



## EXEMPLARS IN GLOBAL HEALTH

# UGANDA



### Anemia Among Women of Reproductive Age

*Project Status:* **Complete**

#### TOP-LINE FINDING

From 2006 to 2016, Uganda reduced the prevalence of anemia among non-pregnant women of reproductive age from 40% to 31%.

- » Reduction in anemia was largely driven by community-level access to malaria control interventions (including prevention and treatment), family planning methods and education (including injectable contraceptives for remote communities), and micronutrient supplementation.
- » Success against interventions was supported by Village Health Teams (VHTs), a community-based health platform which improved access and utilization against key interventions, and political commitment to a multi-sectoral approach to nutrition interventions and outcomes.

#### PARTNERS



Makerere University School of Public Health  
The Hospital for Sick Children (SickKids)



### COVID-19 Response

*Project Status:* **In Progress**

#### TOP-LINE FINDING

Uganda has been identified as a positive outlier for its COVID-19 response and ability to maintain essential health services during the pandemic.

- » Even before the country's first COVID-19 case, Uganda rapidly implemented public health and social measures to limit COVID-19 transmission.
- » Uganda leveraged existing disease response capacities such as lab transport networks, rapid response teams, and coordination structures to rapidly mobilize its COVID-19 response effort.
- » Ugandan officials prioritized the maintenance of essential health services and multisectoral collaborations through centralized public health leadership.

#### PARTNERS



Makerere University School of Public Health



### Stunting

*Project Status:* **Complete**

#### TOP-LINE FINDING

From 1988 to 2016, Uganda reduced stunting rates from 48% to 29% through implementation of direct and indirect nutrition actions, often using community-based delivery platforms.

- » Much of the change in under-five stunting can be attributed to the scale-up of malaria control, specifically insecticide-treated nets (ITNs), to prevent malaria in pregnancy and in childhood, along with broader improvements to the health system.
- » Investments in expanded access to primary and secondary education, especially for girls, improved school attendance over the last several decades. This had downstream, positive effects on women's empowerment, employment opportunities, adolescent births, and reduced the intergenerational transfer of malnutrition.

#### PARTNERS



Makerere University School of Public Health  
The Hospital for Sick Children (SickKids)

## 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.

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