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Papua New Guinea

April 2019 Newsletter

As we settle into 2019 we have received the exciting news that we have been granted funding to continue to support in the HIV response in PNG. The new project will strengthen the work FHI 360 has been implementing in in this space in the past six years. And that's not it, our Kommuniti Lukautim Ol Meri project

(KLOMP) has gained new ground in West Sepik province with full support from Nuku district administration.

Exciting times ahead for our HIV and gender work in PNG!

I am excited to share FHI 360 2018 Annual Report, 8 Million Lives. Please visit the

link www.fhi360.org/annual-report-2018.

Warm wishes,



Daniel Tesfaye
FHI 360 PNG
Country Director

USAID grants funding for follow-on project to support HIV services

The United States Agency for International Development (USAID) has granted funding to FHI 360 for the implementation of a five-year program from October 1, 2018 to September 30, 2023. The USAID HIV Support Activity in PNG aims to provide technical assistance to the Government of PNG, Civil Society Organizations, Non-Governmental Organizations and Faith Based Organizations that are engaged in HIV response. The project builds on the lessons and best practices from the USAID funded Strengthening HIV/AIDS Services for Key Populations in PNG project, implemented from 2012-2018.

The vision for the follow-on project is to achieve a strong and resilient national health system that will support the delivery of integrated, high-quality, key population (KP) friendly HIV and gender-based violence (GBV) services, that incorporate institutionalized models, best practices, tools and strategies. To achieve this vision, the project will be

working on three strategic objectives; supporting the Government's work to roll out test and start and viral load testing in the National Capital District (NCD) and nationwide; providing technical assistance to develop sustainable HIV, sexually transmitted infection and GBV prevention and post GBV services for key populations; and supporting improved data collection and use at national and provincial levels to maximize the impact of current and future integrated bio-behavioural survey results.

FHI 360 will partner and work closely with the National Department of Health, National Capital District Health Services, the National AIDS Council Secretariat, including other stakeholders and Civil Society Organizations working in the HIV and GBV field. So far, the project has conducted orientation meetings and clinical baseline assessments in NCD, Lae and Mt Hagen.

Let's kick TB out of PNG, it's time! World TB Day in Moresby South



Let's kick TB out of PNG, it's time! was the theme of the World TB Day this year. As part of the celebrations, Badili clinic in Moresby South and FHI 360 participated in a TB street festival coordinated by Business for Health.

For those that dared, the laboratory technician from the clinic showed a glimpse

of the inside of the TB clinic where the FHI 360 team created a wall display to demonstrate the basic functions of a lung. Visitors to the stall were encouraged to construct their own lung out of balloons to appreciate its value as a vital organ.

Through community outreach, three teams visited five primary schools in the Moresby South electorate to share basic information about the cause, symptoms and prevention of TB. The week of activities concluded with the NCD Governor's walk against TB. FHI 360 staff took part in the stroll from Murray Barracks to the Paga Hill ring road.

KLOMP gaining new ground in Nuku district, West Sepik province

April, 25 2019 marks the beginning of a new era for the KLOMP, as it gains ground in new parts of PNG, expanding to the interior of West Sepik province – Nuku district. The decision to expand into the new area was made at the recent stakeholder meeting in Vanimo. Working in this district provides a unique opportunity for the KLOM project as the district administration, as well as the district council of women, gave their full support and take ownership of the project.

In the meeting, participants mapped out the four zones to implement the project, from which twenty-eight representatives will be selected by community members to act as KLOM representatives. The twenty-eight representatives will come from the existing district development group and will form the nucleus of the KLOM project implementation in the communities.

Meet the team | Dr Susan Murithi – CBBT Project Director

"I oversee the development of quality improvement interventions and the development and delivery of technical assistance for the TB program. I also provide technical assistance to the implementing teams through training, mentoring and coaching, as well as fostering strong relationships with stakeholders.

I have learned that to win the battle against TB calls for strong partnerships, particularly with communities. Despite their diverse backgrounds, PNG communities are wonderful people to work with. The FHI 360 team has contributed immensely to the gains made this far in improving access to TB diagnostic services and decentralizing TB treatment, care and support services to patients at community level. However, more efforts and innovative strategies are required to reach more patients to ensure they are cured of TB."



MEET THE TEAM



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Thank you to USAID and the Australian Government for financially supporting FHI360.