

ACCELERATE Q.1 NEWSLETTER (JANUARY - MARCH 2023)





ABBREVIATIONS AND ACRONYMS

ASRH	Adolescent Sexual Reproductive Health	HRIO	Health Records Information Officer
СВО	Community Based Organization	IPC	Interpersonal Communication
СНА	Community Health Assistant	LGBTQ+	Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, Transgender,
CHEW	Community Health Extension Worker		Queer/Questioning
СНМТ	County Health Management Team	RDQA	Routine Data Quality Assessment
C HRIO	County Health Records Information Officer	RH	Reproductive Health
CHV	Community Health Volunteer	RMNCAH	Reproductive, Maternal, Newborn,
CME	Continuing Medical Education		Child and Adolescent Health
FP	Family Planning	SCHMT	Sub-County Health Management Team
FGM	Female Genital Mutilation	SRH	Sexual Reproductive Health
GBV	Gender-Based Violence	TWG	Technical Working Group







NATIONAL AND COUNTY SUPPORT

- The ICPD25 3rd Anniversary planning meeting. The celebrations were held on 14th February, 2023. The project supports NCPD in tracking the 17 commitments made by Kenya in 2019.
- National Health Promotion Advisory Committee quarterly meeting on youth SGBV (a special meeting requested by Director General of Health).
- Youth and Adolescents SBC strategy design plan meeting convened by DRMH
- Participated and supported a committee to develop digital youth and adolescent engagement SOPs.
- Nation Media Group TV show interview (NTV) focused on Kenya's contribution to the ICPD25 commitments and the successes of Project Accelerate.
- Nairobi, Kajiado and Samburu County Gender Sector Working Group meetings. The main aim for the Nairobi meeting was to streamline GBV services by the different organizations to survivors of GBV including women and girls, and persons with disabilities.
- Kajiado GBV Technical Working Group.
- Kilifi FP Technical Working Group.
- Facilitated a strategic meeting with the Narok County Senior County Health Management Team including County Director of Medical Services, County RH coordinator, County CEC for clinical services among others. The discussions revolved around the project's progress, opportunities, and areas of strengthening.
- Nakuru County Annual Workplan (AWP) process.
- Mombasa and Homabay Counties Adolescent RH stakeholders' forum.
- Homabay GBV policy process.
- ASRH Policy (2015) Review and Development Task Force workshop. This was a continuation/follow up meeting on ASRH Policy Task Force meetings initiated since November 2021. The objectives of the workshop were to harness taskforce members perspectives into the AYPRH policy draft zero, complete the National Adolescent and Young Persons Reproductive Health Policy (AYPRH) draft and deliberate on its service delivery guideline outline.
- Roll out and dissemination workshop on Hormonal Intra Uterine Device (HIUD) by the Division of Reproductive and Maternal Health. The roll out is set to be implemented in three phases.



Royal Danish Ambassador, Ole Thonke with PS Kenya CEO, Dr. Margaret at the ICPD25 3rd anniversary celebrations.



GVRC Executive Director and Accelerate's SRH Manager discuss Kenya's contribution to ICPD25 commitments on live TV



Samburu CEC-Gender addresses strategic meeting in Narok County



Launch of GBV Policy at Homabay County

- The technical team was incorporated in the Adolescent Sexual and Reproductive Health (ASRH) conference planning committee, which is deliberating on the forth coming conference coordinated by the Reproductive Health Network Kenya (RHNK). The project has been preparing abstracts for presentation and will support either a panel discussion or some of the listed activities.
- Langata Sub-county Technical Working Group (TWG) where Accelerate made a presentation.
- Reproductive, Maternal, Newborn, Child and Adolescent Health (RMNCAH) TWG for Marsabit County.
- GBV Technical Working Group in Nairobi county
- SRH/AYSRH/GBV Technical Working Group in

- Kilifi.
- The official launch of the Homabay Sexual Gender Based Violence (SGBV) policy at the Tom Mboya University Grounds. The launch also doubled as the county's commemoration of the International Women's Day and was officiated by Hon. Gladys Wanga, Homabay County Governor.
- Facilitated various follow-up meetings with stakeholders at the county level in Homabay County such as the Director Gender, Director State Department of Gender, County Director of Children Services, Country Director of TSC etc. This collaborative effort ensured alignment between the project's and the county's objectives and outcomes.

SERVICE DELIVERY

- 35 CMEs were conducted and supported in 14 sub-counties: Kajiado Central, Kajiado East, Malindi, Msambweni, Kaloleni, Mariakani, Narok North, Samburu Central, Ruaraka, Roysambu, Saku, Leisamis, Kapenguria and Lang'ata - Kibra, reaching a total of 415 health care workers with SRHR/GBV health messages.
- The project carried out eight Sub-County Health Management Team (SCHMT) and facility in-charges meeting in Kaloleni, Lang'ata Kibra, Kajiado central, Msambweni, Marakwet East, West Pokot, Pokot Central and Baringo reaching 322 facility in-charges with SRHR and GBV updates and messages.
- The project reached 261 Health Care Workers (HCWs) through 20 support supervisions conducted in 16 sub-counties: Lang'ata Kibra, Kajiado East, Samburu Central, Saku, Mogotio, Pokot central, Keiyo south, Keiyo North, Narok
- North, Transmara West, Mandera South, Ijara, West Pokot, LungaLunga, Msambweni and Kaloleni. It was noted that facilities; lacked adequate Interpersonal Communication (IPC) structures, were using the old MOH registers hence some key indicators were not well captured, most survivors of SGBV are not able to access SRH services within 72hrs and HCWs had not been trained on data for decision making. Some recommendations were; planned for SRHR/GBV CMEs, On Job Trainings (OJT) especially in IPC and technical competency in service provision, structured mentorship of the key service providers and support supervision to address reporting challenges.
- The team attended one TWG on Cervical Cancer in Malindi, Kilifi county. OJTs of service providers stationed at nine Accelerate-supported private facilities on the correct use of the new data



Group discussions at FP Sustainability and gender meeting



SCHMT/Facility in-charges Langata - Kibra

collection tools including MOH 364 (GBV summary tool) and MOH 365 (GBV register).

- Eight OJTs/mentorship sessions were conducted in Kilifi, Kwale, Elgeyo Marakwet and Homabay, reaching 28 healthcare workers in eight facilities.
- Participated in the Kibera Court Users Committee (CUC) forum aimed at sensitizing stakeholders on the progress in the prosecution of SGBV cases.
- Three Accelerate-supported counties were invited to the family planning sustainability and gender advocacy meeting in Kisumu supported by JHPIEGO.
- The team facilitated rescue of Grace Nemayian who had a vesicovaginal fistula for three years. She was referred to Jamaa Mission hospital for repair. She is now well and back in school.

- Supported the representation of 48 survivors in court through trained health care providers. The service providers shared expert testimony and sat to support the survivors' pursuit of justice.
- Dissemination of Learning Hub in Pumwani-Nairobi County.
- Commissioning of Mashuuru Health Centre to Level 4 Hospital.
- The project supported Lang'ata Kibra to conduct data/performance review meeting.
- Development of Anti-FGM surveillance framework in Narok County.
- Paid a courtesy call to Kapenguria Police Station,
 West Pokot County to strengthen ties and facilitate faster response of the police once called upon to facilitate justice to survivors of GBV and HTP

DEMAND CREATION

- 216 community-based IPC sessions on GBV, FGM and SRHR conducted by 16 Community Based Organizations (14 generic and 2 LGBTQ+).
 The sessions focused on messaging, probing for gaps, affirming positive deviant and linking for GBV and SRH services.
- FGM committee meetings in Kajiado, Narok and Baringo Counties.
- Narok CIDP generation meeting, advocating GBV and SRHR issues.
- RMNCAH and GBV Technical Working Groups in Kilifi, Narok and Homabay Counties.
- Supported launch of GBV bill in Kilifi and Baringo Counties.
- Accelerate initiated communications with key stakeholders at the community level for consolidation of planned activities to ensure proper representation of implementing partners.
- Facilitated a meeting with a representative from the Gender and Disability Division of the Teachers Service Commission (TSC) aimed at ironing out the planned school activities for year three such as training of teachers and support supervision for the Kings and Queens program.
- Virtual stakeholders' forum for Elgeyo Marakwet County spearheaded by the Gender Directorate and aimed at consolidating work plans for stakeholders.
- Development of media articles for marking calendar Days - Marking International Education Day and International Day of Zero Tolerance to Female Genital Mutilation (FGM)



CHVs sensitization in Narok



Iten Referral Hospital HCW CME

- Planning meeting for the LGBTQ+ meeting for Homabay County.
- Review of findings from the pre-testing process of the CHA GBV manual conducted in Mandera, Garissa and Kajiado Counties.
- Social media engagements targeting beneficiaries through dissemination of video panel discussions centered on GBV.
- Accelerate facilitated a focus group discussion with representatives from the LGBTQ+ community in Homabay County focused on GBV and FP service uptake. The main action plans for the discussions included further sensitization on GBV/ SRHR, strengthening linkages between them and the GBVRC and increased demand creation on the inclusive services provided at the facility.
- Accelerate representatives paid a courtesy visits to five schools based in Ndhiwa sub-county, Homabay County. These visits allowed for evaluation of the strengths, weakness and opportunities of the Kings and Queens program and distribution of IECs.
- Accelerate Project facilitated PS Kenya's Communications Department to piece-up fresh content from the community, that will be streaming soon.
- Supported 15 community-based sessions for each of the 13 generic CBOs and 2 LGBTQ+CBOs. All the sessions conducted observed the 5:5:5 rule to facility equity amongst adolescents, women, men, and boys.
- Social Behaviour Change Communication (SBCC) field officers conducted sit-in session quality assurance supportive supervision to collate feedback from the community and CBO and convey session quality improvement feedback to CBOs.
- CBOs/CHVs community sessions on-going across all Accelerate counties and the team supervised the sessions together with CHAs/ CHEWs.
- CHVs sensitization on Accelerate program held in Narok County.
- Accelerate representatives made visits to 50 schools based in Homabay, Garissa, West Pokot, Baringo and Mandera Counties for technical support to the schools in regard to management of Kings and Queens Clubs. These visits were done in collaboration with the curriculum support officers. The visits focused on evaluation of the strengths, weakness and opportunities of the Kings and



A community session in Kajiado



Garissa County Accelerate Research Dissemination featured on Citizen News



Accelerate Project was at the 2023 International Women's Day celebrations in Kajiado County

Queens program, distribution of IECs and OJTs on data collection and reporting.

- Accelerate made a visit to Kabarnet Police station where visible child-friendly murals were installed at the Children's and Gender desk, as part of the project's support for access to justice engagements.
- Accelerate participated in the national commemoration of the International Women's Day in Kajiado and Garissa Counties alongside state and non-state actors. The theme for the event was "DigitAll: Innovation and technology for gender equality."

RESEARCH AND MEAL

- Analyzed Outcome three monitoring research and wrote a report.
- Finalized research reports from Round one datasets including health facility research, rights-holder and male engagement research report and local structure report.
- Accelerate planned and facilitated the dissemination of the outcomes of the learning agenda for stakeholders and beneficiaries in Narok (February) and Garissa (March). This was done in collaboration with the Royal Danish Embassy team.
- Conducted Routine Data Quality Audits (RDQAs): 13 in Elgeyo Marakwet County, Keiyo South sub-county and 12 in Baringo County, Mogotio sub-county, 20 in Upper Eastern and 2 in Kajiado County.
- Met with CHMT Kajiado County for a briefing on the current support we have as a project. We were able to outline the activities we support and those that required approval before commitment.
- Met the SCHMT, Ruaraka sub-county, Nairobi County, for a planning meeting. A discussion ensued on the areas of priority for Q.1 Year three and what level of support they would require from the project.
- Narok County briefing with the CHRIO. We discussed on the plan for the year and priority areas for the County. Major focus is RDQAs for MOH facilities for this quarter.
- In the Rift region, planning meetings were done in in Marigat, Eldoret, Nanyuki and Marakwet.
- Accelerate facilitated joint monitoring visits in select facilities in Narok County for support supervision and distribution of GBV reporting tools.
- Accelerate facilitated joint monitoring visits in select facilities in Elgeyo Marakwet, West Pokot, Mandera and Garissa Counties for support supervision and distribution of GBV reporting tools. The team also met county leadership and CHMT members for discussions on improving GBV service provision including the adoption of a GBV room at the sub-county hospital.
- RDQAs and Joint Support supervision (JSS) visits with sub-county teams were conducted in Baringo, Homabay, Nairobi, Marsabit and Samburu Counties. Service providers were asked to ensure they carry out data review meetings before submitting the data to the HRIOs to ensure they submit correct data. RDQAs and Joint Support supervision (JSS) visits with sub county teams were conducted in Elgeyo

- Marakwet, Homabay, Kwale, Narok and West Pokot Counties. Providers were urged to document GBV cases on the correct registers now that they are available.
- Held a quarterly Monitoring and Evaluation (M&E)
 meeting to discuss the key focus areas for the year
 based on RDQA and JSS visits findings from Year
 Two. County-specific performance trends and
 challenges were also discussed.
- Handed over RH tools to the Narok and Kajiado county offices for distribution to Acceleratesupported facilities.
- Held a Lang'ata Kibra data review meeting where facility performance was discussed. Providers were tasked to ensure data is well documented and reported on time to address the identified gaps.
- Attended the in-charges meeting for Kajiado East where we managed to discuss the key areas of weakness when it comes to reporting for FP and SGBV.
- Held a meeting with the Elgeyo Marakwet CHMT.
 The directors acknowledged the support on FP and GBV documentation and requested for more PRC, QA tools and GBV registers as AMPATH and NASCOP were no longer committing to offering any support on this.
- A special meeting was held in West Pokot County chaired by Chief Officer Health and the new Director of Health Dr. Jacob Ruto. There was a request to organize a sensitization of HCWs on the new tools and summaries, especially on documentation of GBV cases.
- Held a briefing with Kwale CHMT to discuss plans for the quarter and priority areas for the county.
- Distributed RH and GBV tools in some facilities in Kwale, Narok North, and West Pokot.
- Accelerate supported the collection of data of 14 schools in Ijara and Mandera Central sub-counties remotely in collaboration with the Curriculum Support Officers.
- Accelerate Abstracts submitted from Homabay, West Pokot and Nairobi Counties by implementing CBOs and RPCs also sent from West Pokot and Isiolo to Reproductive Health Network Kenya (RHNK) conference.
- Learning agenda and Outcome 3 dissemination in Narok and Garissa Counties. The disseminations were attended by 61 and 62 participants from Narok and Garissa respectively, drawn from various

departments at the County level, that includes CHMT and SCHMT representatives (CECs, Chief Officers, County Directors of Health, RH Coordinators, Records, S/DPHN, Social Workers), other sectors like Gender, Education, Interior Security, National Police Service, CBOs, ODPP representatives, youth representatives, NCPD, WOHED, Religious leaders, UNHCR, UNICEF, other NGOs networks members like CHP, COVAW, FAWEK, World Vision Kenya, Action Aid, The Kesho Alliance, Activista, Inuka Organization, National Council for Persons with disabilities, Media (Citizen and Kulmiye FM), Accelerate consortium members (PS Kenya, PSI, GVRC teams) and representative from DANIDA, who is the donor for the Accelerate Project. In

Garissa, the meeting was also attended by the MP and MCA in charge of gender.

- The project submitted two concepts to the Reproductive Health Network Kenya (RHNK) 6th Annual Scientific Conference on Adolescent and Youth Sexual and Reproductive Health and Rights (AYSRHR) scheduled to take place from 20th 23rd June 2023 (waiting for feedback):
 - Youth social media engagement leading to demand and increased contraception uptake in Homabay County
 - Meaningful involvement of young people to increase uptake and access of contraceptive services in West Pokot

PROJECT MANAGEMENT

- The project put together a year two annual report plus accompaniments i.e. performance matrix, value for money, financial report, success stories and some research work from Output 4.
- Accelerate, alongside its implementing partners, conducted work planning meetings for the development of the Quarter 1 consolidated activity work plan to facilitate the integrated implementation of activities.
- Facilitated the development of the Detailed Implementation Plan aimed at guiding implementation of activities among the consortium members.
- Participated in the Human Rights Café facilitated



Accelerate project at NCPD's 40th anniversary

by the Royal Danish Embassy aimed at joint efforts with Civil Society Organizations to identify and mitigate the challenges in GBV service delivery such as lack of shelters.

- A representative from the Danish Royal Embassy paid a visit to Narok County and provided technical support.
- Accelerate facilitated the development of the DANIDA Annual Stocktaking report for the previous implementation year. This was a collaborative effort among the consortium members.
- The project has carried out consultative meetings and writing of GBV shelters concept.



Accelerate project meeting at Chanuka Board-room in PS Kenya











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