



# HEALTH POLICY PROJECT

Photo by: Health Policy Project

# Gender

### Overview

Empowering women and girls and promoting gender equality are priorities for development programs throughout the world. The U.S. Government has intensified its commitment to the health of women and girls, recognizing that gender-related inequalities and disparities affect women's and girls' health, their risk of HIV, and the health of families and communities. The U.S. President's Emergency Plan for AIDS Relief (PEPFAR) is also committed to integrating gender equality in its programs and policies to ensure that women have access to family planning, reproductive health, and HIV prevention and care services in the overall effort to improve women's health.

### What We Do

The Health Policy Project (HPP) integrates gender in its family planning, reproductive health, HIV, and maternal health activities. HPP provides technical leadership and builds local capacity to translate the Women, Girls, and Gender Equality (WGGE) and PEPFAR gender principles into action. HPP also emphasizes collaboration

in these efforts with other donors and harmonization with multilateral gender and health frameworks advanced by the World Health Organization (WHO), UN Women, UNAIDS, and others.

## Strengthening Capacity to Scale Up Gender and Health Policies and Programs

HPP provides technical assistance to local health institutions and national-level leaders to enhance their ability to assess gender-related health policies and provide equitable access to family planning, reproductive health, and HIV services. Our activities include a focus on reducing gender-based violence, which increases HIV risk. We conduct women's leadership training and mentoring to strengthen women's roles in defining country priorities and using evidence to advocate for support for family planning and reproductive health. We work with local partners to strengthen the policy environment to advance the health of women and girls and to promote gender equality.







# WHAT WORKS FOR WOMEN AND GIRLS Evidence for HIV/AIDS Interventions

What Works for Women and Girls is a comprehensive website documenting the evidence for effective HIV interventions to guide donors, policymakers, and program managers in planning effective HIV/AIDS policies and programs for women and girls. It is supported by the U.S. President's Emergency Plan for AIDS Relief (PEPFAR) and Open Society Foundations and is being carried out under the auspices of the Health Policy Project and the Public Health Institute.

whatworksforwomen.org

### Developing and Applying Tools for Evidence-Based Decision Making for Women, Girls, and Gender Equality

To advance global understanding of gender in health policy, HPP develops tools and methodologies that civil society groups, program managers, and health officials can use to identify gender-related barriers and policy gaps. Such analysis helps decisionmakers set priorities to address the healthcare needs of women and girls and improve gender equality. HPP also promotes increased use of evidence in HIV policymaking and programming for women and girls.

# Strengthening Advocacy for Women-Centered Health Issues and Approaches

HPP collaborates with government agencies, national and international organizations, women's associations, donors, and other stakeholders to strengthen their capacity to advocate effectively for increased commitment and resources that improve women's health. As a result, these individuals and groups are better equipped to influence policymakers to give increased support to maternal care, family planning and reproductive health, and HIV prevention services—all programs that enhance the quality of life for women, girls, and families.

## How to Work with Us

For over 40 years, Futures Group has managed large and complex international health and development projects for a range of major development players, achieving significant results on the ground in more than 100 countries. Host-country partners with interest in receiving project assistance should contact their USAID Mission. All Missions may participate through field support. For information on how to work with the Health Policy Project please contact:

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The Health Policy Project is a five-year cooperative agreement funded by the U.S. Agency for International Development under Agreement No. AID-OAA-A-10-00067, beginning September 30, 2010. The project's HIV activities are supported by the U.S. President's Emergency Plan for AIDS Relief (PEPFAR). It is implemented by Futures Group, in collaboration with CEDPA (part of Plan International USA), Futures Institute, Partners in Population and Development, Africa Regional Office (PPD ARO), Population Reference Bureau (PRB), RTI International, and the White Ribbon Alliance for Safe Motherhood (WRA).

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