2012

The Health Policy Project (HPP) assists governments in developing sustainable policies that increase overall financial resources for health and work with policymakers and stakeholders to explore, compare, and design equitable and affordable health finance strategies. We seek to maximize the efficiency, effectiveness, and equity of health programs by improving health finance systems and helping policymakers and program managers more accurately estimate the cost and impact of their public health responses.

Family Planning and Reproductive Health

- The HPP program in Ghana has trained government leaders and health officials in applying the GAP Tool—a simple software tool that helps policymakers understand the costs associated with expanding family planning services and to identify existing funding gaps. The National Population Council has applied the tool to develop a national forecast of contraceptive needs from 2012-2014. As a result, they are better equipped to develop planning and programs that maximize the country’s financial resources and increase the use of contraceptives and other family planning methods.

- HPP supported a pro-poor health finance conference in Nigeria to provide international perspectives and case studies at the conference and to disseminate conference findings to an international audience. A total of 240 participants, including health managers and providers, insurance specialists, health economists, government officials, and media representatives, shared information on a wide range of health financing strategies and mechanisms employed in Nigeria and other countries. Read the HPP briefs presented at the conference.

HIV

- The National AIDS Control Council and the National AIDS and STI Control Programme (NASCOP) in Kenya have strengthened their capacity to incorporate efficiency and effectiveness (E²) tools. These tools help stakeholders analyze the costs of implementing HIV programs and maximize available funding and resources to improve the quality and quantity of services. As a result, Kenyan stakeholders have demonstrated ownership of the concept and set national agendas accordingly, and NASCOP has chosen to incorporate E² analysis into the upcoming Kenya National AIDS Strategic Planning process.

- HPP is building the capacity of national stakeholders in Côte d’Ivoire to estimate the unit cost for reaching female sex workers and males who have sex with males HIV services through a collaborative unit cost study. HPP used a highly participatory approach to train 35 participants from PEPFAR-funded projects to cost HIV services for female sex workers and males who have sex with males.

- In Ghana, HPP conducted analyses to determine the cost of services that prevent mother-to-child transmission of HIV, as well as for HIV prevention services that target key populations at higher risk. The data will help Ghanaian HIV stakeholders use evidence-based planning and decision-making to develop effective policies and programs that prevent HIV. Read the report.