



CAPACITY BRIDGING OF LOCAL INSTITUTIONS TO ACCELERATE THE OUAGADOUGOU PARTNERSHIP RESEARCH AGENDA

OVERVIEW

Agency for All will support a research capacity bridging effort to support the Ouagadougou Partnership (OP) Research Agenda as part of its Beyond 2020 Strategy. Capacity bridging is defined as the equitable sharing of knowledge and skills across individuals and institutions, recognizing that all organizations have unique skills and capacity gaps and can learn from and support each other. Agency for All's regional lead EVIHDAF is forming a group of partners to spearhead the effort in collaboration with USAID/West Africa and the OP Coordination Unit to provide tailored capacity bridging to respond to identified capacity gaps and needs of research institutions to support family planning research to accelerate progress in meeting national priorities in the region. Agency for All will employ hybrid capacity bridging where it intends to leverage regional expertise, cross-learning opportunities, and foster ongoing monitoring and learning.

PRIORITIES

PROVIDE UNDERSTANDING OF CAPACITY GAPS AND NEEDS

Agency for All will conduct a baseline capacity assessment to establish a baseline understanding of the organizational and research capacity of the grantee organizations. This will help to identify strengths, weaknesses, and gaps in their knowledge, skills, resources, and systems.

DEVELOP CAPACITY STRENGTHENING MODULES AND PLANS

Based on the assessment period, Agency for All will develop core content focused on thematic areas such as work planning, finance and human resource management, grants management, and study coordination. Agency for All will also work with each partner to create a tailored strategy which focuses on the research institutions' organizational development.

FOSTER COLLABORATION AND KNOWLEDGE EXCHANGE

Agency for All will organize sessions to provide opportunities for local research partners to strengthen their capacity and share lessons learned on cross-cutting topics relevant to the OP Research Agenda. Agency for All will also work to identify and provide mentors to support sustainable capacity strengthening and collaborative partnerships. Agency for All will support cross-learning, skills-building and setting the stage for future collaboration among the grantees, and also plans to leverage platforms to engage OP and other partners to showcase outputs and high-level learnings from the project.

SUPPORT TRANSLATION OF RESEARCH LEARNINGS INTO POLICY AND PRACTICE

Agency for All will work closely with the research institutions, government stakeholders, and PROPEL Health to ensure the uptake and integration of research findings in policy development. This is critical to addressing longstanding challenges facing family planning through evidence-based practices.

ANTICIPATED RESULTS

- Local research institutions successfully completed capacity strengthening trainings
- Local research institutions applied project evidence and improved organizational performance
- Formative research studies and findings are shared with and sensitized to inform decision-making among policymakers

PROGRAM INFORMATION

GOAL: SUPPORT A RESEARCH CAPACITY BUILDING EFFORT FOR THE GRANTEEES OF THE OUAGADOUGOU RESEARCH AGENDA AS PART OF ITS BEYOND 2020 STRATEGY

LIFE OF PROGRAM: JUNE 2023 – JUNE 2025

TOTAL USAID FUNDING: \$1,366,340

GEOGRAPHIC FOCUS: WEST AFRICA

IMPLEMENTING PARTNERS: UCSD, EVIHDAF, SAMBODHI, MAKERERE UNIVERSITY