

## **Fistula Care *Plus***

Associate Cooperative Agreement  
AID-OAA-A14-00013

**Annual Report**

October 1, 2015 to September 30, 2016

Managing Partner: EngenderHealth;  
Associate Partners: The Population  
Council, Dimagi, Direct Relief, Fistula  
Foundation, Maternal Health Task Force,  
TERREWODE

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EngenderHealth  
440 Ninth Avenue, New York, NY 10001, USA  
Telephone: 212-561-8000  
Fax: 212-561-8067  
E-mail: [lromanzi@engenderhealth.org](mailto:lromanzi@engenderhealth.org)

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Fistula Care *Plus* (FC+)  
c/o EngenderHealth  
440 Ninth Avenue  
New York, NY 10001 U.S.A.  
Telephone: 212-561-8000  
Fax: 212-561-8067  
E-mail: [fistulacare@engenderhealth.org](mailto:fistulacare@engenderhealth.org)  
[www.fistulacare.org](http://www.fistulacare.org)

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## EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

The annual report presents key accomplishments and activities for the third fiscal year (October 1, 2015 to September 30, 2016) of *Fistula Care Plus* (FC+). EngenderHealth manages the project in collaboration with international and national partners. In FY 15/16, USAID supported fistula treatment and prevention services through the FC+ project in **six** countries—Bangladesh, the Democratic Republic of the Congo (DRC), Niger, Nigeria, Togo, and Uganda. USAID also supports fistula activities in DRC, Ethiopia, Guinea, Mali, Pakistan, and Tanzania through bilateral funding. EngenderHealth also supported fistula prevention and care activities in Guinea with funds from other sources, including the Jhpiego-implemented, USAID-funded Health Services Delivery (HSD) project.

Key accomplishments during the October 1, 2015 to September 30, 2016 period included:

### **Objective 1: Strengthened enabling environment**

- Launch of the Fistula Community of Practice (FCoP)
- International Day to End Obstetric Fistula (IDEOF) celebrations in five FC+ supported countries
- Technical guidance to Bangladesh MoH for Bangladesh Maternal Mortality and Morbidity Survey (BMMMS)
- Landscape review of national fistula strategies in ten countries
- Board participation in the G4 Alliance for Global Surgery and College of Surgeons of East, Central and Southern Africa (COSECSA)
- Participation in and support to national working group meetings in Bangladesh, DRC, Uganda, and West Africa Region/Niger
- Support for development and adoption of catheterization for prevention/conservative treatment guidelines in Nigeria
- Initiation of LABORIE partnership on urodynamics and pelvic floor physical therapy
- Collaboration with Royal College of Obstetricians and Gynecologists (RCOG) on training manual for evaluation and management of fistula, pelvic organ prolapse (POP), incontinence and related pelvic floor disorders.

### **Objective 2: Enhanced community understanding and practices**

- 679 community volunteers/educators trained in tools and approaches to raise awareness regarding fistula prevention and repair
- 10,393 community awareness-raising activities/events conducted by program partners, reaching 6,538,530 participants
- Training and support for outreach activities of religious leaders and village committees in Uganda and Nigeria, village committees in Niger, cured fistula patients in Bangladesh
- Participation in SBCC Summit and convening of FC+ Objective 2 Experts' Workshop
- Development and roll out of new 4Q checklist for fistula screening, through brac in Bangladesh

### **Objective 3: Reduced transportation, communications, and financial barriers**

- Completion of formative research to investigate barriers faced by women in Nigeria and Uganda and publication of findings in two reports and briefs

- Design of intervention package and evaluation research plan based on formative research findings; initiation of baseline data collection
- Completion of Nigeria communications assessment study and development of two draft study reports

**Objective 4: Strengthened provider and health facility capacity**

- 37 sites supported by FC+ for fistula treatment and prevention activities; 14 sites supported through other USAID bilateral support
- 3,514 surgical fistula repairs and 323 non-surgical repairs supported through FC+; 1,597 surgical repairs and 10 non-surgical repairs supported by other bilateral USAID programs
- 289 sites supported by FC+ for prevention-only activities, as well as 500 former Targeted States High Impact Project (TSHIP) sites in Nigeria where FC+ provides temporary data collection; 40 sites supported through other USAID bilateral support
- 366,038 family planning (FP) counseling sessions provided at supported sites, with FP services resulting in 195,986 Couple Years of Protection (CYP); 198,614 of these counseling sessions and 89,341 of this CYP were reported from the 500 former TSHIP facilities
- 16 surgeons trained in fistula repair
- 1,414 health system personnel trained in non-surgical fistula repair and prevention topics
- POP integration pilot logic model, indicators, and implementation plan developed

**Objective 5: Strengthened evidence base**

- Continued leadership in data collection and reporting using DHIS2
- Implementation of TERREWODE study on psychosocial reintegration of women with fistula deemed incurable
- Dissemination of research findings at XI International FIGO Conference, GMNH Conference, Women Deliver, and other national/international forums
- “A Call to End Iatrogenic Fistula” webinar
- Collaboration with Nigerian MOH to develop and pilot new HMIS tools