Evaluation of the Region-Led Expansion of Zika Prevention, Care, and Support Best Practices in the Dominican Republic

In 2017, the USAID Applying Science to Strengthen and Improve Systems (ASSIST) Project began working with 17 hospitals across five of the Dominican Republic’s nine health regions to test changes to improve the quality of Zika services, specifically prenatal care, newborn screening, and care and support for babies and families affected by Zika.

In FY19, ASSIST proposed scaling up best practices identified during that first wave through the provision of light technical support to the four other health regions in the country as well as facilities not supported but located in regions which did receive first wave support. This evaluation aimed to:

1. Document the scale-up process as implemented in the regions: what activities/practices the regions planned to scale-up, how these were rolled out to provinces and facilities, the role of ASSIST’s technical support, and facilitating and constraining factors in the scale-up process
2. Assess the short-term results achieved through the scale-up (evidence of adoption of practices as of May 2019)
3. Document the experience and perceptions of key actors in the scale-up process, with an eye toward recommendations for further actions by the regions and the Servicio Nacional de Salud (SNS) to sustain Zika prevention, care, and support services in the absence of donor assistance
4. Develop recommendations for future similar work.

Links