From Policy to Practice:
Navigating Localization
& Equitable Partnerships
in Global Health

Rebecca Ezouatchi, Sethson Kassegne, Martha Silva and Janna Wisniewski

June 26, 2024 10-11 am EDT/14:00 GMT





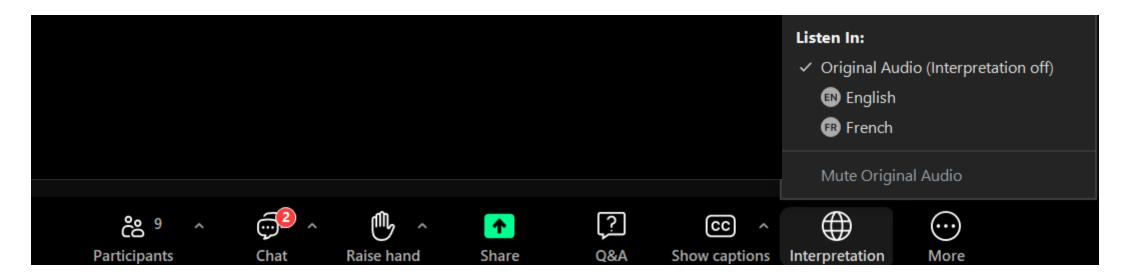




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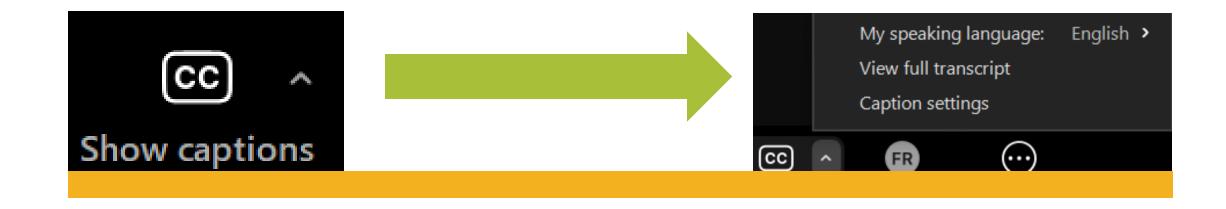
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Webinar Agenda

Session	Presenter
Welcome and Introduction	Gabriela Escudero, D4I Deputy Director
Partnership & Evaluation Overview	Martha Silva, D4I Activity Lead/Tulane
Results and Reflections	Janna Wisniewski, D4I Activity Lead/Tulane
Panel Discussion	Sethson Kassegne, CERA Group Togo Rebecca Ezouatchi, CERA Group Republic of Côte d'Ivoire Janna Wisniewski, D4I Activity Lead/Tulane

D4I's Work



Generate Evidence

Use routine and other existing data and generate new data through rigorous methods tailored to budget, timeline, and context



Integrate Gender

Integrate gender throughout the project to ensure high-quality data for assessment of health and gender outcomes



Strengthen Capacity

Strengthen capacity through fostering collaboration, experimental learning, mentoring, and peer networks tailored to partner's needs



Promote Data Use

Visualize and communicate data in ways that are compelling, user-friendly, and actionable



Ensure Data Quality

Focus on ensuring high-quality data for effective decision making and program outcome improvement



Learn

Encourage collaboration, improved results, and timely progress updates through idea exchange and shared learning



Join D4I for our webinar series, Localization in monitoring, evaluation, research, and learning (MERL)

Topics include:

- Local capacity strengthening
- Using a systems lens
- Engaging with diverse local actors and organizations
- Implementing other good practices for locally led development

Upcoming webinar in the series:

 Localizing Monitoring, Evaluation, Research, and learning (MERL): Insights from Local Actors in Burundi, Colombia, and Malawi July 17, 2024 9-10 am EDT





Panelists



Martha Silva D4I



Janna Wisniewski D4I



Sethson Kassegne CERA Group Togo



Rebecca Ezouatchi
CERA Group
Republic of Côte
d'Ivoire

Introduction and Context

Relationship Building

- 2019–2022: Breakthrough RESEARCH (BR)
- 2023–2024: Data for Impact (D4I)

Our two organizations conducted the evaluation of USAID's AmplifyPF project together. Today we will reflect on two aspects of localization in our work:

- 1. How we jointly learned how to understand and measure localization
- 2. How we went about trying to build an equitable partnership



AmplifyPF

• **Goal:** Strategically and deliberately support and influence replication and scale-up of key family planning high impact practices by all stakeholders in large urban and periurban centers, and to sustainably build and scale these approaches within four target countries and throughout the region.

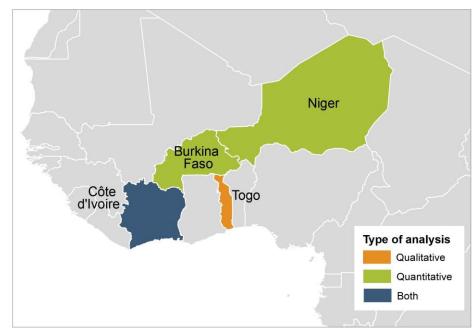
• Implementation area: Regional project in 4 priority countries—Burkina Faso, Côte d'Ivoire, Niger, and Togo

• **Years**: 2018–2023

• Implementing partner: Pathfinder International

Approach:

- Coordination at national and district level
- Service delivery quality improvement
- Institutionalization and scale up of high impact practices (HIPs)



Evaluation Approach

Localization Research Question

 To what extent were localization elements present throughout the AmplifyPF implementation, and what factors helped or hindered it?

Methodological Approach

- Data collected in July 2023; validation workshop in September 2023
 - Côte d'Ivoire and Togo
- Interviews and focus groups
 - Family planning (FP) service providers
 - Health and other government officials
 - Members of the Comité Technique d'Appui au Revu Intra Action (CTAR)
 - Youth
- Desk review of project documents



- Localization was not part of the project's mandate, but sustainability and scale-up were
- Retroactively look at how the project can be viewed using existing framework
- Key concepts:
 - "Locally led"—decision making
 - "Local systems"

 —systems performance
 - Local capacity strengthening
- Phase 1 inquiry—no localization questions; conceptual mapping during analysis
- Phase 2—inclusion of localization questions





LOCALIZATION AT USAID: THE VISION AND APPROACH



"If we truly want to make aid inclusive, local voices need to be at the center of everything we do." -ADMINISTRATOR SAMANTHA POWER

A RENEWED COMMITMENT TO LOCALIZATION IN PURSUIT OF LOCALLY LED ACTION FOR SUSTAINABLE SOLUTIONS

Today's global development and humanitarian challenges are vast, demanding, and complex. They are also inherently local, iouay's grouar development and numanitarian chainings are vast, demanding, and complex. They are also inherently for shaped by the unique histories, power dynamics, and other factors specific to each context in which they occur. Our staped by the unique maturities, power dynamics, and other factors specific to each content of which they occur, our responses to these challenges must build on the priorities, knowledge, and aspirations of the people who live them every

USAID is redoubling our commitment to shift more leadership for priority setting, project design, implementation, and CONDUCTOR PROGRAMMENT TO STRILL MORE READER MAP FOR PRINTRY SELLING, PROJECT GEORGE, INFORMMENTALIZER, SIND MERCHANDER, SIND and communities. Our engagement must become more inclusive, equitable, and responsive to the needs, priorities, and solutions/ideas of the communities, organizations, and people in the countries in which we work. This is both the right someons/neas or the communities, organizations, and people in the countries in which we work, this o both the right thing to do and a smarter use of resources. When USAID empowers local actors—and our efforts are responsive to local priorities, draw upon local capacities, diverse networks, and resources, and are accountable to local communities—we expect that results are more likely to be sustained by local organizations and institutions. Our engagement helps elevate expect that results are more away to be sustained by rocal or gammatures and institutions. Our engagement maps ensure the voices of marginalized populations who have long been silenced. We recognize that development agencies such as the voices of marginalized populations with have long users and iceo. Yet recognize that development agencies auch as USAID cannot, on their own, drive lasting change in the places they work. Instead, our role is to support and catalyze local

Localization is the set of internal reforms, actions, and behavior changes USAID is undertaking to ensure our work puts Localization is the set of internal records, and density changes Cambridge to inder latency to ensure our work pur-local actors in the lead, strengthens local systems, and is responsive to local communities. Over the past decade, we notes acture in the read, strengthen rocal systems, and a responsive to occasion minimates. Over the past occasion, have contributed thought leadership, invested in innovative processes, and adopted acquisition and assistance reforms to rave contributed under a dealership, invested in invovative processes, and adopted acquainting assessment resolution of the call leadership and strengthen local systems. We have partnered with local organizations, provided project-based envare now requesting and sought to shift power from foreign intermediaries to local implementers. But we must

Concept Mapping

Locally led > meaningful community/youth engagement

- How were community members' inputs included in strategy development, implementation, and improvements?
- How would you describe community members' ability to participate in decision making that impacts project activities?

Capacity strengthening

- Conflict resolution around healthrelated needs/topics.
- Capacity to arrive at and implement locally sourced solutions.

Community leadership and governance

- How do stakeholders interact in the district-level ecosystem?
- What does effective leadership look like in this context?

Social accountability

 How do stakeholders keep each other accountable within the health ecosystem?

Building an Equitable Partnership

- Role of equals
- Deliberately invited to participate in meetings and other aspects of implementation
- Set their own priorities to achieve work
- Participate in co-creation
- Operate in their native language





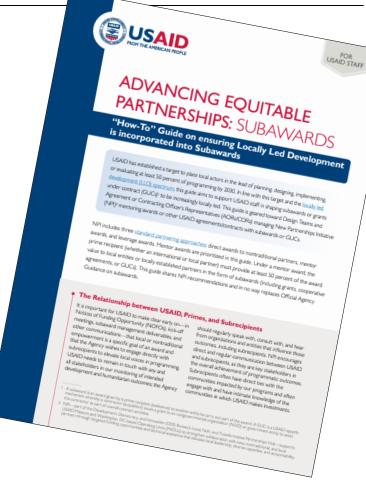








Language





Results



- Localization elements identified:
 - Capacity strengthening
 - Building on local systems
 - Putting the experiences of clients and young people at the center
 - Local engagement to ensure stakeholder and community contributions
- Strategy to bring together multiple sectors to support the health ecosystem with CTAR as the coordinating unit resulted in increased coordination and direct support to service delivery points
- Challenges related to relationship building and differential resources remain

Partnership Self Reflection

	CERA Group	BR / D4I
Engagement and communications	Regular, open communication	Regular, open communication, but engaging virtually is challenging
Co-creation	Local input and adaptation of data collection tools	Very limited opportunity to build in the timeline needed for true co-creation; CERA Group not involved in Phase 1 of AmplifyPF evaluation
Financial	Fair compensation is unfortunately still exceptional (fringe, additional pay for additional work)	No expectation of "extra" labor
Capacity strengthening	Partnerships built on trust offered multiple opportunities for capacity strengthening	Working alongside makes all research tasks an opportunity to learn from each other
Empowerment and recognition	Inclusion of logo and names in authorship was exceptional starting from BR	Advocating for recognition of local partners in documents and participation in dissemination
Language	Flexibility to allow team members to use chosen language	Budget for interpretation and translation services



Final Reflections on Measuring Localization and Working Towards Equitable Partnerships

Reflections



Evaluation: Sustainability and localization are not necessarily part of the design of the project



Evaluation: As this topic was not necessarily something our informants had thought about, it was more of a heavy lift for data collection and analysis



Our partnership: Building more equitable partnerships takes time and intention

Panel Discussion

Q&A





This presentation was produced with the support of the United States Agency for International Development (USAID) under the terms of the Data for Impact (D4I) associate award 7200AA18LA00008, which is implemented by the Carolina Population Center at the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill, in partnership with Palladium International, LLC; ICF Macro, Inc.; John Snow, Inc.; and Tulane University. The views expressed in this publication do not necessarily reflect the views of USAID or the United States government.

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PR-24-110 D4I



