



## EXEMPLARS IN GLOBAL HEALTH

# INDIA



### Mass Drug Administration

Project Status: **Complete**

#### TOP-LINE FINDING

Maharashtra and Odisha have eliminated lymphatic filariasis in many of their districts via consistent high coverage of Mass Drug Administration (MDA) despite endemic populations.

- » Both states achieved a successful implementation of the MDA program via strong leadership that brought together departments at all levels of the health system and utilized lessons from past disease control and elimination efforts.
- » Key strategies for implementation were adherence to national guidelines with local adaptations, collaboration among departments and stakeholders, effective leadership and human resource management, social mobilization campaigns, and imparting lessons from previous public health interventions.

#### PARTNERS



### Stunting

Project Status: **In Progress**

#### TOP-LINE FINDING

Punjab, West Bengal, Uttarakhand, and Andhra Pradesh/Telangana are states that have been identified as Exemplars in stunting reduction.

- » Emerging findings are pending further calibration against latest NFHS-5 results, but it is already evident that collaboration among health and non-health sectors to ensure equitable access to services, especially for the poorest communities, is critical.
- » Improvements in maternal nutrition, access to family planning, increased education, and greater availability of health care drove more than 50% of stunting reductions.

#### PARTNERS



### Anemia Among Women of Reproductive Age

Project Status: **In Progress**

#### TOP-LINE FINDING

Subnational research is being scoped in India to understand how states and districts have been successful in reducing anemia in women of reproductive age along with children. Using NFHS-4 and NFHS-5 data, research is being scoped around the following questions:

- » Which factors are associated with maximum change in anemia in Exemplar regions? Which policy choices, interventions and practices led to anemia decline?
- » How can the change (or the lack thereof) in anemia prevalence be explained in selected regions?

#### PARTNERS



## ABOUT EXEMPLARS IN GLOBAL HEALTH

The Exemplars in Global Health (EGH) program is a global coalition of partners including researchers, academics, experts, funders, country stakeholders, and implementers. Our mission is to identify positive global health outliers, analyze what makes countries successful, and disseminate core lessons so they can be adapted in comparable settings. We aim to help country-level decision makers, global partners, and funders make strategic decisions, allocate resources, and craft evidence-based policies. A small, core team supporting EGH is based at Gates Ventures, the private office of Bill Gates, and closely collaborates with the Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation.

Learn more: [www.exemplars.health](http://www.exemplars.health)

Follow us: [Exemplars in Global Health](#)

Follow us: [@exemplarshealth](#)



Keep up with our research.  
**Sign up for our Newsletter!**

BILL & MELINDA  
GATES foundation





EXEMPLARS IN GLOBAL HEALTH

# INDIA



## Neonatal and Maternal Mortality

*Project Status: In Progress*

### TOP-LINE FINDING

In 2000, India accounted for 23% of maternal deaths and 31% of neonatal deaths worldwide. By 2017, this had reduced to 12% of maternal deaths and 22% of neonatal deaths globally.

- » National policies, such as the National Health Mission established in 2012, made improvements to maternal and newborn health services by improving coverage, access, and quality.
- » India's fertility decline contributed to almost one third of its maternal mortality ratio (MMR) decline, and by reducing higher-risk births through reduced birth parity, almost 40% of neonatal mortality rate (NMR) decline.
- » Additional subnational research is underway in other top-performing states including Uttar Pradesh, Rajasthan, Madhya Pradesh, Odisha, Maharashtra, and Tamil Nadu.

### PARTNERS



## COVID-19 Response

*Project Status: In Progress*

### TOP-LINE FINDING

India showed promising progress in its COVID-19 response at the state and district level.

- » Innovative practices were implemented throughout the COVID-19 response, including tech-enabled management of vaccine distribution, the use of public forums to dispel vaccine hesitancy, and the augmentation of health infrastructure through public-private partnerships.
- » Additional subnational research is underway to study enablers of equitable COVID-19 vaccine access and coverage in three top-performing states.

### PARTNERS



## Adolescent Sexual and Reproductive Health and Rights

*Project Status: In Progress*

### TOP-LINE FINDING

India has been identified as a positive outlier with a strong trajectory in reducing age-specific fertility rates (ASFR) for 15 to 19-year-olds. Research will explore drivers of this progress and adolescent sexual and reproductive health and rights (ASRHR) more broadly, including prevention and management of unintended pregnancy. Research questions include:

- » The role of contextual factors and health system elements in reducing ASFR for ages 15 to 19.
- » How progress on ASRHR for vulnerable adolescents has been addressed.
- » Specific interventions contributing to progress and their scalability and sustainability.

### PARTNERS



African Institute for Development Policy