



# POLICY AND ADVOCACY DEPARTMENT 2023.

## Happy holidays!

In this end-of-year letter, we are delighted to share the impactful strides the Policy and Advocacy department took in 2023. Our mission remains steadfast in engaging communities, shaping policies, and amplifying voices while aligning with County Governments' initiatives.

Utilizing research and evidence-based strategies, our department continues to empower communities in 8 counties in Kenya, ensuring their views are integrated into decision-making processes and County budgets.

Below are some of the annual achievements we have, together, let's continue our journey toward positive change and progress.

Lucky Namunyak

Policy and Advocacy Associate

1. For **International Women's Day** we held a sensitization Forum with The Speaker of the County Assembly, the Clerk of the County Assembly and members of the Women's Caucus and heads of the budgets and appropriations Committees to disseminate evidence towards advocating for increased health financing for RH/FP/MCH.
2. We achieved a significant milestone through our Social Accountability advocacy work implemented in collaboration with the Laikipia Civil Society Forum (LACCSOF), supported by FCDO. Through a vigorous process of training community members on social accountability and memo development and submission to the County Assembly. This led to securing a budget allocation for PVC pipes, addressing the water issue in Ngobit Ward. And early this year pipes were delivered to the community at Ngobit. Our persistence in engaging with the Laikipia County Government paid off, propelling the project forward and benefiting the community.
3. To improve healthcare outcomes, standardise care, reduce variations, and increase accountability we supported the Nyeri County Department of Health in disseminating the National Guidelines on Quality Obstetrics and Perinatal Care. This dissemination aims to enhance maternal and new-born health, reduce mortality rates, and promote modern contraception in Nyeri County.
4. With support from UNFPA conducted a budget analysis for Isiolo and Samburu County to provide a Baseline for the advocacy work in ensuring that adolescents and young Policy are involved in decision-making and budget making processes and can advocate for increased health financing for EndFGM and SRH programming in the Counties. [Samburu Draft \(pathways.co.ke\)](https://pathways.co.ke) & [Edtd \(pathways.co.ke\)](https://pathways.co.ke)
5. PPI collaborated with the Laikipia County Government, those in attendance for the 5-day workshop were the County Governor, Deputy Governor, County Secretary and Executive

Members, Chief Officers and Directors from all the departments. The workshop aimed to provide an immersive learning experience for the County Management Team, focusing on enhancing skills in policy formulation and legislative drafting. The initiative aimed to foster community engagement, youth, and gender inclusivity in county policies and legislative frameworks, along with promoting meaningful inclusion of climate resilience budget items in the County budgets.

6. To mark International Condoms Day, our **#RideOnaC** campaign took a youth-friendly approach for a bicycle procession, raising awareness about safe sex and contraceptives, and supporting the County Government Department of Health in offering essential services. [pathways.co.ke/wp-content/uploads/2023/03/Rideonac-International-Condoms-Day-2023.pdf](https://pathways.co.ke/wp-content/uploads/2023/03/Rideonac-International-Condoms-Day-2023.pdf)
7. Emphasizing our dedication to achieving zero unmet need for FP we marked World Contraception Day 2023 under the theme '**The Power of Choices.**' In collaboration with Bayer, Laikipia Department of Health and other partners we took SRH/FP services to the remote hard-to-reach area of Doldol in Laikipia North. Preceding this event, we conducted '**vikaos**' to raise awareness about the importance of family planning, actively encouraging male involvement in reproductive health conversations. The services offered during WCD23 included 2 Jadel removals, 16 Jadel insertions, 10 Depo injections, 34 Implanon insertions, and distribution of 1,475 male condoms. [Choices-that-Empower.pdf \(pathways.co.ke\)](https://pathways.co.ke/wp-content/uploads/2023/03/Choices-that-Empower.pdf)
8. As members of the Reproductive Health Supply coalition, we participated in a General Membership meeting at Accra, Ghana that had 280 participants from 39 countries. The theme this year was the power of resilience and developing strategies to improve supply chains. With a focus of working towards advocating for improved domestic financing from the Government for RH\FP supplies and improving the weak supply chain.