



Partners in Population and Development (PPD)
An Inter-Governmental Organization
Promoting South-South Cooperation

PPD SECRETARIAT NEWSLETTER

The Southern Government's reaffirmed their dedication to SSTC



The 20th International Inter-ministerial Conference (IIMC) on South-South Triangular Cooperation (SSTC) in Population and Development held in Victoria Falls, Zimbabwe from 09- 10 October 2023. It was a very high-level political gathering under the leadership of PPD jointly with UNFPA that forwarded the inputs to the ICPD30 celebration in NY2024. His Excellency Dr. Emmerson Dambudzo Mnangagwa, President of the Republic of Zimbabwe opened the 2 days conference. The keynote remarks were delivered by the Honorable Ms. Lindiwe Zulu, Minister of Social Development, Government of South Africa, and the Chair of the PPD Board. The IIMC is a global South-South peer review forum led by Partners in Population and Development to rejuvenate the political commitments within the context of the country's needs in unfinished population agenda in ICPD25 and SDGs.

This forum provides political and financial momentum for southern countries. The Victoria Falls Declaration on SSC for Population and Development highlights the following:

1. PPD and its member states will integrate best practices from the 30th ICPD review programs into the PPD strategic Plan 2025-2029.
2. Escalate the concerted effects to fulfill the ICPD 25 Commitments by 2030, particularly to achieve the "Three Zero".
3. Emphasize addressing demographic diversity for economic growth and achieve sustainable development.
4. Increase domestic financing by exploring new, participatory, and innovative financing instruments and structures to accelerate the implementation of ICPD and SDG.
5. Encourage PPD and member states to make long-term and predictable funding to PPD for visible SSTC
6. Strengthen PPD both as institutions and operationally to increase the resilience and ensure the sustainable development in SSC integrated SSC of population and development and RH into the overall national SSTC program.
7. Promote innovation for enhancing and expanding SSC by emphasizing new technology transfer.
8. Strengthen research and monitoring of SSC and establish the center of excellence
9. Established mechanism for initialization of SSTC into national strategies to ensure exchange of expertise sharing best practices and replicating best practice among countries.





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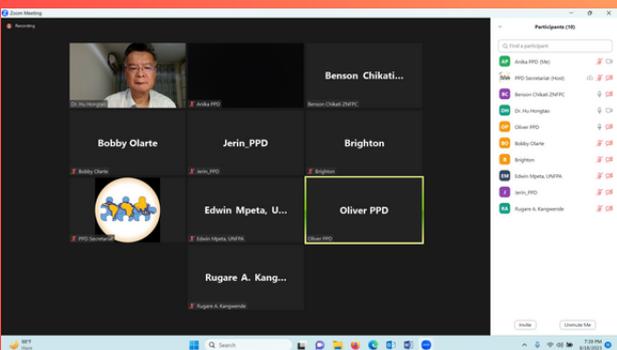
Gala Banquet

The PPD Chair, PPD Board Members along with the PCC of the PPD member countries and PPD members attended a spectacular gala banquet by the host country Zimbabwe at 20th IIMC 2023, which featured traditional cuisine and cultural events.

Additionally, the gracious and upbeat PPD Chair, H.E. Ms. Lindiwe Zulu, MP, the Honorable Minister for Social Development of the Government of the Republic of South Africa, added some color to this magnificent gala dinner.



Preparation Background for 20th IIMC 2023



The 20th IIMC outcome drafting committee meeting was chaired by **Dr. Hu Hongtao**, Advisor for SSC Population and Development of China. He and the representatives of **PPD** and **UNFPA** discussed the outline, dates, and important recommendations, as well as what the outcome document should include based on the discussions and decisions to be made at IIMC, keynote, and statements of the conference - inputs, comments, and feedback from PPD exco, PPCCS, UNFPA, and all other distinguished colleagues.

Hosting a global South-South Forum is a challenging task but PPD succeeded to host this forum regularly since 1998. Its preparatory meetings revolve around logistics, experts' mobilization for keynotes, high-level panelists including ministerial delegates from 27 countries, visa permission, hotel accommodation, airports reception and see off, including the need for tailored shuttles, visibility, development, security, and control. The meetings conversation also revolves around the security and transportation aspects of the 20th IIMC 2023 and visible branding, Like: - banners, backdrops, pull-up banners, and fountain banners, video, photo sessions and interpretation of 2/3 languages: English, French, and Chinese. The experts committee meets several times to draft and finalize "Victoria Falls Declaration" which is a critical business to bring all the members in a consensus for common issues. The final preparatory meeting held in Victoria Falls to update to the Chair Office represented by Director General of Social Development, South Africa. The Zimbabwe Government, particularly the President Office wholeheartedly collaborated to inaugurate the conference by His Excellency President of Zimbabwe.



The 20th IIMC outcome drafting committee meeting was chaired by **Dr. Hu Hongtao**, at Zimbabwe. Along with him **Dr. Nazrul Islam**, Sr. Program Manager, **Ms. Tahrira Khan**, Sr. Program Officer from PPD. **Dr. Betty Kyandondo**, Director Family Health, NPC, Uganda. **Ms. Leticia Adelaide Appiah**, NPC, Ghana. **Mr. Benson Chikati**, Acting ED, ZNFPC, PCC of PPD, Zimbabwe. **Mr. Bobby M. Olarte**, Senior Advisor, Inter-Country Cooperation Policy and Strategy Division, UNFPA. **Mr. Denis Nkala**, Chief Inter-Governmental and UN affairs, UN Office for SSC - UNOSSC were presented there as a panelist.





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PCC Meeting at Victoria Falls, Zimbabwe

The PCC meeting in Victoria Falls was an honor for Partner Country Coordinators from various countries, including Africa, Latin America, Asia, and the Middle East. The meeting focused on crucial agenda items, discussing diverse and comprehensive topics to understand the challenges and opportunities facing the collective mission in Population and Development. The 38th Exco meeting outcomes were discussed, along with a comprehensive report on the Special Executive Committee meeting and the proposal for office-bearer election.

The meetings were thoroughly discussed, aligning strategies and goals with the broader international community. The roles of office bearers of PPD were clarified, ensuring a unified vision and effective functioning of the organization. Reports by the Secretary, Treasurer, and OiC provided a comprehensive overview of progress made, work plans, budgetary considerations, and manual review.

The process of selecting the Executive Director, discussions on turnaround strategy, governance, and renewal and repositioning of PPD were of paramount importance. The draft outcome document for the 20th International Inter-ministerial Conference on South-to-South and Triangular Cooperation was a significant achievement, serving as a guiding framework for future endeavors in promoting regional cooperation and sustainable development.

The organizing committee expresses gratitude to all participants for their active engagement, valuable contributions, and commitment to the objectives of the meeting. The organizers and support staff worked tirelessly to ensure smooth preparations for the meeting, creating a conducive environment for fruitful deliberations.



PCC Workshop: Leveraging South-South and Triangular Cooperation for ICPD PoA

UNFPA and PPD jointly organized a day-long capacity building program on "Leveraging South-South and Triangular Cooperation for ICPD PoA" on 11 October 2023. The program included a one-day facilitated in-person learning session, active listening in three key sessions, and a prerequisite online course on SSTC in Programming. The outcomes of the programs included a strengthened network of countries promoting SSTC, country-specific plans for pursuing SSTC, and enhanced capacity in using knowledge management tools and mobilizing resources for SSTC.

The participants were grouped into four themes to come up with recommendations after a comprehensive discussion. The themes selected for the group works included embedding SSTC in UNSDCF, effectively advocating and communicating SSTC in policies and programs, raising SSTC capacity in teams and partners, documenting SSTC partnerships, entering into actual SSTC partnerships, and accessing SSTC financial resources.

The summary discusses the role of Sustainable Social Development (SSTC) in achieving the 2030 and ICPD agendas, but also highlights the need for more investment and support. The UNSDCF recognizes the importance of SSTC, but there is a lack of investment in sustainable development, poverty eradication, economic development, and health improvement.

Strong relationships exist between country programs and UNFPA, but SSTC is not well-embedded due to weak appreciation. Finally, it is suggested that SSTC can be fully exploited as an enabler of sustainable development by anchoring it within national development policies and institutions.





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Zambia expressed interest in collaborating with PPD

A meeting was held on December 7, 2023, between PPD and a team from the Population and Development Department of the Ministry of Finance and National Planning, Government of Zambia. The meeting focused on Zambia's membership to the Population and Development (PPD) and its benefits. **Mr. Charles Banda**, Director of Population and Development, welcomed everyone and expressed optimism about the formal processes for Zambia's membership.

The presentation by **Patrick Mugirwa** highlighted the history, objectives, current membership, and governance structure of PPD. It also highlighted the benefits of joining PPD, which include benefiting from best practices and innovations in reproductive health, population, and development that can potentially improve countries' health and development outcomes. Also briefed about PPD By-laws, Charter, and the process of being a New Member.



A letter of expression for Zambia to become a member of PPD will be drafted and submitted within two weeks. A focal person, **Mr. Tito Manseli**, Principal Planner, Modelling and Statistics, was identified to keep in touch with the PPD Secretariat and provide a link with the Zambia government in case there are grey areas that require clarification.

Forthcoming Significant activities of PPD in 2024

- Work Plan of PPD activities in 2024.
- Registration of PPD participants in International Fora.
- Pre- activities of E- Journal on SSC
- Support Member Countries to integrate SSC and population dynamics into development interventions.
- Preparation for PPD Governance meeting.
- Mapping of Stakeholders for advocacy and capacity building.
- Innovation and Pilot initiatives.
- Support member countries to institutionalize SSC national.
- PPD Scholarships
- Documentation of Best Practices.
- Development of the PPD Strategic Plan 2025-2029.
- Resource Mobilization

PPD attended APEC as a working group of Specialized Technical Committee

PPD attended African Population Experts Committee (APEC) and Ministers in Charge of Population Meeting as a Working Group of the Specialized Technical Committee on Health, Population and Drug Control on the 10 Year Review of the Addis Ababa Declaration on Population and Development in Lusaka, Zambia. Where these two countries- Zambia and Malawi expressed their interest in participating in South-South activities and their commitment. Malawi and Zambia expressed interest in collaborating with the organization and highlighted the benefits of doing so, including the potential for scaling up interventions relating to population and development. They requested a template for future communication and lessons learned from other countries' experiences.



South-South Cooperation Assistance Fund (SSCAF) under China Aid

Providing Comprehensive, Safe, and Appropriate Intervention to Prevent Postpartum Hemorrhage for Reducing Maternal Mortality in Bangladesh

Advocacy Activities on **Raising Awareness through Short Drama for Reducing Maternal Mortality** in Six Upazilas of Two District Gazipur and Manikganj, at Bangladesh



Expert committee meeting on lowering postpartum hemorrhage held at পরিবার পরিকল্পনা অধিদপ্তর, Dhaka.

- Discussion held on how to overcome obstacles of home delivery
- Meeting held with funding from the Chinese government's South-South Cooperation Assistant Fund

Dr Nazrul Islam, Senior Program Manager of PPD, gave an update on the status of the SSCAF project. Senior Program Officer **Tahrima Khan** hosted the event while Officer-in-Charge of PPD **Oliver Zambuko** shared his valuable remarks.

Motivating pregnant mothers and medical professionals in rural Bangladesh to reduce postpartum hemorrhage for preventing maternal mortality and achieving SDGs, **Partners in Population and Development** and the **Ministry of Health and Family Welfare** organized jointly an international programme in Boktarpur Model Union Family Welfare Centre, Kaliganj, Gazipur. **For preventing PPH a live consultation given by FPO in booth.**



A two-day Practical training on **“Prevention of Postpartum Hemorrhage with Misoprostol”** was conducted at the Mohammadpur Fertility Services & Training Center in Dhaka from December 31, 2023 to January 01, 2024.

