

Improved Policies Adopted through USAID/West Africa

AWARE-Reproductive Health Advocacy initiatives

Note: The program continues to work with other countries in the region to formally adopt these policies and with donors to participate in scaling up these best practices.

Policy	Countries	Summary	Partners
Reproductive Health Law	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Senegal (HPI) ▪ Burkina Faso ▪ Niger (HPI) (2007) ▪ Togo (2007) 	<p>Description: Guarantees a woman's right to reproductive health care, including family planning.</p> <p>Expected Result: Overturns the Law of 1920 (inherited from the French) which banned the promotion and use of family planning.</p> <p>Primary Beneficiaries: Women of reproductive age</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Health Policy Initiative (HPI) • The Forum of African and Arab Parliamentarians for Population and Development (FAAPPD) • UNFPA in Burkina Faso, Niger and Togo
Notification of Maternal Death	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Ghana 	<p>Description: Mandates districts to collect information on why women are dying during child birth.</p> <p>Expected Result: The data collected on why women are dying will help the Ghana Health Service improve the quality of maternal health care services.</p> <p>Primary Beneficiaries: Women of reproductive age</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Ghana Health Services • Ghana Sustainable Change Project
Resolution for the adoption of the Reproductive Health Commodities Security Strategy for West Africa Sub-region (<i>adopted by ECOWAS Ministers of Health</i>)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Sub-regional 	<p>Description: Establishes a sub-regional mechanism to meet the existing high demand for contraceptives</p> <p>Expected Result: A regional strategy will help countries harmonize approaches to securing contraceptives to address the unmet need in the sub-region.</p> <p>Primary Beneficiaries: Women of reproductive age</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • WAHO • DELIVER • UNFPA • KFW
Intermittent presumptive treatment for malaria during pregnancy	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Benin ▪ Burkina Faso ▪ Guinea ▪ Mauritania ▪ Niger 	<p>Description: Authorizes sulfadoxine pyrimethamine (SP) as the treatment for malaria in pregnancy.</p> <p>Expected Result: SP will help mitigate the effects of malaria in pregnancy, a leading cause of anemia in mothers and low-birth weight in newborns.</p> <p>Primary Beneficiaries: Women of reproductive age, newborns, children under 5</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • WHO • RAOPAG (Réseau pour la prévention et le traitement du paludisme pendant la grossesse dans les pays francophones d'Afrique de l'Ouest)

Policy	Countries	Summary	Partners
Subsidies for Emergency Obstetric Care	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Burkina Faso 	<p>Description: Subsidizes the cost of emergency obstetric care.</p> <p>Expected Result: This policy has reduced the cost of emergency obstetric care services for women in Burkina Faso by 80%. The provision of emergency obstetric care services, including cesarean sections, can significantly reduce maternal mortality rates and increase newborn survival.</p> <p>Primary Beneficiaries: Women of reproductive age, newborns, children under 5</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Department of Family Health, Minister of Health.
Resolution for the adoption of C-IMCI as standard approach to treating ARI and malaria in children (<i>adopted by ECOWAS Ministers of Health</i>)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Sub-regional 	<p>Description: Encourages countries to adopt the community-based management approach for treating acute respiratory infections, malaria, and diarrhea in children under 5.</p> <p>Expected Result: Community-based treatment of infectious diseases in children can reduce under-5 mortality rates. By adopting this resolution, the Assembly of Health Ministers has committed itself to adopt this policy at the country-level.</p> <p>Primary beneficiaries: Children under 5</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • WAHO • WHO • UNICEF • Save the Children • HKI • BASICS III
Resolution for the elimination of taxes and tariffs on all malaria-related commodities. (<i>adopted by ECOWAS Ministers of Health</i>)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Sub-regional (2007) 	<p>Description: Endorses the elimination of taxes and tariffs on malaria-related commodities at a sub-regional level.</p> <p>Expected Result: Taxes and tariffs can increase the price of malaria commodities by up to 50%. By adopting this resolution, the ECOWAS Health Ministers recommend that the West Africa Economic and Monetary Union (UEMOA) completely eliminate taxes and tariffs on malaria-related commodities, thus making them more affordable.</p> <p>Primary Beneficiaries: Women of reproductive age, newborns, children under 5</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • WAHO • NetMark