



HEALTH POLICY PROJECT / ZIMBABWE

Building capacity for improved health policy, advocacy, governance, and finance.

The Health Policy Project (HPP), funded by the U.S. Agency for International Development (USAID), contributes to improved health through strengthening the efficiency, effectiveness, and equity of health systems.

To learn more, visit HPP at: www.healthpolicyproject.com

Overview

The Health Policy Project (HPP) in Zimbabwe builds the capacity of national partners—government, development partners, and civil society—to advocate for, direct, and finance family planning (FP) programs.

Zimbabwe's contraceptive prevalence rate (CPR) is one of the highest in sub-Saharan Africa, and the majority of users obtain their contraceptives from the public sector. However, the FP program is largely donor-supported.

At the 2012 London Family Planning Summit (FP2020), the government of Zimbabwe committed to

- Reduce unmet need for FP from 13 percent to 6.5 percent by 2020
- Increase CPR from 59 percent to 68 percent by 2020

Achieving these targets could avert an estimated 780,000 unintended pregnancies, 110,500 unsafe abortions, and 4,200 maternal deaths. Realizing these benefits requires the government of Zimbabwe and its development partners to use economic and programmatic analyses to identify the most efficient and effective approaches to scale-up access to and utilization of FP/reproductive health services—and then mobilize the resources and political will necessary to carry them out.

The project

- Helps generate a robust evidence base to support FP-related strategic planning, policymaking, and advocacy
- Builds partners' capacity to use economic tools for FP analysis
- Collaborates with partners to analyze the costs and potential impacts of investing in FP
- Strengthens government and civil society partners' capacity for evidence-based decision making and advocacy

Policy

HPP/Zimbabwe helps foster a more supportive policy environment for FP by supporting evidence-based advocacy and decision making. Recognizing that FP is an economic and development issue that extends far beyond the health realm, the project's approach includes non-health sectors in its work.

The project

- Works with partners use economic models and tools—such as ImpactNow and FP-Gather-Analyze-Plan (FP-GAP Tool)—to identify funding gaps, resource needs, and potential impacts of investing in FP



Photo by: Save The Children



Photo by: Health Policy Project

Capacity Development

Capacity development lies at the heart of HPP/Zimbabwe's approach. Through a combination of participatory training workshops, technical assistance, and partner engagement, the project enhances individual and institutional capacities in

- Applying economic tools and models to analyze the potential costs and impacts of FP programs and services
- Data for decision making
- Evidence-based advocacy

To ensure the success of its efforts, HPP/Zimbabwe involves stakeholders in all stages of planning and implementation, creating local ownership of both the process and products of the project's work.

- Builds individual and institutional capacity to use economic tools for FP analysis
- Strengthens multisectoral collaboration on and commitment to FP-related issues—HPP facilitated the formation of and provides ongoing support for a multisectoral technical working group to guide such analyses

Advocacy

Robust support across multiple sectors is needed for Zimbabwe to achieve its FP commitments and reduce donor-dependence in FP service delivery. HPP/Zimbabwe helps build this support by

- Generating strategic information to provide a solid evidence base for advocacy
- Building local partners' capacity to effectively advocate for investment in FP programs and services

Health Financing

Generating data and building partners' capacity for costing the delivery of health services are crucial aspects of improving health financing and enhancing sustainability. Through its analyses and capacity-building efforts, HPP/Zimbabwe is contributing to the long-term efficiency and sustainability of the country's FP program.

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:

USAID

Linda Cahaelen, ScD
AOR, USAID/Washington
lcahaelen@usaid.gov
Tel: +1 (202) 712-4138

Futures Group

Suneeta Sharma, PhD
Director, Health Policy Project
ssharma@futuresgroup.com
Tel: +1 (202) 775-9680

Contact Us

Health Policy Project
One Thomas Circle NW, Suite 200
Washington, DC 20005
www.healthpolicyproject.com
policyinfo@futuresgroup.com

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. 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).

The information provided in this document is not official U.S. Government information and does not necessarily represent the views or positions of the U.S. Agency for International Development.