



PROPEL Health: Kenya

Project Overview

Promoting Results and Outcomes through Policy and Economic Levers (PROPEL) Health is a five-year U.S. Agency for International Development-funded project with the overarching objective of improving country environments to better facilitate access to equitable and sustainable health services. The broad project strategy is centered around policy, financing, governance, and the use of evidence-based approaches.

In Kenya, only about a quarter of the population has health insurance according to the 2022 Demographic and Health Survey. Responding to this dire situation, a new and radical health reform agenda involves a complete restructuring of health insurance programs. Despite this bold and historic movement toward universal health coverage, the health sector still faces the challenge of inadequate domestic resourcing, heavily relying on overseas development assistance for its HIV,

tuberculosis, and malaria-related programs, as well as for family planning commodities. This external reliance becomes a larger issue as donor funding continues to decline, while the financing need for individuals has only increased or, at best, stabilized.

PROPEL Health is building on work done through the Health Policy and Health Policy Plus projects, which mobilized government investments in health by over US\$500 million, to continue to support the government to build and advance a sustainable health financing agenda. The project's goals in Kenya include improving equitable access to healthcare services, especially for the financially vulnerable, and sustainably increasing domestic resources for health from both public and private sectors. PROPEL Health will work toward achieving these goals by strengthening relationships at the national level, across disease programs and ministries, and at the county level with local leaders and decisionmakers.

Our Work

Support improved equitable access to health services

Universal health coverage is an important part of ensuring equal access to health services.

The government of Kenya has shown a commitment to implementing and broadening access to healthcare; however, delays due to structural and policy adjustments have prevented this from occurring on a large scale. PROPEL Health is supporting the government of Kenya to act on their universal health coverage agenda and primary healthcare strategy with activities that include:

- Supporting the Ministry of Health to expand health insurance coverage, particularly among poor and vulnerable populations, by strengthening actuarial capacity to enhance the use of data to predict and estimate needs
- Supporting the Ministry of Health to design and monitor the implementation of a primary healthcare strategy

Strengthen local organization capacity to optimize resources

Although government allocations to health have increased in Kenya in recent years, they remain below Abuja Declaration targets and other international benchmarks. As external financing is expected to decrease, PROPEL Health is supporting the government of Kenya to mobilize domestic resources for health and monitor the efficiency and use of those resources. PROPEL Health activities involve:

- Strengthening capacity to increase and coordinate investment in health at the national level

- Strengthening capacity in budget formulation and execution at the county level for increased investment in health
- Supporting the government of Kenya to engage the private sector to expand their role in service delivery

Strengthening leadership and governance capacities of the National Malaria Control Program

Malaria is a major health issue and socioeconomic burden in Kenya. With the National Malaria Control Program under new leadership, the Ministry of Health seeks to improve its overall performance both at national and subnational levels. To strengthen leadership and governance, team building, and inter-agency coordination, PROPEL Health activities include:

- Strengthening the capacity of the National Malaria Control Program
- Strengthening stakeholder coordination of malaria program activities
- Strengthening leadership governance capacities to advocate for increased domestic resources for the malaria program at the national level

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