

An Inter-Governmental Organization Promoting South-South Cooperation

PPD ARO Annual report for the year 2019

Introduction

This report presents a description of the activities that PPD ARO was able to implement during the period January to December 2019. ARO has made significant and tangible contributions to improved RH/FP policy and funding environment in Africa. In countries that were a focus for interventions during the year, there is a notable increase by policy makers and key government leaders' knowledge and appreciation of the linkages between RH/FP and development. The funding for RH/FP programmes by national governments and international donors is improving as well as accountability for RH/FP commitments that countries signed onto. In addition there is improved South-South cooperation in the areas of RH/FP, a modality that has provided opportunities for countries to share good practices, lessons learned and experiences for better RH/FP programming and implementation.

PPD ARO continued to design and implement activities anchored around three strategic interventions of 1) advocacy and policy development; 2) Institutional capacity building for SSC and 3) building partnerships and relationships. The activities aimed at positioning reproductive health and family planning (RH/FP) as high priorities on national development agendas; enhancing greater accountability for the implementation of RH/FP commitments that countries signed onto; and advocating for increased domestic and international funding for RH/FP. A description of the activities implemented and outcomes is presented below:

Strategic Intervention: Advocacy & policy development

1.0 Country level advocacy work

During the period of reporting, PPD ARO conducted country level advocacy and capacity building activities with policy makers, key government leaders and like-minded development partners with overlapping objectives aimed at increasing policy makers' knowledge to better understand and appreciate the interlinkages between RH/FP and sustainable development. This would in turn facilitate decision making in putting in place conducive policy and funding environment for RH/FP. In addition, knowledgeable policy makers would meaningfully and persuasively engage governments to provide accountability on implementation of the RH/FP and other related commitments that countries made at international, regional and country levels, including at Network of African Parliamentary Committees of Health (NEAPACOH) meetings and FP2020. The country level activities implemented are described below:

1.1 Advocacy meetings with policy makers in Uganda on establishing a National Health Insurance Scheme that includes Family Planning.

For the period of February to April, 2019, PPD ARO in partnership with other key stakeholders conducted a number of advocacy activities with the main objective of achieving the NEAPACOH commitment of having Parliament approve the National Health Insurance Bill that incorporates Family planning. Passing of the Bill would pave way for establishment of the National Health Insurance Scheme. The advocacy activities with parliamentarians were also aimed at ensuring accountability for the FP2020 commitments that government of Uganda made at both the July 2012 and July 2017 Family Planning Summits.

As a result of our advocacy work in Uganda, the Speaker of Parliament granted a leave of absence to a private member of Parliament to draft and present a private member's Bill on the National Health Insurance by September 2019. Because of the pressure that was coming from the backbenchers, Cabinet approved a National Health Insurance Bill in July 2019 which was presented to Parliament for the first reading in August 2019. The Bill is right now being scrutinized by the Parliamentary Committee of Health. On request by the Chair of the Parliamentary Committee of Health, PPD ARO has been providing technical support in helping the Parliamentarians understand the Bill and its provisions. It is hoped that the Committee will present its recommendations on the Government Bill during the first quarter of 2020.



Participants at a meeting with the Uganda Parliamentary Committee of Health

1.2 Workshop to develop SMART advocacy objectives for family planning, Benin, Cotonou, 28 February – 8 March 2019

A Programme Officer travelled to Benin, Cotonou, and facilitated a workshop to develop SMART advocacy objectives for family planning on 28 February – 8 March 2019. The workshop was organized by AFP in collaboration with PPD ARO. This workshop was majorly meant to accelerate progress in achieving the Ouagadougou Partnership (OP) and FP2020 objectives as well as national policies and commitments related to increasing access to information, services and supplies to youth and adolescents in the nine (9) OP countries. During the workshop, there was shared understanding of the latest evidence and effective practices for achieving zero pregnancies in school, including successful contraceptive service delivery. Information on potential resources, expertise, and commitment of national civil society (including youth) and international nongovernmental organizations (INGOs), donors, governments, researchers, and religious leaders that can be leveraged was also shared. Plans for sustained advocacy collaboration in each OP country that are dedicated to inclusion of strong youth leadership and achieving of Ouagadougou

Partnership (OP) and FP2020 objectives were developed.



Participants at a workshop to develop SMART advocacy objectives for family planning, Benin, Cotonou, 28 February – 8 March 2019

1.3 Workshop to develop SMART advocacy objectives for family planning, Ouagadougou, Burkina Faso, May 20 - 24, 2019

A Programme Officer travelled to Ouagadougou, Burkina Faso, and facilitated a workshop to develop SMART advocacy objectives for family planning on May 20 - 24, 2019. The workshop was organized by AFP, in collaboration with PPD ARO and JHPIEGO. The workshop aimed at helping JHPIEGO country offices in Francophone West Africa to train in AFP SMART as part of the AFP mainstreaming activities with participants from the JHPIEGO. As the output of the workshop, country-based SMART advocacy strategies within the framework of DMPA-SC were developed. At the workshop, the Ugandan example of how advocates worked through the 9-step SMART process in advocating for increased funding and better policy environment for FP in context of DMPA-SC was shared as a Best Practice for effective advocacy.



Trainers (PAI, AFP & PPD ARO) with MSI team leads from Mali, Niger, Senegal and Burkina Faso at a Workshop to develop SMART advocacy objectives for FP, Ouagadougou, May 20 - 24, 2019

1.4 Meeting with Members of Parliament of Kenya on NEAPACOH) commitments, Mombasa, Kenya, June 28, 2019

On June 28, 2019, PPD ARO in collaboration with National Council for Population and Development of Kenya organized a follow up meeting with Kenya parliamentarians on implementation of the NEAPACOH commitment that were made at a NEAPACOH meeting that was held in October 2018 in Kampala, Uganda. The meeting was held at Serena beach hotel and Spa, Mombasa. The participants were the MPs from the Kenya Parliamentary Network on Population and Development and members on the finance, health and budget committees from the Senate and National Assembly. Other participants were FP technical experts from the Kenya National Council for Population and Development (NCPD), Kenya National Bureau of Statistics, Ministry of Health, DSW and UNFPA Kenya. Dr. Josephine Kibaru Mbae, the Director General of the NCPD, presented the NCPD Bill to the MPs and appealed to them to expedite its passing into an Act. From the meeting, the progress of implementation of the NEAPACOH commitments as well as the plans for preparation of the ICPD25 Nairobi Summit were shared. Going by the good

progress that was shared, especially on amending National Health Insurance Fund (NHIF) so that it provides for Universal Health Care, Kenya government is on good course and stead to achieving its commitment of ensuring UHC by all.

1.5 Support RH/FP Champions to participate in national level advocacy opportunities

PPD ARO continued to identify, build capacity for, and deploy "RH/FP champions" at different levels as "voices of the south" for advocating for mainstreaming RH/FP as part of broader development goals. In this regard, PPD ARO supported ten (10) RH/FP champions, constituting 5 female and 5 male parliamentarians of Uganda Parliament to participate in the 2019 World Population Day (WPD) events that took place in Adjumani district of Northern Uganda on July 11, 2019. These events were presided over by the Vice President of Uganda who represented the President. At this event, the RH/FP champions made a strong and compelling statement appreciative of the role of RH/FP in the social-economic development nexus.

2.0 Regional level advocacy and capacity building work

2.1 9th Eastern Africa Reproductive Health Network (EARHN) coordination meeting, June 24 – 25, 2019, Nairobi, Kenya

PPD ARO, jointly with the National Council for Population and Development of Kenya (NCPD) organized the 9th Eastern Africa Reproductive Health Network (EARHN) coordination meeting which was held on June 24 – 25, 2019 at Intercontinental Hotel, Nairobi, Kenya. The meeting was attended by focal persons of EARHN, representatives from the ministries of health and Ministries/Commissions in charge of planning, and civil society from the respective member countries. It was attended by over 40 participants drawn from countries of Burundi, Ethiopia, Kenya, Rwanda, South Sudan, Tanzania and Uganda. The meeting was intended to facilitate the sharing of progress made, challenges, lessons learned and opportunities with regard to implementation of the EARHN Strategic Plan 2017-2021; sharing of good practices for enhancing the Demographic Dividend for socio economic transformation in Eastern Africa; and developing country action plans for further implementation of the EARHN Strategic Plan 2017-2021 over the subsequent 12 months.

The meeting provided an excellent platform for south-south sharing and learning of good practices in the field of RH/FP between and among countries. In particular, countries shared progress in implementation of FP2020 and other FP/RH related commitments, highlighting some good practices and lessons for other countries to learn from and adopt. Country delegations developed country specific advocacy action plans (anchored on EARHN 2017 – 2021) for implementation in 2019 and 2020 that were based on the successful advocacy approaches shared during the meeting. In addition, innovative and cost effective practices on enhancing the demographic dividend from Uganda and Kenya were also shared.



Participants at the EARHN meeting of June 24 - 25, 2019, Nairobi, Kenya

2.2 Meeting of the Network of African Parliamentary Committees of Health (NEAPACOH), Executive Committee, May 30, 2019 Kampala, Uganda

On May 30, 2019, PPD ARO organized a NEAPACOH Executive Committee meeting which was held at Golden Tulip Hotel, Kampala, Uganda. The meeting was attended by the NEAPACOH Chairperson, as well as representatives from the countries of Malawi, Uganda, Namibia, Ghana, South Sudan, Lesotho and Zimbabwe who form the membership of the Executive Committee of NEAPACOH. The meeting was held to discuss governance and operational issues for strengthening NEAPACOH to function as a robust, dynamic and effective African-born and African-led parliamentary network for advocacy for health in Africa.

The outcome of the meeting was a revised NEAPACOH constitution that was later tabled for approval during the NEAPACOH General Assembly of Oct 2019 in Kampala, Uganda. In addition, the Executive Committee meeting made important and far reaching resolutions which provides for the Parliament of Uganda to hold the position of Chairperson, in the interim, of the Executive Committee of NEAPACOH until the NEAPACOH General Assembly. A monitoring and accountability framework that was developed by Partners in Population and Development and the African Population and Health Research Center (APHRC) was adopted as a blue print for reporting progress on implementation of NEAPACOH commitments by member parliaments.



Members of the NEAPACOH Executive Committee at the EXCO meeting of May 30, 2019 in Kampala

2.3 Meeting of the Network of African Parliamentary Committees of Health (NEAPACOH), Oct 30 - 31, 2019 Kampala, Uganda

Every year, Partners in Population and Development Africa Regional Office (PPD ARO), in conjunction with the Network of African Parliamentary Committees of Health (NEAPACOH) and partners, organizes meetings of the NEAPACOH. The meeting participants are drawn from Parliamentarians who chair or are members of the parliamentary committees of health and their Committee Clerks, Development Partners, Civil Society Organizations, and other stakeholders involved in Family Planning, Reproductive, Maternal, Newborn, Child and Adolescent Health (RMNCAH) programmes. The 2019 NEAPACOH meeting was held from 30th to 31st October 2019 at Speke Resort Munyonyo, Kampala, Uganda and graciously hosted by the Parliament of Uganda. With the theme of "Building the capacity of African policy makers for enhanced implementation of ICPD PoA and improved reproductive health outcomes: Challenges and Opportunities", this meeting is timely, occurring around the time when the Governments of Kenya, Denmark and UNFPA would convene the ICPD+25 Summit that was later held on November 12 – 14, 2019 in Nairobi, Kenya.

The specific objectives of the meeting were to share progress, lessons learned and remaining challenges on implementation of the RH/FP related commitments that were made during the October 2018 NEAPACOH meeting; to share experiences and good practices that enhance the

implementation of FP/RH related commitments, the ICPD Programme of Action and the achievement of the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs); to build the capacity of policy makers to contribute to enhanced accountability, leadership and stewardship for the implementation of the ICPD Programme of Action and meet the SDGs by 2030 in the region; and to elicit commitments to improve RH/FP outcomes including ending preventable maternal deaths, eliminating unmet need for family planning and ending child marriages and teenage pregnancies, among others.

The meeting was opened by the Speaker of Uganda's Parliament, who was represented by the Chairperson of the Committee of Health and drew participants from Members of Parliament from the countries of Kenya, Lesotho, Malawi, Namibia, Zimbabwe, Benin, Niger, Gambia, Ghana, South Sudan, Senegal, Tanzania, Togo, Uganda, Zambia and Seychelles. Other participants were from United Kingdom, United States of America, Bangladesh, Nigeria and South Africa. In addition, Development Partners, Civil Society Organizations, and other stakeholders engaged in FP, RH &MCH attended the meeting. In total, 173 participants attended the meeting. The Executive Director of PPD, Mr Adnene attended and made statements at the official opening and closing of the meeting, emphasizing South-South and Triangular Cooperation for accelerated implementation of the ICPD PoA and achieving the SDGs. In total, 191 participants attended the meeting. The meeting developed and adopted a 2019 Kampala Call for Action which elaborates and emphasizes key recommendations for accelerated implementation of the ICPD PoA for improved reproductive health and family planning outcomes.

The Call to Action highlights areas of Improving Universal Access to Reproductive Health and Family Planning Services for achieving the ICPD PoA and the SDGs; accelerating progress for Universal Access to Sexual, Reproductive Health and Rights of the Young People to end Teenage Pregnancies; and harnessing the Demographic Dividend agenda for accelerated implementation of the ICPD PoA and achieving the SDGs at country level. Each country in attendance developed specific actions to promote RH/FP that will be implemented, and progress reported on, during the NEAPACOH meeting of 2020. The meeting report and presentations can be accessed at our website link; http://www.partners-popdev.org/aro/programs/regional-networks/





A Photo of PPD Staff at the 2019 NEAPACOH meeting

3.0 Subnational level advocacy work

3.1 Sub national level advocacy activities on positioning of FP/RH in Uganda

During the period of February – November, 2019, PPD ARO, together with Reproductive Health Uganda (RHU) continued to implement the Advance Family Planning (AFP) initiative that is funded by the Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation through the Gates institute of the Johns Hopkins Bloomberg School of Public Health. The goal of the initiative is to achieve the FP2020 targets through increasing funding for FP, reducing the policy barriers to FP uptake and raising the visibility of FP. During the period, PPD ARO continued to organize advocacy meetings with Uganda Districts' political and technical leaderships aimed at strengthening the functionality of Family Planning advocacy committees as well as increasing uptake of family planning services and information among the adolescents. The meetings were organized in a total of eight districts of Rakai, Kabale, Lwengo, Otuke, Soroti Mayuge, Kibaale and Kamwenge. With the same support from AFP, PPD ARO has now expanded its reach of the programme in five additional district of Rukungiri, Lamwo, Bududa, Kalungu and Budaka where inception meetings were held to introduce the initiative. Capacity building workshops have been done for the technical and political leaderships of the new districts to appreciate the linkages between FP and social economic transformation.

All the districts where we have had interventions have functional district FP advocacy working groups that are leading and sustaining the advocacy momentum that PPD ARO created around ensuring that FP programmes are adequately resourced, barriers that constrain FP uptake are addressed and the visibility of FP is raised at all levels. The Chief Administrative Officers, who are the District Accounting Officers, have incorporated the reports of the working groups as an output in their performance contracts with the Ministry of Local Government Permanent Secretary.









Participants at some of the district FP workshops.

Strategic Intervention: Institutional capacity building for SSC

1.0 Participation in a High level Workshop on Capacity Strengthening of National SSC Focal Persons (PCCs) and Development of 5-year PPD Strategic PIan (2020-2024), Taicang, China, 8-11 July 2019

A Programme Manager and Programme Officer attended a high level workshop on capacity strengthening of national SSC focal persons (PCCs) and development of a 5-year PPD Strategic PIan (2020-2024). The events were held in Taicang, China, 8-11 July 2019. The workshop was attended mainly by the PCCs. During the meeting, ideas were generated and discussed for the revision of the draft PPD Strategic Plan. In addition, presentations and discussions were made on various topics aimed at building the capacity of the PCCs on SSC.

2.0 Participation in the 16th International Inter-ministerial Conference, Le Palace Hotel, Tunis, Tunisia, 2-4 Sept 2019 and PPD Governance meetings.

On an annual basis, PPD Secretariat organizes International Inter-Ministerial Conferences on South-South Cooperation on Population and Development. Alongside the International Conferences, PPD organizes PPD Governance meetings namely the PCC meetings, the PPD Executive Committee meetings, and Annual PPD Board Meetings. The Programme Manager attended the Tunis International Inter-ministerial Conference which was the 16th, in a series, that was held at Le Palace Hotel, Tunis, Tunisia, 2-4 Sept 2019.

The theme of the Inter-ministerial conference was "Consolidating the gains and reaffirming the commitments for the achievement of the ICPD PoA and the SDGs 2030 Agenda" The Inter-ministerial conference gathered Ministers, Senior Government Officials, International Development Partners, Eminent Scientists, Scholars, Academics and Subject Experts, with the main objective of deliberating and clarifying on how South-South and Triangular Cooperation (SSTC) can maximize and leverage the health and demographic outcomes, contribute to addressing the emerging population issues and realize global commitment for accelerated implementation of ICPD PoA and SDG 2030 Agenda. The Conference was preceded by a Ministerial Session of PPD Member States during which member countries made commitments towards promoting SSTC as key accelerator for achieving ICPD PoA and SDGs 2030 Agenda. In addition, the Conference developed and adopted the Tunis Commitments for the achievement of ICPD and SDGs.

The Programme Manger also attended the 21st Partner Country Coordinators' (PCC) Meeting, which was held on Sept 2, 2019. During the meeting, a draft PPD Strategic Plan for the period 2020 - 2024 was presented by the Executive Director, PPD, discussed and received inputs from the PCCs and other key partners in attendance. At the same meeting, the work plan and budget for PPD for the year 2020 was presented, discussed and received comments and inputs which were incorporated in the final PPD work plan and budget.

In addition, the Programme Manager PPD ARO attended the 33rd Executive Committee Meeting (EXCOM) which was held in the afternoon of Sept 2, 2019. The key outcome of the Executive Committee Meeting was the approval of the PPD Strategic Plan 2020 – 2024; and the PPD work plan and budget for the year 2020. Similarly, the Programme Manager attended the 24th Annual Board Meeting (BM) which was held on Sept 4, 2019. At the meeting, the PPD Strategic Plan 2020 – 2024 was presented and adopted. In addition, the PPD work plan and budget for 2020 was also presented and adopted.

On the sidelines of the PPD Governance events, the Programme Manager ARO attended a meeting that was convened by H.E. Dr. Li Bin, Chair of PPD Board and Vice Chairwomen of Chinese People's Political Consultative Conference, Government of China. At this meeting, the Executive Director made a presentation on the key milestones and challenges still remaining since he assumed the leadership of PPD as its Executive Director. The Chair commended the ED for the hard work and effort in turning around the image of PPD as a broker for South to South Cooperation.

2.0 Participation at the ICPD25 Summit, November 14 - 16, 2019, Nairobi, Kenya

Two staff of ARO attended the ICPD25 Summit which was held on November 14 - 16, 2019, in Nairobi, Kenya. The Summit which marked the 25th Anniversary of the ground breaking International Conference on Population and Development (ICPD), that took place in Cairo in 1994, was convened by the international community led by UNFPA, and the Governments of Kenya and Denmark

The Summit was organized to contribute to accelerated efforts to achieve the ICPD goals agreed to at the 1994 International Conference on Population and Development with the specific objectives of mobilizing the political will and financial commitments needed to finally fully

implement the ICPD Programme of Action and meet the SDGs by 2030; and eliciting voluntary commitments to end preventable maternal deaths, eliminate unmet need for modern contraceptives, end gender-based violence, child marriage and female genital mutilation, among others. The Summit created political and financial momentum to advance the ICPD agenda, as an indispensable part of the 2030 Agenda, and in particular around reducing maternal mortality, unmet need for family planning and eliminating violence against women and harmful practices. It offered an inclusive platform for a broad range of Member States and other stakeholders to come together around the universally applicable principle of rights and choices for all. The commitments made at the ICPD were centered on achieving zero unmet need for family planning information and services, zero preventable maternal deaths, and zero sexual and gender-based violence and harmful practices against women and girls. Empowering the world's 1.8 billion young people and unleashing their full potential to contribute to economic and social progress was the unflinching imperative that was central to the Summit and commitments thereof.

Altogether, PPD ARO staff attended over 10 side events and workshops, including the high level signature session on South-South and Triangular Cooperation for accelerating the achievement of ICPD goals and the 2030 Agenda that was organized by PPD in partnership with UNFPA on November 12, 2019. This summit was the occasion for PPD staff to interact with participants from different countries including Ministers, Parliamentarians, PCCs, high level public servants as well leading development partners and current funders. The ICPD25 commitments made by heads of state and other high level dignitaries from PPD member countries will provide PPD with advocacy opportunities and themes for high level engagements to ensure that they are implemented.

Prior to the Summit, PPD ARO staff attended a high level policy dialogue that was organized by AFIDEP and APHRC. The dialogue was held on November 10th and 11th. The purpose of the dialogue was to discuss the emerging population imperatives that have often been forgotten and have not found adequate space in the ICPD and SDGs discourse. These include increasing urbanization and slums development, climate change, the ageing population and the demographic dividend. A framework for their integration in the country planning frameworks was developed and adopted.

3.0 Participation at the 8th African Population Conference, Nov 18-22, 2019, Entebbe Uganda

PPD ARO was a member of the National Steering Committee that organized the **8th African Population Conference** /Union of African Population Studies – UAPS - that was held in Entebbe, Uganda, from November 18 - 22, 2019. Specifically, PPD ARO was the Chair of the Sub Committee on resource mobilization. All staff of ARO attended the conference.

Just like the last three UAPS conferences that have been hinged on the 'Demographic Dividend in Africa,' the theme of the 2019 Union of African Population Studies Conference was "Harnessing Africa's Population Dynamics for Sustainable Development: 25 Years after Cairo and Beyond." The theme was particularly relevant to African countries, whose populations are predominantly youthful. The young population is a potential asset for national development through harnessing the demographic dividend.

The conference objectives were to facilitate dissemination and evaluation of new research findings on emerging issues on population and their implications for the socioeconomic development; to facilitate creation and strengthening of individual and institutional networking between researchers, service providers, public health experts, policymakers, and other stakeholders in the field of health, population and development in Africa; to promote an integrated approach to integration of population dynamics in development planning by bringing together a multidisciplinary audience of scholars, practitioners and policymakers; to enhance the visibility of African population issues on the global scientific and development discourses through the intense publicity of the conference at local, national, regional and international levels; to identify knowledge and methodological gaps for improving the quality of science and application of research evidence required for effective policies and programmes; and to facilitate capacity building and development of analytical and communication skills of the next generation of experts in population and development through various technical workshops and side meetings attached to the conference. The 2019 African Population Conference brought together over 1,000 guests from a multiplicity of countries across the world. On top of providing opportunities for engaging with researchers, academicians, and policy makers on the latest and state of the art evidence to facilitate advocacy in the population and development nexuses, it provided opportunities for building partnerships and networks

Strategic Intervention: Partnerships and relationships

1.0 Participation in the AFP Partners' meeting, April 8 - 11, 2019, Mumbai, India

Two officers of PPD ARO participated in the Advance Family Planning (AFP) Partners' Meeting that was held on April 8 – 11, 2019 in Mumbai, India. The meeting brought together over 100 participants from the different AFP countries including FP advocates and donors from The William and Flora Hewlett Foundation, Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation and the David & Lucile Packard Foundation. AFP Partners meeting are held annually with the main purpose of sharing the progress of implementation of country plans as well as sharing emerging issues around the landscape for FP at country and global levels. During the meeting, different presentations and panel discussions were made on the overview of the AFP and the FP2020. Partners all over the AFP geographies shared their work and the results that they have seen impact on the Family planning funding, policies and visibility in their respective countries. PPD ARO staff shared their AFP Uganda implementation progress with other partners, and other detailed financial and programmatic dynamics with the AFP Baltimore team.





Group photo of participants at the AFP Partners' meeting, depicting 10 years of AFP's presence

3.0 Participation in the Partnership for African Social and Governance Research (PASGR), organized workshop in Nairobi, Kenya, May 2 – 3, 2019

The Programme Manger participated in a workshop that was organized by the Partnership for African Social and Governance Research (PASGR) in Nairobi, Kenya, May 2-3, 2019. The workshop was organized to share innovative approaches to research policy uptake in Africa. PASGR is strategic partner to APHRC through the IMCHA initiative where PPD ARO is an implementing partner. The workshop was an international convening. During the workshop, there was sharing and engagement with concrete and practical innovative ways among researchers, policy actors, decision makers and other stakeholders on what has worked to translate evidence to policy action and decision making.

Resource mobilization by PPD ARO

During the period January – July, 2019, PPD ARO engaged with PAI to have a partnership collaboration in advocating for FP inclusion in the National Health Insurance Scheme by November 2020. A grant, in the amount of US\$100,000 was signed in August 2019. In addition, PPD ARO finalized the contracting process with AFP for a grant worth \$200,000 to conduct funding and policy advocacy for FP in Uganda. The grant will cover the period November 2019 to October 2020. Discussions are still ongoing with the government of Uganda to support PPD ARO.