
Introducing the issues in the health systems stream from an IPASC perspective

AMUDA BABA Dieu-Merci IPASC DR Congo

Developing policies · improving practices · transforming systems

IPASC Introduction



- IPASC is a FBO, in the north eastern DR Congo (Aru and Bunia). Founded by late Rev.Dr. Patricia NICKSON
- Vision: A healthy community with its full participation
- Mission: “to improve population health through a holistic and participatory approaches”.

Human Resource issues in the context of rural DRC



- Human resources in health: concentrated in urban areas (about 70%)
- Exacerbated during war and conflicts
- Challenges include: drug shortages; difficult working conditions; limited options for capacity building; not being able to transfer patients; poorly equipped health facility; poor road infrastructure; limited supervision and working in a context of extreme poverty
- HRH attrition in rural areas high
- Rural populations often self medicate using traditional medicines and unprescribed medicine from pharmacies in rural areas

Why are CHWs and CTC providers important in rural DR Congo?



- Very few health personnel accept to work in the rural settings. If they accept, they are just at the health facility level, and are not interested in close-to-community interventions
- CHWs/CTC providers are available and committed to help their community
- They live in and with the community
- They are ready to take responsibility in caring for their community members if they are empowered and supported to do so – need for further capacity building

Capacity building in health systems research



Limited resources and skills for health systems research

Need to build demand and respond appropriately