



Guatemala, Central America. Photo Credit: Chemonics

A Systems Approach to Global Health

Donor investments to strengthen health systems across low- and middle-income countries have contributed to unprecedented progress toward universal health coverage; however, many countries' health systems remain vulnerable to shocks and dependent on donor support. At Chemonics, we address the root causes and underlying system behaviors that negatively impact health outcomes by supporting country-led efforts to improve health system resilience and promote transition from donor dependence.

Accelerating Progress Toward Resilient and Self-reliant Health Systems

Drawing on decades of experience across sectors, Chemonics works to strengthen the ties between different actors in the health system to improve its overall performance and sustainability. This requires tackling the underlying challenges to strong and resilient health systems, from financial protection for vulnerable populations to human resources for health. We also work to improve health service delivery and strengthen information management and supply chain systems. As a multidisciplinary organization, Chemonics increases domestic resources for development, improves accountability, secures political will, and strengthens public sector systems to support countries in their journey toward self-reliant health systems.

Country Spotlight: In **Bangladesh**, we are advancing universal health coverage by introducing new systems to improve access to high-quality, essential health services for economically disadvantaged populations. We are helping scale essential health services to millions of people while offering financial protection for those who cannot pay for services. And we are supporting a national network of clinics as they transition from donor dependence to a sustainable, self-supported alliance.

HEALTH SYSTEMS STRENGTHENING ACHIEVEMENTS



25,050

Community HEALTH WORKERS trained across service areas in Rwanda



399

Clinics transitioned from donor dependent to SELF-RELIANT SOCIAL ENTERPRISES in Bangladesh



\$510M

Issued in grants and subcontracts to local organizations IN FIVE YEARS

Leveraging a Systems Approach to Improve Health Outcomes

Effective health systems strengthening means moving beyond focusing on a specific disease or specific “building block.” Instead, we use systems thinking to understand the complexities of a health system and craft solutions that are integrated, inclusive, and stakeholder-led. Across the world, Chemonics uses this systems approach to improve the quality of health services, increase access to services, identify and reduce gender barriers, and decrease donor dependency.

Overview of our Health Systems Strengthening Efforts:

- Working in more than 20 countries to identify and address shortfalls in the health workforce, improve domestic resource investment in human resources for health, and strengthen leadership and governance capacity for managing the health workforce.
- Supporting more than 55 countries to establish and manage world-class supply chain systems to deliver essential commodities to the last mile for HIV/AIDS, malaria, family planning and reproductive health, and maternal and child health.
- Leveraging emerging technologies such as blockchain and predictive modeling to strengthen management information systems and improve stakeholder access to and use of data for decision-making.

Glimpses of our Country-level Impact:



● In **Jordan**, we conducted research to identify barriers to women assuming leadership positions in the health sector. We met with governmental, private and civil society organizations to form a women’s health sector leadership coalition to empower women and address identified gaps in networking opportunities.



● In **Nigeria**, we supported civil society advocacy and national policy reforms that resulted in the passing of the Primary Health Care Under One Roof initiative and increased states’ budget allocations for health.



● In **Iraq**, we supported provincial councils in 15 provinces to establish mechanisms for accountability and improvement of citizen-centered services, including health services for vulnerable youth.

HEALTH SYSTEMS STRENGTHENING INNOVATION

Improving Supply Chain Transparency for More Resilient Health Systems

In Lesotho and Mozambique, we are piloting a tool to improve transparency and efficiency within national supply chain systems for essential health commodities. The Transportation Information Tool (TransIT) tracks supply chain performance, shipment locations, and costs as health commodities move through in-country distribution networks. Chemonics developed this

customized, integrated, and cloud-based database to help overcome the persistent challenge many countries face: accessing reliable supply and shipment data to inform decision-making.

As a result, TransIT is reducing costs and improving the functionality and services of in-country supply chains for essential health commodities

in Lesotho and Mozambique. It helps distribution managers to make better decisions by allowing them to track shipments and conduct instant analysis of key indicators such as cost, performance, and proof of delivery.

As part of the 2018 Government Innovation Awards, Chemonics was recently named an Industry Innovation Award winner for TransIT.