



# INTEGRATE HEALTH

PUBLISHES STUDY SHOWING 30% DECLINE IN UNDER-FIVE MORTALITY

A [new study published in \*Pediatrics\*](#) by Integrate Health, Togo's Ministry of Health, and researchers from University of Lomé, Albert Einstein College of Medicine, City University of New York, New York University, Northwestern University, and Columbia University demonstrates the **effectiveness of the Integrated Primary Care Program** over a five-year period in the Kozah district in northern Togo.

The purpose of the study was to evaluate program impact and implementation outcomes in the Kozah district from 2015 to 2020. A population-representative household survey was conducted at baseline and annually among female residents aged 15 to 49. The primary effectiveness outcome was the change in the under-five mortality rate assessed at baseline and then annually. Additional measures included program reach, adoption, implementation, and costs to sustain.



A Community Health Worker taking the temperature of child during her consultation.

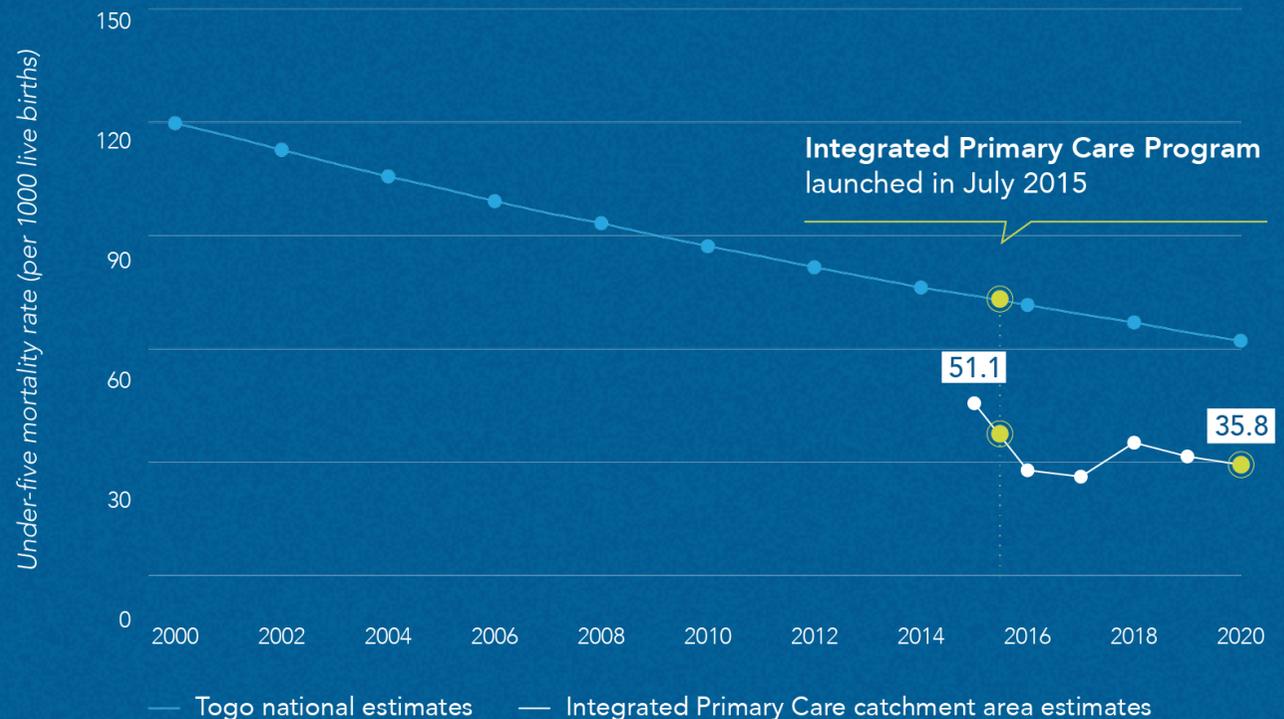
Findings from the study suggest that Integrate Health's Integrated Primary Care Program contributed to a **30% decline in under-five mortality** over a five-year period (from 51.1 per 1000 live births in 2015 to 35.8 in 2020). The decline was approximately twice the estimated decline in the national rate (14%) during the same period. In addition, **improvements in care access and quality were observed**, including increases in the proportion of women who reported Community Health Worker (CHW) home visits (49.3% to 58.7%), treatment by CHWs (24.1% to 45.7%), and increases in prenatal care (37.5% to 50.1%). The estimated annual additional intervention **cost was \$8.84 per person**.

This study was made possible by the work of many groups and individuals, including the Togolese Ministry of Health, Integrate Health, various partners and collaborators, and >10,000 household representatives who participated in the research. The combined effort resulted in a **rigorous, real-world analysis that supports the use of integrated community-based approaches to improve care access and quality**.

The publication was accompanied by an [insightful commentary](#) written by renowned Pediatrician and Global Health expert, Cyril Engmann, currently of PATH.

[READ MORE](#)

## Annual under-five mortality rates comparing Integrated Primary Care Program catchment areas and Togo national estimates



## DELIVERY



Catchment Population  
**204,810**



Health Centers  
**25**



Community Health Workers  
**201**



Community Health Worker Visits  
**244,800**

## PEDIATRIC HEALTH

### Timeliness

(% of cases of childhood illness that were treated within 72 hours of symptom onset)



### Effective Pediatric Referrals

(% of referrals by Community Health Workers for children under five needing escalated care who follow-up at a health center)



### Rate of Attendance of Children

(Number of consultations of children under five at a health center, out of number of children under five living in the catchment area)



## MATERNAL, NEONATAL & REPRODUCTIVE HEALTH

### Prenatal Consultation Coverage

(Number of women who attended four prenatal visits, out of women who delivered at a health facility)



### Facility-Based Delivery Coverage

(Number of women who delivered at a health facility, out of total recorded births)



### Postnatal Consultation Coverage

(Number of women who attended first postnatal consultation, out of total recorded births)



### Modern Contraceptive Coverage

(Number of women effectively protected by a modern family planning method, out of eligible women)





Preparation of the boxes for Community Health Workers with the basics to start their work following the program launch.

## PROGRAM HIGHLIGHTS

### Successes

- The [Integrated Primary Care Program](#) has successfully rolled out in the [Binah district](#). In July, CHWs completed four weeks of intensive supervision from Integrate Health staff. Each CHW improved their performance and now are on a routine supervision schedule of monthly one-on-one supervision visits and weekly team meetings. Integrate Health staff are already receiving extremely positive feedback from community members regarding program deployment and quality of services.
- Integrate Health's research team conducted 35 semi-structured interviews with community members, CHWs, health center staff, and health officials in the Dankpen district in August as part of the Phase II study evaluating the implementation of the Integrated Primary Care Program in the Bassar, Dankpen, Keran, and Binah districts. Integrate Health's goal is to understand the barriers and facilitators to implementation and to inform improvements in program delivery on the ground.
- On September 22, Dr. Désiré Dabla, Integrate Health's Research Manager based in Kara, Togo, presented results from the COVID-19 study at the 4th Annual Africa Interdisciplinary Health Conference. The presentation, "Resilience of maternal and child healthcare in northern Togo during the COVID-19 pandemic," described how Integrate Health's model of community-based care and health center infrastructure improvements may have contributed to the resiliency of the health system and continuous provision of care during the pandemic.

### Challenges

- There is a shortage of clinical staff in the newly launched Binah district health centers (three to four staff members per center) compared to other Integrate Health-supported health centers (six staff members per center). Referrals to facility are high at the start of the Integrated Primary Care Program. Clinic staff are managing service delivery but are struggling to complete accurate data collection. The Integrate Health team is working with the district and regional health authorities to advocate for additional staff.

# EXPANSION HIGHLIGHTS

## Successes

- In August, the Government of Togo announced the [national free maternal health program, named WEZOU](#) (meaning “breath of life” in Kabyè, one of Togo’s local languages). The Togolese government is investing over \$5M in the next year to ensure all pregnant women have access to essential maternal healthcare without financial hardship (estimated \$25 per normal delivery and \$97 per c-section). The health package includes four prenatal consultations including urine tests and iron-folic acid supplementation; provider fees, hospitalization costs, and basic commodities for uncomplicated deliveries and c-sections; and basic postnatal care.

## Challenges

- Although this is an excellent first step towards Universal Health Coverage in Togo, the package of services included in the WEZOU program is limited. While IH and the Ministry of Health initially proposed a much wider package of services, this was reduced due to funding constraints. IH is continuing to work with the Ministry of Health to advocate for an expansion of services to include treatment of maternal and neonatal sepsis, post-abortion case management, management of hypertensive disorders, emergency transport, prenatal labs, and ultrasounds.

# ORGANIZATIONAL HIGHLIGHTS

## Successes

- This quarter, Integrate Health welcomed several [new staff members](#): Sophia Okeke, Director of People Operations; Dr. Yawa Dzigbodi Charlotte Dzamado, Health System Strengthening Specialist; Camille Arimoto, Communications Associate; and Amoumagnim Palawia, Quality Assurance Manager. All new teammates are filling critical positions at Integrate Health, and we’re thrilled to have them on board!

## Challenges

- It is with great sadness that we inform you of the passing of our colleague and friend, Abalo Assimta. Abalo was a member of the Integrate Health family since 2015 when he joined the first cohort of Integrated Primary Care Community Health Workers in the Djamdè community. Since then, he has served his community with joy, love, and determination. His legacy lives on in Djamdè through the patients he served, and he continues to inspire all of us at Integrate Health.



Woman and child visiting a patient a Community Health Worker is consulting.

## FINANCIAL HIGHLIGHTS

### Successes

- This quarter, Integrate Health received renewal funding from four long-term partners.

## FUNDING SNAPSHOT

Metric	Result	Notes
Three-Year Funding Need	\$24M	Fiscal Years '21, '22, '23
FY22 Projected Expenses	\$8M	
Current Funding Runway*	8 months	4 months operating + 4 months reserve

*\*Indicates cash on hand, excluding projections*



### Spotlight on Mayani Holou, CHW

Mayani Holou is a CHW in the community of Sirka in the Binah district. She lives in Sirka with her two daughters. Mayani has high ambitions for having a career and providing for her daughters. When she heard of the CHW recruitment in her community, she didn't hesitate to apply, and she's found success in her role ever since.

"I am happy for myself and what I am currently doing in my community. I first applied because I thought this job would be a good way for me to change my standard of living, but all that I have learned during the training and what I have started doing in my community exceeds my expectations. I earn respect from my fellow women in the community as well as respect from men who congratulate me for my work. My hope and wish is to continue working so hard for the welfare of my community."



# INTEGRATE HEALTH

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