

MOMENTUM

INTEGRATED HEALTH RESILIENCE

Strengthening Health Resilience in Fragile and Conflict-Affected Settings

MOMENTUM INTEGRATED HEALTH RESILIENCE is part of a suite of innovative awards funded by the U.S. Agency for International Development (USAID) that partners with countries around the world to holistically strengthen quality maternal, newborn, and child health (MNCH), voluntary family planning (FP), and reproductive health (RH) care and services. [MOMENTUM Integrated Health Resilience](#) specifically works to improve access to and availability of high-quality, respectful, and person-centered MNCH/FP/RH care in fragile and conflict-affected settings. The project also enhances coordination between development and humanitarian partners and helps to strengthen the health resilience of individuals, families, communities, health facilities, and health systems.

More than half of all maternal and child deaths occur in countries affected by conflict, disasters, weak governance and institutions, population displacements, and other acute and chronic crises. In these settings, increased illness and death result from disruptions to basic health services and systems, from family planning and immunization to safe deliveries and supply chains. The project's focus on health resilience reduces chronic vulnerabilities and promotes more inclusive development.

MOMENTUM Integrated Health Resilience works together alongside local organizations, governments, and humanitarian and development partners in fragile settings. The project tailors context-specific work to accelerate reductions in maternal, newborn, and child illness and death by leveraging high impact, evidence-based, life-saving interventions. Increasing the capacity of partner country institutions and local organizations—including new and underutilized partners—will help sustain health resilience gains throughout all health system levels. Strengthening both global technical leadership for health resilience and country-led programs to accelerate the impacts of MNCH/FP/RH care will advance USAID's efforts to build the capacity of local organizations and governments to respond to public health challenges, now and in the future, that affect women, children, families, and communities globally.



Photo: Matt Hackworth/IMA World Health

MOMENTUM seeks to accelerate reductions in maternal, newborn, and child mortality and morbidity in USAID partner countries.

Health resilience is the ability of people, households, communities, health systems (service delivery, governance, human resources for health, access to essential medicine, health system financing, health information systems) to prepare for, mitigate, adapt to, and recover from acute, recurring, and ongoing shocks and stresses in a manner that reduces disruptions to access and use of quality health care, and facilitates equitable health and wellness outcomes.

ACTIVITIES

MOMENTUM Integrated Health Resilience works in fragile settings on essential, evidence-based interventions that save lives, not only at health facilities, but also through community interventions. Health is generated and maintained first in communities, and a variety of local actors can have significant impacts. Because the project's partner countries have overwhelmingly young populations, with some of the globe's highest rates of maternal and infant mortality, youth is a key priority. Another priority is gender transformative programming that addresses gender norms and practices that limit access to crucial MNCH/FP/RH services and adoption of critical behaviors.

Interventions are mediated by three primary health resilience capacities: absorptive (preventative and coping strategies to avoid negative impacts of shocks and stresses); adaptive (the ability to adapt in response to them); and transformative (the ability to make fundamental changes that address underlying vulnerabilities). A key project priority is to strengthen these capacities to reduce the impact of shocks and stresses.

MOMENTUM Integrated Health Resilience also supports and strengthens local and national efforts to accurately collect and analyze relevant data and ensure that the evidence informs interventions, and partners with local organizations in both health and non-health sectors.

CONTRIBUTIONS

- Support the layering, sequencing, and integration of humanitarian and development programming across different sectors to improve health outcomes, especially for women and children.
- Innovative scale-up of life-saving interventions in fragile, disaster-prone, low resource, and/or other challenging settings, often with limited or poor government engagement, while being more inclusive of the important role of existing material and human resources at the community level.
- Document the policies and models of integration that are most effective at improving coverage, access, utilization, quality, equity, and efficiency of care in fragile settings (in health and other sectors).
- Create and adapt resilience strategies and tools to define, strengthen, and measure health resilience capacities.
- Advance USAID's learning agenda around health resilience at the health system, health services, community, and individual and couple/household levels in fragile settings, including appropriate and scalable interventions.

MOMENTUM Integrated Health Resilience currently works in Burkina Faso, the Democratic Republic of the Congo, Haiti, Mali, Niger, South Sudan, Sudan, Tanzania, and Yemen. Strengthening health resilience for families, communities, and systems fortifies their existing abilities to cope with ongoing stresses and build back better from shocks, including threats of conflict, extreme weather, and disease outbreaks.

KEY FACTS

DURATION

May 2020 – June 2026

TOTAL 5-YEAR BUDGET

\$199.9 million

IMPLEMENTING PARTNERS

- IMA World Health (lead)
- JSI Research & Training Institute, Inc.
- Pathfinder International
- GOAL USA Fund
- CARE
- Africa Christian Health Associations Platform (ACHAP)

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