Group work at the USAID D4I Digital Skills Assessment Guide Pilot Workshop Series in Kampala, Uganda. © 2023 Scott Isbrandt/D4I

Strengthening Monitoring & Evaluation Systems with Governments

D4I implements activities in partnership with local institutions, including governments at the national and subnational levels, to generate evidence, ensure data quality, integrate gender, and promote data use. D4I collaborates with local governments to strengthen monitoring and evaluation (M&E) through mutuality, the development of tools, and fostering local ownership of processes and priorities. Additionally, D4I supports governments with tailored technical assistance in knowledge translation and data use to strengthen M&E systems to generate timely, actionable evidence for informed decision making.

The D4I resources highlighted in this newsletter showcase approaches for strengthening M&E systems in collaboration with governments.

—EVENTS—

Recent D4I Webinars about Local Capacity Strengthening with Governments

- Advancing Protection & Care for Children in Adversity (APCCA) and D4I: Advancing Protection and Care for Children in Adversity Learning Session – Strengthening the Social Service Workforce: Findings from a Cross-Country Assessment (March 19, 2024)
- Localizing Monitoring, Evaluation, Research, and Learning (MERL): Insights from Local Actors in Burundi, Colombia, and Malawi (July 17, 2024)
- Strengthening Gender Competency in Family Planning: Insights from Ghana on Effective Online Training Models and Tools for Providers (August 7, 2024)

RESOURCES

USAID's Support of the Bangladesh Ministry of Health & Family Welfare's Program Management & Monitoring Unit

Since 2012, USAID Bangladesh has supported the Bangladesh Ministry of Health and Family Welfare (MOHFW), Program Management and Monitoring Unit (PMMU) through the Technical Assistance Support Team (TAST) to oversee the country's sector-wide health programs. This support focused on strengthening the capacity of the PMMU to efficiently use high quality routine health information and evaluations for evidence-informed decision making. Over time, key areas of TAST support have included the development of key M&E frameworks, coordination of data collection, and facilitation of program reviews. Read this brief to find out more.

Strengthening Capacity for Child Protection Policies and Case Management

In 2019, the US Government launched the Advancing Protection and Care for Children in Adversity Strategy for International Assistance. D4I works with USAID's Children in Adversity team to foster positive impacts for children made vulnerable by conflict, violence, and neglect. D4I has supported governments in Armenia, Cambodia, Colombia, Moldova, Rwanda, Uganda, and Zambia in policy reform, case management for children, and M&E of programs.

Envisioning the Future of the Social Service Workforce Planning

How can countries use demographic data to make a case for investing in the social service workforce (SSW)? Through an assessment, D4I has identified promising approaches to strengthen the SSW and broader systems related to child care and protection in Armenia, Cambodia, and Rwanda. Read this blog post to learn about the Government of Armenia's successful strategy in setting a minimum ratio of community social workers per population.

Case Management Information Systems for Child Protection and Care

Government child protection agencies can use case management information systems (CMIS) to ensure that caseworkers have the tools and resources needed to meet families' needs effectively and efficiently. D4I has created two toolkits—the CMIS assessment and planning tool and governance guidelines—to strengthen implementation and oversight. Watch this webinar to learn more!

Promoting Health Equity in Armenia through Counter-Trafficking in Persons Activity

D4I partnered with the Armenia Ministry of Labour and Social Affairs in leadership and

coordination to strengthen the country's counter-trafficking in persons (C-TIP) response. D4I has supported the government in addressing drivers of trafficking by establishing monitoring and oversight systems. Watch this webinar on promoting health equity in D4I's C-TIP work in Armenia.

Developing Indicators with Front-line Workers to Improve Child Protection and Care in Colombia

In Colombia, D4I supported the Colombian Institute of Family Welfare (ICBF) to strengthen the collection and use of high-quality routine data and to develop and prioritize indicators for M&E of child protection and case management.

Supporting the Government of Moldova in Data Use

In Moldova, D4I mapped indicators for monitoring the rights of persons with disabilities and developed Moldova's first compendium on disability.

D4I has supported the government in Moldova to launch two Data Review Rooms in Ștefan Vodă rayon and Chișinău to facilitate regular, timely, and targeted review of data available on Ukrainian refugee children and families transiting or living in Moldova.

Building Digital Skills in the Child Protection Workforce

D4I explored how to assess the digital competencies of child protection staff using the Digital Skills Assessment Guide. The guide covers what digital competencies are needed, how to assess them, and how to use assessment results to improve digital skills. D4I hosted a webinar with child protection and digital specialists and piloted the guide in Uganda.

NEWS & UPDATES

@ 2022 GEMNet-Health

- [In memoriam: Professor Phyllis Dako-Gyeke was a leader in gender equity research and cherished D4I colleague](#).

- In our latest blog post, [Expertise and Leadership from Local Partners: A Q&A on data collection strategies and lessons learned in Bangladesh and Tanzania](#), D4I reflected on the HIPs assessment with local experts from Bangladesh and Tanzania.

- [Breastfeeding is a collective responsibility (Op-Ed)](#): Even after so many years of having strong protective evidence of breastfeeding, Bangladesh is not ready to provide women with a safe environment.

- Updated guidance is now available for the [unmet need for family planning (FP)](#) indicator in the FP/Reproductive Health Indicators Database. This core FP indicator is often misinterpreted; the guidance clarifies that it estimates a hypothetical maximum percentage of potential new FP users, not all of whom will choose to use (modern) contraception even with fully accessible, high-quality services.

NEW PUBLICATIONS

USAID Moldova and D4I held a dissemination event in July for the [Moldova Quality of Life Survey](#). Watch the [livestream](#) here.

- [Quality of Life Survey: Republic of Moldova](#)

- [Assessment of a Postpartum Family Planning (PPFP) Intervention in Selected Areas of Bangladesh](#)

- [Assessment of the VIVA Campaign](#)

- [Evaluation of the AmplifyPF Regional Project](#)

- [Impact Analysis of Selected Indicators of USAID's MaMoni Maternal and Newborn Care Strengthening Project](#)

- Every Newborn-Measurement Improvement for Newborn & Stillbirth Indicators (EN-MINI) Tools for Routine Health Information Systems

  - [Bangla version](#)

  - [Kiswahili version](#)

  - [English version](#)

- [Kangaroo Mother Care and Special Care Newborn Units for Small and Sick Newborns in Bangladesh: Gaps in Service Availability, Readiness, and Functionality](#)

- [Strengthening Maternal Care: The Evolution of Midwives in Upazila Health Complexes in Bangladesh](#)

- [Data for Impact (D4I) Year 6 Semi-Annual Highlights](#)

- [Malawi Secondary Education Expansion for Development (SEED) Impact Evaluation Baseline and Midline (Dataset)](#)
- [Behavioral Interventions for the Use of Evaluation Findings in South Africa (Dataset)](#)
- Nigeria Health Population, and Nutrition Multi-Activity Evaluation Datasets
  - [Health Facility Assessment](#)
  - [Organizational Network Analysis](#)
  - [Provider Survey](#)
  - [Sustainability Survey](#)