



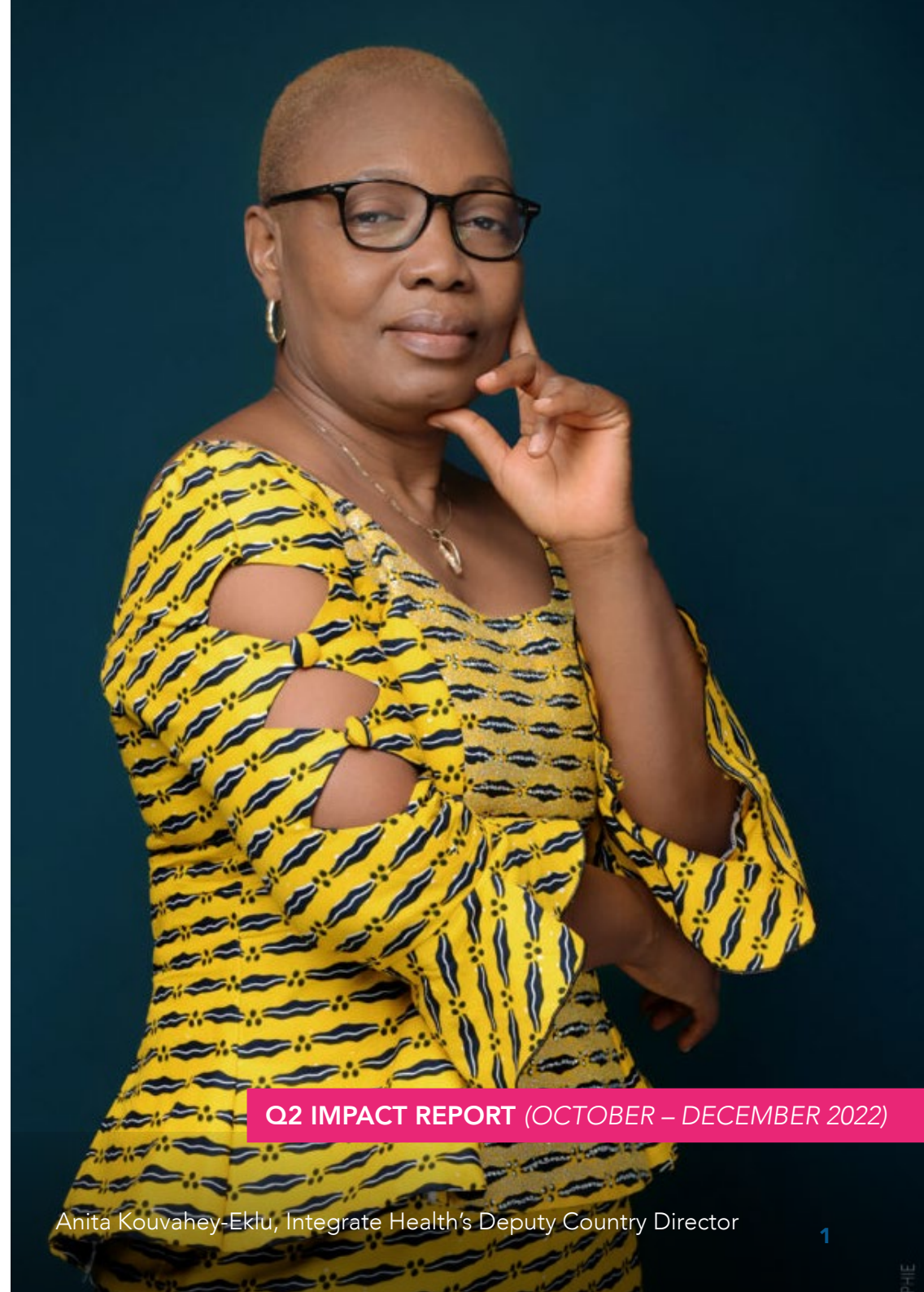
**INTEGRATE
HEALTH**

INTEGRATE HEALTH

WOMEN LEADERS IN THE SPOTLIGHT

Integrate Health is pleased to highlight the achievements of two of our staff, our Deputy Country Director, Anita Kouvahey-Eklu, and Rebecca Tchotchokou, a Community Health Worker (CHW) based in Kpindi in the Kozah district. These women are leading the movement for health equity in Togo.

Anita was the recipient of the [2022 Heroine of Health award](#) hosted by Women in Global Health. As Deputy Country Director, Anita is instrumental to the work Integrate Health does to achieve Universal Health Coverage in Togo. Unfortunately, Anita was unable to receive her award in person at the World Health Summit because she was denied a visa to travel to Europe. She had also planned to participate in the [“Unlocking Healthcare for All” panel in Geneva](#), an event hosted by Cartier Philanthropy to celebrate ten years of their philanthropic work. Anita was discouraged but remains committed to her work on health and gender equity. She turned this disappointment into an opportunity to highlight the challenges African leaders in development often face when engaging with global actors. Anita wrote a thought provoking [op-ed](#) about visa injustice and was profiled by Devex for an [article](#)



about passport inequities faced by leaders from the Global South.

As an international organization, Integrate Health recognizes the privileges that are associated with being able to travel with ease based on race, nationality, or country of origin. These privileges are not afforded to many members of our team in Togo and beyond. Integrate Health continues to think through how we can best support our colleagues and demand that they be treated with respect when navigating institutional systems.

With this in mind, Integrate Health supported CHW, Rebecca Tchotchokou, to attend and speak at the Conference on Public Health in Africa in Kigali in December. Rebecca spoke on a panel hosted by the Community Health Impact Coalition and Africa CDC about why professional CHW are the essential foundation of a sustainable and resilient health system. One of Integrate Health's partners who attended the event reported that Rebecca captured the audience, with everyone putting down their phones to listen to her powerful words. Rebecca also wrote an article, "[My voice matters too](#)," about her experience in Kigali. In the article, Rebecca shared the key points from her speech as well as what the experience meant to her.

Integrate Health will continue to elevate and center the voices of women leaders in the communities in which we work, and we are excited about the achievements of these two amazing women who continue to work to improve health outcomes in Togo.



DELIVERY



Catchment Population
208,748



Health Centers
25



Community Health Workers
199

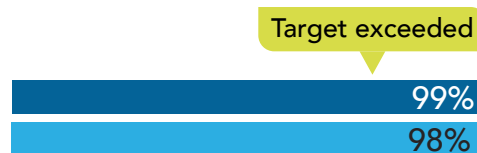


Community Health Worker Visits
160,460

PEDIATRIC HEALTH

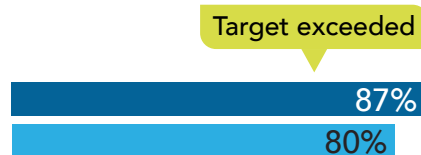
Timeliness

(The proportion of all cases of childhood illness evaluated and treated who are evaluated and treated by CHWs during the first 72 hours following symptom onset)



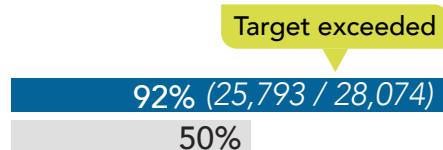
Effective Pediatric Referrals

(% 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

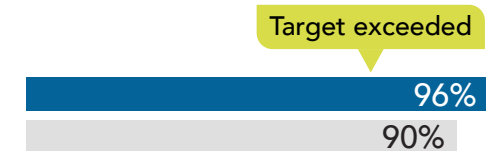
Prenatal Consultation Coverage

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



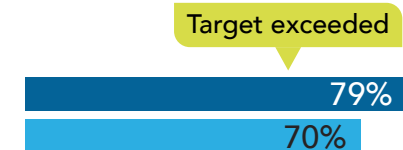
Facility-Based Delivery Coverage

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



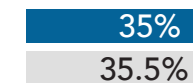
Postnatal Consultation Coverage

(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)





Community Health Worker Sirina Asso at a patient's house for a consultation.

PROGRAM HIGHLIGHTS

Successes

- **Integrated Primary Care Program Handover in Kozah:** Despite delays, Integrate Health has reached a significant milestone in the process of handing program ownership over to Kozah district health officials in the Integrated Primary Care pilot sites. In November, Integrate Health signed a protocol agreement with the Kozah district health director and Kara regional health director, formalizing next steps for the handover process. This agreement defines and formalizes the budget and payment structure, monitoring and evaluation plan, and supply chain management process. Integrate Health and government partners are now recruiting a comptroller who will sit on the district health team and oversee the handover process including finalizing the workplan and budget for the first quarter under the new handover structure. A communication plan to inform all stakeholders including community members is being developed, and an official launch ceremony of the handover is planned for early 2023.
- **Integrate Health's Verbal Autopsy Project:** In December 2022, an abstract submitted by Integrate Health's Research Manager, Dr. Désiré Dabla, was accepted to be presented at the 2023 International Maternal Newborn Health Conference in Cape Town, South Africa. The abstract details the results of Integrate Health's verbal autopsy project, a research project launched in January 2022, to test the use of a digitized version of the WHO's verbal autopsy tool.

In Togo, there is no national death registry, making it challenging to identify biological causes of death. The verbal autopsy project aims to test the feasibility of using the WHO tool to identify causes of maternal and neonatal death in the communities Integrate Health serves, and to use that information to develop targeted interventions, thereby reducing mortality. For example, depending on the causes of death identified, solutions could include earlier interventions for high-risk patients.

Integrate Health tested three algorithms designed to work with the WHO tool and determined that the Tarrif 2.0 algorithm was the most accurate when comparing the algorithm-assigned cause of death to clinician-assigned causes of death.

In the second half of FY 2023, Integrate Health plans to extend the use of the verbal autopsy tool in five districts of the Kara region. To do this, CHW Supervisors have been trained to use the tool and conduct verbal autopsies in their communities. Expanded use of the tool will provide Integrate Health and Ministry of Health (MOH) partners with more accurate information on causes of death and can better direct resources and interventions as needed.

- **mHealth Initiative in Kéran:** In the Kéran district of Togo, where no mHealth tools were previously used, Integrate Health is pleased to report that all 49 CHWs are now using a new tool called Tonoudayo, which means “How is your health” in the Kabyé language. Integrate Health’s mHealth team, informed by over five years of experience piloting various mHealth tools, used the Medic’s open-source Community Health Toolkit to build a customized tool to fit the Togolese context. This solution is cost effective and allows for a level of app customization, data control, and ownership that is very valuable. In October 2022, 11 CHWs in the Nadoba community in Kéran were trained on the new tool. They piloted the tool for six weeks and found that the app performed well, and data quality was high. Based on this successful pilot, the remaining 38 CHWs in Kéran were trained on how to use Tonoudayo. We are also switching over 31 CHWs in the Kozah district from an older Medic Mobile pilot tool to Tonoudayo.

Challenges

- **Health Center Solar Panels:** As part of Integrate Health’s infrastructure improvement strategy, we install solar panels at health centers that were previously without electricity. Maintenance of the solar equipment is a persistent challenge as it requires technical expertise from solar companies as well as close collaboration with health center staff and district health leadership. Currently, at the Koundoum health center in the Bassar district, necessary solar panel repairs have been delayed as our program team is coordinating with health officials to search for available solar panel technicians. Our team is working as quickly as possible to solve this immediate need and is developing a long-term maintenance plan for solar panels across the region.



A Community Health Worker from Nadoba, Kéran district, attending the training on the use of the mobile application Tonoudayo



EXPANSION HIGHLIGHTS

Successes

- **Strengthening Community Ownership:** For the past year, Integrate Health has supported the Togolese MOH to reinforce the capacity of community health center management committees (COGES) across Togo. COGES provide a key community accountability mechanism as they are composed of elected members of the community who play a management role in the functioning of primary healthcare centers. In November 2021, Integrate Health and the MOH piloted a training program for COGES members in the Kozah and Haho districts of Togo. The training, which covered how to effectively identify and prioritize health center needs, build budgets, and identify resources, was deemed successful by COGES participants and government officials. Recently, the MOH asked Integrate Health to accompany them in the scale-up of this pilot program across the country. In November 2022, Integrate Health and the MOH hosted a training-of-trainers workshop for eight health administrators from each region of Togo, who will in turn train COGES nationwide on resource mobilization. We are pleased to be supporting the government in this effort to strengthen local ownership of the health system.
- **Guinea Expansion:** The Guinean MOH has formally requested Integrate Health implement its pilot program in the Kouroussa District of the Kankan region of Guinea. In response, Integrate Health has begun an initial analysis of the health system in Kouroussa, including extensive meetings with partners and the district health director. This work will continue and inform pilot program design and development.

Integrate Health has also made progress with regards to staff recruitment in Guinea. Dr. Aboubacar Diakité, formerly Guinea Interim Country Representative, has been officially hired as Guinea Country Director. Aboubacar joined the Integrate Health team in August 2021 as a consultant to perform a landscape analysis of the Guinean health system. As a Guinean physician with extensive experience in Guinea including during the Ebola epidemic, he has been the driving force behind Integrate Health's country expansion strategy ever since.

Two additional staff have been added to the team in Guinea: Moriba Traoré, Human Resources Manager, joined Integrate Health in January, and Adama Mansaré, Director of Finance and Administration, will join the team at the end of February.

Community Health Worker Yindjre Martine N'Wintcha presenting danger signs of pregnancy to a group of women



Inauguration of the Infection Disease Center in Ateda

ORGANIZATIONAL HIGHLIGHTS

Successes

- **Ouagadougou Partnership Annual Meeting:** In December, Integrate Health's Deputy Country Director, Anita Kouvahey-Eklu, and Director of Innovation, Dadou Tcheou, attended the 11th [Ouagadougou Partnership](#) Annual Meeting in Niger. This was the first time that Integrate Health leaders participated in this important convening. The Ouagadougou Partnership is a coalition of governments and technical and financial partners dedicated to reproductive health equity in the francophone West African region. The Integrate Health team was accompanied at the conference by representatives from the Togolese Ministries of Health and Finance, along with a group of youth leaders and lawyers dedicated to gender equity. Participants shared challenges and lessons learned in promoting family planning. Togo was represented heavily in the meeting, and this is encouraging as Integrate Health continues to build out key partnerships with stakeholder in the West African region.
- **Integrate Health Board Activities:** Integrate Health is pleased to welcome three new experts to our board of directors. Lola Adedokun is the Executive Director of the Aspen Global Innovators Group and brings a wealth of experience in both philanthropy and global health. Jumoke Adekeye and Marieme Niang Camara are two talented board apprentices recruited with the support of The Boardroom Africa. Jumoke is the Country Head of the Clinton Health Access Initiative in Benin. Marieme is the Managing Director and Head of Africa at Axendo, a diversified global trading, commodities, and procurement group. To read more about the Board Apprentice Program, please check out a recent blog post on Integrate Health's website [here](#).
- **Infectious Disease Center, Ateda:** In November, a provisional reception was held to celebrate the construction of an Infectious Disease Center in Ateda, Kara. Integrate Health has been

supporting the MOH to finance construction of the center since 2020, support which started as part of Integrate Health's COVID-19 response. The project was a collaboration between Integrate Health, the MOH and the German Development Bank (KfW). As the only center with infectious disease treatment capacity in all of northern Togo, this facility will meet a significant need and ensure that Togo is better prepared for the next pandemic.

Challenges

- **Strategic planning process:** In Summer 2022, Integrate Health launched a five-year strategic planning process. While now underway, the process was significantly delayed due to the challenge of finding experienced, available consultants with the French language skills Integrate Health requires. To address these challenges and oversee the entire process, Integrate Health formed a strategic planning committee of 14 members, representing every Integrate Health team, including a CHW. The mandate of the committee is to ensure that the strategic planning process is not only inclusive, but participatory, and ultimately effective. The committee serves as a link between the consulting team eventually hired to lead the process and the organization. The strategic planning committee meets weekly and reports monthly to a larger advisory committee, a group of over 30 staff, who provide additional feedback as necessary.

The consultants are now in the data collection phase and will conduct interviews with over 40 key stakeholders. A leadership workshop will be held on March 13th and 14th in Lomé. The entire process will conclude by the end of April. This is the first time Integrate Health is employing such an inclusive process for the strategic plan, and we look forward to launching and sharing our new strategy in the coming months.



Community Health Worker Yindjre Martine N'Wintcha carrying out a pediatric consultation at a patient's house in Kissating, Dankpen district

FINANCIAL HIGHLIGHTS

- This quarter, Integrate Health received generous renewal funding from seven partners. We remain grateful for your continued support and are excited to be able to continue providing lifesaving primary care to communities in need in Togo and Guinea.
- In December, with support from our Board Chair, Integrate Health began implementing a strategy to hedge the USD to CFA exchange rate. The hedging strategy allows us to lock in gains from a strong dollar and increase certainty in our budgeting and cashflow management.
- Thank you to everyone who contributed to our end-of-year fundraising campaign! We raised over \$120,000 from 48 donors. The support from our grassroots network of funders, many of you included, is greatly appreciated, and we look forward to continuing to work together in 2023!

FUNDING SNAPSHOT

Metric	Result	Notes
Three-Year Funding Need	\$36.6M	Fiscal Years '23, '24, '25
FY22 Projected Expenses	\$10.3M	



Representative of the district hospital director Thècle Somié Aleyadassim speaking during the community townhall meeting in Nadoba, Kéran district



Community Health Worker Spotlight

Toba Skon, a father of three, lives in the Agbanda community in the Kozah district. Toba has worked as a CHW in Agbanda for the last seven years. When he first moved there 12 years ago, there were limited health services in the community. The closest health center at Sarakawa, eight kilometers away, was served only by a head nurse and a birth attendant. People from Agbanda preferred to travel over 15km away instead to the health center in Tchitchao, where there were more health personnel and where they received a better level of care. Those who were unable to travel the distance often used the service of traditional healers instead.

Toba was among the first cohort of CHWs trained to serve communities around the Sarakawa health center in Kozah. Initially, Integrate Health was interested in recruiting women to work as CHWs. However, there were few women with the minimum required educational qualifications, so the position was opened up to men, and Toba applied. Toba recalled the long journey his wife had to make to Tchitchao for the birth of their first child, and, apart from the opportunity to make a living, he appreciated the objectives of the program, which ensures women in his community are trained to give care and receive free quality care closer to home.

The work was not always easy, and Toba recounted a particular incident, early on in his career, when he encountered a child with a severe fever who was having convulsions. He immediately took the child on his motorcycle to the Sarakawa health center. Fortunately, the head nurse knew exactly what to do and was able to save the child. The nurse also gave Toba some tips on how to reduce a fever the next time he was in such a situation.

Toba has gained the respect of the community in Agbanda because of the amazing work he does. He also feels supported by Integrate Health, not just through the trainings he receives but also through recognition of his hard work. Toba is grateful that he is able to make a living from this work: a living that helps him take care of his family, send his children to school, repair his motorcycle, and buy gifts for his wife.

“I would like to express my gratitude to Integrate Health for thinking of Sarakawa and my community. The implementation of this program is very beneficial for the surrounding populations. Thank you also for this opportunity and chance that you are giving to women to be essential links in their respective communities in providing quality health care to other women and children. This work and remuneration allow them in turn to be able to support their families by helping their husbands with daily expenses, which is a great plus and a great asset for them. If my wife had the educational level required, I would have encouraged her to apply as well. Two salaries at home are still better than only one.”



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