



# Monthly Newsletter

## 1. Preparing for the future: Barack? McCain? DFID?

We don't know who will win the USA election in November 2008, but while IPPF's relationship with USAID has seen financial peaks and troughs during the past 20 years, it may benefit MAs in the Africa Region to meet with USAID about family planning and RH between now and October 08 as opportunities may exist to raise funds in the future that will make you glad you made the effort now. We know one Africa Region ED who visited USAID in May 08 and was told "I am so glad you've come back to talk with us."

For some MAs this may be difficult, as USAID financial cuts since 2000 hit many MAs hard – but we hope you will find the time to revisit that relationship once more. It is important we create a groundswell of information to USAID to let them know that the Mexico City Policy can be a temporary barrier to our partnership, not a permanent one. Therefore please contact USAID and suggest a meeting about FP/IPPF, whatever you think of as mutual interest. For a list of USAID contacts and further information please visit:

[http://www.usaid.gov/locations/sub-saharan\\_africa/countries/](http://www.usaid.gov/locations/sub-saharan_africa/countries/).

On the subject of donors, please find at this weblink a list of DFID health advisers and experts based in Africa:

<http://www.ippfar.org/en/Resources/Other-resources/DFID+COUNTRY+OFFICES.htm>

people could be important for you to target in your resource mobilization and advocacy work.

DFID's Health & HIV advisors are technical experts who provide guidance to DFID policymakers on the health aspects of country-level strategies, proposals and programmes. They also participate in health sector co-ordination mechanisms and liaise with technical experts in government ministries and other donor agencies. So DFID experts can be useful advocacy allies as you can ask them to ask something of your government! Other reasons why it is useful to develop a relationship with the DFID Health and HIV Advisor include:

- To ensure that they are prioritizing sexual and reproductive health and rights - particularly for poor, vulnerable and marginalized populations and young people
- To ensure they support and recognized the role played by civil society within the overall health structure (i.e. as an advocate, service provider and watchdog)
- To build a long term mutually supportive relationship that will help you deliver your mission and vision – via funding, information or access to other key stakeholders/decision makers

This same approach can be used for other donors of importance to you. So if you need any further advice on who to contact in your country feel or if you get any interesting feedback from DFID/USAID or ever need technical assistance developing a proposal, you can contact Pierre Moon

([pmoon@ippfaro.org](mailto:pmoon@ippfaro.org)) in the IPPF-ARO Partnerships Unit for advice. Good luck and happy networking!

## 2. IPPF Partnerships Unit now strengthened

In April two new advisors joined the Partnerships Unit in IPPF ARO in Nairobi, which brings the team to four advisors working on advocacy and resource mobilization in the Africa Region. Currently the team manages three substantial donor contracts (which involve overseeing TA/funds for 13 IPPF MAs), the unit engages in substantial regional and global advocacy (e.g. in 2008 organizing regional meetings on putting the Maputo Plan into action) and the unit also produces publications such as Africa Link and Ya-Magazine.

If you want to know in more detail what the Nairobi-based Partnerships Unit does then please see <http://www.ippfar.org/NR/rdonlyres/BA5D405A-FFB6-4882-80ED-AF3542D9DA3B/2692/IPPFAROPartnershipsUnitwhatwedoin2008ver2.pdf>

Do not hesitate to get in touch with us if you think we can assist you in issues related to advocacy and/or resource mobilization.

## 3. Youth Forum

The 4<sup>th</sup> IPPFAR Youth Forum was held on the 25<sup>th</sup> and 26<sup>th</sup> of June 2008 at the Hotel Intercontinental and was attended by youth

from 37 countries in the Africa Region. The objectives of the youth forum were:

- to present sub regional and regional reports from the 2005-2008 programme years
- to develop action points for YAM for the next three years
- to elect the new regional and sub-regional YAM representative for the 2008-2011 period.

This being an election year, the regional office concentrated on discussing issues of leadership and governance. The Regional Chairperson, Mrs. Hannatu Ibrahim and the Regional Director, Mr. Tewodros Melesse began by sharing their expertise on volunteerism, vision for YAM, democracy in Africa, and adult-youth partnerships. Both urged the young people remain in the system as adult volunteers and continue to contribute towards IPPF's goals and objectives. They also used this opportunity to thank Ms. Aku Xornam Adzraku, the outgoing Youth Representative, for her hard work and all she and the team have accomplished to date.

The representative from Cameroon, Mr. Eric Guemne was elected as the next IPPFAR Youth Representative with Ms. Caroline Momanyi from Kenya as his alternate in a very close and contested election. Both vowed to serve the youth in the region in a collective voice and asked for support from their member associations, the regional office and the YAM.

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*A+ News letter Editor: Dr. Josephine Moyo- Director, Organizational Development Effectiveness and Governance-IPPF Africa Region*