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LOPIN1 DOP during Adolescent Support Group meeting in Lagos State



LOPIN1 Chief of Party presenting HES business Material to a Caregiver in Lagos State



OVC Caregivers during nutrition demonstration in Lagos State



Gender Norms training at L.A primary school, Badary, Lagos State



LOPIN1 TASD contributing to a session during CBO, Lagos State



Caregivers' forum activity in Lagos State



Block Grant Intervention at Irepodun Primary School provide by LOPIN1 with support from USAID



Diamond Girls Adolescent VSLA meeting in Lagos State



LOPIN1 SPA moderating a session during the CBO retreat



LOPIN1 DM&E Presenting a copy of signed MOU to the high Chief Wawu of Badary



Children display their birth Certificates in Lagos State

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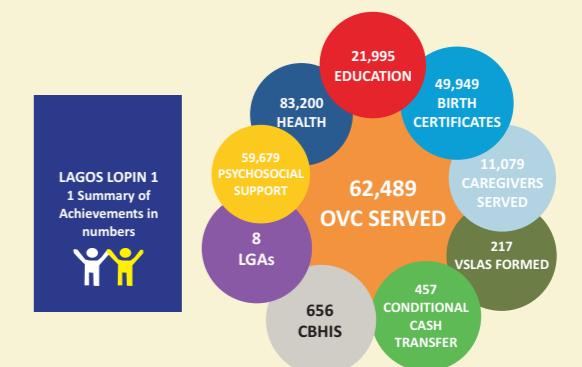
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LOCAL PARTNERS FOR ORPHANS AND VULNERABLE CHILDREN IN NIGERIA (LOPIN-REGION 1) PROJECT, LAGOS

PROJECT SUMMARY

The Local Partners for Orphans and Vulnerable Children in Nigeria (LOPIN-Region 1) Project designed to improve the wellbeing of 62,489 orphans and vulnerable children and 11,079 caregivers in Lagos State 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



with desktop computers as part of organisational capacity 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, LGAs 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.



shelter related care from other sources.

LOPIN-REGION 1 APPROACH

LOPIN 1 modelled inclusiveness in programming for orphans and vulnerable children in Lagos 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 Youth and Social Development for the effective coordination of responses to OVC needs.

LOPIN 1 provided 5 CBOs with equipment such as generators, computers, furniture, metal cabinets & accounting software (QuickBooks) as well as training on age appropriate service provision, financial management, programme management & monitoring including the use of the National OVC Management Information System NOMIS. In addition all the OVC Desk Officers in the 8 LGAs were trained on NOMIS & data management and were subsequently provided

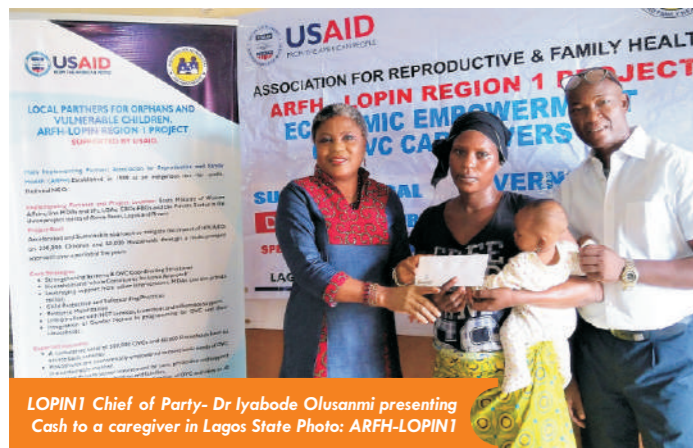
HIV SERVICES: LOPIN REGION 1 Project continued to implement activities towards the achievement of the 90-90-90 UNAIDS goal by focusing on increasing identification of index cases

HIV testing, enrolment of HIV positives, linkage and retention to care and treatment. Other services included monitoring of PLHIV and CLHIV, treatment adherence and Viralload suppression. The LOPIN 1 innovated the



HIV testing exercise at Apapa LGA, Lagos State. Photo: ARFH-LOPIN1

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 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 care givers 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 care givers to VLSA in the community for financial literacy



and participation. The sum of N30,000.00 was given to 457 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 55,979 children received the required health support services with improved treatment outcome. To further strengthen health seeking behaviours of vulnerable households and increase uptake of services, the ARFH-LOPIN1 project pioneered the pilot implementation of Community Based Health Insurance Scheme (CBHIS) in Lagos state, with support from USAID. A total of 656 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.

ACCESS TO EDUCATION: Community Volunteers (CVs) 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 states, in collaboration with SUBEB whereby seven schools were provided with desks, chairs and tables, wax boards, books and libraries, recreational facilities ensured the 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.

CHILD PROTECTION AND PSYCHOSOCIAL 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.

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 thus were provided with appropriate skills, equipment, mentorship & handholding to facilitate programme implementation, data capturing, collation, reporting feeding into programme planning, decision making as integral part of the national response.

KEY RESULTS

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

- Served 62,489 OVC and 11,079 care givers with need based services out of which 10,321 households graduated having met the benchmarks
- Supported 62,489 children to access HIV testing services. Identified 886 HIV positive children and

QUICK FACTS

Project Type	Orphans and Vulnerable Children (OVC)
Funder	USAID
Project Location	Lagos
# of people served	62,489 OVC and 11,079 caregivers
Time frame	2014-2019

linked all of them to antiretroviral treatment

- Trained 7,721 adolescents and care givers on financial literacy and were all given start up business materials costing between N30,000.00 to N60,000.0 per person.
- Formed 217 adult VSLA groups with 200 share



outs. The groups saved N58,259,499.00 (USD161,483) between 2014-2019

- Provided conditional cash transfer to 457 most-vulnerable beneficiaries, each of whom received N30,000 (\$83) in three equal instalments of N10,000 (\$27) per tranche
- Secured birth certificates for 49,949 OVC, through strong collaboration between CBO partners and the National Population Commission
- Provided education block grants to five schools which enabled access of 21,955 vulnerable children to regular school attendance
- Supported 656 beneficiaries that were enrolled on the CBHIS in accessing free health services through the elimination of user fees

