

ACTIVITIES AND PROGRESS TO DATE

PROGRAMME GOAL: To reduce the infant mortality rate in 19 municipalities in the state of Pernambuco by two-thirds over three years and improve the holistic care available to at least 15,000 children across the project area.

Objective	Partner	May – October Activities	Outcomes and impacts	Indicators	Next Steps: November 2010–April 2011
OBJECTIVE 1: Improve the health and nutrition status of children under the age of five.	North-eastern Centre for Folk Medicine (CNMP)	1.1 Baseline nutritional and health assessment.	Our baseline survey covered 815 children under the age of five and 430 families. Initial results revealed the existence of nutritional deficiencies including cases of anaemia in children. The majority of health and nutrition problems occurring during early childhood are related to inadequate dietary intake and recurring infections.	% decrease in the # of children with inadequate dietary intake and nutrition problems, as well as recurring infections by end of 2 nd year (sources of information: case studies in partnership with Mae Coruja; Baseline and follow-up survey with a sample of children)	Findings from the final nutritional assessments will be shared with you in the New Year. We will present results from the nutritional assessment to government authorities and civil society representatives in the 19 municipalities and will continue to track the nutritional development of children over the coming three years.
	and	1.2 Nutritional Education Workshops for 242 women and 12 men with children under five.	Parents were provided with both medical and practical information on newborn and infant care including the importance of breastfeeding, the weaning process and introducing complementary foods into a baby's diet.	# of parents sensitized and informed on infant care, adopting and increasing breastfeeding and care with children (sources of information: case studies in Partnership with Mae Coruja; interviews with mothers, minutes of meetings and trainings, follow up survey)	In the next 6 months we will conduct additional workshops on nutritional education for new groups of parents. A second training on health and nutrition due to take place was postponed and was held at the end of November 2010. We will also develop training modules in health and nutrition for professionals in the "Mother Owl" Programme.
	ACARI	1.3 Strengthening the "Mother Owl" Maternal-Infant Care Programme and training of Health Professionals	Two focal groups consisting of a total of 60 professionals – one in Petrolina and one in Ouricuri - have been established where health professionals from across the 19 municipalities gather and receive training. Both groups have now received health and nutrition	Capacities of health professionals improved. % of professionals working with children who demonstrate continued understanding of issues related to nutrition and health 4 months after attending training workshops.	Establish community-based committees to develop comprehensive early childhood development care plans, which will serve to mobilise government officials and inform public policies around early childhood development services.

			<p>training. They will be supported to share their learning with colleagues, reaching a further 382 health professionals.</p> <p>Between May and October, Save the Children partnered with the government in Pernambuco state to train 60 health professionals to promote comprehensive early childhood care, as well as to develop new proposals for improving public policies in the health sector.</p>	<p>(sources of information: follow-up, KAP (Knowledge, Abilities and Performance) survey and interviews with a sample of personnel who participate in training activities)</p> <p>% of proposals submitted and funded to improve public policies, including policies which support nutritional initiatives and training of health and nutrition professionals. (sources of information: minutes of meetings; Plans for early childhood written and approved by local Children's Rights councils)</p>	<p>The planned activities for Nov 2010 – April 2011 with CNMP are:</p> <p>1.1 Training on Health and nutrition directed to Mãe Coruja local staff in 19 municipalities (3 modules x 20 hours each)</p> <p>1.2 Nutrition Education workshops with mothers/families</p> <p>1.3. Training workshops on Health and nutrition directed to teachers and other staff at the four pilot crèches</p> <p>1.4 Analysis of food supply for children in the crèches</p> <p>1.5. Development of herbs and vegetable gardens in schools</p>
<p>OBJECTIVE 2: Improve the understanding of children's rights and child protection amongst care givers and professionals.</p>	<p>ICDP/ACARI and CCLF</p>	<p>2.1 Training for 130 educators and professionals from related areas, addressing topics related to health and early childhood well-being.</p>	<p>A total of 1,076 children under five from four centrally located schools will indirectly benefit from this training given their interaction with service providers and educators.</p>	<p>% of health and education professionals who demonstrate improved understanding of children's wellbeing standards and their obligations to children in their care. (sources of information: interviews with professionals; KAP survey, baseline)</p>	<p>We will engage teachers in convincing government authorities and school management to improve both educational and recreational facilities as a means of providing comprehensive early childhood care and development services</p> <p>The planned activities for Nov 2010 – April 2011 with CCLF are:</p> <p>2.1 Revise school's monitoring and educational Plans – including pedagogical practices.</p> <p>2.2 Implementation of "Cantinhos de leitura" - areas designed for play and reading activities</p> <p>2.3 Meetings with parents to</p>

					promote interaction between school and community
<p>OBJECTIVE 3: Improve psycho-socio wellbeing and early years education and development support available to young children within their families and at school.</p>	<p>International Child Development Programmes (ICDP)</p> <p>and</p> <p>Centro de Cultura Luiz Freire (CCLF)</p> <p>and</p> <p>ACARI</p>	<p>3.1 Improving adult-child interaction</p> <p>3.2 Publication of the informational booklet entitled “Eight Proposals for Good Interaction with Children”, produced by the International Child Development Programmes (ICDP)</p> <p>3.3 Developing a culturally appropriate teaching curriculum</p>	<p>A training was delivered for 512 health and education professionals to build and improve interaction between adults and children to ensure children’s overall wellbeing including their emotional, cognitive and social development.</p> <p>A manual designed to improve adult- child relationships was distributed to 2,500 families.</p> <p>Children’s education in indigenous and <i>Quilombola</i> communities is greatly influenced by local culture and social practices that form and affirm ethnic identity. As a result each school is in the process of developing a teaching curriculum which meets the specific cultural needs of children in their communities.</p>	<p>% of health and education professionals who demonstrate improved understanding of children’s wellbeing standards and their obligations to children in their care. (sources of information: interviews with professionals; KAP survey, baseline)</p> <p>Level of implementation of the ICDP information booklet in schools and by the families and its impact on improving the quality of life for target children (sources of information: interviews with professionals and families).</p> <p>% of teaching curricula which incorporate the specific cultural needs of children in target communities during the course of the project. 100% of all reading and recreational spaces constructed in schools. (sources of information: Institutional education Plan written; minutes of meetings, interviews with children and teachers)</p>	<p>In the coming months, teachers will apply these practices to improve adult-child interactions in home and at school.</p> <p>The planned activities for Nov 2010 – April 2011 with IDCP are:</p> <p>3.1 Training workshops with parents and teachers</p> <p>3.2 Training workshops with professionals and community leaders</p> <p>Planned activities within this objective with CCLF from Nov 2010 – April 2011 are:</p> <p>3.4 Review of both institutional education plans in schools of the participating municipalities. Review quality of curricula and other activities with children</p> <p>3.5 Development of reading and recreational spaces in schools</p> <p>3.6 Follow up of meetings among teachers, families, and communities</p>

PROJECT MONITORING PLAN:

Throughout this project's implementation, we will adopt the following monitoring plan to ensure the project's progress towards its objectives.

Planning:

In consultation with Save the Children, each partner organisation will prepare a work plan for the year taking into account what is expected - action, time and resources – for the overall project. Beginning in the second year of the programme, an annual plan will be developed for each employee during the last two months of the year. This will ensure that each annual plan complements the annual reports and incorporates lessons learned given the advances and challenges of the previous year. Save the Children will lead a TAG (Technical Assessment Group), which will involve streamlining all annual plans and developing an overall project work plan to be followed throughout each year of the project.

Monitoring:

Throughout the project's duration each partner organisation will submit two progress reports per annum as well as respective financial updates (submission dates will be agreed each year with Save the Children). These reports will document progress made against each of the project's objectives as well as lessons learned and indicate any adjustments to be made to accomplish the project's objectives.

Assessment:

As a part of the reporting requirements mentioned above, annual reports for each employee will be compiled during the last two months of each year of the project. Annual reports will document the progress made against each of the project's objective throughout the year and will inform project planning for the subsequent year. Save the Children will conduct regular project visits to ensure that project activities are completed and verify the extent to which each of the project's indicators contribute to the project's overall objectives. Visits may also include interviews with family, children, teachers and other key stakeholders to compile case studies and reports.

Regular review meetings will also be held with partner organisations to evaluate their performance and assist with resolving any difficulties. All monitoring reports will be used to inform a project evaluation. Meanwhile a database is being set up which will contain material inputs for verifying indicators, including project beneficiaries figures, number of children served, and their nutritional and health status.

Evaluation:

A mid term evaluation will be conducted at the end of the second year of the project at which time the outcomes of the indicators shown above will be shared. A final evaluation will also be conducted at the end of the three years at which time we hope to assess the overall impact of this project within the entire EC project (Brazil and Peru). This will also be shared with you.