in the north, introduce sexual and gender-based violence case management (SGBV).

Selected accomplishments include:

- Customized and rolled out iHRIS software in all regions, and decentralized it to all USAID-supported regions.
- Provided 204 scholarships to Gao Nursing School students in 2013 and 168 in 2014.
- Helped develop and finalize SGBV training materials, including a manual, facilitator guide, and participant workbook with job aids.



**8 regions and the district of Bamako are using iHRIS Manage to track, manage, and plan their health workforces**



**204 students at Gao Nursing School received scholarships to continue their education**



**750+ women treated for obstetric fistula across 4 regions and the district of Bamako**

## Capacity Building for Fistula Treatment and Prevention in Mali (2014–2019)

The USAID-funded Capacity Building for Fistula Treatment and Prevention in Mali (Fistula Mali) strengthens the health system, makes fistula repair services available within more health facilities, and builds the capacity of health workers to diagnose, treat, and prevent obstetric fistula effectively.

Through this project, IntraHealth increases access to high-quality, sustainable, resilient fistula treatment and prevention services in the regions of Gao, Kayes, Sikasso, Koulikoro, and Bamako. The project works with local NGOs to increase community knowledge and reduce stigma related to fistula.

Selected accomplishments include:

- Provided over 300 women with fistula repair surgeries and other services in the first two years of the project.
- Built fistula repair capacity in more than 20 new surgeons.
- Conducted the first fistula campaign in a district-level referral health center, bringing services closer to the women who need them.

## Clinton Global Initiative Commitment to Action: Obstetric Fistula in Mali: Women Living with Dignity

IntraHealth has committed to expand and augment its current Fistula Mali treatment program to address the comprehensive, holistic needs of women who have suffered from, or continue to suffer from, obstetric fistula in Mali. IntraHealth works with partners to provide women not only with the surgical procedure that can cure their fistulas, but with the psychosocial and economic skills and resources they need to rejoin their communities.

Selected accomplishments include:

- Raised over \$79,000 in private funds and obtained fistula repair kits from Direct Relief for Point G University Hospital in Bamako.
- Secured formal commitment of \$150,000 from Orange Mali Foundation to construct and equip a welcome center for fistula clients and their companions at Sikasso Regional Hospital.
- Secured a commitment from UNFPA/Mali to extend fistula repair and post-repair support to two additional regions: Ségou and Mopti.

## Strengthening Civil Society for Family Planning in West Africa (2011–2016)

This Hewlett Foundation-funded initiative strengthens the role of civil society in family planning promotion and advocacy. The project has built civil society coalitions in Benin, Mali, and Senegal, and is expanding to Niger and Burkina Faso to collaborate with and advocate to governments to implement their national family planning costed implementation plans, thus honoring their commitments in Ouagadougou and London, and to the Ouagadougou Partnership and FP2020. By engaging youth as coalition members and partners, we help ensure advocacy efforts represent those who utilize family planning services—and foster the next generation of advocates.

Selected accomplishments include:

- Launched a website and held social media workshops (led by Benin-based partner e-TRI) to introduce coalition members to Facebook, Twitter, YouTube, blogging, and video production as tools for family planning advocacy.
- Developed family planning advocates among religious leaders and trained 92 youth ambassadors and 24 adult mentors to support them.
- Oriented 55 journalists to family planning to spark more media interest and coverage of family planning issues.

## Past projects and funders

- ATN Plus, 2008–2013 (USAID, supporting partner to Abt Associates)
- Fistula Care, 2008–2013 (USAID, supporting partner to EngenderHealth)
- Keneya Ciwara II, 2008–2013 (USAID, supporting partner to CARE)
- Capacity Project, 2004–2009 (USAID)
- ATN, 2003–2008 (USAID, supporting partner to Abt Associates)
- Keneya Ciwara, 2003–2008 (USAID, supporting partner to CARE)
- PRIME II Project, 1999–2004 (USAID)

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