

# NUTRITION & HYGIENE/SANITATION

MSH implements programs to improve nutrition and water, sanitation, and hygiene (WASH) practices in developing countries. These interventions facilitate the adoption of healthy behaviors, such as early, exclusive breastfeeding and complementary feeding at home, and create community demand for key preventive interventions, such as vitamin A supplementation and improvement of sanitation facilities.

USAID-funded, MSH-led projects include:

- DEMOCRATIC REPUBLIC OF THE CONGO (DRC)**  
 The DRC-Integrated Health Project (IHP) trained health providers on lifesaving strategies for mothers and their babies at all levels. Through DRC-IHP's community-based support groups and outreach education and trained skilled birth attendants, the percent of women providing early breastfeeding to their newborns increased to **95 percent**.
- UGANDA**  
 The STRIDES for Family Health project trained **3,200 community providers** in management of acute moderate malnutrition; **73 percent of children** enrolled in these activities were nutritionally rehabilitated.
- AFGHANISTAN**  
 The Afghan Sustainable Water Supply and Sanitation (SWSS) project helped rural communities in 34 districts across six provinces of Afghanistan implement community-led total sanitation. As part of the project, MSH-trained families constructed or upgraded **42,129 latrines**, benefiting nearly **300,000 people**.

Early initiation of breastfeeding from DRC-IHP

