policy

March 2014

HEALTH POLICY PROJECT

Policy

Overview

Policy pays off. Sound policies lay the foundation for strong health systems and contribute to improved governance and accountability. Policy affects the cost, quality, and availability of health services. Stronger health policies can contribute to better programs with better outcomes.

The policy process is dynamic, and effective policies must respond to changing circumstances and emerging challenges. New problems require new policy solutions or changes to existing measures. These changes must be formulated, adopted, implemented, and evaluated, often resulting in the identification of further areas of need.

With policy environments constantly evolving, there is an ongoing need for national institutions, civil society, and individuals to engage in the policy process. This level of engagement is key to the development and implementation of effective, evidence-based policies for family planning and reproductive health (FP/RH), HIV, and maternal health. It can also help reform the policymaking process to make sure people have a voice in the decisions that affect their lives and health.

What We Do

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. We

- Assist countries to devise and put in place evidence-based policies to support FP/RH, HIV, and maternal health programs and strong health systems

- Address barriers to program delivery and program integration

- Help put national policies and plans into practice in regions, states, and districts

- Help countries adopt and reform policies to address structural conditions—such as poverty, gender-based violence, stigma, or low male partner involvement— that contribute to poor health outcomes

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- Build the capacity of those most affected by policy decisions—including women, people living with HIV, the poor, youth, and most-at-risk populations—to engage in the policy process

- Bring new players into the policy arena to improve health outcomes, including non-health ministries, the private sector, faith-based organizations, local authorities and leaders, and NGOs and civil society

- Develop and share tools for policy analysis

- Assist policymakers and planners to gather, analyze, and use data to inform decision making, monitor programs, and identify needed course corrections

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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Photo by: Health Policy Project

A JN+ coordinator facilitates an advocacy workshop to promote PLHIV leadership on policy change.

Contact Us

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