



RWANDA

IntraHealth International has worked in Rwanda for more than 20 years, collaborating with the government and local partners to meet the need for high-quality **reproductive, maternal, newborn, and child health services**, training health workers—especially frontline providers—and contributing to the country’s strong progress in key health indicators.

Through our USAID-funded Ingobyi Activity, IntraHealth is currently leading a consortium that is collaborating with the Rwanda Ministry of Health to reduce preventable infant and maternal deaths, reduce the incidence of malaria, and bring high-quality, integrated health services to Rwandan mothers, children, and adolescents in 20 districts.

As leader of USAID/Rwanda’s first integrated health service delivery and health systems strengthening project—the **Twubakane Decentralization and Health Program**—we supported good governance and the establishment of decentralized health care that involves district officials and communities themselves in defining and ensuring high-quality family health services. IntraHealth provided technical assistance for significant scale-up of **family planning** services, training hundreds of health workers and bringing long-acting reversible contraception to the health center level. We served as one of USAID’s key **HIV prevention, care, and treatment** clinical partners from 2005-2012, creating an innovative strategy to invite male partners of women in antenatal care to be tested for HIV, achieving high rates of participation (>90%). IntraHealth also supported Rwanda’s efforts to centralize **health workforce data** so it could be used to analyze health worker information alongside service delivery and medical record data to improve services and referrals for clients. We have worked in all of Rwanda’s 30 districts through our various programs.

Selected Achievements

- Assisted the government to update national family planning standards and protocols; introduced family planning services at 45 facilities in 23 districts; and successfully helped establish secondary family planning posts near Catholic-affiliated health facilities—contributing to the dramatic rise in use of modern contraception in Rwanda, from 4% in 2005 to 27% in 2007-2008
- Saw a 75% increase in Twubakane Program-supported districts in the number of women delivering with skilled birth attendants in health facilities and improved maternal and neonatal care
- Through Twubakane, supported training of more than 8,000 community health workers in home-based management of malaria; these health workers treated more than 66,000 children, reducing malaria cases in children under 5 by 46% from the previous year

- Administered 286 sub-grants totaling \$17 million to districts, health facilities, and NGOs in support of decentralized health care, including an innovative District Incentive Fund grant program that built district capacity and increased district resource mobilization
- Worked with the Ministry of Health's Community Health Desk to develop national integrated community health policy and improve quality of family health services through 134 community-provider partnership *Partenariat pour l'Amelioration de la Qualité* (PAQ) teams that helped local communities define their health needs—and identify and implement cost-efficient solutions
- Assisted in developing Rwanda's first national human resources for health strategy, including establishing career paths for nurses, clarifying job descriptions, and supporting retention strategies
- Developed a Provider Registry—based on IntraHealth's open source iHRIS health workforce information systems software—to support expansion of Rwanda's Health Information Exchange, which enables continuity of maternal and newborn health care across facilities
- Conducted extensive analyses of gender equality; supported training of health workers, police officers, and others in preventing and responding to gender-based violence
- Trained physicians and nurses to offer nonsurgical vasectomies, resulting in more than 450 men opting for the procedure in the program's first year
- Introduced a nutrition education program for district hospitals to combat chronic child malnutrition
- Reached more than 114,000 pregnant women over five years with prevention of mother-to-child transmission of HIV services
- Partnered with the Imbuto Foundation to develop training materials, train and support activities of peer educators, and make facility services more youth-friendly; paired health centers with schools to offer gender-appropriate, youth-friendly reproductive health services
- Designed a knowledge management platform to address the information needs of Rwanda's supply chain personnel in collaboration with the Regional Center of Excellence of Supply Chain Management based at National University of Rwanda in Butare

Selected Projects and Funders

- Ingobyi (USAID)
- Twubakane Decentralization and Health Program (USAID)
- HIV/AIDS Clinical Services Program (USAID)
- Capacity Project (USAID)
- PRIME II (USAID)
- HIV Performance-Based Financing Project (USAID)
- East African Community Global Health Supply Chain Professional Portal (KfW)
- Enhancing Client Access by Integrating Family Planning and HIV/AIDS Services in Rwanda (Tides Africa Fund)
- Expanding Rwanda's Commitment to the Population, Family Planning, and Reproductive Health Program (William and Flora Hewlett Foundation)
- The Rwandan Adolescent Reproductive Health Initiative (David and Lucile Packard Foundation)

About IntraHealth

For nearly 40 years in more than 100 countries, IntraHealth International has partnered with local communities to make sure health workers are present where they're needed most, ready to do the job, connected to the technology they need, and safe to do their work. A leader in innovative, effective strategies to improve the health and well-being of women and children, IntraHealth partners with governments, civil society, and the private sector to strengthen health systems and deliver high-quality reproductive, maternal, newborn, and child health services.

CONTACT

Samson Radeny, PhD
 Chief of Party
sradeny@intrahealth.org

IntraHealth
 INTERNATIONAL

Because Health Workers Save Lives.

www.intrahealth.org/page/rwanda

