

NAIROBI URBAN DSS KENYA

Brief Introduction to NAIROBI DSS

Nairobi City typifies the phenomenon of rapid urbanization amidst growing urban poverty in African Cities. Its population grew from 120,000 in 1948 to 2.3 million in 1999 while over 60% of its population is estimated to languish below the poverty line and reside in slum settlements characterized by poor housing and lack of basic essential services including education, health, and sanitation. The African Population and Health Research Center (APHRC) - in partnership with PATH, JHPIEGO, ITDG, and the Government of Kenya - is implementing a program of research and action focusing on cost-effective strategies for improving the deteriorating health and livelihood conditions of the slum residents of Nairobi City. The immediate focus of this project – known as the Nairobi Urban Health and Poverty Partnership (NUHPP) project - is to set up cost-effective health and livelihood interventions to reduce the high disease and mortality burden among slum children.

The Nairobi Urban Health Demographic Surveillance System (NUHDSS) was set up in 2000 in four of the city's 30+ slums to provide a platform for investigating changing linkages between urbanization, poverty and health, and as a tool for monitoring and evaluation of the impact of the NUHPP interventions on health outcomes. Currently, the NUHDSS covers about 60,000 people living in 22,000 households in two slum settlements in Nairobi City. The surveillance involves visits to all the households once every four months to continuously update information on pregnancies and pregnancy outcomes, migration, episodes of morbidity, health seeking behavior, mortality and causes of death, livelihood sources, vaccination coverage, marital status, and school attendance.

Priority Research Areas

- Health and social equity
- Reproductive health, HIV/AIDS
- Adolescent's transition to adulthood
- Schooling
- Fertility and health transitions
- Maternal and child health
- Mortality and cause of death
- Migration dynamics
- Aging
- Food security
- Evaluation of health and other development interventions

Completed Key Projects

Project Name	Funder	Grant Period
Nairobi Urban Health Equity Gauge	Rockefeller Foundation	2001 -2003
Exploration of the Impact of HIV/AIDS on the Family and Economic Situation of the Elderly in Poor Urban Areas	National Institute for Aging through the University of Colorado	2002 - 2004
Migration Dynamics in Urban Slum Settlements	Andrew W. Mellon Foundation	2002 - 2004
Refining the Evidence base for program and policies on child health, food security and education among the urban poor in sub-Saharan Africa	Rockefeller Foundation	2004-2005
Strengthening intellectual foundations for research on sexuality and education in sub-Saharan Africa	Ford Foundation	Apr 2004-Sep. 2006
Identifying and Targeting the Poor for Waivers of Service Fees at District Hospitals in Kenya	World Bank	Aug 2005–Apr 2006

Adolescent Safe Motherhood	WHO	2002-2003
Prevention of cervical cancer in Africa: a demonstration project in six African countries (Malawi, Madagascar, Uganda, Tanzania, Zambia and Nigeria)	WHO	Oct 2004- Mar 2005

Ongoing Key Projects

Project Name	Funder	Grant Period
Nairobi Urban Health and Demographic Surveillance system	Rockefeller Foundation/ Wellcome Trust/ Hewlett Foundation	Jan 2002-Dec 2011
The Social, economic and health context of HIV/AIDS in informal urban settlements of Africa	Rockefeller Foundation	Aug 2005–Jul 2007
Realizing rights: improving sexual and reproductive health for poor and vulnerable populations	UK government's Department for International Development (DFID)	2005 – 2010
Understanding HIV/AIDS Risks among Adolescents in sub-Saharan Africa – Protecting the Next Generation (PNG)	Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation grant to Guttmacher Institute and National Institute of Child Health & Human Devt.	Oct 2002–Sep 2007
Assessing Comprehensive Care program for people living with HIV/AIDS in two Nairobi slums	Rockefeller Foundation	Aug 2005-Jul 2006
Averting preventable maternal mortality: delays and barriers to the utilization of emergency obstetric care in urban poor areas of Nairobi city, Kenya	World Bank	2005 – 2006
Urbanization, poverty and health dynamics in sub-Saharan Africa	Wellcome Trust	Jan 2006 -Dec 2010
Addressing the health of children in urban poor areas through improved home-based care, personal hygiene and environmental sanitation, and healthcare services	EU	2005 – 2006
Assessing circumstances and reasons associated with primary school enrolment, retention, dropout, and progression among slum and non-slum residents in Nairobi	William and Flora Hewlett Foundation	2004 -2007

Planned Projects

Project Name	Funder	Grant Period
Prevention of cervical cancer in Africa: a demonstration project in six African countries (Malawi, Madagascar, Uganda, Tanzania, Zambia and Nigeria).	World Health Organization (WHO)	2006 – 2008
Assessing different types of programs and targeting methods for interventions addressing orphans and vulnerable children: a case study using household data from Nairobi slums	The Rockefeller Foundation through the Small Grants Program of the World Bank.	2006 – 2008
Study on Global Ageing and Adult Health	WHO/INDEPTH	2006 – 2007
Migration Dynamics and Social Economic status in rural and urban informal settlements in Africa	University of Witwatersrand	2006-2007

Human Resource at the site

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Field Workers (32)

FUNDERS

Wellcome Trust, Rockefeller Foundation, World Bank, William and Flora Hewlett Foundation, European Commission, Ford Foundation, UK Department for International Development (DFID), Government of Kenya, World Health Organization (WHO), National Institute of Child health and Development (US)

COLLABORATORS

University of Ghana, University of Malawi, Population Council, INDEPTH Network, London School of Hygiene and Tropical Medicine, University of Sussex, Program for Appropriate Technology in Health (PATH), Practical Action (Kenya), JHPIEGO – An Affiliate of Johns Hopkins University, City Council of Nairobi, Gutmacher Institute, Kenya Medical Research Institute (KEMRI), University of Southampton, University of Witwatersrand, University of Ouagadougou, University of Cape Coast, Ghana

KEY PUBLICATIONS

1. Undie, C., J. John-Langba and E. Kimani, "The Place of Cool Waters': Women and Water in the slums of Nairobi, Kenya"; *Wagadu*, vol. 3: Spring **2006**.
2. Amuyunzu-Nyamongo, M. and A. Ezeh., "A Qualitative Assessment of Support Mechanisms in Informal Settlements of Nairobi, Kenya", **2005**. *Journal of Poverty*, 9(3).
3. Taffa, N., G. Chepngeno, and Amunyunzu-Nyamongo, M.; "Child morbidity and health care utilization in the slums of Nairobi, Kenya"; *Journal of Tropical Pediatrics* **2005**. 51(5):279-284.
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6. Mugisha F, Arinaitwe-Mugisha J, & Hagembe B.O.N.; "Alcohol, substance and drug use among urban slum adolescents in Nairobi Kenya"; *Cities* **2003** 20(4): 231-240
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8. Dodoo, F. N, Sloan, M. and Zulu, E. M.; "Space, Context and Hardship: Socializing Children into Sexual Activity in Kenya Slums."; **(2003)**.; In Samuel Agyei-Mensah & John B. Casterline (eds.), *Fertility and Reproductive health in Sub-Saharan Africa: A Collection of micro demographic studies*. Westport, Cone.: Greenwood Press
9. Zulu, E., Dodoo, F.N., Alex C. E.; "Sexual risk-taking in the slums of Nairobi, Kenya; 1993 – 98". **2002**. *Population Studies*, 56:311-323
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PICTURES FROM SITE

