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Papua New Guinea

July 2017 Newsletter

This quarter our flagship gender programme, Kommuniti Lukautim Ol Meri has published new research on gender based violence (GBV) in Western Highlands and Sandaun provinces giving fresh insights into GBV in Papua New Guinea (PNG). FHI 360 PNG has also provided valuable technical support to the National

Capital District Health Services to strengthen data collection and its M&E system.

The team is working apace on operational research on barriers to accessing HIV services, rolling out a medicines therapeutic committee, delivering treatment failure training for

clinicians and technical assistance for training on a sexual and GBV manual. We are looking forward to sharing the latest updates next quarter.



Daniel Tesfaye
FHI 360 PNG
Country Director



Move to strengthen M&E system for HIV programme

In recognition of the relevance of a strong strategic information system in the implementation of health programmes, in November, 2016 the National Capital District Health Service (NCDHS) took a bold step to strengthen its monitoring and evaluation (M&E) system for HIV services by conducting a baseline assessment with technical assistance from FHI 360 under the USAID funded Key Populations project. On May 26, 2017, the NCD health team, in collaboration with FHI 360, organised a one-day stakeholders' workshop to deliberate findings and to develop an improvement plan to strengthen the weak links of its data system following a recent assessment. The main outcome of the workshop was an 18-month, joint intervention plan that has been endorsed by National HIV Technical Working Group, aimed at improving data availability, data quality, and data use in NCDHS. A matrix detailing key activities, responsible partner(s), timelines, and keys milestone to be achieved was also prepared. FHI 360 will continue to provide technical assistance to NCDHS and work in collaboration with other partners to ensure that the plan is fully implemented. A follow up assessment will be carried out after nine months of implementation | [Ignatius Mogaba](#) and [Emelyn Valaun](#)

A deeper understanding of gender based violence

98.4% of participants in Western Highlands and 90.4% in Sandaun were of the opinion that a woman needs permission from her husband or partner before visiting friends and relatives, just one of the findings from a new research report published by the FHI 360 Komuniti Lukautim Ol Meri project, funded by DFAT through Pacific Women Shaping Pacific Development. 348 women and 199 men participated in the survey in Western Highlands and Sandaun provinces. The research covers knowledge of violence against women and girls, gender social norms, women and men’s experience of violence, violence against children and uptake of services for survivors of violence. To get the full report go to www.fhi360.org/resource/survey-family-well-being-western-highlands-and-sandaun-west-sepik-provinces



PNG strives for full membership of international drug programme

With support from USAID, the Control and Prevention of Tuberculosis (CAP-TB) project provides technical assistance to the National TB Program and the Pharmaceutical Services and Standards Branch (PSSB) of the National Department of Health (NDOH). The project supports the efforts of the national government to have a strong and functional pharmacovigilance system which is housed within the PSSB. With support from CAP-TB project, PSSB is leading the effort to transition PNG from associate member of the WHO Programme for International Drug Monitoring (WHO PIDM) to a full member. By becoming a full member, PNG will be have access to VigiBase which contains worldwide medicine safety data, get access to training, guidelines and resources on pharmacovigilance (drug safety) PV, have access to international knowledge and experience from other countries and to tools for reporting, storing and structuring searching and analysing individual case safety reports. One of the key criteria is to enroll as a full member is that PSSB enters a minimum of 20 adverse drug reaction cases on the online reporting or VigiBase system. To date, with the provision of ongoing technical assistance through the project, PSSB is progressively entering cases from across the country to achieve this important milestone for the country | [Francil Kaemala](#)

Meet the team | Petrina Lee | Komuniti Lukautim Ol Meri Program Manager

MEET THE TEAM



“My main role is to provide programmatic management support in Vanimo and Mount Hagen. I have learnt a lot while working with FHI 360, especially in management and public speaking. Before I joined FHI 360 I was very shy and didn’t like talking a lot. Being with the programme has encouraged me to speak in public places like meetings, forums, workshops, trainings and communities, which has built my confidence. My family and friends are so proud of me working with an international NGO.”



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