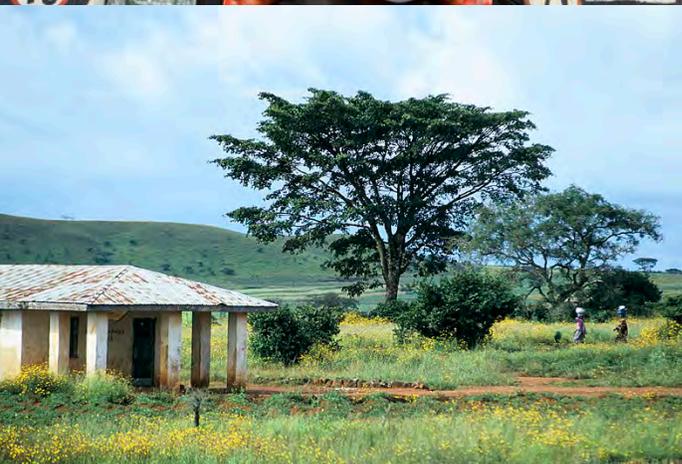


# COMMUNITY HEALTH SYSTEMS CATALOG

## COUNTRY PROFILE: MALI

SEPTEMBER 2016



### **Advancing Partners & Communities**

Advancing Partners & Communities (APC) is a five-year cooperative agreement funded by the U.S. Agency for International Development under Agreement No. AID-OAA-A-12-00047, beginning October 1, 2012. APC is implemented by JSI Research & Training Institute, Inc. in collaboration with FHI 360. The project focuses on advancing and supporting community programs that seek to improve the overall health of communities and achieve other health-related impacts, especially in relationship to family planning. APC provides global leadership for community-based programming, executes and manages small- and medium-sized sub-awards, supports procurement reform by preparing awards for execution by USAID, and builds technical capacity of organizations to implement effective programs.

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# ACRONYMS

|          |  |
|----------|--|
| APC      | Advancing Partners & Communities   |
| ASACO    | association de santé communautaire (community health association)  |
| ASC      | agent de santé communautaire (community health agent)  |
| CHS      | community health system  |
| CSCOM    | centre de santé communautaire (community health center)  |
| CSRef    | centre de santé de référence (referral health center)  |
| DHMT     | district health management team  |
| DNS      | direction nationale de la santé (national health directorate)  |
| DRS      | direction régionale de la santé (regional health directorate)  |
| DTC      | directeur technique du centre (health center technical director)   |
| FELASCOM | Fédération local d'associations de santé communautaire (Local Federation of Community Health Associations)   |
| FENASCOM | Fédération national d'associations de santé communautaire (National Federation of Community Health Associations)   |
| FERASCOM | Fédération régional d'associations de santé communautaire (Regional Federation of Community Health Associations)   |
| FP       | family planning  |
| GSAN     | groupe de soutien des activités de la nutrition (nutrition support group)  |
| IUD      | intrauterine device  |
| MPFEF    | Ministère de la Promotion de la Femme de l'Enfant et de la Famille (Ministry of Women, Children, and Family)   |
| MSAHRN   | Ministère de la Solidarité, de l'Action Humanitaire et de la Reconstruction du Nord (Ministry of Solidarity, Humanitarian Action, and Reconstruction of the North) |
| MSHP     | Ministère de la Santé et de l'Hygiène Publique (Ministry of Health and Public Hygiene)   |
| NGO      | nongovernmental organization   |
| PDDSS    | Plan Décennal de Développement Sanitaire et Social (Decennial Health and Social Development Plan)  |
| PRODESS  | Programme Décennal de Développement Sanitaire et Social (Decennial Health and Social Development Program)  |
| SEC      | soins essentiel dans la communauté (essential community health care)   |



|       |  |
|-------|--|
| TB    | tuberculosis                                       |
| USAID | Unites States Agency for International Development |
| WASH  | water, sanitation, and hygiene                     |

# INTRODUCTION

This Community Health Systems (CHS) Catalog country profile is the 2016 update of a landscape assessment that was originally conducted by the Advancing Partners & Communities (APC) project in 2014. The CHS Catalog focuses on 25 countries deemed priority by the United States Agency for International Development's (USAID) Office of Population and Reproductive Health, and includes specific attention to family planning (FP), a core focus of the APC project.

The update comes as many countries are investing in efforts to support the Sustainable Development Goals and to achieve universal health coverage while modifying policies and strategies to better align and scale up their community health systems.

The purpose of the CHS Catalog is to provide the most up-to-date information available on community health systems based on existing policies and related documentation in the 25 countries. Hence, it does not necessarily capture the realities of policy implementation or service delivery on the ground. APC has made efforts to standardize the information across country profiles, however, content between countries may vary due to the availability and quality of the data obtained from policy documents.

Countries use a wide variety of terminology to describe health workers at the community level. The CHS Catalog uses the general term “community health provider” and refers to specific titles adopted by each respective country as deemed appropriate.

The CHS Catalog provides information on 136 interventions delivered at the community level for reproductive, maternal, newborn, and child health; nutrition; selected infectious diseases; and water, sanitation, and hygiene (WASH). This country profile presents a sample of priority interventions (see Table 6 in the Service Delivery section) delivered by community health providers and for which information is available.

APC regularly updates these profiles and welcomes input from colleagues. If you have comments or additional information, please send them to [info@advancingpartners.org](mailto:info@advancingpartners.org).

# MALI COMMUNITY HEALTH OVERVIEW

Mali's community health system is guided by multiple complementary policy documents that contribute to a single community health strategy. Developed at the end of 2015, the *National Implementation Guide for Essential Community Health Care (SEC)* is the main community health document. The guide outlines the community-level service delivery package, roles and responsibilities of community health providers and other community actors, and the processes by which services are organized, managed, and delivered.

The SEC is just one component of the country's overarching national health and social development program, which is outlined in the *Decennial Health and Social Development Program 2014–2018 (PRODESS III)*. PRODESS III is a multi-sectoral effort to improve health and social development, led by the Ministries of Health and Public Hygiene (MSHP), Solidarity, Humanitarian Action, and Reconstruction of the North (MSAHRN), and Women, Children, and Family (MPFEF). The program builds on lessons from previous PRODESS iterations and emphasizes universal access to health care, better quality of services, and improved health indicators—including at the community level.

The *Decennial Health and Social Development Plan 2014–2023 (PDDSS)* provides an implementation framework for PRODESS III. It outlines 11 strategic objectives focused on health systems strengthening, including offering better quality health services, products, and commodities; strengthening human resources for health; improving health data collection, analysis, and use; and ensuring better health system financing and governance. The document also emphasizes community participation in health.

**Table 1. Community Health Quick Stats**

|  |  |   |   |   |
|--|--|---|---|---|
| Main community health policies/strategies                        | <i>Decennial Health and Social Development Plan (Plan décennal de développement sanitaire et social (PDDSS) 2014–2023)</i> | <i>Decennial Health and Social Development Program (Programme du développement sanitaire et social (PRODESS III) 2014–2018)</i> | <i>Essential Community Health Care: ASC Handbook (Soins essentiels dans la communauté (SEC) : cahier/ directives de l'agent de santé communautaire (ASC))</i> | <i>SEC National Implementation Guide (SEC : Guide national pour la mise en œuvre)</i> |
| Last updated   | No date <sup>1</sup>   | No date <sup>1</sup>  | 2015  | 2015  |
| Number of community health provider cadres                       | 2 main cadres  |   |   |   |
|  | Community health agents (ASC)  |   | Relais communautaires (relais)  |   |
| Recommended number of community health providers                 | <i>Information not available in policy</i>   |   | <i>Information not available in policy</i>  |   |
| Estimated number of community health providers                   | At least 2,317 ASC <sup>2</sup>  |   | 26,939 relais   |   |
| Recommended ratio of community health providers to beneficiaries | IASC : 700 people (southern Mali)<br>I ASC : 100–500 people (northern Mali)  |   | I relais : 50 households  |   |
| Community-level data collection                                  | Yes  |   |   |   |
| Levels of management of community-level service delivery         | National, regional, health district, health zone, community  |   |   |   |
| Key community health program(s)                                  | Various national health programs in multiple health areas (e.g., FP, malaria, TB)  |   |   |   |

<sup>1</sup> These documents do not include a publication date; however, they were likely developed in 2013 or 2014.

<sup>2</sup> Data from 2014 shows that 2,317 ASC were trained in community integrated management of childhood illness. Data on the total number of ASC is not available.

The MSHP has also issued a number of ministerial decrees to construct, organize, and improve community health, such as a decree from 2002 that formally defined and established a network of community health centers (CSCOM). Other strategies direct national health-specific programs that incorporate service delivery and management at the community level.

Together, these policies provide comprehensive guidance on community health across many health areas, such as FP and tuberculosis (TB). They also describe the roles of Mali’s community health providers—*agents de santé communautaire* (ASC) and *relais communautaires* (relais)—and the processes and mechanisms, including supervision, reporting, incentives, selection, and training, that support them. Specifically, the ASC handbook for the SEC package provides detailed information about the services that ASC are expected to deliver. However, there is no specific guidebook for relais, and guidance for community health providers within each of the health area-specific strategies is not always explicit or consistent with the SEC package.

Community health policies in Mali address gender issues; for example, the PDDSS calls for female representation in community health management bodies. Policies also provide information about the role of community groups in the community health system. Nutrition support groups (GSAN), for instance, comprise 10–12 community members who may include traditional midwives, presidents of women’s associations, pregnant women, nursing women, grandmothers, caretakers of children, young girls, fathers, and traditional healers. GSAN support ASC and relais in conducting health and nutrition promotion and activities. Other community groups, such as cooperatives, youth sports organizations, and women’s organizations, may conduct FP awareness-raising activities.

ASC and relais are Mali’s two main cadres of community health providers. ASC are salaried, have had previous training as nurses aides or auxiliary midwives, and deliver basic reproductive, maternal, newborn, and child health, nutrition, and WASH interventions within their coverage areas, known as ASC sites. Relais are volunteers who assist the ASC in health promotion, community mobilization, and service delivery. Both cadres collaborate with GSAN.

Numerous national programs related to health areas like FP, malaria, HIV, and TB operate at the community level and are guided by the country’s overarching community health strategy—the SEC. Services are delivered through the CSCOM, which is created, managed, and supported by a civil society group called the community health association (ASACO). The national health area programs are updated approximately every five years and operate in urban, peri-urban, and rural areas. They are funded by both the public and private sectors through collaborations between the government of Mali, the MSHP, donors, and nongovernmental organization (NGO) partners. Donors and partners often focus efforts in the northern regions of Mali in particular, an area of conflict where community health structures and service delivery systems are weak or nonexistent.

**Table 2. Key Health Indicators, Mali**

|   |              |
|---|--------------|
| Total population <sup>1</sup>   | 17.3 m       |
| Rural population <sup>1</sup>   | 60%          |
| Total expenditure on health per capita (current US\$) <sup>2</sup>                  | \$48         |
| Total fertility rate <sup>3</sup>   | 6.1          |
| Unmet need for contraception <sup>3</sup>   | 26.0%        |
| Contraceptive prevalence rate (modern methods for married women 15–49) <sup>3</sup> | 9.9%         |
| Maternal mortality ratio <sup>4</sup>   | 587          |
| Neonatal, infant, and under 5 mortality rates <sup>3</sup>                          | 34 / 56 / 95 |
| Percentage of births delivered by a skilled provider <sup>3</sup>                   | 40.1%        |
| Percentage of children under 5 years moderately or severely stunted <sup>3</sup>    | 38.3%        |
| HIV prevalence rate <sup>5</sup>  | 1.3%         |

<sup>1</sup>PRB 2016; <sup>2</sup>World Bank 2016; <sup>3</sup>Cellule de Planification et de Statistique (CPS/SSDSPF), Institut National de la Statistique (INSTAT/MPATP), INFO-STAT and ICF International 2014; <sup>4</sup>World Health Organization 2015; <sup>5</sup>UNAIDS 2015.

**Mali has a comprehensive strategy that guides community health and includes detailed information on the roles and relationships between community actors.**

# LEADERSHIP AND GOVERNANCE

Community-level service delivery in Mali is managed and coordinated across the national, regional, health district, health zone, and community levels. Each level has a distinct role in supporting policy and program efforts.

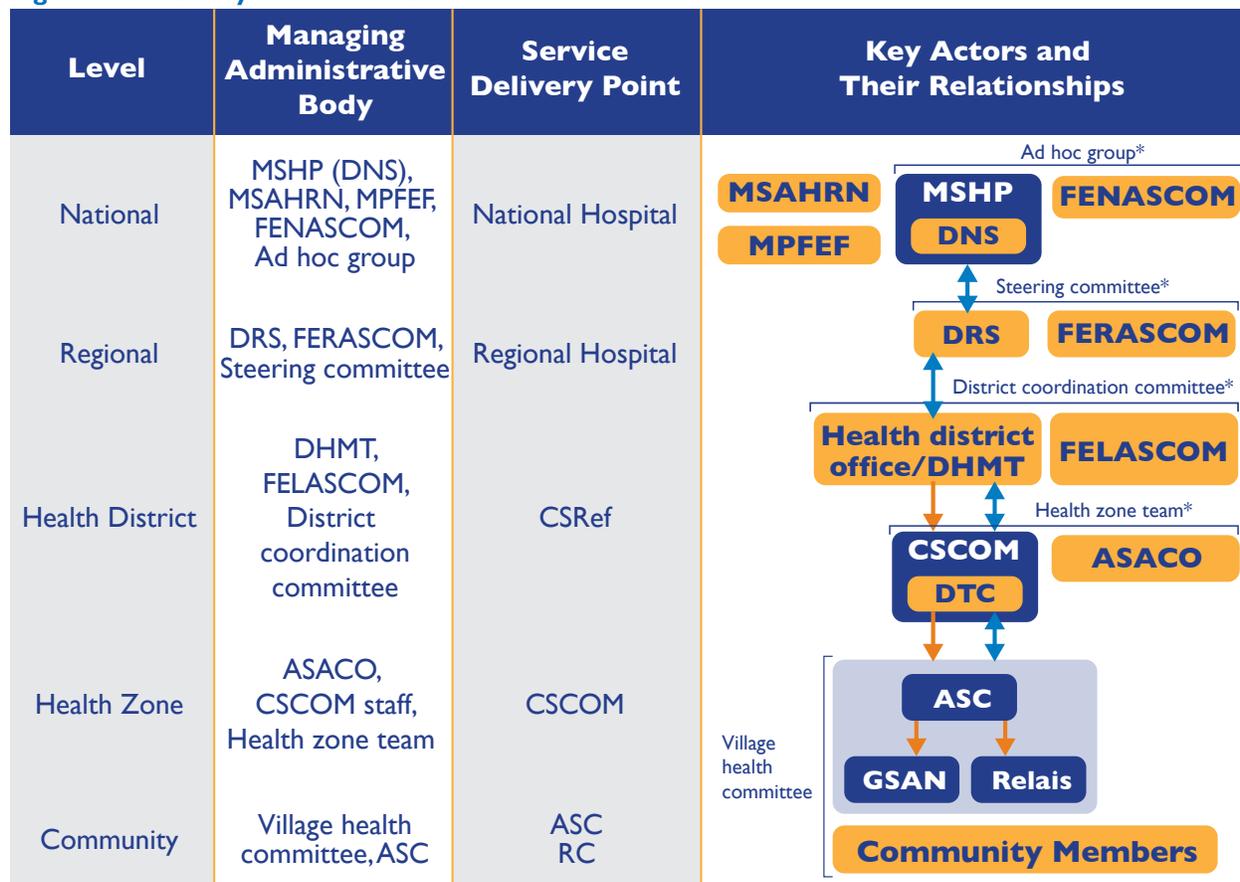
- At the **national level**, the MSHP collaborates with the MSAHRN and the MPFEF to develop policies, strategies, and implementation guides, mobilize resources, establish and maintain a system to collect and analyze community data, and ensure overall health system functioning related to the SEC. The National Federation of Community Health Associations (FENASCOM)<sup>1</sup> liaises between the MSHP, community actors, and civil society and advises on community health matters. An ad-hoc group within the MSHP develops and updates policies, guides, and tools; allocates resources; and monitors implementation for the SEC. This group includes representatives from the National Health Directorate (DNS) within the MSHP, the FENASCOM, and technical and financial partners.
- The **regional** health directorate (DRS) implements the SEC with assistance from other regional actors. The DRS ensures availability of commodities; supports community health provider training, monitoring, and supervision; and documents and evaluates SEC activities. A regional steering committee—with representation from the DRS, civil society, regional councils, and NGOs and associations—provides technical and financial support to the DRS and the health districts related to SEC guidance, training, monitoring, and supervision.
- The **district** health management team (DHMT) implements the SEC and establishes and oversees health zone teams. A district coordination committee—comprising representatives from the DHMT, the social and economic development sectors, NGOs, health cooperatives, and others—lends technical and financial support to the health zones, giving guidance on training, monitoring, and periodic evaluation.
- ASACO create and manage CSCOM at the **health zone level**. A health zone team—with representation from the ASACO, the CSCOM, the mayor, the social and economic development sectors, NGOs, and health cooperatives—plans and implements SEC activities, including identifying service delivery points, selecting and monitoring ASC, and interacting with the community.<sup>2</sup> The ASACO and CSCOM technical staff supervise ASC, relais, GSAN, and organizations that implement SEC activities. CSCOM staff also provide advice and continued training for ASC under the supervision of the DHMT.
- The village health committee supports **community** mobilization and manages SEC activities at the ASC sites, or the areas where ASC work. The committee comprises village leaders, religious leaders, traditional healers, women and youth organizations, ASC, relais, education management committees, and local partners. The ASC provide services and oversee community activities, including supervising relais and GSAN.

Figure 1 portrays Mali's health structure, including management bodies, service delivery points, and key actors and their relationships at each level.

<sup>1</sup> The FENASCOM's counterparts at the regional and district levels are the Regional Association of Community Health Associations (FERASCOM) and the Local Federation of Community Health Associations (FELASCOM). They play similar roles as the FENASCOM at their respective levels. The FELASCOM also supports ASACO.

<sup>2</sup> In northern areas where health zones don't exist, the DHMT fills this role.

**Figure 1. Health System Structure**



\*Also includes representatives from NGOs, local government actors, local divisions of the MSAHRN and the MPFEF, civil society, and other financial and technical partners.

Supervision →  
Flow of community-level data →

## HUMAN RESOURCES FOR HEALTH

In Mali, ASC and relais are the main providers of community health interventions. ASC distribute selected FP methods; offer basic newborn care services; conduct community integrated management of childhood illness for malaria, acute respiratory infections, and diarrhea; manage moderate malnutrition and uncomplicated severe acute malnutrition; participate in immunization campaigns; deliver health information, education, and communication; and mobilize communities.

Relais assist ASC in health education and promotion, provide FP methods, refer clients to the ASC or the CSCOM for services they do not offer, and conduct follow-up as needed. GSAN also support ASC, promoting nutrition among women, infants, and young children. About half of the 12 GSAN members receive a brief training from CSCOM staff, however, the GSAN is considered a community group, not a community health provider cadre. ASC supervise relais and GSAN.

The *SEC National Implementation Guide* briefly refers to a third, informal community health provider cadre; retrained traditional midwives, but does not provide much information on their role beyond helping ASC provide basic health education.

Together, these community health providers implement the SEC in communities. The health zone team orients other key actors—including CSCOM staff, ASACO members, and elected community officials—to their roles in implementing the SEC, including how they are expected to support ASC and relais. The team also organizes meetings to introduce communities to the ASC.

Table 3 presents an overview of ASC and relais in Mali.

**Table 3. Community Health Provider Overview**

|                                  | <b>ASC</b>   | <b>Relais</b>  |
|----------------------------------|--|--|
| <b>Number in country</b>         | At least 2,317 ASC <sup>1</sup>  | 26,939 relais  |
| <b>Target number</b>             | <i>Information not available in policy</i>   | <i>Information not available in policy</i>   |
| <b>Coverage ratios and areas</b> | <p>IASC: 700 people (southern Mali)</p> <p>I ASC: 100–500 people (northern Mali)</p> <p>Each ASC is responsible for between 1 and 3 villages, which constitute an ASC site. The ASC site’s geographical boundaries are determined by village authorities and preset guidelines. In southern areas, the site should span a geographical area of 3 kilometers and should be more than 5 kilometers from a CSCOM or in a hard-to-access area. In northern areas, the site should span a geographical area of about 25 kilometers in areas that have a fixed functional health facility, and about 60 kilometers in areas that are serviced by mobile medical units.<sup>2</sup></p> <p>Operate in urban, rural, and peri-urban areas.</p> | <p>1 relais: 50 households at the village level.</p> <p>Operate in urban, rural, and peri-urban areas.</p>   |
| <b>Health system linkage</b>     | ASC are part of the public health system under the MSHP. They are linked with the CSCOM and receive salaries.  | Relais are part of the public health system under the MSHP. They are volunteers and are linked with the CSCOM.   |
| <b>Supervision</b>               | <p>ASC are under the supervision of the DTC at the CSCOM, generally a doctor or a nurse, and the health district’s head doctor. ASACO members conduct administrative supervision of ASC on a monthly basis, sometimes in collaboration with representatives from the social development sector. Representatives from the district, regional, and national levels of the health system provide technical support to strengthen supervision at the CSCOM.</p> <p>ASC supervise relais and GSAN.</p>  | ASC supervise relais on a day-to-day basis, and the DTC also conducts periodic technical supervision. Representatives from the district, regional, and national levels of the health system provide technical support to strengthen supervision at the CSCOM. ASACO members conduct administrative supervision of relais on a monthly basis. |
| <b>Accessing clients</b>         | <p>On foot</p> <p>Bicycle</p>  | <p>On foot</p> <p>Bicycle</p>  |

**Table 3. Community Health Provider Overview**

|                           | <b>ASC</b>   | <b>Relais</b>  |
|---------------------------|--|--|
| <b>Selection criteria</b> | <p>Must have at least a 9th grade education and a minimum of a certificate as a nurse’s aide or auxiliary midwife. In northern areas, the ASC must have passed exams for entry into secondary school, have a minimum of a certificate as a nurse’s aide certificate, an auxiliary midwife, or a health technician.</p> <p>ASC must also:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Have status as a Malian national</li> <li>Be at least 18 years old</li> <li>Be fluent in the local language</li> <li>Be available and active</li> <li>Accept working and living in the community</li> <li>Have community mobilization experience (preferred)</li> <li>Be able to drive or be driven (preferred)</li> </ul>   | <p>Know how to speak, read, and write the local language and any other language necessary to do the job</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>From the local area</li> <li>Selected by the local community</li> <li>Available and engaged</li> <li>Accepted the volunteer position</li> <li>Have a source of income</li> <li>Experienced (e.g., as an organizer or leader)</li> <li>Credible, honest, respectful, social, and tolerant</li> </ul> |
| <b>Selection process</b>  | <p>Recruitment is organized by a CSCOM committee, which includes the ASACO and the CSCOM technical team, in collaboration with the DHMT.</p> <p>First, the ASC site is determined through a mapping exercise of the village or hamlet, followed by community consensus and in accordance with the preset selection criteria. Adherence to these criteria is documented on a site selection form.</p> <p>ASC must submit an application to the health district’s head doctor containing a handwritten and stamped request; a copy of their birth certificate; a certificate attesting they have met the necessary professional credentials; medical documents; curriculum vitae; and a nationality certificate. ASC then must pass a written test on the SEC package and undergo an interview to assess their communications skills. Candidates must score at least 10 of 20 total points. ASC are confirmed in their new role after a waiting period of 3 months. The health zone team orients and introduces them first to the CSCOM staff, ASACO members, and community leaders and members.</p> | <p>Relais are selected through a participatory and consensual process by the population in the village in which they live. More specific guidance is not provided in policy.</p>   |

**Table 3. Community Health Provider Overview**

|                                    | <b>ASC</b>  | <b>Relais</b>  |
|------------------------------------|---|--|
| <b>Training</b>                    | ASC are trained in groups of 25 for 21 days. The health district decides further trainings are needed. ASC may participate in donor-supported training for specific health areas, such as malaria.  | Relais are trained in groups of 25 for 8 days by the CSCOM team. Policy does not specify whether training happens at once or over time. Relais may undergo additional training for disease-specific programs. For instance, the <i>National TB program (2013–2017)</i> indicates plans to train 2,000 relais per year on TB screening, follow-up, and awareness-raising.   |
| <b>Curriculum</b>                  | <i>Essential Community Health Care (SEC) : ASC Handbook (2015)</i> . Includes sections on FP; communication; WASH; community integrated management of childhood illness; basic newborn care; and infant and young child feeding.  | The relais curriculum is not available, but the SEC provides general information about the topics on which they are trained.   |
| <b>Incentives and remuneration</b> | <p>Financial incentives include per diems; cash payments; rebates or kickbacks from sale of certain health products; performance-based bonuses; and a monthly indemnity equal to or more than the Interprofessional Guaranteed Minimum Wage, which as of January 2016 is 40,000 West African CFA francs or about \$69 US.</p> <p>Nonfinancial incentives include free or discounted health care; bicycles; opportunities for career advancement; attendance at an annual forum on community health at the district level; and in-kind goods, like crops.</p> <p>Incentives are covered by a combination of funds from the MSHP, NGOs, the health district, and the community.</p> | <p>Financial incentives include per diems; cash payments; and rebates or kickbacks from sale of certain health products.</p> <p>Nonfinancial incentives include free or discounted health care; bicycles; t-shirts; formal recognition of service like annual days to celebrate relais; and in-kind goods, like crops.</p> <p>Incentives are covered by a combination of the MSHP, NGOs, the health district, and the community.</p> |

<sup>1</sup> Data from 2014 shows that 2,317 ASC were trained in community integrated management of childhood illness. Data on the total number of ASC is not available.

<sup>2</sup> Policy does not explicitly indicate how ASC working in northern areas would reach communities spanning 25 to 60 kilometers; however, a preferred selection criterion for ASC in northern areas is that they are able to drive or be driven.

# HEALTH INFORMATION SYSTEMS

ASC and relais collect data using a variety of tools, such as consultation registers, stock management registers, growth records, FP eligibility forms, FP follow-up forms, notebooks for recording health-related activities, and monthly report templates. They aggregate the data into monthly reports and submit them to the DTCs, who are their supervisors at the CSCOM. The DTC and other CSCOM staff review and verify the data and send it electronically, along with other data collected at the CSCOM, to the health district office. Data is also used by the CSCOM and community to improve the quality of interventions. Every trimester, the DTC is expected to share data with local health structures, the mayor, the ASC, and the ASACO.

**Mali has a health information system that brings local data from communities and community-level health facilities to the national level. The local data is also shared with communities and used for decision-making.**

The health district data manager collects and verifies data from CSCOM, reference health centers (CS-Ref), and other health private-public and faith-based facilities, compiles it, and sends it to the regional level every trimester. The DRS in turn assembles data from the health districts and sends it to the DNS within the MSHP for compilation and review. The DNS also publishes annual reports with the aggregated data. Data then flows back down the health system in the form of reports from the national level to the CSCOM.

This system, known as the local health information system, is a subsystem of the national health information system (SNIS). It focuses on data from CSCOM, CSRef, and communities and aims to strengthen interventions and health facility management. Other health information, such as hospital data and disease surveillance data, are collected through respective information subsystems of the SNIS. Figure 1 depicts the flow of community-level data.

# HEALTH SUPPLY MANAGEMENT

After they receive training, community health providers receive a start-up package of commodities and supplies from the ASACO. Thereafter, they may complete and submit a stock form to replenish their supplies at the CSCOM, which is managed by the ASACO. Community health providers distribute many products—such as artemisinin combination therapy to treat malaria—to clients for free; others they may sell according to set regulations: e.g., they may not charge more than the CSCOM does for the same products, and they give a percentage of the sales to the ASACO, which uses the funds to restock supply. ASC are expected to maintain a monthly inventory of supplies and discard products that have expired.

Policies do not stipulate neither the process by which community health providers might obtain back-up emergency supplies nor how they should dispose of medical waste.

Table 4 shows selected medicines and products included in Mali's *National List of Essential Medicines* (2012).

**Table 4. Selected Medicines and Products Included in Mali's *National List of Essential Medicines* (2012)**

| Category                        |                                     | Medicine / Product                 |
|---------------------------------|-------------------------------------|------------------------------------|
| <b>FP</b>                       | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | CycleBeads®                        |
|                                 | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | Condoms                            |
|                                 | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | Emergency contraceptive pills      |
|                                 | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | Implants                           |
|                                 | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | Injectable contraceptives          |
|                                 | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | IUDs                               |
|                                 | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | Oral contraceptive pills           |
| <b>Maternal health</b>          | <input type="checkbox"/>            | Calcium supplements                |
|                                 | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | Iron/folate                        |
|                                 | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | Misoprostol                        |
|                                 | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | Oxytocin                           |
|                                 | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | Tetanus toxoid                     |
| <b>Newborn and child health</b> | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | Chlorhexidine                      |
|                                 | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | Cotrimoxazole                      |
|                                 | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | Injectable gentamicin              |
|                                 | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | Injectable penicillin              |
|                                 | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | Oral amoxicillin                   |
|                                 | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | Tetanus immunoglobulin             |
|                                 | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | Vitamin K                          |
| <b>HIV and TB</b>               | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | Antiretrovirals                    |
|                                 | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | Isoniazid (for preventive therapy) |
| <b>Diarrhea</b>                 | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | Oral rehydration salts             |
|                                 | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | Zinc                               |
| <b>Malaria</b>                  | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | Artemisinin combination therapy    |
|                                 | <input type="checkbox"/>            | Insecticide-treated nets           |
|                                 | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | Paracetamol                        |
|                                 | <input type="checkbox"/>            | Rapid diagnostic tests             |
| <b>Nutrition</b>                | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | Albendazole                        |
|                                 | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | Mebendazole                        |
|                                 | <input type="checkbox"/>            | Ready-to-use supplementary food    |
|                                 | <input type="checkbox"/>            | Ready-to-use therapeutic food      |
|                                 | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | Vitamin A                          |

# SERVICE DELIVERY

Mali’s main community health service delivery package is outlined in the SEC, which was last updated in December 2015. The ASC and relais packages are subsets of the SEC package, which include the FP, maternal health, newborn care, child health and nutrition, TB, HIV, malaria, and WASH services described in the Human Resources for Health section and in Table 6.

Community health providers administer clinical services, disseminate health education, and mobilize communities. Table 5 provides information about the channels through which they conduct these activities.

ASC and relais refer clients to the CSCOM for services they are not trained to provide. Relais may also make referrals to ASC. Facilities counter refer to ASC and relais for follow-up if needed.

Using FP as an example, relais may provide condoms, oral contraceptive pills, and CycleBeads® to clients. They may also refer clients to:

- ASC for the same methods relais may administer and injectable contraceptives. In the northern regions, ASC may also be trained to provide implants.
- CSCOM for the same methods ASC may provide, implants, intrauterine devices (IUDs), and post-partum FP services.
- CSRef and hospitals for the same methods available at the CSCOM and permanent methods.

Policy does not indicate where community health providers should refer clients for information about natural FP methods like the Standard Days Method or emergency contraceptive pills.

Table 6 details selected interventions delivered according to policy by ASC and relais in the following health areas: FP, maternal health, newborn care, child health and nutrition, TB, HIV, malaria, and WASH.

**Table 5. Modes of Service Delivery**

| Service                       | Mode   |
|-------------------------------|--|
| <b>Clinical services</b>      | Door-to-door   |
|                               | Periodic outreach at fixed points                    |
|                               | Health posts or other facilities                     |
|                               | Special campaigns                                    |
| <b>Health education</b>       | Door-to-door   |
|                               | Health posts or other facilities                     |
|                               | In conjunction with other periodic outreach services |
|                               | Community meetings                                   |
|                               | Mothers’ or other ongoing groups                     |
| <b>Community mobilization</b> | Health posts or other facilities                     |
|                               | Community meetings                                   |
|                               | Mothers’ or other ongoing groups                     |

**Table 6. Selected Interventions, Products, and Services**

| Subtopic        | Interventions, products, and services  | Information, education, and/or counseling | Administration and/or provision | Referral    | Follow-up   |
|-----------------|--|---|---------------------------------|-------------|-------------|
| FP <sup>1</sup> | Condoms  | ASC, relais                               | ASC, relais                     | ASC, relais | ASC, relais |
|                 | CycleBeads®  | ASC, relais                               | ASC, relais                     | ASC, relais | ASC, relais |
|                 | Emergency contraceptive pills  | Unspecified                               | Unspecified                     | Unspecified | Unspecified |
|                 | Implants   | ASC, relais                               | ASC <sup>2</sup>                | ASC, relais | ASC, relais |
|                 | Injectable contraceptives  | ASC, relais                               | ASC                             | ASC, relais | ASC, relais |
|                 | IUDs   | ASC, relais                               | No                              | ASC, relais | ASC, relais |
|                 | Lactational amenorrhea method  | ASC                                       |                                 | ASC, relais | ASC         |
|                 | Oral contraceptive pills   | ASC, relais                               | ASC, relais                     | ASC, relais | ASC, relais |
|                 | Other fertility awareness methods  | Unspecified                               |                                 | Unspecified | Unspecified |
|                 | Permanent methods  | ASC, relais                               | No                              | ASC, relais | ASC, relais |
|                 | Standard Days Method   | Unspecified                               |                                 | Unspecified | Unspecified |
| Maternal health | Birth preparedness plan  | ASC, relais                               | ASC                             | ASC, relais | ASC, relais |
|                 | Iron/folate for pregnant women   | ASC, relais                               | ASC <sup>3</sup>                | ASC, relais | ASC, relais |
|                 | Nutrition/dietary practices during pregnancy   | ASC, relais                               |                                 | ASC, relais | ASC, relais |
|                 | Oxytocin or misoprostol for post-partum hemorrhage   | No  | No                              | No          | No          |
|                 | Recognition of danger signs during pregnancy   | ASC, relais                               | ASC, relais                     | ASC, relais | ASC, relais |
|                 | Recognition of danger signs in mothers during postnatal period                                 | ASC, relais                               | ASC, relais                     | ASC, relais | ASC, relais |
| Newborn care    | Care seeking based on signs of illness   | ASC, relais                               |                                 |             | ASC, relais |
|                 | Chlorhexidine use  | ASC, relais                               | ASC                             | ASC, relais | ASC, relais |
|                 | Managing breastfeeding problems (breast health, perceptions of insufficient breast milk, etc.) | ASC                                       |                                 | ASC         | ASC         |
|                 | Nutrition/dietary practices during lactation   | ASC, relais                               |                                 | ASC, relais | ASC, relais |
|                 | Postnatal care   | ASC, relais                               | ASC                             | ASC, relais | ASC, relais |
|                 | Recognition of danger signs in newborns  | ASC, relais                               | ASC, relais                     | ASC, relais | ASC, relais |

| Subtopic                          | Interventions, products, and services   | Information, education, and/or counseling | Administration and/or provision        | Referral                 | Follow-up                |
|-----------------------------------|---|---|--|--------------------------|--------------------------|
| <b>Child health and nutrition</b> | Community integrated management of childhood illness                          | ASC                                       | ASC                                    | ASC                      | ASC                      |
|                                   | De-worming medication (albendazole, mebendazole, etc.) for children 1–5 years | ASC, relais                               | ASC, relais <sup>4</sup>               | ASC, relais              | ASC, relais              |
|                                   | Exclusive breastfeeding for the first 6 months                                | ASC, relais                               |  | ASC, relais              | ASC, relais              |
|                                   | Immunization of children  | ASC, relais                               | ASC <sup>5</sup> , relais <sup>5</sup> | ASC, relais              | ASC, relais              |
|                                   | Vitamin A supplementation for children 6–59 months                            | ASC, relais                               | ASC, relais <sup>4</sup>               | ASC, relais              | ASC, relais              |
| <b>HIV and TB</b>                 | Community treatment adherence support, including directly observed therapy    | Unspecified                               | Unspecified                            | Unspecified              | Unspecified              |
|                                   | Contact tracing of people suspected of being exposed to TB                    | Relais                                    | Relais                                 | Relais                   | Relais                   |
|                                   | HIV testing   | Unspecified                               | Unspecified                            | ASC                      | Unspecified              |
|                                   | HIV treatment support   | Unspecified                               | Unspecified                            | Unspecified              | Unspecified              |
| <b>Malaria</b>                    | Artemisinin combination therapy   | ASC                                       | ASC                                    | ASC, relais <sup>6</sup> | ASC, relais <sup>6</sup> |
|                                   | Long-lasting insecticide-treated nets   | ASC, relais                               | ASC, relais                            | ASC, relais              | ASC, relais              |
|                                   | Rapid diagnostic testing for malaria  | ASC                                       | ASC                                    | ASC, relais              | ASC, relais              |
| <b>WASH</b>                       | Community-led total sanitation  | ASC, relais                               | ASC                                    |                          |                          |
|                                   | Hand washing with soap  | ASC, relais                               |  |                          |                          |
|                                   | Household point of use water treatment  | ASC, relais                               |  |                          |                          |
|                                   | Oral rehydration salts  | ASC, relais <sup>6</sup>                  | ASC, relais                            | ASC, relais <sup>6</sup> | ASC, relais <sup>6</sup> |

<sup>1</sup> Relais may provide information, education, and counseling on all methods that a 'modern couple' might use, refer for methods they cannot provide, and follow up with FP users. Policy does not specify these methods by name. GSAN may also communicate about FP very generally.

<sup>2</sup> ASC may be trained to administer implants in the northern regions by NGOs.

<sup>3</sup> ASC may also give iron/folate to children to treat them for malnutrition.

<sup>4</sup> Relais may administer this intervention during mass campaigns.

<sup>5</sup> ASC and relais may administer vaccinations for measles, polio, and other, unspecified diseases during mass campaigns.

<sup>6</sup> Only specified for children under five years.

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