

# **HAITI**

Haiti is the poorest country in the Western Hemisphere and has the worst health indicators in the Americas, according to the WHO – highest rates of infant and maternal mortality, malnutrition, and persons living with HIV/AIDS. Many Haitians lack access to potable water, and quality health care and are regularly exposed to serious waterborne illnesses as well as neglected tropical diseases (NTDs).

Since 1998, IMA World Health has worked in Haiti successfully partnering with national and local government and civil society organizations (CSOs) to support local capacity strengthening among service authorities and providers across health, WASH, and emergency response.



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#### **OUR GLOBAL APPROACH**

### **Health Systems Strengthening**

IMA works with governments and local partners to provide technical assistance and capacity strengthening to increase engagement, services and investment in a country's health system.

#### **Maternal and Child Health**

IMA improves the access to and availability of high-quality, person-centered maternal, newborn and child health services and voluntary family planning and reproductive health care in fragile and conflict affected settings.

#### **Disease Treatment & Prevention**

IMA aids in the treatment and prevention of deadly diseases that disproportionately affect people living in poverty, such as malaria, NTDs, HIV/AIDS and Ebola.

#### **Nutrition**

IMA implements evidence-based, multi-sector approaches targeting a range of nutrition-specific and nutrition-sensitive factors to prevent malnutrition and reduce stunting.

#### **WASH**

IMA improves water and sanitation infrastructure and promotes education in healthy WASH practices at schools and health centers.

#### **Sexual and Gender-based Violence**

IMA strengthens community-based prevention of and response to SGBV and improves the quality of and access to holistic care for survivors.

## **Project Examples**

#### **Act to End NTDs | East**

Funded by USAID and led by RTI International, the Act to End NTDs | East project assists national NTD control programs to eliminate and mitigate NTDs. IMA supports the Haiti Neglected Tropical Disease Control Program (HNTDCP) to achieve its goals toward lymphatic filariasis (LF) elimination and soil-transmitted helminthiasis (STH) control through mass drug administration (MDA). IMA tracks progress toward LF elimination through transmission assessment surveys (TAS). Based on TAS results, 122 out of 140 communes are under surveillance and no longer require MDA (87%) for LF. Activities include conducting MDA in 22 communes and conducting TAS throughout the country while working with HNTDCP on developing the WHO LF Elimination dossier.

#### **ENVISION**

As a partner on the global USAID ENVISION project, led by RTI International, IMA led implementation in Haiti and worked alongside the Haiti NTDCP, a joint effort between the Ministry of Health and Population and the Ministry of Education, and other partners. IMA helped the government conduct community and school-based MDAs across Haiti's 10 departments for the elimination and control of LF and STH.

IMA trained approximately 34,000 community leaders, promoters, and distributors to educate the population about LF and STH, persuade the highest number of households possible to participate in MDA, and conduct MDA through community distribution posts and schools. In Haiti, IMA led the scale-up of nationwide treatment and treated nearly 6 million people annually for LF and STH. Following WHO guidance, IMA and its partners also conducted TAS in communes which have had at least 5 consecutive MDAs at high coverage. Of the 140 communes in Haiti, 118 communes are now under surveillance with 22 communes still undergoing MDA (now covered under Act to End NTDs | East). IMA assisted the HNTDCP and partners in revamping an urban MDA strategy for the Port au Prince metropolitan area communes to increase coverage.

# Healthy Schools, Successful Children (Sante nan lekol, se sike timoun yo; SLST):

SLST improved students' health, participation, and success through WASH interventions in schools in Haiti's Southeast, South and Grand'Anse departments. Along with engaging community structures and leaders (teachers, parents, faith leaders), SLST's social and behavior change (SBC) component identified students as primary change agents to promote good hygiene practices within and beyond school settings among their peers, families, and communities. A knowledge,

attitudes, and practices survey assessing students' baseline WASH practices supported tailored educational programming at schools. Additionally, IMA led WASH training for school directors, teachers, and students and championed the creation of school health clubs in 52 schools. Through these clubs, students, with teacher mentoring, raise awareness around WASH, modeling healthy WASH behaviors and promoting a healthy school environment.

#### **The Corus Effect**

Founded in 1960 by a consortium of faith-based relief agencies to provide medical supplies to poor populations, IMA World Health has become a global leader in public health operating in some of the world's most fragile settings. In partnership with local partners and governments, IMA strengthens health systems to improve maternal and child health, prevent and treat diseases, promote nutrition and water, sanitation and hygiene, address sexual and gender-based violence and respond to global health crises.

IMA World Health is a part of the Corus International family, an ensemble of long-serving, global leaders in international development and humanitarian assistance committed to ending poverty and building healthy communities across Asia, Latin America and the Caribbean, the Middle East, and Africa. Founded in 2020 and drawing on a combined heritage of nearly 150 years, Corus connects and catalyzes non-profit and for-profit subsidiaries that include Lutheran World Relief, CGA Technologies, Ground Up Investing and LWR Farmers Market Coffee in addition to IMA World Health.

Alongside communities and local partners in fragile settings, our dedicated experts across our organizations integrate disciplines, approaches and resources to overcome global health challenges, develop productive and stable economies, improve resilience in the face of climate change, and respond to natural disasters and humanitarian crises.

With the support of our family's diverse set of partners and funding – from multi- and bilateral institutions and foundations to the private sector and individuals – we invest in solutions that are innovative, scalable, holistic and move the needle towards transformational change.

