Reducing preventable maternal, newborn, and child deaths at scale by improving care effectiveness and efficiency

Wednesday, July 25th, 9:00-10:00 a.m. ET (Washington, D.C.)

USAID estimates that we could save the lives of more than 15,000 children and 830 women each day just by reliably delivering evidence-based care, every time, to the people who need it. Sounds simple in theory, but what does this look like in practice?

In this July 25 webinar on reducing preventable maternal, newborn, and child deaths at scale by improving care effectiveness and efficiency, Nigel Livesley, ASSIST Regional Director for South Asia, presented on ASSIST’s work in India, where ASSIST-supported facilities delivered more babies per year than many countries, and Tamar Chitashvili, ASSIST Senior Quality Improvement Advisor for MNCH, discussed ASSIST’s work in Uganda, where ASSIST has been involved in international, national, and sub-national level efforts to improve maternal, newborn, and child health. The discussion was moderated by Lynne Franco, Vice President of Technical Assistance and Evaluation at EnCompass, with commentary provided by Troy Jacobs, Senior Medical Advisor, USAID’s Office of Maternal Child Health and Nutrition.

Speakers:

**Moderator:** Lynne Franco, Vice President of Technical Assistance and Evaluation, EnCompass

**Presenter:** Nigel Livesley, Regional Director for South Asia, USAID ASSIST Project, URC

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| Presenter: Tamar Chitashvili, Senior Quality Improvement Advisor for MNCH, USAID ASSIST Project, URC |
| Commentator: Troy Jacobs, Senior Medical Advisor, Office of Maternal Child Health and Nutrition, USAID |
Learn more:

flyer_image.png [5]

This flyer [5] discusses ASSIST's work reducing preventable maternal, newborn, and child deaths at scale by improving care effectiveness and efficiency.
Reducing preventable maternal, newborn, and child deaths at scale by improving care effectiveness and efficiency

Background

In line with the United Nations’ 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development, USAID is working with the Global Health Program to strengthen and improve systems. Through the ASSIST Project, USAID has developed a quality improvement model to support the health care systems in low-income countries. The project aims to improve the quality of care for mothers and newborns in health facilities. The ASSIST Project works in 35 countries across the world, focusing on the improvement of health care systems. The main goals of the project are to strengthen and improve the quality of care for mothers and newborns in health facilities.

ASSIST activities to reduce preventable maternal, newborn, and child deaths

ASSIST (System) activities focused on improving the care across the continuum of care. These activities included strengthening the health system, increasing the availability of essential medicines and health technologies, and improving the quality of care provided to mothers and newborns. The project worked to improve the overall health system by focusing on the following areas:

- Strengthening health system and service delivery
- Improving the availability of essential medicines and health technologies
- Improving the quality of care provided to mothers and newborns

Key results

- USAID’s efforts have led to significant improvements in the quality of care provided to mothers and newborns in health facilities. The project has successfully reduced preventable maternal, newborn, and child deaths, and improved the overall health system in low-income countries.

Additional resources:

Guides and technical reports

- Point of Care Quality Improvement (POCQI) training model: A collection of materials to guide QI teams, and the coaches and leadership that support them in improving the quality of care for mothers and newborns in health facilities. These materials were developed jointly by the South East Asia Regional Office of World Health Organization (WHO SEARO), WHO Collaborating Centre on Training and Research in Newborn Care, AIMS New Delhi, and the ASSIST Project and are available at: www.pocqi.org [6].
- Guide: Maternal and Newborn Health in Ethiopia Partnership (MaNHEP) QI Training for Teams and Coaches [13]
- Guide: Creating Locally Produced Cloth Anatomical Childbirth Models [14]

Case studies

- Improving Anemia Management in Mansa District, Punjab, India [16] (2017)
• **Setting Up a Self-Sustaining Quality Improvement Network in India** [18] (2017)
• Using a scientific approach to improve early identification of complicated labour cases in Bangladesh [19] (2017)
• **Functionalizing a Hospital Maternal and Perinatal Death Review (MPDR) Committee: An Experience of Anaka Hospital in Nwoya District, Northern Uganda** [20] (2017)
• Improving Newborn Resuscitation Outcomes through the Establishment of Helping Babies Breathe (HBB) Skills Labs at Pope John Paul’s Hospital Aber (PJPHA) in Oyam District, Mid-Northern Uganda [21] (2017)
• Strengthening integrated family planning/maternal and neonatal health postpartum services and associated health system functions in Niger [22] (2016)

**Change packages**

• Improving preeclampsia and eclampsia care: Tested changes and guidance from East Central Uganda [23] (2018)
• Improving management of anemia among pregnant women: Tested changes and guidance from East Central Uganda [24] (2018)
• Improving care for syphilis and malaria among pregnant women: Tested changes and guidance from East Central Uganda [25] (2018)
• **Tested Changes to Improve Newborn and Child Health Care Services in Uganda** [26] (2017)
• **Tested Changes to Improve Maternal and Newborn Care in Uganda** [27] (2015)
• Changes that improved maternal health services during antenatal period in India [28] (2015)
• Changes that improved maternal health services during postnatal period in India [29] (2015)
• Changes that improved maternal health services during intranatal period in India [30] (2015)
• Changes that improved newborn health services in India [31] (2015)

**Articles**

• **Improving postpartum care in a large hospital in New Delhi, India** [32]
• Reducing hypothermia in newborns admitted to a neonatal care unit in a large academic hospital in New Delhi, India [33]
• Antenatal corticosteroids for management of preterm birth: a multi-country analysis of health system bottlenecks and potential solutions [34]
• Improving postpartum care for mothers and newborns in Niger and Mali: a case study of an integrated maternal and newborn improvement programme [35]
• Evaluation of a quality improvement intervention for obstetric and neonatal care in selected public health facilities across six states of India [36]
• Improving Integrated Management of Newborn and Childhood Illnesses in Northern Uganda [37]
• Improving rational antibiotic treatment of common childhood conditions in Uganda [38]

**Assessments**

• Assessment of the quality of basic resuscitation services in Uganda [39]
• **Cost-effectiveness of an intervention to increase immunization coverage among children in Pakistan** [40]

**About the ASSIST Legacy Webinar Series [41]**

ASSIST will host seven webinars between March and September 2018 to provide an opportunity for participants to learn from results and achievements of the project. The webinars will be held monthly at 9:00-10:00 am EST (Washington, D.C.) and each will address a different topic, drawing on results and learning from multiple countries. They will consist of one or two short presentations, followed by comments and discussion with the moderator and/or expert commentators and audience questions, and will be recorded for later viewing.
Sign up via Eventbrite [42] to receive information about each upcoming webinar.

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**Date:** Wednesday, July 25, 2018 - 09:00 to 10:00  
**Location:** Online  
**Topic(s):** Maternal, Newborn, and Child Health [43]  
**Attachment:** [Webinar flyer] [44]  
[Webinar slides] [45]

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**Links**

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[31] https://www.usaidassist.org/resources/changes-improved-newborn-health-services-india

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[33] https://bmjopenquality.bmj.com/content/6/2/e000183

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[37] https://www.ijic.org/articles/abstract/10.5334/ijic.3146/


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