

Agency for All

Improving Health and Well-Being by Increasing Power to Act



Agency
for all



We're taking a moment to celebrate some milestones this year

When people describe something as a “banner year,” it means it’s been particularly successful or noteworthy. It seems unlikely that such a term could be used to describe the inaugural year of a complex research project like Agency for All.

Yet, within this first year, while still getting to know each other, our consortium of 80+ people launched and completed eight research studies. We collaborated across USAID Missions and other sectors of USAID to tackle additional studies on the intersection of agency and vaccine hesitancy, adolescent childbearing, reproductive coercion, gender norms, and more. We rolled out emerging insights from the evidence, literature reviews, and various research and program recommendations. We held workshops focused on moving data to action with conversations where we asked hard questions and actively listened.

In everything, we are working hard to maintain our ambitious goals of generating context-specific evidence on agency while keeping local leaders in the driver’s seat, and equitable partnerships our priority. We have arrived at the end of 2023 energized by what we’ve learned together, and by how much is still underway across our teams, research, and program activities.

As we enter the new year, we're committed to keeping the same question at the forefront: *“What if everyone—women, men, children, families, and communities—had the power to make healthier choices for themselves?”*



What We've Been Up To



Agency for All Honored with Annual USAID Marge Horn Award

In October, the Agency for All Project Consortium received the 2022–2023 Marge Horn Award from the USAID Bureau for Global Health’s Office of Population and Reproductive Health’s Research, Technology and Utilization Division (RTU). This annual award recognizes stand-out implementation science research, global innovators, and practitioners who advance the field of sexual and reproductive health.

None of our progress this year would be possible without the hard work of our talented team, who share a dedication to advancing social and behavior change.

[Read Story](#)



Agency for All Attends Social Norms and Agency Learning Collaborative Launch in India

Earlier this month, 60 members of the newly named South Asia Social Norms *and* Agency Learning Collaborative convened in New Delhi to explore the role of agency in promoting gender equality, followed by a session on research methods that honor and integrate decolonial feminist perspectives. The group aligned on a fresh vision, shared resources, and discussed challenges.

Agency for All’s Rebecka Lundgren, Lotus McDougal, Vikas Choudhry, Harish Chand, and Sushmita Mukherjee participated in this exciting event, collaborating closely with the Learning Collaborative.

[Read Posts](#)



Co-Creation Workshop with Ouagadougou Partnership Grantees a Success

In August, Agency for All began a new two-year activity to aid in a research capacity building effort for the grantees of the Ouagadougou Partnership Research Agenda as part of its "Beyond 2020 Strategy." Under this initiative, we are working to enhance the institutional and individual capacity of grantees to generate new evidence on effective strategies to improve family planning and reproductive health and MNCH outcomes, and lead knowledge application to catalyze health-system strengthening.



New Executive Summary on USAID-Supported SBC Programs in Ethiopia

As one of the largest USAID missions in Africa, Ethiopia has made substantial investments in SBC programming. Our goal was to understand what worked and what could be improved related to monitoring, evaluation, and learning, costing and cost-effectiveness, and SBC best practices.

This executive summary includes six key insights from the main report and lists the simplified recommendations according to three principle areas of focus: Monitoring, Learning, and Evaluation; Social and Behavior

At the end of November in Dakar, Senegal, we led a successful three-day co-creation workshop to reflect on the results of the baseline capacity assessment, develop a common vision, discuss the capacity training framework together with grantees responding to their specific needs and contexts, and co-create training modules, delivery methods, and mentoring approach.

[View Event Photos](#)

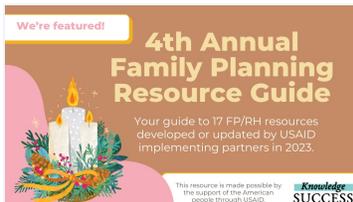
Change; and Costing and Cost-effectiveness.

[New Executive Summary](#)

[See Top Insights](#)

[Full Report](#)

Where to Find Us



Coming soon! Knowledge SUCCESS 2023 Family Planning Resource Guide to include Agency for All Literature Review

For the second year, [Knowledge SUCCESS](#) is showcasing the *Family Planning Resource Guide*, a “holiday gift guide” end-of-year compilation of the essential FP-related resources. Agency for All’s literature review, “Infertility in Sub-Saharan Africa: A Literature Review to Inform a SBC Program Approach,” is one of the resources. This literature review of data in the region of sub-Saharan Africa shares [five main insights](#). Look out for the guide coming soon!



Agency for All Hosts Side Event at 12th Ouagadougou Partnership Annual Meeting

At the 12th Ouagadougou Partnership Annual Meeting this week in Abidjan, Côte d’Ivoire, Agency for All hosted a side event, “[Institutional Capacity Building for Research Institutions in Ouagadougou Partnership Countries: Designing and Planning for and with Target Institutions](#).” #RAPO2023 brought together key stakeholders engaged in SRHR, focusing on the theme Strategies for Social and Behavioral Change in Favor of Youth.

[Side Event Flyer](#)

Thanks for visiting the [EVIHDAF](#) team at the Agency for All booth!

In Case You Missed It



[Read Blog](#)

ClimateLinks Blog on Agency, Gender, and Climate Change

Agency for All’s Rachel Taylor, Piyush Kumar, and Courtney McLarnon published “[Focusing on Agency can Strengthen Social and Behavior Change Programming to Support Climate Adaptation](#)” on USAID’s ClimateLink blog. With support from USAID’s Office on Gender Equality and Women’s Empowerment, we are building evidence on the relationships between agency, gender, and climate change adaptation.



USAID Advancing Nutrition Blog on Psychosocial Resources for Caregivers

Thank you to USAID Advancing Nutrition's Neha Jhaveri, Kate Dickin, and Stephanie Martin for collaborating on this piece with Agency for All's Courtney McLarnon: "[The Psychosocial Resources Caregivers Need to Provide Nurturing Care: How Can We Help?](#)" Understanding, measuring, and addressing caregiver resources and agency can enhance efforts to improve child nutrition, and improve caregivers' quality of life.

[Read Article](#)



New "Centring Agency" Commentary Published in Lancet Health Policy

"[Centring agency and norms to meet the health needs of pregnant adolescents](#)" is co-authored by Agency for All's Lotus McDougal. This conversation matters because "...meeting the needs of the 21 million adolescents who become pregnant each year in low- and middle-income countries requires recognition of the power imbalances, restrictive norms, and compromised agency with which many of these girls live," said McDougal.

[Read Commentary](#)



Recording from Learning Collaborative's Webinar on Links between Agency and Social Norms for Child Rights

The South Asia Social Norms and Agency Learning Collaborative hosted a "Critical Conversation" webinar, "[Exploring Linkages between Agency and Social Norms to Promote Child Rights and Justice](#)." Speakers included Dr. Abhijeet Pathak, Agency for All's Dr. Paul Bukuluki, Dr. Aparajita Gogoi, Dr. Vikas Choudhry, and Sudha Nair.

[Watch Recording](#)

What We're Reading

- Prevention Collaborative's new self-paced course "[Transforming #GenderNorms for Violence Prevention](#)"
- Lancet Global health Commentary: "[Group think? Questioning the individual global health expert](#)"
- "[Like a broom tied together](#)": A qualitative exploration of social cohesion and its role in community capacity strengthening to support integrated health in Nigeria
- [MOMENTUM Complexity Aware Monitoring \(CAM\) Workshop Series](#)
- [Becoming a Decolonial Feminist Ethnographer: Addressing the complexities of positionality and representation](#)
- [Decolonising global health in the Global South by the Global South: turning the lens inward](#)

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For the past weeks, #DataCollectors for the Agency for All Project twin research on contraceptive hesitancy and infertility in Cameroon, have been participating in a training session organized by EVIHDAF, country-lead for these studies.
Learn more about the project → <https://lnkd.in/e8d4uTt>



Agency for All @Agency4All · Oct 24
Full Report: agencyforall.coregroup.org/2023/08/06/com...

PLUS 3-part recommendations and 🔧 tools for application on:

- 1 MONITORING, EVALUATION, LEARNING (MEL)
- 2 SBC
- 3 COSTING / COST- EFFECTIVENESS

cc: @USAIDEthiopia @USAID @GEH_UCSD @COREGroupDC @AddisAbabaUni @Makerere



Shujaaz Inc
8,361 followers
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We are so excited to be part of the now AWARD-WINNING Agency for All Project Consortium! We've just been awarded the 2022-2023 Marge Horn Award from the USAID Bureau for Global Health's Office of Population and Reproductive Health's Research, Technology and Utilization Division (RTU).

We're so proud of our Knowledge and Learning team for their contribution to this project, using creative techniques & gamified research methodologies to really unpack the concept of agency as it relates to young people in Kenya as well as running design creation workshops with our consortium partners from Asia, Africa & the US. Congratulations team Agency for All Project.

#MediaForSocialChange

cc Sylvia Thuku



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