



Three Rural Districts Allocate \$20,700 for Family Planning in Tanzania



Three rural districts in Mara Region of Tanzania with lowest contraceptive prevalence rates in the country have made budget allocations for family planning totaling US \$20,700. This results from advocacy that was led by local Advance Family Planning partner Health Promotion Tanzania (HDT) in Serengeti District and Tarime Town Councils who allocated fund from their own sources for the first time while Musoma Rural District Council surpassing double their family planning allocation from the previous year (2014/15).

The district-level engagement resulted in commitments for family planning budget allocations which were approved during the parliamentary budget session of May-June 2015. Approximately \$10,588 from Serengeti District Council, \$7,647 from Musoma Rural District Council, and \$2,529 from Tarime Town Council were approved.



AFP team in discussion with DMOs of seven Districts from Mara Region

HDT engaged in the three district level advocacy through a series of activities that began in August 2014. They first collaborated with technical teams in the district medical offices to conduct needs assessment across the focus districts to establish evidence for family planning needs and develop messaging. In September, HDT met with district council leadership to prioritize investment in family planning through meetings with

District Planning Officers and Secretaries to the District Councils and presenting proposals to the Council Committees for Social Services.

HDT also organized a regional meeting bringing together all districts in the region to present data from the three focus districts and engage health team members to do the same. Seven out of eight districts attended and committed to allocate or increase resources for family planning.

Using lessons learned from these and other District Councils previously targeted, HDT has engaged three other regions of Kagera, Geita, and Tabora to ensure that all District Councils make adequate allocations for family planning services.