



USAID
FROM THE AMERICAN PEOPLE

Maternal and Child
Survival Program

Zika Response Team Program Year I Workplan Activities

May 2017

www.mcspprogram.org

Global Technical Leadership

The Maternal and Child Survival Program (MCSP) provides technical leadership in regional and global fora on technical issues related to the Zika virus, particularly the care of pregnant women and newborns/infants. MCSP collaborates with a range of partners to improve the quality of Zika virus prevention and response strategies. These efforts include providing key technical resources and information, sharing latest evidence, disseminating materials, linking to regional and country professional associations, and promoting mPowering's new online portal.

MCSP Zika Response Activities

- Regional-level work in Latin America and Caribbean
- Country-level work in Haiti

Ultrasound Capacity and Referral Network Assessment

Recognizing the important role of quality obstetric ultrasound services in the care of pregnant women living in areas impacted by the Zika virus epidemic, USAID called on MCSP and USAID Applying Science to Strengthen and Improve Systems (ASSIST) to perform a rapid, five-country ultrasound assessment focusing on the capacity of both ultrasound service delivery and equipment, in collaboration with US and regional professional societies. The goal of this assessment is to generate actionable information for country governments and other USAID-funded partners to improve referral pathways for pregnant women with Zika virus infection, including ultrasound services for the diagnosis of congenital Zika syndrome. The five countries included in this assessment are the USAID priority countries for the Zika response and include Dominican Republic, El Salvador, Guatemala, Honduras, and Haiti.

Adapt, Develop, and Disseminate Tools and Resources

MCSP has adapted and/or developed materials for providers and health facility managers, including materials related to gestational age assessment and postnatal care of mothers and newborns, for example. In coordination with other partners, provider materials will be disseminated through existing relationships with regional professional associations such as the Latin American and Caribbean Neonatal Alliance and in-country professional associations and networks. Dissemination activities will include collaboration with ASSIST via the *maternoinfantil* website, Knowledge for Health's (K4H) Zika Communication Network, and the mPowering ORB platform.

Zika Virus Portal on ORB

mPowering's ORB content platform (www.health-orb.org) will continue to host high-quality Zika virus-related training content for frontline health workers and their communities, with the potential to link to other platforms, including those for K4H, ASSIST, UNICEF, and the Pan American Health Organization, with Zika-related content. To avoid duplicating efforts and ensure quality and relevance of Zika-related content available on ORB, mPowering will work with other partners during the 13-month implementation period to identify and upload new Zika content that meets mPowering's content and quality assurance criteria and to provide the technology foundation for the ORB interface to be translated into French and Spanish.