

## 2012

The Health Policy Project (HPP) champions participatory policy processes that help hold governments accountable for meeting the health needs of all people, including marginalized groups. HPP facilitates policy change, and—more important—works to ensure that our country partners and groups committed to health systems strengthening have the knowledge and expertise they need to drive positive policy change well into the future.

### Family Planning and Reproductive Health

- With HPP support, civil society organizations and multisectoral government bodies advocated for a policy change resulting in the government of Guatemala lifting the restriction that contraceptive commodities had to be locally procured. HPP provided technical assistance to its civil society advocacy partners, including watchdog groups, women's networks, and a multisectoral contraceptive security body, to develop evidence-based advocacy campaigns around this issue. As a result, contraceptive prices will be lower and the government funds will go further.
- In Peru, HPP provided technical assistance in family planning to key stakeholders of the regional government of Ucayali and civil society organizations through the revival of the Sexual and Reproductive Health (SRH) Roundtable. The SRH Roundtable formulates, evaluates, and monitors implementation of policies and norms related to reproductive health and family planning. The members of the roundtable signed a commitment to prioritize family planning as a key strategy to combat maternal mortality and adolescent pregnancy in Ucayali by enhancing access to contraceptives. [Read story from the field.](#)

### HIV

- In partnership with the Eurasian Harm Reduction Network, HPP released the [Policy Advocacy and Analysis Decision Model for People Who Inject Drugs](#) in June 2012. The decision model identifies the existence of restrictive, poorly written, or absent enabling policies that may serve as obstacles for programs to provide HIV counseling and testing, antiretroviral therapy, hepatitis, tuberculosis, opioid substitution therapy, and sterile needle and syringe program services for people who inject drugs. The decision model was applied as a framework for policy analysis by the Eurasian Harm Reduction Network is already being used as an advocacy tool in several Eastern European countries.
- HPP and its collaborators developed the *Road Map for Implementing and Monitoring Policy Interventions* to support efforts to strengthen country ownership and accountability for HIV programs and to monitor the outcomes of the policy components of the Partnership Framework Implementation Plans (PFIPs) under the U.S. President's Emergency Plan for AIDS Relief (PEPFAR). The tool helps to strengthen in-country capacity among U.S. Government teams, partner governments, and civil society organizations to monitor progress of partnership framework policy interventions.

## Maternal Health

- HPP and the White Ribbon Alliance in Tanzania support the Parliamentary Group for Safe Motherhood to promote policies that ensure safe delivery conditions for midwives, mothers, and infants. The advocacy efforts of these parliamentarians has led to a joint effort among the White Ribbon Alliance, women lawyers, and members of Parliament to begin drafting a Safe Motherhood Bill, which will aim to further enforce current government health policies and ultimately increase midwifery workforce numbers and medical supplies in Tanzanian delivery rooms.
- In Guatemala, HPP provided support to the National Alliance of Indigenous Women (ALIANMISAR); the Indigenous Women's Networks for Reproductive Health, Education and Nutrition (REDMISAR); and the Reproductive Health Observatories (OSAR) to advocate for implementing new regulations in the country's Safe Motherhood Law. These regulations specify the framework and guidelines required to improve the health and quality of life for women and newborns. [Read the story from the field.](#)

## Gender

- HPP is supporting the integration of policy and gender into the scale-up of best practices in family planning and reproductive health, and maternal and child health in the Asia and Middle East Region. HPP developed and finalized a concept paper that reviews the literature and outlines a framework for gender integration into program scale-up. [Read the concept paper.](#)