ADVANCING PARTNERS & COMMUNITIES, GUINEA
REBUILDING RESILIENT HEALTH SYSTEMS: STRENGTHENING SURVEILLANCE AND QUALITY OF HEALTH CARE

The Ebola epidemic severely impacted Guinea’s public health system and left over 1,200 survivors, many of whom continue to have medical problems related to the virus. From 2016–2018, the USAID-funded Advancing Partners & Communities (APC) project, in collaboration with Guinea’s Ministry of Health, supported surveillance of Ebola survivors and their immediate contacts, rehabilitated and equipped health facilities in the regions hardest hit by Ebola, enhanced health system capacity for managing Ebola survivor care, and worked to reduce stigma and discrimination against survivors. The health care system in six key regions is now better prepared to manage a future outbreak and to respond to the health conditions of survivors.

SURVEILLANCE

SENTINEL SITES

60 community-based sentinel surveillance sites established in 6 regions

98% of sentinel sites reporting weekly data on survivor health events via cell phone

100% of sentinel sites receiving supportive supervision and mentoring

87% of survivors on average participated in quarterly semen collection and testing campaigns

SURVIVOR EXPERIENCE

HEALTH

Survivors surveyed:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Year</th>
<th>Baseline</th>
<th>Endline</th>
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<td>2017</td>
<td>446</td>
<td>531</td>
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Baseline: 30% experienced stigma
Endline: 7% experienced stigma

88% reported minimal signs of depression suggesting that most survivors are able to fully function in their daily lives

85% of survivors reported going to a health facility when sick at endline, suggesting solid confidence in the health system

87% of survivors reported being satisfied with health care services at endline

NETWORKING

103 participants from Guinea attended 4 regional conferences co-organized by APC to address Ebola survivors’ issues

Baseline: 49% Endline: 66%

↑ Survivors reported satisfaction with the work done by national network of Ebola survivors (RENASEG)

Capacity-building support to RENASEG

- Organizational capacity assessments
- General assembly meetings
- Office space and equipment
- Strategic and operational plans
- Official legal recognition
- Identified new sources of funding
STRENGTHENING HEALTH FACILITIES

INFRASTRUCTURE IMPROVEMENTS

8
HEALTH FACILITIES RENOVATED

- Borehole repair
- Solar panels
- Water tower and piping
- Ophthalmology ward

23
HEALTH FACILITIES PROVIDED WITH MEDICAL EQUIPMENT AND SUPPLIES

- Ophthalmologic equipment
- Laboratory equipment, reagents and supplies
- Delivery tables and hospital beds
- Office desks, chairs, cupboards, etc.
- General facility equipment
  - resuscitation devices, stethoscopes, surgery kits, thermometers, umbilical clamps

14
High-volume health facilities received medicines to treat main pathologies of Ebola survivors

HEALTH FACILITY UTILIZATION

June 2017–July 2018
Cumulative visits by survivors and the general population to program-supported secondary- and tertiary-level health facilities

77,318
Survivor patient visits

2,222
General population visits

75,096

BUILDING HUMAN RESOURCE CAPACITY

166
Health care providers trained on clinical care for Ebola survivors

203
community and religious leaders trained on reduction of stigma against Ebola survivors

ALMOST
26,000
community members reached through sensitization campaigns

30
biologists trained on semen collection for Ebola survivors

20
national Ebola survivor network leaders from Guinea, Liberia, and Sierra Leone trained on advocacy, resource mobilization, and communication through regional capacity building workshop

CURRICULUM COVERED:

- Ophthalmologic symptoms
- Gyno-obstetrical symptoms
- ENT symptoms
- Stigma reduction
- Referrals
- Neurological symptoms
- Psychiatric symptoms

[Logo of USAID, JSI, International Medical Corps, fhi360, and Partners]