PPD Secretariat - Our very own office

The onset of a cool and rainy climate comes with June. This is when we in the PPD Secretariat have decided to move into our very own Secretariat office located in our complex at Ser-e-Bangla Nagar Administrative Zone of Agargaon, Dhaka.

Land for building this 6 story complex has been benevolently donated by the Government of Bangladesh in the officially demarcated classified administrative zone in Dhaka.

Her Excellency, the Honorable Prime Minister of Bangladesh, Sheikh Hasina Wazed graciously consented to unveil the foundation stone of this new 6-storey PPD Secretariat complex on 12 November 2012 during the 17th Board Meeting of PPD in Dhaka.

PPD Journal: Journal for Population, Development and Health (IJPDH)

*Journal for Population, Development and Health (IJPDH)*, the recently launched International Journal of PPD invites submissions for possible publication. Each issue will contain original research articles, reports, case studies, and policy dialogues. In addition, the journal will also publish supplements of its own or on request from others.

IJPDH is a peer-reviewed international online journal publishing findings from high quality research and learnings from policy and programs of the global south. The focus areas are Population, Development and Health issues including Reproductive Health and Rights, HIV/AIDS, Poverty Alleviation and Women’s Empowerment, and other topics relevant to ICPD goals and SDGs.

Submissions should be made online at: [www.IJPDH.org](http://www.IJPDH.org)
In case of difficulties in submission, please contact: [ppdjournal@ppdsec.org](mailto:ppdjournal@ppdsec.org)

PPD’s inter-Ministerial Conference 2017

The Government of Indonesia is hosting the 2017 Annual Inter-Ministerial Conference of PPD in Yogyakarta, Indonesia from 26 to 30 November 2017. Organized jointly by the National Population and Family Planning Board (NPFPB) of the Government of Indonesia and Partners in Population and Development (PPD). Please stay tuned in for the theme and other technical details of the Conference. Kindly mark your calendar accordingly. Any further information regarding the IMC 2017 can be accessed on: [imc2017@ppdsec.org](mailto:imc2017@ppdsec.org)
[www.partners-popdev.org/em](http://www.partners-popdev.org/em)
Side Event of the 70th World Health Assembly: Impact of the recommendations of UN Secretary-General’s High-Level Panel on access to Medicines in the Context of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development

“No one should suffer because he or she can’t afford medicines, diagnostics or vaccines”. A side event was held on Access to Medicines in the Context of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development during the Seventieth World Health Assembly (WHA) on 24 May 2017 in Geneva. Impact of the recommendations of the United Nations Secretary-General’s High-Level Panel was the agenda of the discussion. This event was organized and sponsored by the Kingdom of Morocco and the Plurinational State of Bolivia; co-sponsored by the Republic of India, the Republic of Uganda, and the Bolivarian Republic of Venezuela, and supported by Partners in Population and Development (PPD), South Centre and UNHLP on Access to Medicines.

The Joint Declaration drawn up at the end of this side event calls upon WHO Member States to strengthen co-operation and share initiatives and lessons learned on access to medicines. The Declaration reiterates the recommendation of the High-Level Panel to convene a United Nations General Assembly Special Session no later than 2018, to agree on strategies and an accountability framework that will accelerate efforts towards promoting health technology innovation and ensuring access.


PPD’s Statement

Side Event of Seventieth World Health Assembly
Access to Medicines in the Context of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development: 70th World Health Assembly (WHA)

Promoting innovations and access to health technologies: role of partnerships and SSC

We at the Secretariat and the Permanent Observer Mission of Partners in Population and Development (PPD) – an intergovernmental Organization of 26 member countries – are happy to support the side event of the Seventieth World Health Assembly (WHA).

We are happy to be working closely with South Centre with whom we share the belief in the efficacy of cooperation between countries of the south.

South-South Cooperation is often forgotten by International organizations when they issue recommendations. We now hope for a change. A change for the better where PPD and its Member Countries of the south would be included since the newly appointed Director-General of WHO hails from the Global South and understands the situation. It gives PPD a lot of pride to claim that the Director-General hails from one of PPD’s Member Countries and has been a very dynamic and active member.

We request the WHO Director-General to take necessary action to implement the proposed Joint Declaration. We at PPD are committed to take this further with our member countries.

For detail, please visit http://jethomas.in/2017/05/29/impact-of-the-recommendations-of-united-nations-secretary-generals-high-level-panel-report-on-access-to-medicines-discussion-in-context-2030-agenda-for-sustainable-development/
PPD Congratulated Dr. Tedros Adhanom Ghebreyesus, newly elected DG of WHO

Dr. Joe Thomas, PPD Executive Director warmly congratulated Dr. Tedros Adhanom Ghebreyesus on being elected as the next Director-General of the World Health Organization. He is the former Board Member of PPD for Ethiopia. Dr. Tedros is a leader from the Global South with a lot of experience on health and equity issues of the Global South. With his clarity and understanding, PPD believes that ambitious steps would be taken towards bold solutions for the people living in the Global South and thereby promoting South to South Cooperation.

PPD wishes Dr. Tedros well in his new responsibilities at the WHO as the next Director-General. PPD also looks forward to strengthening cooperation between PPD Secretariat and PPD Member Countries and the WHO while extending support at all levels.

Mental Health for Adolescents: A Call to Action

The Global Adolescent Health Conference was held in Ottawa, Canada on 16–17 May, 2017. Conversations about global health outcomes are gaining ground around adolescents as the key to achieving the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) and Every Woman Every Child targets. Mental health problems are the leading causes globally of death and disability in the youth. New knowledge from neurosciences and public health is transforming understanding of why most mental health problems begin in youth. This knowledge forms the foundation for an evidence-based approach to preventing mental health problems through an inter-sectoral approach, with young people at the heart of the agenda.

PPD Executive Director Dr Joe Thomas represented PPD at the conference.

Key actions of Beijing Call for Action: Center of Excellence for South to South Cooperation (SSC) in Population and Development

The launching ceremony of the China Center of Excellence for Population and Development was held on 15 May 2017 in Beijing. H.E. Mr Wang Pei’an, Vice-Minister of NHFPC, Dr. Babatunde Osotimehin, Executive Director UNFPA and a group of other representatives attended the Ceremony. Establishment of the Center of Excellence for SSC is one of the six key actions listed in the Beijing Call for Action agreed in March 2016. It will serve as a platform for SSC in population and development.
Ministerial Seminar on Population and Development Strategy 2017

A high level Ministerial seminar on Population and Development Strategy for Developing Countries was held in Beijing China in May 2017. 25 senior government officials including 11 ministerial level delegates attended the opening ceremony. H.E. Mr. Wang Pei’an attended the Opening Ceremony and gave the welcome speech.

Executive Director’s Courtesy Visits

The Executive Director called on Ms. Saima Wajed Hossain of Shuchona Foundation, Dhaka during his visit in Ottawa for attending the Adolescent Health Conference 2017 and H.E. Mr. Jagat Prakash Nadda, Vice-Chair, PPD Board and Honorable Minister, Union Ministry of Health and Family Welfare, Government of India in Geneva during WHA’2017.

20th Board meeting of PMNCH

Executive Director attended the 20th Board meeting of PMNCH as an observer.
PPD’s South to South Scholarship Program

Capacity development is one of the priority areas of PPD. PPD has been involved in Capacity Building at the individual, institutional and system levels since 1998 to promote SSC in the field of RH, Population and Development. PPD’s scholarship program provides an excellent opportunity for young professionals to acquire new skills, accommodate new challenges, and acquire strategy for translating global commitments into national needs. PPD initiated its scholarship program in 1998. Since its inception, PPD has managed more than 1500 scholarships in the field of RH, Population and Development across the member countries. For more information regarding PPD’s South to South Scholarship Program, visit: http://www.partners-popdev.org/ppd-scholarship-program/

Admission Notice
One-year Post Graduate Diploma (PGD) in Population and Policy Analysis (PPA)
North West University, Mafikeng Campus, South Africa
Commencing Date: March 2018

PPD is pleased to announce 5 scholarships for the one-year Post Graduate Diploma in Population and Policy Analysis (PPA). The program is offered with the support of the Department of Social Development of the Government of South Africa for professionals working in the field of Population and Development. The course will be conducted at the North West University, Mafikeng Campus, South Africa commencing from March 2018

Eligibility:
1. Graduate/bachelor degree preferably in Social Sciences
2. Government service holder with at least 2 years experience in population & development
3. Good communication and understanding skills in English.
4. English is the medium of the instruction of the course.

The scholarship will cover registration fees, tuition fees, accommodation on campus; a contribution of ZAR 15000 towards meals expenses and a contribution of ZAR 6000 for textbooks and stationery. Successful applicants should secure their own funding/sponsorship for travel and other expenses. The application should be sent to Ms Khan Tahrima at tahrima@ppdsec.org


Admission Notice
One Year Post-Graduate Diploma in Public Health Management (PGDPMH)
National Institute of Health and Family Welfare, New Delhi, India
Commencing Date: 1 August 2017

PPD is pleased to announce 10 scholarships for the one-year Post Graduate Diploma in Public Health Management (PGDPMH) for the session of September 2017. The program will be conducted by National Institute of Health and Family Welfare, New Delhi, India. PPD will accept nomination from the member countries’ Partner Country Coordinators (PCC) until 31 May 2017.

Eligibility:
1. Working in the central, state and local governments with at least 3 years of service experience in the health sector.
2. MBBS/BDS/AYUSH graduate or BSc. in nursing/health, science/natural science or Bachelors of occupation therapy/ physiotherapy or MA is social science or an equivalent qualification.
3. Good communication and understanding skills in English language

Government of India will meet the expenses towards tuition, training materials, boarding and lodging and will provide an additional stipend of INR5000(Rupees Five thousand only) per student per month. The Travel and Visa processing cost for joining the course will be met by the sponsoring institution or the candidate. The application should be sent to Ms Khan Tahrima at tahrima@ppdsec.org

For further details please visit: http://www.partners-popdev.org/announcement/one-year-post-graduate-diploma-in-public-health-management-pgdphm-at-nihfw-india/
International Day to End Obstetric Fistula, 2017: Hope, Healing, and Dignity for All

The International Day to End Obstetric Fistula is on 23 May. This year, PPD paid tribute on this day on the theme "hope, healing, and dignity for all" with the international community.

In the official statement PPD shared that the Global South carries a massive burden with a large majority of women and girls affected by Obstetric Fistula. Obstetric Fistula is preventable and hence it has to see an end. It is for Member Countries to consistently and consciously work with a firm political commitment towards elimination of child marriage and parallely improve adequate institutional care for pregnant women.

In an unequal world, those women living with fistula are the most unequal among the unequals. A world free of the burden of fistula can offer a dignified life to the poorest of the poor women of the developing countries. PPD would like to reiterate its commitment that 'dignity for all' is one of the agreed goals of sustainable development.


New Publication on South-South Cooperation

The increasing relevance and potential of South–South Cooperation (SSC) has been subject to a growing debate on the international agenda. International Development Research Centre, Ottawa has recently published a well researched paper: South-South Peacebuilding: Lessons and Insights from Turkey and South Africa’s support to Fragile states.

This joint research by the South African Institute of International Affairs (SAIIA) and the Center for International Cooperation (CIC) has analysed the features of South African and Turkish assistance to the Democratic Republic of Congo and Somalia respectively. This paper compares the peacebuilding approaches of South Africa and Turkey and attempts to assess their effectiveness in relation to the approaches of traditional donors. Evidence from the two case studies shows that while operating under different paradigms, principles and drivers, southern providers not only bring substantive support to fragile states but also get different types of results and responses from host countries. The providers of South–South Cooperation (SSC) are increasingly playing a role in peace building, particularly in the fragile states and conflict-affected areas.


About PPD: Partners in Population and Development is an intergovernmental alliance comprising 26 developing countries. It provides a mechanism for promoting partnership and cooperation among Member Countries with a view to achieving the goals of the International Conference on Population and Development (ICPD), and its Program of Action and the Sustainable Development Goals. It holds permanent observer status in the General Assembly. The current Member Countries of the Alliance are Bangladesh, Benin, China, Colombia, Egypt, Ethiopia, Gambia, Ghana, India, Indonesia, Jordan, Kenya, Mali, Mexico, Morocco, Nigeria, Pakistan, Senegal, South Africa, Sri Lanka, Thailand, Tunisia, Uganda, Viet Nam, Yemen and Zimbabwe – comprising 59% of the world population.

For more information, visit: [www.partners-popdev.org](http://www.partners-popdev.org)