

ANNUAL REPORT 2025



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

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MESSAGE FROM THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR



In 2025, PPD reaffirmed its commitment to the principles of the International Conference on Population and Development (ICPD) and the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) through high-level advocacy, technical cooperation, knowledge management, and high-level policy engagement. Despite global economic uncertainties and evolving demographic and health challenges, our member countries demonstrated remarkable solidarity and collective resolve to promote equitable and people-centered development.

One of the major milestones of the year was the successful convening of the 28th Annual Board Meeting and the election of a new Executive Committee, which renewed PPD's governance structure and strategic direction. During the year, PPD also strengthened its engagement with member countries, development partners, regional institutions, parliamentarians, and technical agencies to advance policy dialogue, institutional capacity building, and knowledge exchange. These efforts reinforced PPD's role as a leading inter-governmental platform for South-South Cooperation in population and development.

PPD actively promoted evidence-based advocacy and high-level international dialogue throughout the year. Participation in the 58th Session of the United Nations Commission on Population and Development (UNCPD) and the International

Conference on Family Planning (ICFP 2025) provided strategic platforms to advance discussions on sustainable financing, demographic transitions, reproductive health, and integrated approaches that link population, health, and environment. Ministerial roundtables and policy dialogues organized during these events further strengthened collaboration among member countries and global partners.

To strengthen the institutionalization of South-South Cooperation within national systems, PPD undertook a comprehensive, multi-country study across 12 member countries to assess national health strategies, identify best practices, and develop a Five-Year Roadmap (2026–2030) for institutionalizing SSC in the health sector. The roadmap provides a strategic framework for strengthening political commitment, financing mechanisms, partnerships, innovation, and knowledge sharing to improve health systems and health outcomes across member countries.

PPD also continued to support member countries in integrating SSC principles into national population and development frameworks. Technical support was provided to the Government of Bangladesh in updating its Population Policy, while support was initiated for The Gambia in developing a new population policy informed by international best practices and shared experiences from other developing countries.

In 2025, PPD advanced the development of its Strategic Plan 2026–2030 through a broad consultative process involving Partner Country Coordinators (PCCs), member countries, and stakeholders. The Strategic Plan focuses on five priority pillars, including universal access to sexual and reproductive health and rights (SRHR), harnessing the demographic dividend, healthy ageing, RMNCAH+N, and addressing environmental challenges through South-South collaboration.

PPD's Africa Regional Office (ARO) continued to play a critical role in advancing regional collaboration and domestic health financing advocacy. Major achievements included the successful convening of the 16th NEAPACOH Meeting in Tanzania, the Africa Region PCC Meeting in Malawi, the Eastern Africa Reproductive Health Network (EARHN) Meeting in Rwanda, and several national and regional health financing dialogues. These initiatives strengthened parliamentary engagement, regional coordination, accountability, and policy advocacy for Universal Health Coverage and reproductive health financing across Africa.

The SASA Alliance initiative, implemented in partnership with Pathfinder International and Jhpiego Kenya with support from the Gates Foundation, further strengthened advocacy, accountability, and domestic financing reforms for Family Planning and Maternal, Newborn, and Child Health in several African member countries.

The year also witnessed important achievements in partnership development and resource mobilization. The successful completion of the China-funded maternal health project on prevention of postpartum hemorrhage in Bangladesh demonstrated the transformative potential of South-South Cooperation in improving maternal health outcomes. The project was recognized as a South-South best practice and has

opened opportunities for scaling up similar interventions in other countries.

PPD further strengthened strategic collaboration with UNFPA, UNOSSC, China Aid, the Gates Institute, ILO, AFIDEP, AUDA-NEPAD, and several international and regional partners to advance initiatives on reproductive health, ageing, sustainable financing, innovation, and climate resilience. Through scholarship programmes, technical cooperation, and policy dialogue, PPD continued to invest in strengthening human resources and institutional capacity across member countries.

As we look ahead, PPD remains committed to promoting solidarity, mutual learning, and transformative partnerships among developing countries. The challenges facing our member countries require stronger cooperation, innovative financing, evidence-based policies, and collective action. PPD will continue to serve as a trusted intergovernmental platform dedicated to advancing reproductive health, population, and sustainable development for the well-being and dignity of all people.

I extend my sincere appreciation to all member countries, development partners, Executive Committee Members, Partner Country Coordinators, and the dedicated staff of the Secretariat and Africa Regional Office for their unwavering support and commitment throughout the year.

Prof. Joseph Akinkugbe Adelegan
Executive Director

ABOUT PARTNERS IN POPULATION AND DEVELOPMENT (PPD)

Establishment of PPD

Partners in Population and Development (PPD) is an Inter-Governmental Organization established in 1994 during the International Conference on Population and Development (ICPD), for promoting South-South Cooperation in the field of Reproductive Health, Population, and Development. PPD began with 10 founding Member Countries (Bangladesh, Colombia, Egypt, Indonesia, Kenya, Mexico, Morocco, Thailand, Tunisia, and Zimbabwe). Currently, PPD has the membership of 28 developing countries, representing more than 59% of the world's population. The current members are Bangladesh, Benin, China, Cote d'Ivoire, Colombia, Egypt, Ethiopia, The Gambia, Ghana, India, Indonesia, Jordan, Kenya, Malawi, Mali, Mexico, Morocco, Nigeria, Pakistan, Senegal, South Africa, Sri Lanka, Thailand, Tunisia, Uganda, Vietnam, Yemen and Zimbabwe from four regions (Asia and Pacific, Sub-Saharan Africa, Middle East and North Africa, Latin America and Caribbean).

Establishment of PPD HQ in Bangladesh in 1997

The PPD Secretariat was established in Dhaka, Bangladesh, in November 1997. Since its inception, the Government of the People's Republic of Bangladesh has graciously hosted the headquarters within the Institute of Public Health complex in Mohakhali, Dhaka, providing the premises on a complimentary basis along with comprehensive utility support.

In 2017, the Secretariat transitioned to its own permanent Building Complex in the Agargaon administrative zone of Dhaka. The land for this facility was generously donated by the Government of Bangladesh and is strategically located within a diplomatic enclave, in close proximity to several United Nations agencies and other international organizations. The construction of the Secretariat building was made possible through the significant financial contributions of PPD member countries, specifically China, India, Nigeria, and South Africa.

PPD Governance Structure

Board

PPD is governed by a Board constituted of Members (Cabinet Ministers or their representatives, appointed by each Member Country). PPD Board is the highest authority of PPD, comprising members from each country who are at the Minister or Minister level. The Board meets once each year to discuss the governance, policy, programmatic, and financial issues.

Executive Committee

The Board appoints an Executive Committee comprised of nine members- Chairperson, Vice Chairperson, Secretary, Treasurer, and five other members who are ministers or minister-level. Exco members are elected for three years.

The Partner Country Coordinator (PCC)

The Board members appoint a Partner Country Coordinator from the respective Ministry, not below the rank of Joint Secretary, to maintain liaison between the PPD Secretariat and the Board Members.

VISION

An Intergovernmental Alliance leading the promotion of South-South Cooperation towards the attainment of the global population and reproductive health agenda for sustainable development.

MISSION

To achieve its vision through sustained advocacy, capacity building, networking, knowledge management/sharing, and transfer of technology in reproductive health, population, and development within the framework of South-South cooperation and diplomacy.

28 Member Countries and Regional Representation



Asia-Pacific Region

Bangladesh
China
India
Indonesia
Pakistan
Sri Lanka
Thailand
Viet Nam

Middle East & North Africa

Egypt
Jordan
Morocco
Tunisia
Yemen

Sub-Saharan Africa

Benin
Cote d'Ivoire
Gambia
Ghana
Kenya
Mali
Malawi
Nigeria
Senegal
South Africa
Uganda
Zimbabwe

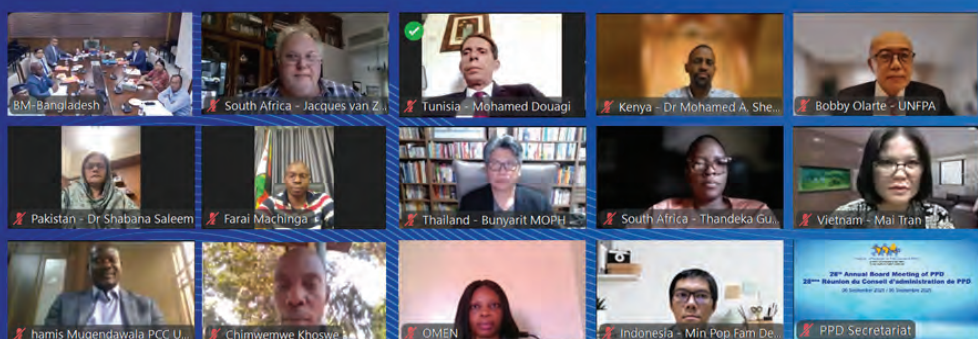
Latin America

Colombia
Mexico

MAJOR GOVERNANCE EVENTS

28th Board Meeting (Virtual)

28th Annual Board Meeting of PPD (Virtual) 06 September 2025



6th September 2025, the 28th Annual Board Meeting of PPD was held in a virtual format. Delegations from South Africa, Bangladesh, China, Tunisia, Uganda, Kenya, Yemen, Benin, Gambia, Senegal, Thailand, Pakistan, Indonesia, Viet Nam, Mali, Malawi, Zimbabwe, Ghana, and Nigeria joined the meeting. The meeting contains two major agendas: Appointment of the new Executive Director of PPD and Election of the new Executive Committee Members. Both agendas were completed successfully. The New ED was appointed, and a new Executive Committee was elected.

40th Executive Committee Meeting, Bogota, Colombia

PPD successfully organized the 40th Executive Committee Meeting on 4th November 2025 in Bogota, Colombia, on the sidelines of the International Conference of Family Planning (ICFP 2025). The meeting marked the first Executive Committee meeting under the leadership of the newly appointed Executive Director, Prof. Joseph Akinkugbe Adelegan.



The meeting was chaired by Professor Mohamed Douagi, Chair of the PPD Board from Tunisia. In his opening remarks, Professor Douagi emphasized the importance of unity among member countries, a renewed commitment to South-South Cooperation, and the need for innovative solutions to address reproductive health, family planning, and population development challenges across PPD's membership. Also, the Chair commended members for their active engagement and reaffirmed the collective commitment to advancing PPD's mission and vision. The Vice-Chair expressed appreciation to the Executive Committee Members in a concluding vote of thanks, acknowledging their dedication to strengthening South-South Cooperation and promoting shared development priorities.



The following Executive Committee Members or their representatives participated in the meeting:

Mohamed Douagi, Chair, PPD Board; President Director General, National Board for Family and Population, Ministry of Health, Tunisia

H.E. Dr. Douglas Mombeshora, Vice-Chair, PPD Board; Honourable Minister of Health and Child Care, Government of the Republic of Zimbabwe

H.E. Mr. Ahmadou Lamin Samateh, Board Member, PPD; Honourable Minister of Health, Government of the Republic of The Gambia

Mr. Hamed Yaqoob Sheikh, Secretary, PPD Board; Federal Secretary Health, Ministry of National Health Services, Regulations and Coordination, Government of Pakistan

Mr. Mohamed A. Sheikh, Board and Executive Committee Member, PPD; Director General, National Council for Population and Development (NCPD), Kenya

M. Ahsanul Aziz, Joint Secretary and Head, Budget Wing, Medical Education and Family Welfare Division, Ministry of Health and Family Welfare, Government of the People's Republic of Bangladesh

Mr. Hamis Mugendawala, Senior Manager, Population and Social Development Planning Department, National Planning Authority (NPA), Ministry of Finance, Planning and Economic Development, Government of the Republic of Uganda; PCC of Uganda

Ms. Tran Thi Quynh Mai, Officer, International Cooperation Division, VNPA, Ministry of Health, Government of the Socialist Republic of Vietnam

Professor Joseph Akinkugbe Adelegan, Executive Director, Partners in Population and Development (PPD).

Newly Electeed Executive Committee Members of PPD

The Executive Committee consists of 9 members, including the Board Chair, Vice-Chair, Secretary, Treasurer, and five other general members, including a permanent member of the host country of the PPD Secretariat (Bangladesh). This committee will be dissolved in 2027.

Chair	Prof. Mohamed Douagi President Director General National Board for Family and Population Ministry of Health, Tunisia	
Vice-Chair	H.E. Dr Douglas Mombeshora Hon. Minister of Health and Child Care Government of the Republic of Zimbabwe	
Secretary	H.E. Mr. Syed Mustafa Kamal Federal Minister, Ministry of National Health Services, Regulations and Coordination Government of Pakistan	
Treasurer	Dr. Mohamed A. Sheikh Director General, National Council for Population and Development (NCPD) Kenya	
Permanent Member	Ms. Nurjahan Begum Advisers to the interim government Ministry of Health and Family Welfare (MOHFW) Government of the People's Republic of Bangladesh	
Members:	H.E. Ms. Guo Yanhong Hon. Vice Minister, National Health Commission (NHC) Government of the People's Republic of China	
	H.E. Dr. Muhammad B.S. Jallow Honorable Vice President Government of the Republic of The Gambia	
	H.E. Mr. Amos Lugoloobi Minister of State Ministry for Finance, Planning and Economic Development (Planning) Government of the Republic of Uganda	
	Dr. Le Thanh Dung Director General, Viet Nam Population Authority (VNPA) Ministry of Health (MOH) Government of the Socialist Republic of Vietnam	

INTRODUCING THE NEW EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

Professor Joseph Akinkugbe Adelegan

A New Chapter of Leadership at PPD

In October 2025, Partners in Population and Development (PPD) welcomed Professor Joseph Akinkugbe Adelegan as its new Executive Director. An eminent diplomat, polymathic international development executive, and practitioner-scholar, Professor Adelegan brings to PPD a distinguished career spanning over three decades. His extensive experience traverses multilateral institutions, development finance, academia, and global policy arenas, making him uniquely equipped to lead PPD into a new era of impactful South-South cooperation.



A Foundation of Interdisciplinary Excellence

Professor Adelegan's leadership is grounded in a robust and interdisciplinary academic foundation. He holds dual doctorate degrees: a Doctor of Business Administration (DBA) in Development Finance from the Weatherhead School of Management at Case Western Reserve University in the United States, and a Doctor of Philosophy (PhD) in Public Health Engineering from the University of Ibadan in Nigeria. This rare synthesis of public health expertise and sustainable development finance allows him to pioneer innovative solutions that seamlessly integrate reproductive health, ESG compliance, and climate resilience strategies. His commitment to lifelong learning is further evidenced by his status as an alumnus of prestigious executive and leadership programs at leading global institutions, including Harvard University, the University of California Berkeley, Santa Clara University, the University of Virginia, the United Nations University in Tokyo, and Universidad Torcuato Di Tella in Buenos Aires.

Transformative Global Leadership

Prior to joining PPD, Professor Adelegan held numerous senior executive positions with the United Nations, the World Bank, the European Union, and the Economic

Community of West African States (ECOWAS). His track record of leading complex, high-value projects is exemplary. Notably, he served as the Project Director for the US\$200 million World Bank-assisted Lagos Metropolitan Development and Governance Project in Nigeria, and as Chief Operating Officer of the Green Globe SME Funds, a pan-African social impact investment platform.

Within the ECOWAS Bank for Investment and Development, he served as Head of the Office of the Vice President for Operations and Division Chief for Environment and Sustainable Development, where he was instrumental in pioneering regional ESG, climate, and sustainable financing frameworks. His global influence extends through various board and advisory roles, including representing Africa and the Middle East on the World Bank's Climate Investment Trust Fund Committee and serving as the ECOWAS Focal Representative to the Green Climate Fund in South Korea.

A Visionary Recognized Worldwide

Professor Adelegan is a globally recognized thought leader whose pioneering work has been featured by major international media outlets, including CNN, BBC, Businessweek, Fortune, and Time. His innovative contributions have earned him numerous prestigious international accolades. He was recognized as a Young Global Leader by the World Economic Forum (WEF) and honored as a WEF Technology Pioneer, joining the ranks of transformative innovators globally. Furthermore, he was elected as a Member of the Crans Montana Forum of New Leaders of Tomorrow and became a Member of the Clinton Global Initiative, with his commitment to action personally announced by President Bill Clinton. An erudite academic, he continues to shape future leaders as a Professor of Environmental Leadership at Missional University in the United States and a Professor at the Pan African University Institute of Water and Energy Sciences in Algeria.

Looking Ahead

As a polyglot and globetrotting executive who has traversed over 150 countries, Professor Adelegan is a sought-after orator and advisor at international symposia. His appointment as Executive Director of PPD marks a significant milestone for the organization. With his visionary leadership, synthesis of intellect, and strategic acumen, Professor Adelegan is poised to advance PPD's mission, driving sustainable development and reproductive health initiatives on the global stage.

INTERVENTION-BASED ACTIVITIES FOR 2025

SSC Intervention

Evidence-based political advocacy for stronger political commitment to achieve ICPD and SDGs

58 UNCPD Side Event on South-South and Triangular Cooperation (SSTC)



During the 58th Session of the United Nations Commission on Population and Development (UNCPD) held in New York in April 2025, PPD in collaboration with the National Council for Population and Development (NCPD), Kenya, co-organized a high-level side event on 8 April 2025 titled “Integrating Population, Health and Environment (PHE): A Catalyst for Ensuring Healthy Lives and Well-being for All.” The event was supported by UNDESA, the Centre for the Study of Adolescents (CSA), Kenya, and the African Institute for Development Policy (AFIDEP).

The event highlighted country-level best practices in integrating Population, Health, and Environment (PHE) approaches and explored strategies to strengthen their contribution to the ICPD agenda and broader sustainable development goals. Ministers, policymakers, technical experts, and development partners discussed integrated policy approaches linking population dynamics, health systems, and environmental sustainability.

The session was opened by Dr. Mohamed Sheikh, Director General of NCPD Kenya and Member of the PPD Executive Committee. Panelists included representatives from The Gambia, Malawi, Bangladesh, UN DESA, and key research institutions.

Discussions underscored the importance of integrated PHE approaches in addressing health and environmental challenges while promoting sustainable development. Experiences shared by The Gambia, Bangladesh, Malawi, and Kenya also contributed to ongoing efforts to establish a Centre of Excellence on Population and Development in Kenya, aimed at strengthening regional knowledge exchange and South-South Cooperation.

The event reaffirmed PPD's commitment to supporting member states in advancing evidence-based policies that promote health, well-being, and sustainable development. It also strengthened collaboration among participating countries to address common development challenges and support the long-term sustainability of PPD initiatives.

2025 Network of African Parliamentary Committees of Health (NEAPACOH) meeting

PPDARO organized a meeting of the Network of African Parliamentary Committees of Health (NEAPACOH) meeting on March 6 -7, 2025, in Dar Es Salaam, Tanzania. The meeting, which was the 16th in a series, convened 186 delegates and members of Parliamentary Committees responsible for health and budget from 23 countries (Benin, Democratic Republic of Congo, Eswatini, Ethiopia, Ghana, Kenya, Lesotho, Madagascar, Malawi, Mali, Mauritius, Namibia, Niger, Nigeria, Senegal, South Africa, Tanzania mainland & Zanzibar, The Gambia, Tunisia, Uganda, Zambia and Zimbabwe), as well as representatives of the African Union (AU) through AUDA-NEPAD, SADC Parliamentary Forum, Inter Parliamentary Union (IPU), the

Commonwealth Parliamentary Association, and development partners, technical experts, experts, health champions, researchers and academia, Civil Society Organizations, and other stakeholders engaged in programmes on ICPD, UHC, health financing, SRHR, HIV, TB, NCDs and harnessing the demographic dividend in Africa. The meeting was organized under the theme: "Re-positioning the Role of Parliamentarians for Implementation of the Unfinished ICPD Agenda and Attainment of Universal Health Coverage (UHC): South to South Sharing of Lessons and Good Practices."

Key sessions focused on health systems strengthening, with particular emphasis on domestic health financing, equity, and emerging health threats. Experts highlighted the need to address the burden of non-communicable diseases (NCDs), improve immunization financing, and ensure inclusive health access for women, youth, and vulnerable populations. Presentations from civil society underscored the importance of community-driven approaches and partnerships for sustainable health service delivery.

The meeting also tackled the changing dynamics of global health financing, especially declining Official Development Assistance (ODA) and its implications on HIV, TB, and immunization programs. Meanwhile, country updates demonstrated varied progress in implementing NEAPACOH and Maseru Call-to-Action commitments, stressing the importance of legislative support, accountability, and political commitment in building resilient health systems and achieving the UHC targets across Africa by 2030.

PPD Strategic Plan (2026-2030)

A robust consultative process, the Five-Year Strategic Plan (2026-2030) has been developed. A series of internal consultations was organized between the consultant and the PPD Secretariat to review strategic priorities, objectives, and programmatic direction. Based on this discussion, the consultant prepared a Zero Draft strategic plan. The draft was subsequently shared with the Partners Country Coordinator (PCC) of PPD for review and feedback.

A virtual consultation meeting with PCCs was organized on 23 December 2025 to obtain technical inputs from PPD's member countries. Representatives from Bangladesh, China, Gambia, Ghana, India, Indonesia, Kenya, Malawi, Morocco, Nigeria,

Pakistan, Senegal, Uganda, Yemen, and Zimbabwe participated in the virtual meeting. PCCs provided constructive feedback to strengthen the strategic framework, along with an action plan. Based on that PCC meeting feedback, a revised draft has been prepared.

PPD's five key Strategic Pillars:

1. Promoting Universal Access to SRHR through South-to-South Collaboration, Strengthening family planning and reproductive health services through knowledge transfer and commodity security.
2. Harnessing Demographic Dividend: Addressing population dynamics to harness the economic potential of our youthful populations.
3. Promoting Healthy Ageing: Developing social protection and health systems for an increasingly elderly global population.
4. Promoting RMNCAH+N (Reproductive, Maternal, Newborn, Child, Adolescent Health and Nutrition) through global South to South Collaboration,
5. Global South to South collaboration to address the environmental crisis and its impact on reproductive health.

PPD's strategy for the year 2026-2030

STRATEGIC PRIORITIES (2026–2030)				
• Reduce the Maternal Mortality Ratio (MMR) and the Infant Mortality Rate (IMR) in PPD member countries in line with the SDG. • Address population dynamics, ageing, demographic dividend and development. • Promoting Population Health, including Reproductive, Maternal, Newborn, Child, Adolescent Health and Nutrition (RMNCH+A).				
STRATEGIC PILLARS (2026–2030)				
Pillar 1	Pillar 2	Pillar 3	Pillar 4	Pillar 5
Promoting Universal Access to SRHR through South-to-South Collaboration Strengthening family planning and reproductive health services through knowledge transfer and commodity security.	Harnessing Demographic Dividend Addressing population dynamics to harness the economic potential of our youthful populations.	Promoting Healthy Ageing Developing social protection and health systems for an increasingly elderly global population.	Promoting RMNCAH+N through South-South Collaboration (Reproductive, Maternal, Newborn, Child, Adolescent Health and Nutrition) through global South-South collaboration.	Global South to South collaboration to address the environmental crisis And its impact on reproductive health.

Africa Region PPD Partner Country Coordinators (PCC) meeting



PPD-ARO, in collaboration with African Institute for Development Policy (AFIDEP) and the Ministry of Finance and Economic Affairs in Malawi, organized a two-day meeting for the Partner Country Coordinators (PCCs) from the Africa Member Countries of PPD in Lilongwe, Malawi, on 16 and 17 July, 2025. Countries that attended the meeting were Cote d'Ivoire, Ethiopia, Ghana, Kenya, Malawi, Mali, Nigeria, Senegal, South Africa, The Gambia, Uganda, and Zimbabwe. The meeting was a follow-up on programme and policy actions to accelerate attainment of the ICPD goals and Universal Health Coverage (UHC) that were recommended and agreed upon at the PCC meeting held in 2024 in Kampala, Uganda.

The meeting was attended by the PCCs from the Africa Region PPD Member countries. The meeting also drew representation from selected regional and local stakeholder institutions such as the African Union Development Agency (AUDA-NEPAD), Malawi Ministry of Health, Malawi Ministry of Finance and Economic Affairs, Parliamentary Committee on Health in Malawi, National Planning Commission of Malawi, National Youth Council of Malawi, Civil Society Organisations (CSOs), and Research Institutions.

Key achievements included improved coordination among the PCCs and in-country stakeholders, strengthened reporting mechanisms, and increased visibility of programme outcomes. However, challenges such as limited financial and technical resources, varying country capacities, and inconsistencies in reporting were noted. Overall, PCCs remain instrumental in driving programme implementation at the country level, ensuring effective coordination, and contributing to the achievement of programme goals and sustainable impact.

Smart Advocacy for Strategic Action (SASA)

PPD ARO is the lead and coordinator of the SASA Alliance, comprising PPD ARO, Pathfinder International–Nigeria, and Jhpiego Kenya. The Alliance is a multi-country partnership working to advance policy prioritization, domestic financing, and accountability for Family Planning (FP) and Maternal, Newborn, and Child Health (MNCH) across Africa. It integrates strategic advocacy, evidence generation, and coalition-building to support sustainable health policy and financing reforms. With funding from the Bill Gates Foundation, the SASA Alliance is implementing a regional advocacy initiative to advance policy and financing reforms for Maternal, Newborn, and Child Health (MNCH) and Family Planning in five countries in East and West Africa: Senegal, Côte d'Ivoire, Ethiopia, Kenya, and Nigeria, all PPD member countries. The initiative aims to strengthen country-led advocacy ecosystems, promote evidence-informed policy making, and advance sustainable domestic health financing to improve access to quality MNCH and FP services. The initiative is for three years, and runs from Oct 2024 to Oct 2027.



**SSC
Intervention
2**
**Institutionalize the International
Inter-Ministerial Conference on
South-South and Triangular Cooperation
in Population and Development**
**Ministerial-Level Roundtable on Advancing
Sustainable Financing for Family Planning and
Reproductive Health**

A Ministerial-Level Roundtable on 'Advancing Sustainable Financing for Family Planning and Reproductive Health' was jointly hosted by PPD and UNFPA during ICFP 2025 in Bogota, Colombia. The roundtable convened Ministers of Health, Planning and Development, senior policymakers, development partners, representatives of international financial institutions, and members of the donor community.



Prof. Dr. Joseph Adelegan moderated the interactive session titled 'Financing for Impact: Country-Led Progress in Sustainable Sexual and Reproductive Health and Family Planning,' which showcased country experiences and policy approaches for strengthening financing mechanisms.

Key Findings: Effective Domestic Resource Mobilization

- **Dedicated Budgetary Measures:** Establishing specific budget lines for FP/RH commodities and services.
- **Strategically Impactful Financing:** Implementing earmarked taxes (e.g., on sugary drinks, tobacco, alcohol, airtime) to create ring-fenced funds for health insurance.
- **Compacts and Matching Funds:** Leveraging partnerships with development agencies through compact agreements.
- **Integration into Health Systems:** Utilizing social health insurance and UHC reforms to integrate RH supplies.
- **Strategic Advocacy:** Developing data-driven 'Investment Cases' and 'Cost of Inaction' arguments.
- **Engaging the Private Sector:** Promoting public-private partnerships to improve outreach and expand access.

**High-Level Ministerial Roundtable on Demographic
Futures - 5 November 2025**

A second High-Level Ministerial Roundtable, titled 'Demographic Futures: Current Challenges and Moving Toward Solutions,' was held on 5 November 2025. The session explored emerging demographic trends and their implications for reproductive health policies and development planning.

Key Takeaways

- Global population is expected to peak at 10.3 billion in the mid-2080s but growth is not uniform.
- Life expectancy reached 73.3 years in 2024 globally. The population over 65 is the fastest-growing age group.





- Global fertility was 2.27 in 2024, with more than half the world's countries now below replacement level.
- Effective long-term strategies must focus on policies that promote human capital formation across the life-course.
- The global population data landscape is on the brink of crisis - the 2020 census round failed to enumerate approximately 30% of the world's population.

Eastern Africa Reproductive Health Network (EARHN) Meeting

The 15th Coordination Meeting of the Eastern Africa Reproductive Health Network (EARHN) was held in Kigali, Rwanda, on 24–25 June 2025, bringing together representatives from Burundi, Ethiopia, Kenya, Rwanda, South Sudan, Tanzania, and Uganda, along with regional and development partners.

The meeting reviewed progress on the Africa Leadership Meeting (ALM) commitments and discussed strategies to advance domestic health financing, sexual and reproductive health and rights (SRHR), and Universal Health Coverage (UHC) across Eastern Africa. Participants also reflected on EARHN's growth from a tripartite initiative among Kenya, Uganda, and Tanzania into a broader regional platform for South–South cooperation, policy exchange, and reproductive health innovation.

Countries reported progress in aligning national policies with the ICPD Programme of Action, SDGs, and FP2030 commitments, including efforts to strengthen domestic financing for family planning and reproductive health commodities. Discussions also emphasized domestic resource mobilization, improved public financial management, private sector engagement, and stronger collaboration with civil society and development partners.

Despite progress, participants noted continuing challenges, including limited fiscal space, fragmented funding, human resource gaps, adolescent pregnancies, maternal mortality, and unequal access to quality services. Technical experts also highlighted the need to improve health expenditure efficiency and explore innovative financing mechanisms such as health levies, blended finance, impact bonds, and digitalized scorecards.



The meeting recommended strengthening accountability for ALM commitments, building capacity for evidence-based advocacy, formalizing private sector co-investment, promoting peer learning among EARHN countries, improving integrated health budgeting, and positioning SRHR and family planning within the broader UHC agenda.

Overall, the meeting reaffirmed EARHN's role as a key regional platform for advancing reproductive health, South–South cooperation, and health financing reforms in Eastern Africa.

**SSC
Intervention
3**
Knowledge Management, Experience Sharing, and Pilot Initiatives

The Gambia Population Policy Development

The Government of The Gambia is planning to develop a population policy that integrates knowledge and best practices from other countries. The Office of the Vice President of The Gambia has sought PPD's support in this process, and PPD has committed to providing technical assistance to the Government.

Bangladesh Population Policy Update

PPD continued to support the Government of Bangladesh in updating of the Bangladesh Population Policy 2025 after more than a decade. As a member of the national drafting committee, PPD provided technical assistance and strategic advocacy to ensure that South-South Cooperation (SSC) was recognized as an important mechanism for knowledge sharing, innovation transfer, and mutual learning among developing countries. The revised policy reflects a significant shift from population control toward population management and human capital development, with a strong focus on harnessing the country's demographic dividend.

The updated policy is built around six strategic objectives:

- Harnessing the Demographic Dividend through Human Capital Development
- Reducing Unmet Need for Family Planning and Preventable Deaths
- Adapting to Technological Transformation and Future Workforce Demands
- Ensuring Balanced and Inclusive Development
- Promoting Gender Equality and Gender Dividend
- Addressing Climate Change and Disaster Risks

Institutionalization of South-South Cooperation into National Health Strategies

PPD has taken the initiative to institutionalize SSC into the National Health Strategy. Two consultants were engaged to conduct a study covering 12 countries: Bangladesh, Indonesia, Egypt, Ethiopia, Uganda, Nigeria, India, South Africa, Thailand, Kenya, Tunisia, and Morocco. The study aims to assess national health strategies, identify best practices, and develop a roadmap for institutionalizing SSC in the health sector.

Based on the research findings, a Five-Year Roadmap (2026-2030) has been developed. The roadmap is built around five key objectives:

- Establish strong political and legal foundations for SSC in health.
- Develop sustainable and equitable financing mechanisms.
- Strengthen coordination and expand partnerships.
- Enhance technical expertise and foster innovation.
- Promote systematic knowledge sharing and visibility of SSC achievements.

The roadmap is structured into five progressive implementation phases from 2026 to 2030, covering governance structures, financing mechanisms, partnership expansion, innovation, and knowledge-sharing platforms.



Development of Population Policies Integrating South-South Cooperation

PPD continued to support the Government of Bangladesh in updating of the Bangladesh Population Policy 2025 after more than a decade. As a member of the national drafting committee, PPD provided technical assistance and strategic advocacy to ensure that South-South Cooperation (SSC) was recognized as an important mechanism for knowledge sharing, innovation transfer, and mutual learning among developing countries. The revised policy reflects a significant shift from population control toward population management and human capital development, with a strong focus on harnessing the country's demographic dividend.

The updated policy is built around six strategic objectives:

- Harnessing the Demographic Dividend through Human Capital Development
- Reducing Unmet Need for Family Planning and Preventable Deaths
- Adapting to Technological Transformation and Future Workforce Demands
- Ensuring Balanced and Inclusive Development
- Promoting Gender Equality and Gender Dividend
- Addressing Climate Change and Disaster Risks

The Government of The Gambia is planning to develop a population policy that integrates knowledge and best practices from other countries. The Office of the Vice President of The Gambia has sought PPD's support in this process, and PPD has committed to providing technical assistance to the Government.

Institutionalization of South-South Cooperation into National Health Strategies

PPD has taken the initiative to institutionalize SSC into the National Health Strategy. Two consultants were engaged to conduct a study covering 12 countries: Bangladesh, Indonesia, Egypt, Ethiopia, Uganda, Nigeria, India, South Africa, Thailand, Kenya, Tunisia, and Morocco. The study aims to assess national health strategies, identify best practices, and develop a roadmap for institutionalizing SSC in the health sector.

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The roadmap is structured into five progressive implementation phases from 2026 to 2030, covering governance structures, financing mechanisms, partnership expansion, innovation, and knowledge-sharing platforms.

PPD Participation in the Population Experts Committee (PEC), Bangladesh

PPD continued its active engagement with the Population Experts Committee (PEC) of Bangladesh and participated in the 5th PEC Meeting held on 6 March 2025 at the Conference Hall of the Nazia-Salma Building of the Bangladesh Planning Commission in Dhaka. As a member of the committee, PPD regularly contributes technical guidance and policy support to strengthen the integration of population and development issues into national planning processes.



The Population Experts Committee, hosted by the General Economics Division (GED) of the Bangladesh Planning Commission with support from UNFPA Bangladesh, was established in 2017 under the project titled “Strengthening Capacity of the General Economics Division to Integrate Population and Development Issues into Plans and Policies.” Since its inception, the committee has served as a specialized technical platform and think tank supporting the Government of Bangladesh in advancing the ICPD Programme of Action, the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs), and other national population and development priorities.

Through its participation in PEC, PPD contributed to policy discussions on demographic trends, population dynamics, human capital development, ageing, urbanization, and the integration of South-South Cooperation perspectives into national development planning.

Institutionalization of South-South Cooperation (SSC) into National Health Strategies

PPD has taken the initiative to institutionalize SSC into the National Health Strategy, which could help countries develop health interventions that are culturally appropriate and suited to their specific needs. It promotes the sharing of knowledge, experiences, and innovative solutions among developing countries, contributing to stronger health

systems, improved health services, and better access to essential care. SSC also supports more equitable partnerships and strengthens cooperation and diplomatic relations among countries.

To support this initiative, two consultants — Dr. S. K. Sikdar (India) and Mr. Fethi Ben



Messaoud (Tunisia) were engaged to conduct a study covering 12 countries: Bangladesh, Indonesia, Egypt, Ethiopia, Uganda, Nigeria, India, South Africa, Thailand, Kenya, Tunisia, and Morocco. The study aims to assess national health strategies, identify best practices, and develop a roadmap for institutionalizing SSC in the health sector. Field studies were conducted in Tunisia, Morocco, and Kenya, and the objectives were:

1. Evaluation of Existing National Strategies
2. Identification of International Best Practices
3. Development of an Operational Roadmap
4. Formulation of Strategic Recommendations

To achieve these objectives, the study focused on the following key thematic areas:

- Review of Existing SSC Practices in the Health Sector
- Stakeholder Identification and Analysis
- Identification of Best Practices
- Development of a Roadmap



Based on the research findings, a Five-Year Roadmap (2026–2030) has been developed.

The objective of this roadmap is to establish a fully institutionalized South-South Cooperation (SSC) framework that strengthens health systems, reduces inequalities in access to care, and improves health outcomes across PPD member countries.

The roadmap is built around five key objectives:

1. Establish strong political and legal foundations for SSC in health.
2. Develop sustainable and equitable financing mechanisms.
3. Strengthen coordination and expand partnerships.
4. Enhance technical expertise and foster innovation.
5. Promote systematic knowledge sharing and visibility of SSC achievements.

Priority Areas

Four priority health domains guide implementation:

- Health emergency preparedness and response
- Maternal, neonatal, child, and reproductive health
- Control of communicable diseases
- Management of non-communicable diseases

Implementation Phases

The roadmap is structured into five progressive phases:

- 2026: Establish governance structures, legal frameworks, and integrate SSC into national health strategies.
- 2026–2027: Develop sustainable financing mechanisms and diversify funding sources.
- 2027–2028: Strengthen coordination, partnerships, and expand cooperation geographically.
- 2028–2029: Promote innovation, research collaboration, and capacity building in emerging sectors (e.g., digital health, AI).
- 2029–2030: Enhance visibility, document best practices, and institutionalize knowledge-sharing platforms.

SSC Intervention 4

Capacity building and technical cooperation

The SMART Advocacy Capacity Strengthening and Strategy Development Training

The Smart Advocacy Capacity Strengthening Training on Increasing Domestic Health Financing in Zambia, held from 25th to 27th March 2025 in Lusaka, brought together over 30 participants from government, civil society, academia, and cooperating partners to strengthen advocacy efforts for sustainable health financing.

The training, implemented under the Advance Domestic Health Financing (ADHF) project by PPD-ARO and AFIDEP, aimed to enhance participants' understanding of Zambia's health financing landscape, build capacity in the SMART advocacy approach, and support the development of actionable advocacy strategies. Key sessions covered the status of domestic health financing, political economy analysis, and innovative financing mechanisms such as the National Health Insurance Scheme



(NHIMA). Participants engaged in practical exercises to develop SMART advocacy objectives and work plans, with emphasis on evidence-based engagement, SMART objectives crafting, stakeholder mapping, messaging, and targeting decision-makers.

Discussions highlighted Zambia's heavy reliance on external funding, inefficiencies in resource allocation, and the urgent need for increased domestic resource mobilization and improved accountability. A key outcome of the training was the formation of a CSO coalition to jointly advocate for increased domestic health financing, alongside improved coordination and sustained engagement with government stakeholders. The training significantly enhanced participants' knowledge and advocacy skills, positioning them to effectively influence policy and contribute to a more sustainable, self-reliant health system in Zambia.

Population Experts Committee (PEC), Bangladesh

PPD continued its engagement with the Population Experts Committee (PEC) hosted by the General Economics Division (GED) of the Bangladesh Planning Commission, with support from UNFPA Bangladesh. Established in 2017 under the project *"Strengthening Capacity of the GED to Integrate Population and Development Issues into Plans and Policies"* the committee serves as a technical platform supporting national efforts to integrate population dynamics into development planning.

As a member of the committee, PPD regularly participates in quarterly meetings and provides technical guidance. The meetings review progress and address challenges related to the project *"Integrating Population Dynamics and Development Issues into National Plans and Policies"* while strengthening the committee's role in advancing ICPD and SDG priorities.

PPD Scholarships Program

Partners in Population and Development (PPD), with the support of the Department of Social Development of the Government of South Africa, had offered ten (10) scholarships for a Postgraduate Diploma (PGD) in Population and Policy Analysis (PPA). This opportunity is intended for professionals working in the field of population and development in PPD member countries.

The PGD in Population and Policy Analysis equips mid- to senior-level managers with advanced knowledge and practical skills to effectively integrate research, policy, and programs. The course will be conducted at North-West University, Mafikeng Campus, South Africa, and will span one (1) year of full-time study, carrying 120 credit units. The program is scheduled to commence in February 2026.

The Government of South Africa has offered 10 scholarships annually to PPD for its member countries. In 2025, commencing in February 2026. PPD has received 7 nominations for the scholarship from Gambia (3), Ghana (1), Malawi (1), Tunisia (1), and Zimbabwe (1).

The PGD in Population and Policy Analysis equips mid- to senior-level managers with advanced knowledge and practical skills to effectively integrate research, policy, and programs. The course will be conducted at North-West University, Mafikeng Campus, South Africa, and will span one (1) year of full-time study, carrying 120 credit units.



Support to Health Financing Dialogue with Members of Parliament

PPD Africa Regional Office (PPDARO) supported a health financing dialogue with Members of Parliament as a precursor to Uganda's National Health Financing Dialogue. The dialogue brought together Members of Parliament, officials from the Ministries of Health and Finance, and other key stakeholders to generate evidence, build consensus, and develop policy positions to inform national discussions on sustainable health financing. Convened against the backdrop of shrinking fiscal space, declining donor funding, and growing demand for health services, the dialogue emphasized the urgent need for Uganda to strengthen domestic health financing and

identify practical, evidence-based solutions for improved resource mobilization, allocation, and efficiency.

Opening remarks highlighted the critical role of Parliament in advancing health financing commitments

and ensuring that health priorities are reflected in national budgeting processes. Ms. Doreen Kansime, Policy Engagement and Communications Officer, emphasized the need for Members of Parliament to implement commitments made during NEAPACOH meetings, particularly in addressing health financing gaps. Discussions focused on increasing resources for health, improving efficiency in the use of available funds, promoting equity and financial protection, strengthening governance, and advancing cross-cutting solutions such as community health systems, digital innovations, data systems, transparency, and accountability. The dialogue reaffirmed the importance of a multi-sectoral and evidence-driven approach, and its outcomes provided key policy options and recommendations to guide the National Health Financing Dialogue, with a focus on sustainability, efficiency, equity, and strong governance.



Support to the Uganda Ministry of Domestic Health on Health Financing

PPDARO, in partnership with the Ministry of Health and other key stakeholders Convened a high-Level National Health Financing Dialogue on May 6 – 8, 2025, at Speke Resort Munyonyo, Kampala. It was held under the theme, “sustainable health financing strategies for UHC and resilient health systems in Uganda. The National Financing Dialogue marked a significant milestone in Uganda's development journey, demonstrating the power of collaboration and innovative financing solutions to drive progress and improve lives.



The dialogue brought together key stakeholders, including Members of parliament, government officials, the private sector, and development partners, to mobilize resources and catalyse investments for the country's development agenda.

Leveraging PPD ARO Inter-country Networks for South-South Learning and FP/MNCH Landscaping

SASA leveraged PPD Africa Regional Office (PPD ARO) intercountry networks as strategic platforms for family planning and maternal, newborn and child health (FP/MNCH) landscape analysis, evidence sharing, and South-South learning among member countries. Through the PCCs Meeting, NEAPACOH Meeting, and EARHN Meeting held in 2025, SASA supported systematic information gathering and peer-to-peer exchange across diverse country contexts. These engagements helped deepen understanding of FP/MNCH commitments, progress, implementation gaps, financing challenges, accountability mechanisms, and stakeholder dynamics in Ethiopia, Côte d'Ivoire, Kenya, Nigeria, and Senegal. The process was further strengthened by scoping reviews in Côte d'Ivoire and Senegal, conducted in

partnership with SAMASHA, which informed tailored advocacy strategies and strengthened readiness for effective FP/MNCH advocacy and accountability interventions.

The intercountry platforms also enabled participating member countries to share progress on the 2019 Africa Leadership Meeting commitments on increased domestic financing for health. Ethiopia reported notable progress in increasing government contributions to FP commodities and services, strengthening commodity security systems, improving forecasting and supply chain coordination, and enhancing multisectoral accountability through SRHR financing forums, parliamentary engagement, financing trackers, and RMNCAH scorecards. Kenya shared advances in domestic health financing and political commitment, including reforms in social health insurance, primary health care financing, public finance management, local manufacturing, and health sector planning and monitoring. These experiences demonstrated the value of PPD ARO's regional networks in promoting mutual learning, strengthening accountability, and advancing evidence-based policy action for sustainable FP/MNCH financing and implementation.

Advancing CSO Engagement in Health Financing Dialogue



PPD Africa Regional Office (PPD ARO) served as a member of the Organizing Committee for the 7th CSO Annual National Health Financing Conference in Uganda, held on 29–30 October 2025 at Four Points by Sheraton. The conference was convened under the theme, “More Health for the

Money: Achieving Equity and Financial Protection.” Other organizing partners included Action Group for Health, Human Rights and HIV/AIDS (AGHA), RMNCAH+N and Healthy Aging Platform, National Forum for People Living with HIV/AIDS Networks in Uganda (NAFOPHANU), Center for Health, Human Rights and

Development (CEHURD), AMREF Health Africa, HEPS Uganda, Civil Society Budget Advocacy Group (CSBAG), and Plan International.

The conference brought together key stakeholders to discuss health financing challenges and opportunities in the context of shifting funding priorities, health sector integration, and global and local institutional transitions. It provided a platform for civil society organizations, government representatives, development partners, and other stakeholders to share experiences, examine emerging challenges, and showcase innovations in health financing. The discussions also explored sustainable health investment strategies, with a focus on improving efficiency, equity, and financial protection in Uganda's health system.

Strengthening Regional Collaboration through the Regional Collaborative Platform

PPD Africa Regional Office (PPD ARO) supported the convening of monthly coordination meetings of the Regional Collaborative Platform (RCP) for National Population Councils and Commissions. During the PPD Africa Member Countries' PCCs Meeting held in July 2025, PPD ARO facilitated the official handover of the RCP Chairmanship from Kenya's National Council for Population and Development (NCPD) to The Gambia National Population Commission (NPC). Zimbabwe has since been elected as the Vice-Chair of the Platform.

As the Secretariat of the RCP, PPD ARO continues to actively participate in and support the Platform's virtual monthly coordination meetings. The RCP was established to promote South-South Cooperation in reproductive health, population, and development among member countries. Under the leadership of The Gambia, and with technical and coordination support from PPD ARO, the Platform has developed a draft resource mobilization strategy, which is currently undergoing review and stakeholder consultations.

Completion of China Aid-GDF Project on Maternal Mortality Reduction in Bangladesh

The Global Development and South-South Cooperation Fund (GDF) project titled *"Providing Comprehensive, Safe, and Appropriate Intervention to Prevent Postpartum Hemorrhage for Reducing Maternal Mortality"* successfully concluded its pilot phase in 2025. Funded by China Aid and implemented from 2020 to 2024, the project was one of the largest South-South Cooperation initiatives of its kind for a PPD member country. It was implemented by Partners in Population and Development (PPD), in partnership with the China National Research Institute for Family Planning (NRIFP) and the Directorate General of Family Planning (DGFP), under the Ministry of Health and Family Welfare, Government of Bangladesh, to support the reduction of maternal mortality and advance SDG 3.

Implemented in six Upazilas of Manikganj and Gazipur districts, the project reached more than 64,000 pregnant women annually and strengthened service delivery through training, commodity support, clinical guidance, and community engagement. A total of 609 medical professionals and health workers were trained on postpartum hemorrhage (PPH) prevention and the use of misoprostol, while 676 pregnant mothers and family members received training at satellite level. In addition, 10,660 community members, including local leaders and imams, participated in awareness

activities. The project also supported primary health facilities and facilitated the distribution of 61,700 boxes of Misoprostol 200 mcg tablets and 160,596 postpartum care kits supplied from China.

The intervention contributed to improved knowledge, stronger service readiness, and better maternal health outcomes in the project areas. Retrospective data collected from 29 Union Health and Family Welfare Centers showed that the incidence of PPH decreased by more than 70 percent during the project implementation period from 2020 to 2023. The project also produced training materials, IEC tools, and clinical guidelines for PPH prevention with misoprostol, creating a strong foundation for sustaining and scaling up this cost-effective intervention in low-resource settings.

A Project Completion Certificate was signed on 22 April 2025 between PPD and the Embassy of the People's Republic of China in Bangladesh, in the presence of representatives from the Chinese Embassy, the Ministry of Health and Family Welfare, and PPD. The successful completion of the project demonstrates the value of South-South Cooperation in addressing critical public health challenges and reaffirms PPD's strategic role in promoting knowledge exchange, partnership, and scalable maternal health solutions across the Global South.



Strengthening PPD–UNFPA Partnership for South-South Cooperation and Reproductive Health



On 2 November 2025, members of the PPD Executive Committee, together with Prof. Dr. Joseph Adelegan, Executive Director of PPD, held a strategic bilateral meeting with Ms. Diene Keita, Executive Director of UNFPA. The meeting provided an important opportunity to reaffirm the long-standing partnership between PPD and UNFPA and to explore new avenues for enhanced collaboration in advancing population and development priorities among countries of the Global South.

Discussions focused on strengthening South-South and Triangular Cooperation, promoting sustainable financing for women's health, and building national and institutional capacities for reproductive health and population programmes. Both

organizations reaffirmed their shared commitment to advancing the ICPD Programme of Action and the Sustainable Development Goals, particularly in areas related to sexual and reproductive health and rights, gender equality, and inclusive sustainable development. The meeting underscored the strategic importance of continued PPD–UNFPA collaboration in accelerating progress toward common development goals.



PPD Participation in the 4th China-Africa Conference on Population and Development

PPD participated in the 4th China-Africa Conference on Population and Development, held in Nairobi, Kenya, from 18 to 21 November 2025, under the theme, "Harnessing Population Dynamics for Health and Sustainable Development: Strengthening China-Africa Cooperation." The conference was co-hosted by the China Population and Development Research Center (CPDRC) and the National Council for Population and Development (NCPD), Kenya, bringing together more than 70 representatives,

including government officials, experts, scholars, and representatives of international organizations from China, Kenya, Zimbabwe, Nigeria, Zambia, and other partners.

Professor Joseph Akinkugbe Adelegan, Executive Director of PPD, was invited to deliver opening remarks and a keynote presentation. In his address, he highlighted PPD's leadership in advancing South-South and Triangular Cooperation (SSTC) in population, reproductive health, demographic resilience, and sustainable development across its Member States. He emphasized the importance of adopting a life-course approach to health, addressing needs from maternal and child health to adolescent health, reproductive health, adult care, and geriatric services. He also underscored the role of innovative financing in unlocking the demographic dividend and advancing Universal Health Coverage.

The opening ceremony was also attended by Mr. Zhang Zhizhong, Deputy Head of Mission and Minister Counselor of the Chinese Embassy in Kenya, who noted that the conference provided an important platform for strengthening South-South Cooperation through policy dialogue, technical exchange, and capacity building between China and African countries. Dr. Bonface Makokha, Principal Secretary of the State Department for Economic Planning, the National Treasury and Economic Planning of Kenya, emphasized that population policies must place people's dignity, aspirations, education, healthcare, and opportunities at the center of development. The conference reaffirmed the importance of China-Africa cooperation in addressing population dynamics and advancing health and sustainable development.



Mission to Uganda and Engagement with PPD Africa Regional Office

From 21 to 22 November 2025, Professor Joseph Akinkugbe Adelegan, Executive Director of Partners in Population and Development (PPD), undertook an official mission to Kampala, Uganda, to strengthen coordination between the PPD Secretariat and the Africa Regional Office (ARO). The mission aimed to review ongoing regional programmes, reinforce operational alignment with PPD's governance and policy frameworks, and explore opportunities to enhance the role of ARO as PPD's regional hub for advancing population and development priorities in Africa.



During the mission, Professor Adelegan held high-level discussions with Hon. Amos Lugoloobi, Minister of State for Finance, Planning and Economic Development and PPD Board Member for Uganda, and Dr. Hamis Mugendawala, Partner Country Coordinator (PCC) for Uganda. The discussions reaffirmed Uganda's strong commitment to PPD and highlighted the importance of strengthening the Africa Regional Office to address regional population and development challenges. Key areas of collaboration discussed included governance reform, regularization of membership contributions, resource mobilization, and programme expansion. The Executive Director emphasized his commitment to leveraging global partnerships to strengthen PPD's financial sustainability and programmatic impact across the region.



As part of the visit, Mr. Patrick Mugirwa, Acting Regional Director of PPD ARO, briefed the Executive Director on the Office's programme activities, achievements, partnerships, and existing resource and staffing challenges. Professor Adelegan commended the ARO team for its continued dedication and achievements despite limited resources. He reaffirmed PPD's commitment to strengthening operational systems, improving Secretariat-ARO coordination, and enhancing institutional integration to support more effective delivery of PPD's mandate across the Africa region.



Resource Mobilization and Strategic Partnership Initiatives

In 2025, PPD continued to advance its resource mobilization agenda by developing and submitting strategic concept notes and proposals to expand partnerships and support the scale-up of impactful South-South Cooperation initiatives. A proposal was submitted to China Aid to scale up the South-South Cooperation Assistance Fund project on the prevention of postpartum hemorrhage and reduction of maternal mortality, building on the successful implementation of the earlier intervention in Bangladesh. In addition, PPD developed a proposal in partnership with the private sector and Guardian Healthcare Ltd., titled “Accelerating Development of Innovative, Exceptionally Low-Cost Maternal and Child Nutrient Ingredients & Products,” which was submitted to the Gates Foundation for funding consideration.

PPD also strengthened engagement with key international partners to explore new areas of collaboration. On 30 January 2025, PPD held a meeting with the International Labour Organization (ILO) Bangladesh to discuss potential cooperation in healthcare entrepreneurship and social protection for ageing populations. The discussion focused on innovative approaches to strengthening healthcare delivery systems and addressing the growing needs of elderly populations. PPD also continued its

collaboration with UNFPA and partners from China to develop a South-South and Triangular Cooperation Network on Population Ageing, involving partners from the G20 and BRICS countries. A joint concept note was finalized and submitted to the Government of China for funding consideration, with the aim of promoting policy dialogue, knowledge sharing, and cooperation on ageing-related health and development issues.

Following the signing of a Memorandum of Understanding with the United Nations Office for South-South Cooperation (UNOSSC), PPD submitted a concept note focusing on capacity building and documentation of best practices. As part of this collaboration, two case studies from Tunisia and Kenya were uploaded to the South-South Galaxy platform, contributing to global knowledge sharing and replication of successful South-South Cooperation experiences. In addition, PPD’s China Aid-supported project titled “Providing Comprehensive, Safe and Appropriate Intervention to Prevent Postpartum Hemorrhage for Reducing Maternal Mortality in Bangladesh” was selected by UNOSSC as a South-South best practice and featured on the South-South Galaxy platform. This recognition further highlighted PPD’s role in promoting evidence-based, scalable, and high-impact development solutions across the Global South.



BOARD MEMBERS

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Ms. Nurjahan Begum

Executive Committee Member, PPD Board

Advisers to the interim government, Ministry of Health and Family Welfare (MOHFW)

Government of the People's Republic of Bangladesh



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Executive Committee Member, PPD Board

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Government of the Republic of Benin



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Vice Chair, PPD Board

Vice Minister, National Health Commission (NHC)

Government of the People's Republic of China



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Dr. Mustapha HININ

Director-General, National Population Office (NPO)

Ministry of Planning and Development

Government of the Republic of Cote d'Ivoire



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H.E. Khaled Abdel Ghafar

Member, PPD Board

Minister of Health and Population

Government of the Arab Democratic Republic of Egypt



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Minister of Health

Federal Democratic Republic of Ethiopia



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Member, PPD Board

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Member, PPD Board and Ag. Executive Director

National Population Council (NPC)

Government of the Republic of Ghana



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Member, PPD Board

Honorable Minister, Union Ministry of Health and Family Welfare

Government of India



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Treasurer, PPD Board

Secretary of the Ministry of Population and Family Development/ BKKBN

Ministry of Population and Family Development/National Population and Family Planning Board (NPFPPB-BKKBN)

Government of the Republic of Indonesia



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H.E Dr. Feras Tbrahim Hawari
Member, PPD Board
Honourable Minister, Ministry of Health
Government of the Hashemite Kingdom of Jordan



KENYA

Dr. Mohamed A. Sheikh
Executive Committee Member, PPD Board
Director-General, National Council for Population and Development (NCPD)
Government of the Republic of Kenya



MALAWI

Hon. Simplex Chithyola Banda, MP
Member, PPD Board
Minister of Finance and Economic Affairs
Government of the Republic of Malawi



MALI

Not yet nominated

MEXICO

Ms. Gabriela Rodríguez Ramírez
Executive Committee Member, PPD Board
Secretary-General, Consejo Nacional de Población (CONAPO)
Ministry of Interior, Government of Mexico



MOROCCO

H.E. Mr. Amine TEHRAOUI
Member, PPD Board
Minister of Health and Social Protection
Government of the Kingdom of Morocco



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H. E. Senator Abubakar Atiku Bagadu, CON
Member, PPD Board
Minister of Federal Ministry of Budget and Economic Planning
Government of the Federal Republic of Nigeria



PAKISTAN

H.E. Mr. Syed Mustafa Kamal
Member, PPD Board
Federal Minister, Ministry of National Health Services, Regulations and Coordination, Government of Pakistan



SENEGAL

H.E. Dr Ibrahima SY
Member, PPD Board
Minister of Health and Social Action
Government of Senegal



SOUTH-AFRICA

H.E. Ms. Nokuzola Tolashe
Chair, PPD Board
Minister for Social Development
Government of the Republic of South Africa



SRI LANKA

H.E. Dr. Keheliya Rambukwella
Member, PPD Board
Honorable Minister of Health
Government of the Democratic Socialist Republic of Sri Lanka



THAILAND

Dr. Amporn Benjaponpitak, M.D., MRC Psych
Member, PPD Board
Honourable Director-General, Department of Health, Ministry of Public Health, The Royal Thai Government



BOARD MEMBERS

TUNISIA

Prof. Mohamed Douagi

Member, PPD Board

President Director General, National Board of Family and Population
Ministry of Health, Government of Tunisia



UGANDA

H.E. Hon. Mr. Amos Lugolobi

Member, PPD Board

Minister of State for Finance, Planning and Economic Development
(Planning), Government of the Republic of Uganda



VIET NAM

Dr. Le Thanh Dung

Member, PPD Board

General Director of Viet Nam Population Authority (VNPA)
Ministry of Health (MOH), Viet Nam



YEMEN

H.E. Dr. Ahmed Ali Bourji

Member, PPD Board

Secretary General, National Population Council, Council of Ministers
Government of the Republic of Yemen



ZIMBABWE

H.E. Dr Douglas Mombeshora

Member, PPD Board

Minister of Health and Child Care
Government of the Republic of Zimbabwe



PARTNER COUNTRY COORDINATORS

BANGLADESH

Ms. Jobaida Begum

Additional Secretary (Population, Family Welfare and Law)

Medical Education and Family Welfare Division

Ministry of Health and Family Welfare

Government of the People's Republic of Bangladesh



BENIN

Dr. M. E. Edith DJENONTIN KOTCHOFA

Public Health Physician/SSR

Head of the Reproductive Health and Family Planning Service/ANSSP

Ministry of Health, Government of the Republic of Benin



CHINA

Ms. Zhang Yang

Director General, Department of International Cooperation

National Health Commission (NHC)

Government of the People's Republic of China



COTE D'IVOIRE

Ms. AHUA Badou Marina

Head of the Department, External Relations, National Population Office

Ministry of Planning and Development, Government of Cote d'Ivoire



PARTNER COUNTRY COORDINATOR

EGYPT

Prof Dr. Abla El Al-Alfy

Deputy Minister of Health & Population and Head of National Population Council, Ministry of Health and Population
Government of the Arab Republic of Egypt



ETHIOPIA

Alemayehu Hunduma Higi (PhD, MPH)

A/Lead Executive Officer

Maternal, Child and Adolescent Health Service

Federal Ministry of Health

Government of the Democratic Federal Republic of Ethiopia

THE GAMBIA

Ms. Mariama Fanneh

Director of Population Affairs, Office of the Vice President

Government of the Republic of The Gambia



GHANA

Ms. Naomi Osei

Senior Demographer, National Population Council (NPC)

Government of the Republic of Ghana



INDIA

Dr. Indu Grewal, MD

Additional Secretary & Mission Director, National Health Mission

Ministry of Health and Family Welfare, Government of India

INDONESIA

Mr. Aris Firmanto, S.E., MSR

The Head of Bureau for Planning and Finance

Ministry of Population and Family Development/National Population and Family Planning Board (NPFPP/BKKBN)

Government of the Republic of Indonesia



JORDAN

Dr. May Hani Al-Hadidi

Chairperson, Family Medicines Specialty, Ministry of Health
Government of the Hashemite Kingdom of Jordan



KENYA

Ms. Irene Ashikhongo Muhunzu

Senior Programme Officer, In charge of Partner Coordination at NCPD

National Council for Population and Development (NCPD)

Government of the Republic of Kenya



MALAWI

Mr. Chimwemwe Khoswe

Chief Economist

Department of Economic Planning and Development

Government of the Republic Malawi

MALI

Mr. Ishaga Coulibaly

National Director of Population, National Directorate of Population

c/o the Minister in charge of population issues

Republic of Mali

MEXICO

Dr. Carla Bonilla

General Director, Dirección de Coordinación Intergubernamental

Consejo Nacional de Población (CONAPO)

Government of Mexico

MOROCCO

Dr. YAHYANE Abdel Hakim MD - MPM

Director of the Population Directorate

Ministry of Health, Kingdom of Morocco



PARTNER COUNTRY COORDINATOR

NIGERIA

Dr. Sampson Ebimaro

Director of the International Cooperation Department
Budget and National Planning Arm
Ministry of Finance, Budget and National Planning
Government of the Federal Republic of Nigeria

PAKISTAN

Dr. Shabana Saleem

Director General, Population Program Wing
Ministry of National Health Services, Regulations and Coordination
Government of Pakistan



SENEGAL

Dr. Cheikh Ahmed Tidiane Gueye

Technical Advisor for Cooperation
Ministry of Health and Social Action
Government of Senegal



SOUTH AFRICA

Ms. Thandeka P. Gumbeni

Director, Population Policy and Strategy Monitoring and Evaluation
Chief Directorate, Population and Development
Department of Social Development, Government of the Republic of South Africa

SRI LANKA

Dr. Chithramalee De Silva

Director, Maternal and Child Health, Family Health Bureau
Ministry of Health, Nutrition and Indigenous Medicine
Government of the Democratic Socialist Republic of Sri Lanka



THAILAND

Dr. Bunyarit Sukrat

Director of Bureau of Reproductive Health
Department of Health, Ministry of Public Health



TUNISIA

Mrs. Nabila Lejri

Deputy Director in Charge, Technical Cooperation Department
National Board for Family and Population, Ministry of Health
Government of Tunisia



UGANDA

Dr. Hamis Mugendawala

Senior Manager, Population and Social Development Planning Department
National Planning Authority (NPA)
Ministry of Finance, Planning & Economic Development
Government of the Republic of Uganda

VIET NAM

Ms. Tran Thi Quynh Mai

Officials in International Cooperation Division of VNPA
Ministry of Health (MOH)
Government of the Socialist Republic of Vietnam

YEMEN

Mr. Motahar Ahmed Zabarah

Assistant Secretary General, National Population Council
Government of the Republic of Yemen



ZIMBABWE

Mr. Farai Machinga

Acting Executive Director
Zimbabwe National Family Planning Council (ZNFPC)
Government of the Republic of Zimbabwe





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

PPD SECRETARIAT

Block-F, Plot 17/B&C, Sher-E-Bangla Nagar, Administrative Zone
Agargaon, Dhaka-1207, Bangladesh

Website:
www.partners-popdev.org

Email:
partners@ppdsec.org

Telephone:
+88-02-44827370
+88-02-44827371
+88-02-44827372
+88-02-44827373

Fax
+88-02-44827374