



USAID
FROM THE AMERICAN PEOPLE



b ARFH-LOPIN1 PHOTOS OF IMPACT



LOPIN 1 Chief of Party presenting cash to a beneficiary in Rivers state



LOPIN1 DM&E presenting HES business items to a beneficiary in Rivers state



Village Savings and Loan Association members received cooking gas as benefits of their social funds, Rivers state



Adolescent Boys Group meeting in Rivers state



Inauguration of Community Quality Improvement Team in Rivers state



LOPIN1 Chief of Party handing over a sewing machine to an empowered adolescent in Rivers state



Adolescent Girls Group meeting in Rivers state



Beneficiaries of LOPIN1 CBHIS raising up their hospital ID cards in Rivers state



Referral coordination meeting in Rivers state



Training of caregivers empowered with pro-vitamin A in Rivers state



Skill acquisition training on soap making in Rivers state

CONTACT US

Head Office
ARFH House, Plot 815A Army, Officer's Mess Road, Near Ikolaba Grammar School, Agodi, G.R.A., Ikolaba, Ibadan.
P.O.Box 30259 Secretariat, Ibadan, Oyo State, Nigeria
Mobile: +234802 354 2881
Website: <https://arfh-ng.org/>

ABUJA OFFICE:

1st Floor- Block C, Millennium Builders Plaza, Plot 251 Cadastral Zone, Herbert Macaulay Way, Central Business District, Abuja- Nigeria
Email: info@arfh-ng.org
Mobile: +2348148753194, +2347065964489

<https://www.linkedin.com/company/association-for-reproductive-and-family-health/>
<https://web.facebook.com/arfhng>
<https://twitter.com/ARFHng>
<https://instagram.com/arfhng>



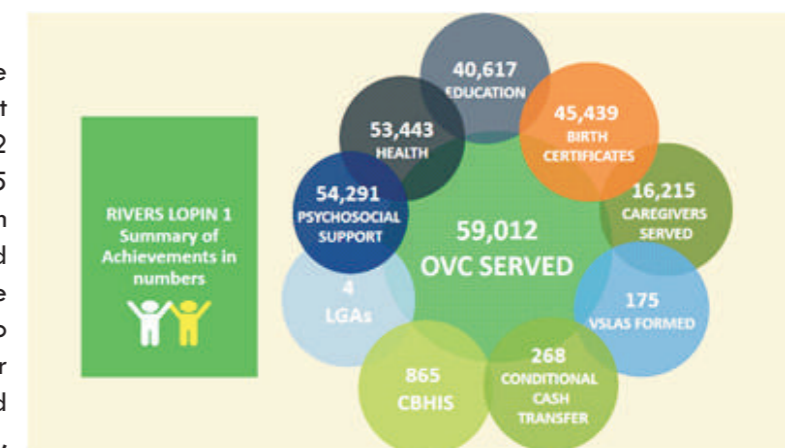
USAID
FROM THE AMERICAN PEOPLE



LOCAL PARTNERS FOR ORPHANS AND VULNERABLE CHILDREN IN NIGERIA (LOPIN-REGION 1) PROJECT, RIVERS STATE

PROJECT SUMMARY

The Local Partners for Orphans and Vulnerable Children in Nigeria (LOPIN-Region 1) Project designed to improve the wellbeing of 59,012 orphans and vulnerable children and 16,215 caregivers was implemented through an accelerated, sustainable family focused approach. Services rendered were in accordance with Case Management Plans pre-prepared to address identified needs of children and their caregivers. The integrated services provided covered health, education, child protection, psychosocial support, food/nutrition and household economic strengthening while leveraging support for shelter related care from other sources.

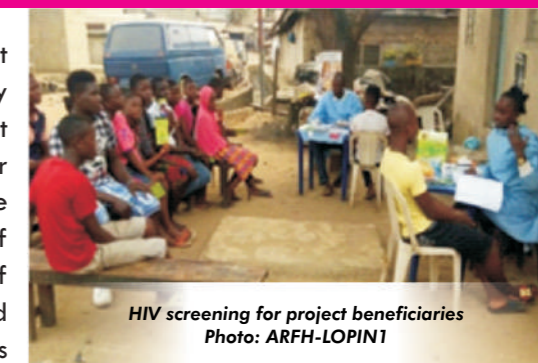


LOPIN-REGION 1 APPROACH

LOPIN 1 modelled inclusiveness in programming for orphans and vulnerable children in Rivers State by strengthening the organizational and technical capacities of the Community Based organisations (CBOs), the Social Welfare Departments of Local Government Areas (LGAs) and the State Ministries of Rehabilitation for the effective to OVC needs. with equipment such as generators, cabinets & accounting software training on age appropriate service management, programme management use of the National OVC Management In addition all the OVC Desk Officers in NOMIS & data management and were desktop computers as part of strengthening. Moreover, the CBOs received institutional and activity funds every month to enable them to offer high quality services to OVC and their families. LOPIN 1 also facilitated productive engagements between CBOs, GAs and the private sectors. This was achieved through the establishment and support of community structures such as Child Protection Committees, Quality Improvement Teams for the promotion of children's welfare and rights, HIV stigma-reduction and resource mobilization for community development.



HIV SERVICES: LOPIN REGION 1 Project continued to implement activities towards the achievement of the 90-90-90 UNAIDS goal by focusing on increasing identification of index case HIV testing, enrolment of HIV positives, linkage and retention to care and treatment. Other services included monitoring of PLHIV and CLHIV, treatment adherence and viral load suppression. The LOPIN 1 innovated the use of incentivized enrolment strategy which continued to increase the yield of PLHIV through active referrals from the facility focal persons and support groups of PLHIV. Partnership with the support groups of Persons



HIV screening for project beneficiaries
Photo: ARFH-LOPIN1



USAID
FROM THE AMERICAN PEOPLE



USAID
FROM THE AMERICAN PEOPLE



Kids club activity in Eleme LGA, Rivers state Photo: ARFH-LOPIN1

SYSTEM STRENGTHENING

ARFH conducted baseline capacity assessment, to ascertain areas of strengths, weaknesses, opportunities and threats (SWOT), which informed targeted interventions to fill identified gaps and build the technical and organizational capacity of government and CBOs. As a result, the focal staff of CBOs and government were trained on project management and sustainability, M&E, service provision, gender norms within the context of HIV/AIDS, NOMIS and were thus provided with appropriate skills, equipment, mentoring & handholding to facilitate programme implementation data capturing, collation, reporting feeding into programme planning,



LOPIN1 DM&E- Prof Afolabi Bamgboye reviewing folders during Data Quality Assessment in Rivers state

KEY RESULTS

As at March 2019, LOPIN-Region 1 achieved the followings among others:

- Served 59,012 OVC and 16,215 caregivers with need based services out of which 569 households graduated having met the benchmarks
- Supported 59,012 children to access HIV testing services. Identified 77 HIV positive children and linked all of them to antiretroviral treatment
- Trained 1,863 adolescents and caregivers on financial literacy and were all given start up business materials costing between N30,000.00 to N60,000.0 per person.
- Formed 175 adult VSLA groups with 48 share outs. The groups saved N18,479,830 (USD51,191) between 2015-2019
- Provided conditional cash transfer to 268most-vulnerable beneficiaries, each of whom received N30,000 (\$83)in three equal instalments of N10,000 (\$27) per tranche
- Secured birth certificates for 45,439 OVC, through strong collaboration between CBO partners and the National Population Commission
- Provided education block grants to one school and improved access of 40,617 vulnerable children to regular school attendance
- Supported 865 beneficiaries enrolled on the CBHIS in accessing free health services through the elimination of user fees

QUICK FACTS

Project Type	Orphans and Vulnerable Children (OVC)
Funder	USAID
Project Location	Rivers States (transferred to CDC in April. 2019)
# of people served	59,012 OVC and 16,215 caregivers
Time frame	2015-2019

INDICATORS	ACHIEVEMENTS
OVC_SERV	75,227
OVC_HIVSTAT	53,443
OVC_ENROLLED	75,227
OVC_HIVRISKASS	35,909
OVC_HTSLINK	59,012
OVC_TXLINK	161
OVC_ART_SUPP	161
OVC_BIRTHCERT	45,439
OVC_EDU	40,617
OVC_ECON	1,863
OVC_HIVPREV	20,407
OVC_HHGRAD	569

living with HIV (PLHIV) has also increased the yield through targeted testing based on local epidemics. The project worked with health facilities in the communities to enhance facility-community interphase, in order to reach more newly diagnosed persons with services, including economic empowerment at the community level.

HOUSEHOLD ECONOMIC STRENGTHENING: LOPIN-Region 1 project increased the access of eligible caregivers to money and strengthened their economic resilience to enable them meet their needs and that of their wards in a sustainable manner. In line with the PEPFAR guideline for OVC programming, ARFH-LOPIN 1 project also implemented Conditional Cash Transfers (CCT) for 'Most Vulnerable Households' to meet their consumption needs, increase access of their children to education and health services while linking their caregivers to VLSA in the community for financial literacy and participation. The sum of N30,000.00 was given to 268 beneficiaries in three equal instalments of N10,000 per tranche.



HEALTH AND NUTRITION SERVICES:

The ARFH-LOPIN 1 project provided enabling environment for increased uptake of health services through facilitated referrals and logistic support for indigent enrollees. A total of 53,443 children received the required health support services with improved treatment outcome. To further strengthen health seeking behaviour of vulnerable households and increase uptake of services, the ARFH-LOPIN 1 project pioneered the pilot implementation of Community Based Health Insurance Scheme (CBHIS) in Rivers states, with support from USAID. A total of 865 beneficiaries are currently accessing free health services through the elimination of user fees. Services covered under the CBHIS include the management of childhood malnutrition, malaria, enteric fevers, pneumonia, uncomplicated peptic and duodenal ulcers, respiratory infections, ear infections; immunizations, minor surgical procedures catheterization; and treatment of minor ailments.



Folder/card opening for CBHIS beneficiaries at Obio Cottage Hospital, Rivers state. Photo: ARFH-LOPIN1

ACCESS TO EDUCATION: Community Volunteers visited enrolled OVC in their respective schools at least once in a quarter to assess children's school attendance and education performance. CVs worked with school Headmasters and Principals to ensure there was no stigmatization of the enrolled children. The Block Grant interventions implemented in Fy18 by LOPIN 1 across the 3 state, in collaboration with SUBEB whereby one school which was provided with desks, chairs and tables, wax boards, books and libraries, recreational facilities ensured exemption of enrolled OVC in these schools from direct payment of any fees or levies, this is facilitating the seamless progression, particularly of the girl child from primary to secondary school level.



Students of Community Secondary School sitting comfortably to learn in Nkpolu, Rivers state. Photo: ARFH-LOPIN1

CHILD PROTECTION AND PYSCHOSOCIAL SUPPORT

ARFH LOPIN1 Project has trained all project and CBOs' staff, Community Volunteers (CVs) and assistant Case Managers on Child Protection and Safeguarding Practices. All the CBOs have adopted Child Safeguarding Policies signed on by all their staff.