

# RESULTS OF RESEARCH ON THE INTEGRATION OF FAMILY PLANNING WITH NON-HEALTH SECTORS

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Integrated PHE projects are found to improve family planning, health, environment, livelihoods, food security, and nutrition.

Knowledge of family planning and positive attitudes towards conservation were correlated.

Associations between knowledge of siltation and perceived harmful effects of population growth may be an entry point to addressing health, sustainable land use, and other factors of resilience.

## BACKGROUND

Population, Health, and Environment (PHE) approaches aim to improve access to health care, including family planning/reproductive health (FP/RH), while conserving natural resources in remote communities.

To contribute to the available evidence of PHE project benefits, particularly the role of the FP in building resilience, improving livelihoods, and helping people adapt to climate change, the Evidence Project produced *The Impact of Population, Health, and Environment Projects: A Synthesis of the Evidence*, a working paper on the evidence of impact of PHE projects.

The Evidence Project then collaborated with The Tuungane Project (*Tuungane*)<sup>+</sup>, a PHE project in the Greater Mahale Ecosystem (GME), to further analyze the RH data from their 2011 baseline survey.

The GME, with a rapidly growing population, faces challenges including: unsustainable land use/agriculture, siltation into Lake Tanganyika, diminishing fish populations, and reduced fish catches. This impacts food security and livelihoods. Additionally, many people lack information or access to FP/RH and other health services.

Addressing these challenges could improve factors that contribute to climate change adaptation and resilience.

+ *Analyzing the Building Blocks of Resilience: Findings from a Baseline Survey of the Tuungane Population, Health, and Environment Project in Western Tanzania*

## METHODS

The Evidence Project's *PHE Synthesis* reviewed 60 documents from 35 integrated projects.

### LOCATIONS OF PROJECTS INCLUDED IN THE SYNTHESIS



The Evidence Project also analyzed *Tuungane* 2011 baseline data to determine levels of knowledge among village residents regarding:

- their understanding and use of family planning
- their understanding and attitudes toward conservation
- whether or not there are linkages among these

The survey included 487 households across 10 project villages.

## FOR MORE INFORMATION

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## RESULTS

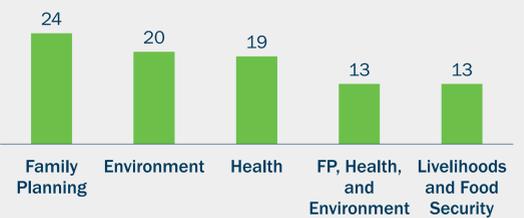
*A Synthesis of the Evidence* found that integrated projects improved...

- support for environmental programming;
- sources of fresh water;
- fishing practices, catch volume, diversity;
- livelihoods and food security;
- FP knowledge, information, and use;
- health indicators.

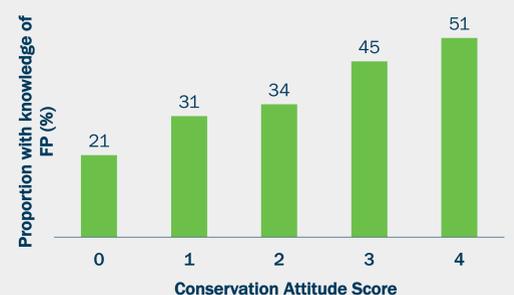
The *Tuungane* baseline analysis revealed...

- high unmet need for FP in the project community;
- reliance on farming and fishing;
- significant association between knowledge of FP and knowledge of conservation;
- correlations among knowledge of siltation, attitudes toward conservation, and perceptions about consequences of population growth;
- associations between knowledge of siltation and perceived harmful effects of population growth;
- no significant associations or relationships between individual aspects of population (e.g. FP use, ideal family size) and perceptions about the effects of population growth.

### NUMBER OF PROJECTS REPORTING RESULTS BY SECTOR



### KNOWLEDGE OF FAMILY PLANNING BASED ON ATTITUDES TOWARDS CONSERVATION



### ATTITUDES ABOUT CONSERVATION, BASED ON AGREEMENT WITH THE FOLLOWING STATEMENTS

Statement	Agree N (%)	Disagree N (%)	Don't Know N (%)
The village forest should be protected	386 (79)	55 (11)	45 (9)*
Wildlife such as chimpanzees should be protected	375 (77)	53 (11)	58 (12)
The Mahale National Park should continue to be protected	395 (81)	39 (8)	52 (11)
The National Park provides benefits for our community	256 (53)	146 (30)	84 (17)

## CONCLUSION

Population dynamics, health, environmental practices, land access, and diverse streams of income and nutrition may factor into individual, household, and community resilience. The baseline analysis reveals some understanding of the impacts of population on the environment. This may be an **entry to addressing unmet FP/RH needs and concerns about natural resources**. Community members with a strong understanding of conservation and its connections to population can inform and engage their communities. Generally positive attitudes towards conservation may be a strong foundation for *Tuungane's* solutions to natural resource management.

The Evidence Project will use this analysis to inform future efforts looking more deeply at the relationships among and between FP and climate change adaptation, FP and resilience, and the **pathways through which FP and other components of PHE projects contribute to building resilience and enhancing the community's ability to adapt to climate change**.