



INFRASTRUCTURE FOR COMMUNITY-BASED HEALTH PLANNING AND SERVICES

The 2018 Year in Review

USAID Systems for Health is supporting the GHS in implementing the new national Community-based Health Planning and Services (CHPS) policy in two underserved regions (Northern and Volta) by constructing and renovating CHPS compounds and health facilities. In 2018, the project built 18 new CHPS compounds. In total, 26 new CHPS compounds are now complete, including being equipped with necessities ranging from tables, chairs, beds, and cooking stoves in the residential buildings to forceps, scales, and medical examination couches in the clinical buildings. All facilities have been handed over to the Ghana Health Service for operations.

Systems for Health also completed renovations for 27 health facilities in 2018, and 23 more are under construction and will be completed by the end of December 2018.

KEY INTERVENTIONS

- Construction of 26 new CHPS compounds (clinic and residence buildings)
- Equipping new compounds with medical supplies and equipment and furniture
- Providing solar power and/or mechanized boreholes for facilities that are off grid
- Renovations at 27 existing health facilities
- Demand generation for LARC

KEY RESULTS

Expanded Access to Primary Care Services

The overarching aim of CHPS is to increase access to health services. Constructing and renovating CHPS facilities supports this goal by making services available in communities where none existed or by enhancing the variety and volume of services available. The new buildings



Figure 1 New CHPS compound in Volta Region

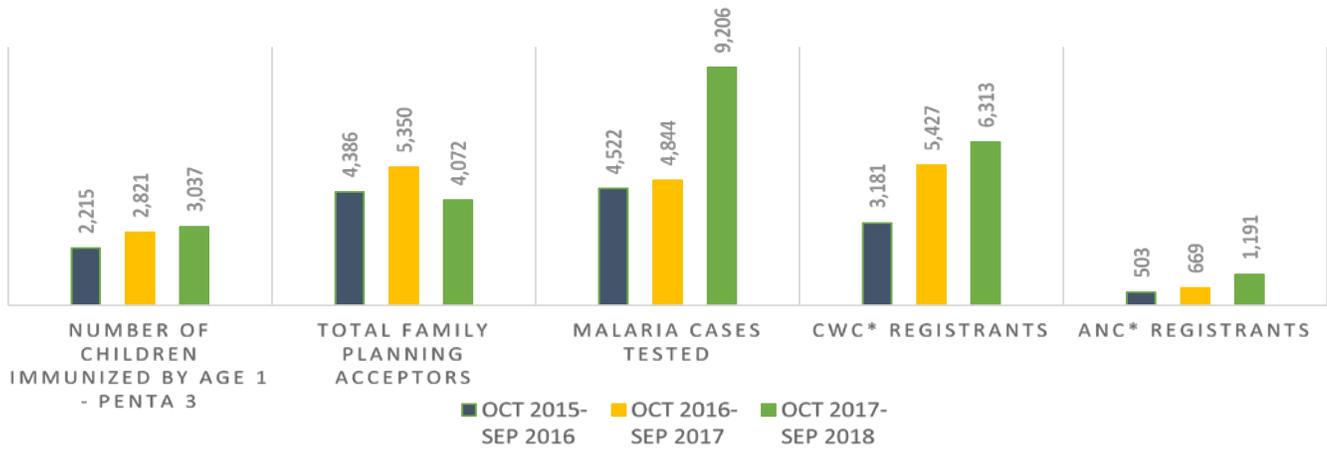
also include staff accommodation, which increases the hours that providers can offer care.

While 26 CHPS clinics are complete, data for only 21 is currently available in the DHIMS2. The number of malaria cases tested, CWC registrants, and ANC registrants all doubled from October 2017- September 2018.

The number of children immunized with Penta 3 also increased. Community mobilization work preceded the CHPS construction and may have contributed to the modest increases in service provision seen in October 2016-September 2017.

The only key indicator that saw a decrease is FP acceptors. The data show that FP acceptors increased in the Volta Region but decreased in the Northern Region. This decrease appears to be largely due to staffing issues that left one high-volume CHPS without a female CHO, meaning many women would not go to the clinic for FP services. The project is working to identify ways to support the region to resolve this issue and ensure that women have consistent access to FP services even when staffing changes.

PROVISION OF KEY PRIMARY CARE SERVICES IN 21 CHPS ZONES WITH NEW FACILITIES



* ANC = antenatal care. CWC = Child Welfare Clinic.

High-quality care off the grid

Systems for Health completed the installation of solar power systems at 15 new CHPS compounds in the Northern and Volta Regions. Solar power provides reliable electricity at these rural, off-grid clinics, ensuring they can keep vaccines and critical medicines like oxytocin cold and can provide key services, such as delivering babies at night.

The project also provided boreholes at 20 new CHPS compounds that do not have access to running water (8 of the boreholes were drilled by Global Communities on behalf of Systems for Health). The pumps for the boreholes will be installed in late 2018-early 2019, which will support the facilities in practicing good infection prevention and control.

It takes a village: equipping CHPS compounds on Lake Volta

All the materials for Systems for Health's two new clinics situated on remote parts of Lake Volta were delivered by boat. The whole community pitched in, rain or shine, to move the medical supplies and equipment, as well as furniture, from the lakeshore to the facilities. The two CHPS compounds were turned over to the GHS in August 2018 and are now providing preventive, primary care, and skilled delivery services to a catchment area of nearly 8,000 people.



Figure 2 Solar panels being installed in Northern Region (left); a new CHPS compound in Volta Region (right)

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