
Authors:
Asinguza Allan Peter¹, Jude Thaddeus Bigirwenkya², Agaba Deogratias³, Moses Dombo⁴, Hasifa Naluyiga⁵, Kidega William⁶

PROJECT SUMMARY

- USAID Advocacy for Better Health is a five-year project which aims to enhance the capacity of citizens and Civil Society Organizations (CSOs) to carry out effective advocacy for increased investment and accountability by decision-makers so as to improve the quality and availability of essential health and social services in 35 target districts in Uganda.

- The project has three (3) result areas:
  - Citizens demand improved quality services
  - CSOs effectively advocate for issues of citizen concern in the health and social sectors
  - Institutional capacity of CSOs strengthened

PROJECT FOCUS

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Advocacy Issue</th>
<th>Related Advocacy Asks</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Inadequate stock of HIV/AIDS and TB drugs and commodities</td>
<td>The Ministry of Health (MoH) ensures sustained availability of essential ART and TB drugs and related supplies in the country</td>
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<tr>
<td>Frequent Stock outs of 13 UN recommended lifesaving RMNCH commodities in health facilities</td>
<td>Districts and sub-counties monitor to help reduce stock outs of the13 lifesaving commodities (LSCs) in health facilities</td>
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<tr>
<td>Repeated stock out of malaria drugs and commodities like test kits</td>
<td>Government of Uganda (GOU) to implement Global Fund OIG recommendations to eliminate underspending of malaria resources</td>
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ADVOCACY STRATEGIES AND PLATFORMS

- Continuous health facility assessments on stock status
- Citizen participation
- Gather data through participatory rural appraisal
- Conduct advocacy forums, follow up meetings with duty-bearers and participate in relevant community and facility planning processes
- Leverage social media to increase citizen-duty bearer engagement and elevate attention to commodity stock-outs

Citizen-led advocacy forum in Kisoro district, South Western Uganda

RESULTS

- Ministry of Finance fast-tracked parliamentary approval of a loan of $200 million which would partly be used to address funding gaps in the Ministry of Health to overcome drug stock-outs
- Ministry of Health emphasized drug re-distribution as a short term stop gap measure
- National Medical Stores agreed to host and facilitate quarterly dialogue meetings with CSO partners to discuss such issues and enhance sharing of vital information.

LESSONS LEARNT

- Attribution: It is important to focus the analysis on identifying likely influences and assessing how much influence the project appeared to achieve.
- Campaign logic: The objectives and focus of advocacy projects frequently change over time, which can make it difficult to measure progress against initial objectives.

For more information, contact:
Name, Asinguza Allan Peter
E-mail: aasinguza@path.org

1M&E Specialist 2Advocacy officer 3Communication and Empowerment Officer 4Chief of Party 5National Advocacy officer 6Deputy Chief of Party