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COE THIS MONTH

August Edition

About "COE"

The Planned Parenthood Association of Ghana (PPAG) has been designated as a Center of Excellence (CoE) for youth programming among International Planned Parenthood Federation (IPPF) Member Associations in Africa. With support from Rutgers International and IPPF, the CoE works to increase and improve the uptake of quality integrated gender and rights-based youth

centered SRH information, education and services for young people in Africa; and offers a unique opportunity to consolidate technical expertise and disseminate contextual best practices on Reproductive Health Education (RHE) and Youth Friendly Services among Member Associations of the IPPF and Civil Society Organisations (CSOs).

Quick Read

National Youth Policy tops commemoration of International Youth Day in Ghana 2022

Sistas Club receive SRHR education

Capacity building for service providers, contact centre agents & key stakeholders on implementing full self-care

Adolescent boys recruited as champions of SRHR

Health workers schooled on their role in ending unsafe abortion

COE THIS MONTH **(AUGUST EDITION)**

National Youth Policy Tops commemoration of International Youth Day in Ghana 2022

The Planned Parenthood Association of Ghana (PPAG), represented by the Executive Director, Ms. Abena Amoah and young people from the Youth Action Movement (YAM), together with other youth focused Civil Society Organizations (CSOs), students, youth groups and public agencies participated in the National Youth Conference, organized by the National Youth Authority (NYA). The occasion was used to dialogue with about three thousand youth across the country on issues affecting young people, a move born out of the recognition of the importance of youth participation in political, economic and social life.

International Youth day (IYD) is a global celebration commemorated on the 12th of August annually. IYD gives an opportunity to focus on and mainstream young peoples' voices, actions and initiatives, as well as their meaningful, universal and equitable engagement. It is also a platform to celebrate the achievements of young people. The global theme for this year's celebration was

Intergenerational solidarity: creating a world for all ages.

The commemoration, held from the 10th - 12th August also saw to the launch of the National Youth Policy. The Planned Parenthood Association of Ghana as a major implementor of youth programming and young people's sexual and reproductive health, was represented on the committee for the development of the policy and the key inputs into the final document.



Day 1 and 2

National Youth Policy tops commemoration of International Youth Day in Ghana 2022

The first and second days saw the registration of participants, mostly young people and the opening ceremony respectively, dissemination of the National Youth Policy – 2022 - 2032 and the Implementation plan – 2022 – 2027 with the call for all stakeholders to work together to benefit the Ghanaian youth. In his opening address at the opening of the conference, the Chief Executive Officer of National Youth Authority, Hon. Pius Enam Hadzide reiterated government's appreciation of youth issues and its enormous commitment to youth development in Ghana. He encouraged the youth to enhance their capabilities to become job givers rather than job seekers, to contribute to building a resilient economy.

This was followed by a three-phased dialogue session focusing on peace building and security, entrepreneurship as well as cyber security and social media vulnerabilities of the youth.

On peace building and security, Prof. Enning, lecturer and security expert at the Kofi Annan International Peace Centre urged government to involve young people in peace building and conflict prevention. The panel (Hon Zanetor Agyemang Rawlings (MP, Korley Klotey Constituency) and Alhassan Shaibu Abu (National Youth

Organizer, APC) stressed the need to promote peace, mutual respect and understanding; repair broken relationships and reform institutions and increase the time and resources devoted towards empowering the youth. The session on entrepreneurship resolved to expand employment opportunities for youth. The youth were implored to pursue opportunities, take risks and responsibilities and create innovations. The session on cyber security and social media vulnerabilities tackled the emergence of modern technologies and the avenues it creates for young people.



Day 3

National Youth Policy tops commemoration of International Youth Day in Ghana 2022

The final day of the conference saw the gathering of students, young people, UN agencies and CSOs for the launch of the National Youth Policy. This was under the auspices of the President of the Republic of Ghana, His Excellency, Nana Addo-Danquah Akuffo-Addo.

An exhibition was mounted by partners and stakeholders as part of activities, where the PPAG youth team at the event educated participants on Sexual and reproductive Health issues more particularly on teenage pregnancy, STI's and STD's prevention. The team also introduced PPAG's digital health Intervention, YENKASA to the young people.



Adolescent Boys Recruited as Champions Of SRHR

Greater proportion of SRHR challenges are experienced by adolescent girls and often perpetrated by boys. However, SRHR interventions have paid little attention to boys who are usually identified as the perpetrators of SRHR challenges that affect both boys and girls either directly or indirectly. In view of this, the Planned Parenthood Association of Ghana (PPAG) with support from the United Nations Population Fund under the Adolescent Girls Empowerment programme has recruited and engaged adolescent boys as champions to support and advocate for adolescent girls SRHR rights. This has become necessary to increase male inclusion as well as devising interventions that focus more on the adolescent boys. This intervention seeks to increase and improve adolescent boys' involvement in fighting adolescent SRHR challenges in Ghanaian communities.

Key activities included the recruitment and training of adolescent boys to serve as a positive peer influence for other boys in the project sites and beyond. Media education and awareness to advocate for adolescent girls SRHR rights were held. SRHR issues addressed included teenage

pregnancy, child marriage, sexual harassment, defilement, rape, Sexual and Gender-Based Violence (SGBV).

The boys' champions will use these forums to speak-out, educate, and advocate for the SRHR issues affecting adolescent girls. The intervention will also be extended to other districts across the country.

Present were the Divisional head of Domestic Violence and Victim Support Unit (DOVVSU) of the Ghana Police Service and the District Assembly focal person on SRHR.



Adolescent Boys Recruited as Champions Of SRHR



Sistas Club Receive

SRHR EDUCATION

Midwives in the northern zone of PPAG have engaged members of the SISTAS Club on youth friendly services provided at PPAG facilities and encouraged them to visit the facilities. Members of the club were also taken through contraception demonstration on male and female condoms.

This was during the ‘*know your nurse-know your client*’ visit. It was also an opportunity for executives of the Youth Action Movement(YAM) to recruit new volunteers.



Capacity Building

FOR SERVICE PROVIDERS, CONTACT CENTRE AGENTS & KEY STAKEHOLDERS ON IMPLEMENTING FULL SELF-CARE

The Planned Parenthood Association of Ghana (PPAG) with funding from the International Planned Parenthood Federation (IPPF) has trained key persons on increasing women and girls access to quality services and support for self-managed medical abortion, within a package of comprehensive abortion care (CAC) and integrated SRH services.

As part of the workshop, participants were taken through guidance on Ghana’s policy environment regarding abortion care, WHO’s new Abortion Guidelines (2022), Ghana Health Service’s new Comprehensive Abortion Care Standards and Protocols (2021) and the IPPF IMAP Statement on Abortion Self-Care (2021). In addition to these, other legal ramifications and linkages between

providers and community cadres, particularly support for pharmacists and drug sellers.

The participants comprised PPAG service providers, contact centre agents, Project Team, and the Technical Advisory team.



Capacity Building For

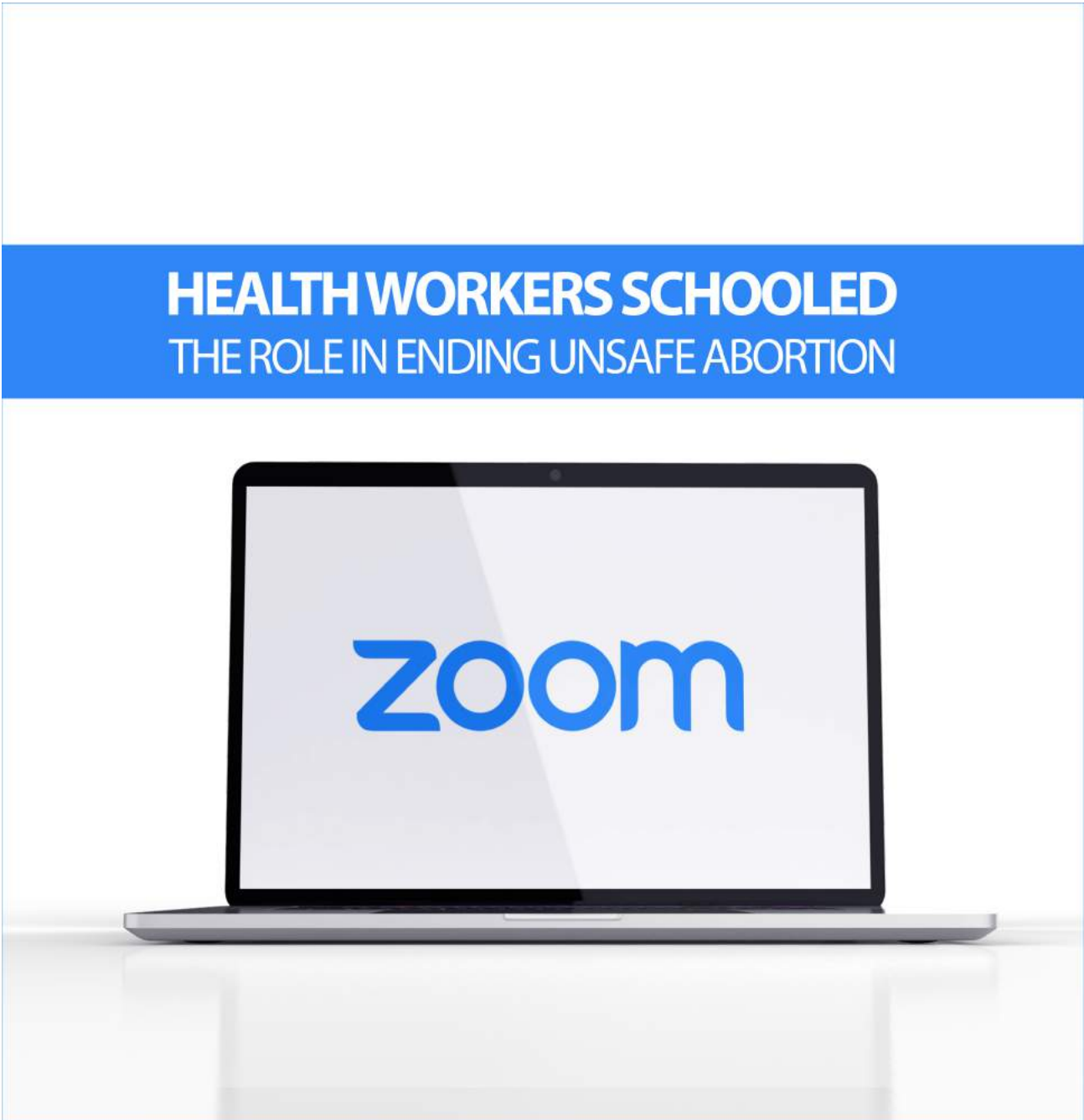
SERVICE PROVIDERS, CONTACT CENTRE AGENTS & KEY STAKEHOLDERS
ON IMPLEMENTING FULL SELF-CARE



Health workers schooled

ON THEIR ROLE IN ENDING UNSAFE ABORTION

PPAG and Women First Digital have organized a webinar on abortion care. The panel discussion, themed: “The Role of Healthcare Workers in Ending Unsafe Abortion” forms part of plans to educate different health cadres on current abortion policies and revised comprehensive care guidelines in Ghana. The session discussed strategies to end abortion-related stigma through client-centered care, and to ease the burden of unsafe abortion in Ghana. Participants, ranging from physicians, midwives, pharmacists, medical students, and community health workers were equipped with the necessary skills to provide care for women seeking medical abortion up to 13 weeks gestation.



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