

Results from DRG Integration Innovation Fund Activities

BACKGROUND ON THE PROGRAM FOR GOVERNANCE AND PEACE

Between FY11-FY14, the Program for Governance and Peace (PGP) worked in 12 *Collectivités Locales* (CLs) in Senegal to improve local governance. PGP's primary tool was the **Good Governance Barometer (GGB)**. The GGB brings together a local multi-stakeholder group in a participatory process to translate the five core aspects of good governance into locally relevant indicators. These core aspects include:

**Effectiveness • Rule of Law •
Accountability • Equity • Participation**

All CLs chose a priority sector on which to focus the governance assessment: health, land management, financial management, WASH, or natural resources management.

In each partner CL, the process improved governance performance by diversifying and increasing local revenue generation, strengthening leadership of local elected officials, and increasing participation in the local planning and budgeting process. Specific results from the 12 CLs as measured through the Good Governance Barometer include:

- **Increased local revenue generation ranging from 29% to 127%** Citizens became better informed, more engaged, and more confident in their local governments, and more likely to be active participants in their community, including paying local taxes.
- In one CL, local government officials rebranded the “rural tax” as the “**contribution to local development**”

and greatly improved the willingness of citizens to pay it.

- Each CL succeeded in creating and adopting **local government budgets through a participatory process**, a first for the majority of them.
- **36% average increase in governance performance** (using CL-selected GGB indicators).

DRG INTEGRATION INNOVATION FUND ACTIVITY

In FY15, PGP leveraged the initial success to carry out a **DRG Integration Pilot** activity in four CLs in Casamance, a marginalized area of Senegal with one of the longest standing civil conflicts in Africa. This activity was funded through \$1 million from the Integration Innovation Fund from the Democracy, Rights and Governance Center of Excellence in USAID/Washington to USAID/Senegal. Activities targeted an endemic, multi-sectoral problem: the **lack of birth registrations and birth certificates for children aged 14 and under**. In rural areas of Senegal up to **44 percent of children** do not have a birth certificate and three million Senegalese are not registered with the civil records service – nearly one quarter of the population.

Birth certificates in Senegal enable access to health care, education, voting rights and other vital services. Using the GGB process, PGP integrated governance principles and approaches into the management of the civil records, justice, health, and education sectors to improve their ability to play their respective roles.

For the DRG Integration Learning Agenda research, the evaluation team applied a *contribution analysis method* and data from the GGB to capture impact. This research yielded the following results of the integrated approach in the four target CLs (Kartiak, Oudoucar, Dioulacolon, and Bagadaji):

- A total of **6,066 birth certificates** (including 3,370 for children age 14 and under) were issued.
- Recipients included 2,409 students, of which **200** are now eligible to take the final primary education exam.
- An average **increase of 23.87% in overall governance performance** on the issue of birth certificates in the targeted CLs (as measured by the BBG).
- Average **increase of 19.25% in efficiency of the health sector** in contributing to birth registration and issuance of birth certificates.
- Increased efficiency was demonstrated, for example, by a **100% birth registration rate** in health centers and more women electing to give birth in health centers rather than at home.

