



Members of the Narok County Health Management Team and PACE staff attended program based budgeting training from Nov. 19 25, 2017 at Lake Naivasha.

KENYA

POLICY, ADVOCACY, AND COMMUNICATION ENHANCED (PACE) PROJECT

The Policy, Advocacy, and Communication Enhanced for Population and Reproductive Health (PACE) Project, implemented by Population Reference Bureau (PRB), ensures that family planning (FP) and population issues are included in policies and programs to foster sustainable, equitable economic growth and development. PACE builds the capacity of the next generation of FP champions and of partners including research institutions, government entities, intergovernmental organizations, and diverse conservation, faith, and gender institutions to advocate for FP and secure commitments to FP from leaders outside the health sector.

PACE Kenya addresses the urgent need to secure commitments and mobilize domestic, and specifically county, resources to finance FP programs and services. We tackle this challenge through a unique tri-fold approach that includes capacity building, partnerships, and participation targeting three unique sets of actors: county decisionmakers and champions; members of the media; and youth champions.

OUR WORK

PACE Kenya builds on over 20 years of partnership with Kenyan institutions to strengthen political commitment to FP, reproductive health (RH), and population. PACE engages new partners and experts with county-level health and FP financing expertise to help local partners with county presence understand and respond to windows of opportunity and engagement in the budget cycle.

PACE Kenya's work aligns with the PACE Project's Result Areas:

R1: Individual and institutional capacity in advocacy, policy communication, and negotiations strengthened.

R2: Commitment increased for multisectoral approaches to integrated population, health, environment, climate change, resilience, food security, livelihoods, and security programs.

R3: Data and information analyzed, synthesized, and disseminated to engage policy and advocacy audiences to act.

ACHIEVEMENTS

- Secured budget wins after a successful PACE training in program-based budgeting resulted in the Narok County health management and budget teams prioritizing services for FP/RMNCAH across all pillars of the health budget for the first time in FY2019.
- Convened health and budget officials from Busia County and provided technical assistance to rectify a health budget shortfall. As a result of PACE's intervention, the Busia County health budget was increased by 400 million KES and restructured to address Busia's most pressing health needs.
- PACE youth advocates positively influenced the final 2018-2022 County Integrated Development Plans (CIDP2s) in Mombasa and Bomet counties. County officials adopted PACE youth champions' recommendations to: prioritize youth-friendly services in a subcounty of Nairobi, create eight additional youth-friendly facilities in Mombasa, and expand youth training programs in Bomet. In addition, Busia youth advocates ensured the county government allocated funds to hire two nurses to staff a youth-friendly service center at the Alupe Hospital.
- Produced innovative, actionable policy communication materials such as a datasheet on FP/RH in Kenya, multimedia ENGAGE presentation on Population, Health, and the Environment (PHE), and a video on youth and the demographic dividend.
- Organized national launch event of a PHE multimedia presentation, followed by six policy dialogues on PHE and other multisectoral approaches to FP/RH and development in various counties, which built knowledge on multisectoral approaches and led to policy commitments such as the inclusion of PHE in Nyamira's CIDP2.
- Trained NCPD staff who successfully applied their skills in advocacy activities, such as writing a technical brief for Nairobi decisionmakers, resulting in county leaders increasing the RH allocation from 9.7 million KES to 10.2 million KES for FY2017-18.
- Completed an organizational assessment of the NCPD, after which the Board Chair used the results to review NCPD's strategic plan, contract with the Kenya School of Government for further institutional strengthening and conduct a staff skills audit to better align the organization to

BUDGET \$3,157,539

DURATION

2016 - 2020

ACTIVITY LOCATIONS

Narok County, Busia County, Samburu County, Nakuru County

KEY PARTNERS

County governments, National Council for Population and Development (NCPD), Afya Uzazi Project (FHI 360), Centre for the Study of Adolescence, and other civil society organizations

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strategy fulfillment.

- Trained over 45 youth advocates on the demographic dividend and media who then used their skills to secure positions on important policymaking committees such as on the Bomet CIDP2 Committee and the Kericho County Executive Committee.
- Engaged First Lady of Narok County as a strong FP/RH champion who is now ensuring lasting financial commitments to FP/RH in Narok.
- Joined the inner circles of Narok County's health policy advisers after an invitation by the Governor to help define health priorities in their CIDP2 and serve on the high-level County Budget and Economic Forum.
- Created opportunities and facilitated media engagement for budget advocacy in Narok County that led to cemented public support for prioritizing FP/RMNCAH needs and in turn the financing of major health programs in a budget that prioritized FP/RH.
- Completed a baseline assessment on implementation of FP/RH policies in Busia County, compiled and analyzed the results of the Busia county policy assessment, and disseminated a comprehensive report, sharing the results of the assessment with decisionmakers.
- Inspired over 37 news stories produced by PACE-affiliated reporters that focused attention on FP/RH and cross-cutting policy issues in Narok, Siaya, Busia and Marsabit counties as well as at the national level.