

SEMIANNUAL PROGRESS REPORT

October 2021 – March 2022 | Mother and Child Health Fund

SUMMARY

Amazing progress in Niger and Zambia is making a life-changing difference for women, newborns, and young children.

Thanks to **unprecedented donor support**, the Mother and Child Health initiative substantially increased the number of health facilities being upgraded, from 33 to 53. Bringing clean water directly to health facilities is making them more hygienic and safer places for pregnant women to seek care, have their babies, and get important postnatal care.

Improvements at these health clinics include separate latrines for men, women, and those with physical disabilities as well as handwashing stations for staff members and patients. These features will improve services and—ultimately—the health of families in the areas where we work.

Great strides also are being made in providing quality care for pregnant women and children, when clinics are too far away. Trained community health workers in Niger provided potentially life-saving diagnoses and treatment for 15,117 children younger than 5 suffering diarrhea, malaria, and pneumonia.

In Zambia, our Channels of Hope for Maternal and Child Health curriculum brought educational messages regarding healthcare and harmful traditional practices to 11,029 parents and caregivers. These sessions are increasing consultations with community health workers or clinic personnel when a family member takes ill, instead of consulting with traditional healers or witch doctors.





We join thousands of healthier families in thanking God—and you—for supporting this vital work.



More women in Niger are having their babies at upgraded health facilities, thanks to community partnerships with World Vision, said Dr. Idrissa Djamila of Kargui Bangou Integrated Health Center. “We now have [clean] water in all our treatment rooms, which allows us to establish better hygiene for ourselves and for our visitors.” Watch a [video](#) of this work in Niger.

GLOBAL UPDATE & PROGRESS ON CORE ACTIVITIES

1,598,006 **PREGNANT WOMEN, NEWBORNS, AND CHILDREN UNDER 5*** have received essential healthcare, nutrition support, and treatment since October 2015, including 563,952 in the first half of FY22.

-  **8,270** community health workers and volunteers were trained to provide health information and basic care to their neighbors.
-  **904** nurses and midwives in health facilities received training to improve the quality of care they provide.
-  **173** clinics received support to provide improved mother and child healthcare, such as water, sanitation, and hygiene (WASH) facilities; training; and equipment.
-  **1,008** faith leaders were trained to advocate for the use of mother and child healthcare services.

*These numbers reflect our active work as well as completed projects in Somalia, Uganda, and Zambia, and similar projects in Kenya, Uganda, Zambia, and Zimbabwe that were funded by foundation donors, some of which contributed to exceptional expansion and reach in Zambia in FY22. The total number of direct participants reflects some people who might have received more than one service. For example, women who delivered their babies in a health facility often also received prenatal care services.

ZAMBIA

SUMMARY

While improvements to health facilities in Luwingu district drew more families to use their services, the stellar work of project-trained community health workers also contributed to the well-being of pregnant and nursing women and young children.

Twelve health facilities were in various stages of receiving upgrades, which included water service on site as well as separate toilets for men, women, and the physically challenged. They provided 25,387 adults, including 1,266 pregnant women, with flushable toilets.

In the first half of FY22, community health workers diagnosed and treated 3,311 children under 5 for malaria, diarrhea, and pneumonia. The percentage of children getting appropriate care after a malaria diagnosis increased from 9% to 67% since the project began. In addition, 999 children were evaluated at growth monitoring sessions, and 166 found to be underweight were enrolled in a special nutrition program

(see photo at right), while five were referred for advanced care for severe malnutrition. Of those enrolled, all but two successfully graduated, and those children remained in the program.

More community volunteers put up stellar numbers in reaching pregnant women with vital health and nutrition information. Safe Motherhood Action Group members trained by this project met with 1,099 women to share information on having a healthy pregnancy, the importance of delivering their babies in a health facility, and how to best feed and care for their infants. The number of women having their babies at a health facility was up nearly 17% over the same period last year.

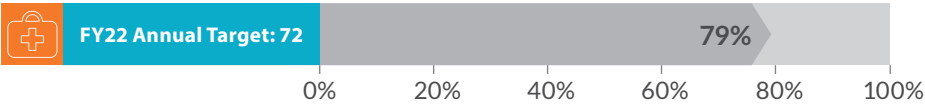
Exceptional midyear results (below) can be attributed to the fact that this phase of the Zambia project is closing out in FY22. Most activities are winding down and the second half of the year will focus on evaluations and transitioning project responsibilities to local stakeholders.



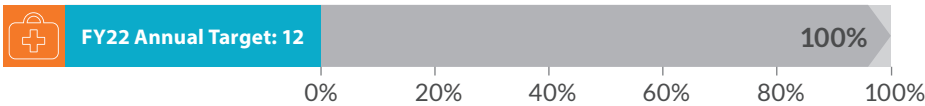
Mothers learned to make nutritional meals from locally available and affordable food during special classes offered in their communities. This one took place at Laurent Chita Health Post, targeting families with young children who were found to be malnourished during nutrition clinics. The mothers pictured here are using containers provided by a World Vision corporate donor.

PROGRESS ON CORE ACTIVITIES*

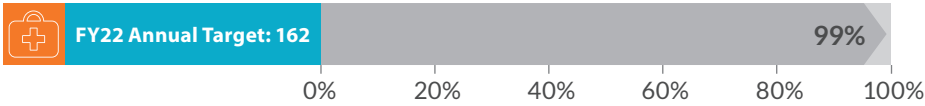
57 project-trained nurses and midwives in health facilities were providing improved quality of care to their patients.



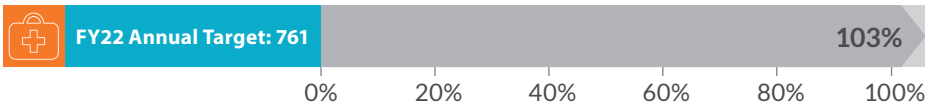
12 clinics started work on comprehensive WASH upgrades to enhance mother and child healthcare services.



161 faith leaders were actively teaching their communities about mother and child healthcare and harmful practices.



784 community health workers and volunteers were actively delivering health information and basic care to their neighbors.



NIGER

SUMMARY

Whether in refurbished and upgraded health centers or in their own homes, families in the Dosso and Maradi regions enjoyed improved healthcare and health education.

Twelve clinics are getting WASH upgrades in FY22, with five finished and the rest slated for completion by late summer. The project has partnered with the University of North Carolina Water Institute to study long-term maintenance and costs to support WASH services, which will guide future World Vision and government investments in healthcare facilities.

The efforts of 348 project-trained community health workers and 1,820 other community volunteers who support their work led to 53,080 people learning about essential family healthcare practices (108% of the target for individuals reached).

Community health workers provided potentially life-saving visits to 15,117 ill

children who were seen and treated right in their own homes, hitting 84% of our target for the entire year. They also recognized that 1,486 children were seriously ill and needed referrals to the nearest health center for care.

Radio programs, breastfeeding support groups in 80 villages, and faith leaders also helped spread information to families about good health practices.

Generous corporate partners provided vital medicines, such as vitamin A to fight anemia, the dewormer Albendazole, antibiotics, paracetamol (similar to acetaminophen), rehydration salts, antimalarial drugs, and malaria test kits. Medical gowns and gloves, tables, and other equipment also improved health centers' ability to serve families.

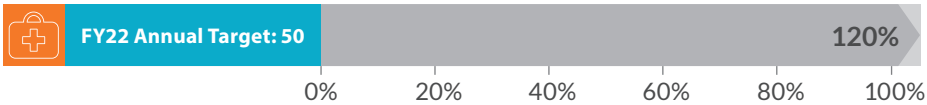
To ensure long-term success, the project established a technical committee to monitor achievements, and quarterly meetings of stakeholders to discuss and act on opportunities and challenges.



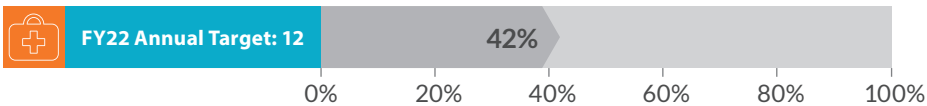
Community health workers like Boubacar are key to improving the well-being of women and children in his village of Koulmado Moussa Koira. Boubacar was one of the 97% of community health workers who were able to demonstrate a strong understanding of health issues when tested, which contributed to their impressive successes. Previously, on average, eight of 10 children in his village would get sick each month, but now, those cases have dropped to just three or four children, he said.

PROGRESS ON CORE ACTIVITIES

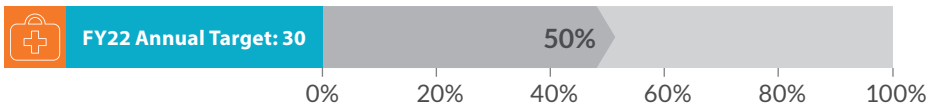
60 nurses and midwives in health facilities were trained to provide improved quality of care to their patients.



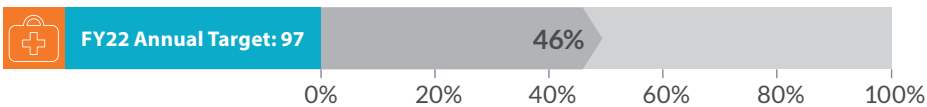
5 clinics completed comprehensive WASH upgrades to enhance mother and child healthcare services.



15 faith leaders were trained to advocate for the use of mother and child healthcare services.



45 community health workers and volunteers were trained to deliver health information and basic care to their neighbors.



FINANCIALS

Mother and Child Health Fund (Life-of-project through March 2022)

\$9,652,581 program-to-date funding

\$6,807,457 spending to date*

71%

*The full spending to improve WASH services in healthcare facilities is not reflected here, as some payments to contractors are pending completion of construction.

THANK YOU

World Vision joins thousands of women, children, and their families in thanking you for your faithful support of this work in Niger and Zambia. You are providing the resources needed to empower communities to take charge of caring for their most vulnerable assets—their children. When health facilities and their staff members have the water, sanitation, and hygiene facilities needed to provide a safe, clean environment for care, everyone benefits. When people are empowered with solid knowledge on caring for pregnant women, infants, and young children, the next generation in these communities gets off to a strong, hope-filled start.

May God richly bless you for being a blessing to these health workers, volunteers, and the families they serve.



Staff and management committee members of Garenkeday Integrated Health Center in Niger celebrate the installation of clean water at the facility. The center also received a shipment of cleaning and maintenance supplies to improve hygiene conditions.

*Children are a heritage from the Lord,
offspring a reward from Him.
—Psalm 127:3 (NIV)*



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For more information visit:
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World Vision is a Christian humanitarian organization dedicated to working with children, families, and their communities worldwide to reach their full potential by tackling the causes of poverty and injustice. Motivated by our faith in Jesus Christ, we serve alongside the poor and oppressed as a demonstration of God's unconditional love for all people. World Vision serves all people, regardless of religion, race, ethnicity, or gender.

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