



Partners in Population and Development (PPD)
An Inter-Governmental Organization
Promoting South-South Cooperation

NEWSLETTER

Issue: October - December 2021

Message from the Executive Director



The year 2021 ended with significant achievements and greater hopes and aspirations for Partners in Population and Development (PPD) as it completed its 27 years of existence contributing to the promotion of South-South Cooperation in reproductive health, population and development. Despite the challenges posed by COVID-19 Pandemic, PPD Secretariat and its African Regional Office in Kampala succeeded in organizing several important events during the last quarter of 2021 ranging from annual governance meetings (36th Executive Committee and 26th Board Meetings), advocacy and policy development (18th International Inter Ministerial Conference on South-South Cooperation and the African Parliamentarians Network meeting), a capacity development

workshop for Partner Country Coordinators and South-South Platform launched for young activists. Additionally, PPD initiated replication of best practices in its member countries (Ghana, Uganda and Zimbabwe), supported efforts of the National Task Forces (NTFs) in the follow-up and monitoring the progress of implementing the Nairobi Summit Commitments (Indonesia, Kenya, Nigeria, Thailand, Uganda, Zimbabwe, China, Ghana, The Gambia and Tunisia). PPD Secretariat also continued its continued collaboration with the Ministry of Health and Family Welfare of the Government of Bangladesh in the implementation of the maternal mortality reduction project with financial support from the Government of China. PPD has established sustained partnership with the League of Arab States and is inviting new members to join the alliance for the promotion of SSTC as reaffirmed by the global community at the 76th Session of the United Nations General Assembly held in September 2021. The importance of PPD's forward-looking journey is more relevant and essential for 2022 and beyond than ever before in the context of the renewed commitment expressed by the Honorable Board Members and continued collaboration reaffirmed by our principal partners to the advancement of SSTC to address the post-COVID 19 Crises achieve the ICPD, SDG 2030 Agenda, Nairobi ICPD25 Summit Commitments including Three Transformative Zeros. I wish to take this opportunity to express to our Honorable Board Members, Partner Country Coordinators, collaborators, colleagues and Friends my best wishes for a very happy and prosperous new year 2022.

Annual Governance Meetings of PPD

For the second year, PPD virtually organized its annual governance meetings. The 36th Executive Committee meeting held on 16 November 2021 and chaired by H.E. Ms Lindiwe Zulu, Chair of PPD Board and Minister of Social Development, Government of South Africa highlighted her key recommendations related to the governance, program and administrative issues of the organization. The 26th Board meeting held on 18 November 2021 under the leadership of Minister Zulu with the presence of Board Members adopted the minutes of the 25th Board Meeting held in October 2020 and the reports submitted by the Secretary, the Host Country and the Executive Director. The Board approved the PPD work plan and the budget for the year 2022 and called the Secretariat to double its efforts for resource mobilization to conduct programs activities in PPD member countries





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for increasing visibility and strengthening continued commitments of the countries. The Board also expressed its satisfaction to the excellent leadership of the Executive Director and hard work of his team in navigating the organization during the most difficult times of the COVID-19 Pandemic and enhancing the image of PPD vis-à-vis member countries and development partners in addition to the improvement of its administrative management and financial situation.

The 18th International Inter Ministerial Conference on South-South Cooperation in Population and Development

The 18th International Inter Ministerial Conference on SSC in Population and Development was held virtually in two Technical Sessions and one Plenary Session under the central theme: **“Sustained SSC Programs for the Achievement of ICPD and SDGs”**. The First Session was held on 15th November 2021 and discoursed on accelerating the achievement of the unfinished agenda of the ICPD and SDGs during and post COVID-19 era through South-South and Triangular Cooperation. The Second Session was held on 22nd November 2021, discussed on Triangular Cooperation post BAPA+40: A multi-stakeholder partnership for the achievement of ICPD and 2030 Agenda. The Plenary Session was attended by the Vice-President of the Gambia, Ministers from South Africa, Ethiopia, the

Philippines, State minister from China, senior Government officials from other PPD member countries and the UNFPA Deputy Executive Director who expressed their satisfaction on the level of commitment reached by the members and the partners to engage in SSTC programs for the achievement of the SDGs and ICPD25 Nairobi Summit Commitments including Three Zeros. The 18th IIMC adopted the Call to Action focusing on country leadership in supporting and investing more for SSTC programs and initiatives, capacity development to establish and strengthen networks and Centers of Excellence.



Ministerial Session of the 18th IIMC



1st Session of the 18th IIMC



2nd Session of the 18th IIMC



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Capacity Building Workshop for National South-South Cooperation Focal Persons

PPD organized a two-day's workshop on capacity development for Partner Country Coordinators (PCCs) and South-South Focal persons in PPD member countries on 26 and 27 October 2021. Inaugurated by the Board member from Kenya, Senior representatives from UNFPA, UNOSSC and other experts from China and India along with PCCs discussed and shared their experience on program implementation, advocacy and networking for resource mobilization from the respective country perspectives (China, India and South Africa), progress in implementing Nairobi Summit Commitments at National level and role of PCCs in mainstreaming SSTC in support to PPD's efforts.



PPD/UNFPA Capacity Building Workshop for Mainstreaming Youth Engagement

PPD organized with the support of UNFPA a Capacity Building Workshop for mainstreaming Youth Engagement in promoting SSC to address COVID-19 Crises for Achieving ICPD agenda held virtually on 13 & 15 December 2021. The workshop brought young leaders from PPD member and non-member countries who deliberated on the best approaches for youth to engage in and promote SSC in FP/RH, Population and Development. The workshop recommended to launch

a Youth South-South Cooperation Platform to provide necessary information and guidelines on how to engage in SSC and offers a wide range of experiences and best practices from the member countries to develop and strengthen the knowledge of young people on the issues.





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13th meeting of the Network of African Parliamentarian Committees on Health (NEAPACOH)

PPD African Regional Office (PPD/ARO) organized the 13th meeting of the Network of African Parliamentarian Committees on Health (NEAPACOH) on 28th and 29th October 2021 under the theme of "Sustained Programs for the Achievement of ICPD Goals and the SDGs - The Role of Parliamentarians". Sixteen countries attended the meeting including; Benin, Burundi, Ghana, Kenya, Lesotho, Malawi, Nigeria, Rwanda, Senegal, South Sudan, Tanzania, The Gambia, Uganda, UK, Zambia and Zimbabwe. The meeting endorsed the "Kampala Call to Action - 2021" with a strong commitment to accelerate the achievement of the unfinished agenda of the ICPD goals and SDGs during and post COVID-19 Pandemic through South-South Cooperation. Participants pledged to continue providing leadership and stewardship on policy, legislation and perform budgetary oversight for reproductive health and family planning as well as promoting and supporting mobilization and general awareness on reproductive health and family planning in the context of implementation of the ICPD agenda.

PPD identified and documented four best practices from Benin, The Gambia, Ghana and South Africa

Under the Inter Country Cooperation (ICCO) Project of UNFPA, PPD has identified and documented four best practices from Benin, The Gambia, Ghana and South Africa. To accelerate international and regional cooperation for deepening SSC through dissemination and replication of good practices on transformative results of the three zeros, in 2021-22, PPD initiated the

reverse linkage project on replication of Ghana's Best Practice to promote adolescent sexual and reproductive health in Uganda and Zimbabwe.

Also, PPD has developed a protocol for establishing a Centre of Excellence (CoE) for SSC in RH population and development to address these challenges in the post COVID-19 Crises. Centers of Excellence are needed for innovation, development of new partnerships, knowledge sharing, and scaling up of proven approaches. In 2020, ten member countries of PPD shared commitment at ICPD25, and among those six countries (Indonesia, Kenya, Nigeria, Thailand, Uganda, and Zimbabwe) shared the progress of three zeros. PPD has undertaken the initiative to strengthen NTF on follow-up Nairobi Summit Commitments. Four countries named China, Ghana, The Gambia and Tunisia shared the NTF report to integrate the Nairobi Summit Commitments into the National Development Plan and take concrete actions to follow up on national commitments made at the ICPD@25 Nairobi Summit.

South-South Cooperation Assistance Fund (SSCAF) for reducing maternal mortality in Bangladesh

China-Aid supported project of SSCAF for reducing maternal mortality in Bangladesh has made substantial success despite the challenges of COVID19. The project title is "Providing Comprehensive, Safe and Appropriate Intervention for Prevention of Postpartum Hemorrhage to Reduce Maternal Mortality in Bangladesh". Under the SSCAF project, the medicines and kits received have been handed over to Bangladesh Government. The Government of Bangladesh has integrated the tab misoprostol into

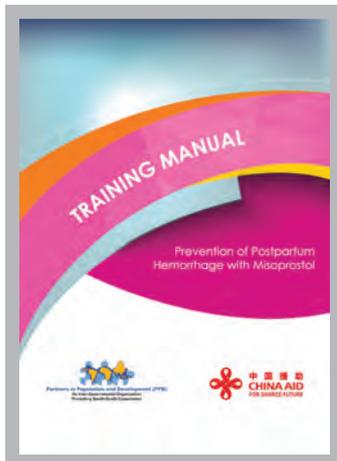


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their annual plan and distributed in the project sites of six Upazilas of Gazipur and Manikganj. The Training Modules for capacity development of the field officials have been developed by the international experts and translated into the local language under the close supervision of the country's premiere Gynecologist, the Chairperson of the Obstetric and Gynecological Society of Bangladesh (OGSB).



News from PPD Secretariat:

Mr. Kazi Jaluluddin, Senior Driver, has retired in September 2021 after 24 years of hard work with utmost dedication for the organization.



Dr. Nazrul Islam, Program Director, has left PPD on 31st December 2021. Dr. Islam contributed in promoting PPD's mandate since he joined in 2009.



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