General Report

Theme: “Family Planning in the context of humanitarian crisis: Preparedness, Response, and Resilience”
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The Ouagadougou Partnership Coordination Unit (OPCU) expresses its deep gratitude to the Government of Burkina Faso, host country of the 10th Annual Meeting of the Ouagadougou Partnership (OPAM), for the quality of the organization of the meeting, which was held in semi-virtual mode and which was a complete success despite the difficult security context in the country.

The OPCU extends its warm thanks to all the participants from OP countries and to those connected throughout the world for their participation and rich inputs during the different sessions. Special thanks go to:

- The national organizing committee of the OPAM in Burkina Faso under the leadership of the ST/ATD;
- The mother and child health directors of the nine (9) OP countries, eight (8) of whom were able to travel to Ouagadougou;
- Country delegations (government representatives, parliamentarians, mayors, civil society organizations, youths, religious and customary leaders, local authorities, journalists, media and social networks, and their leaders);
- The implementing partners;
- The group of donors who have never ceased to support this regional development instrument and who have renewed their commitment to support this movement in its new 2030 Vision;
- Partners at the global level such as FP2030, the Organizing Committee of the 6th International Conference on Family Planning;
- All those who directly or indirectly contributed to the success of this large-scale, semi-virtual meeting held in a critical period of humanitarian crises.
The 10th OPAM was held from December 13th to 16th, 2021 in Ouagadougou, Burkina Faso, under the chairmanship of Professor Charlemagne Marie Ragnag-Newendé Ouédraogo, Minister of Health, Public Hygiene, and Welfare. The theme of the meeting was: “Family Planning in the Context of Humanitarian Crisis: Preparedness, Response, Resilience”.

The entire OP community in its diversity was represented at the meeting: governments, parliamentarians, local authorities, donors, implementing partners, CSOs, religious, customary and community leaders, youths, journalists, private sector representatives, and independent participants. In total, more than 1,200 participants attended the annual meeting. The program was structured around seven (7) very informative plenary sessions.

The opening ceremony of the meeting featured five (5) speeches delivered by the following distinguished personalities:

- Ms. Marie BA, Director of OPCU;
- Dr Samukeliso Dube, Executive Director of FP2030;
- Ms. Argentina Matavel, Regional Director of UNFPA for West and Central Africa, represented by Mr. Auguste Kpognon, Resident Representative of UNFPA in Burkina Faso;
- Ms. Mala Khanna, Assistant Deputy Minister for Sub-Saharan Africa, Global Affairs Canada;
- Professor Charlemagne Marie Ragnag-Newendé Ouédraogo, Minister of Health, Public Hygiene, and Welfare, Burkina Faso.
This tenth anniversary of the OP has been an opportunity to celebrate 10 years of commitment during which remarkable progress has been made in sexual and reproductive health and rights, and more specifically in Family Planning (FP), despite the crises. The region has exceeded the target of 2,660,000 additional users by 86,000.

In terms of health impact, more than 65,000 maternal deaths, 7,000,000 unsafe abortions, and 19,700,000 unwanted pregnancies have been prevented in the region during the period 2011-2021. In addition to these results, the OP has increased its donors, government subsidies for the purchase of contraceptives, and improved coordination of actions, during this period.

The humanitarian crises resulted in a significant reduction in the use of FP services in the early months of 2020. This reduction has been followed by a recovery in several countries. Far from being a coincidence, this upturn in the use of FP services in the OP countries has been the result of response actions developed by health stakeholders in each of the affected countries, as seen in the videos shown, thus reflecting the region’s capacity for resilience to crises.

Recommandations
Nine (9) recommendations were made at the end of the 10th OPAM:

1. Make FP in the context of a crisis a priority with a focus on preparedness, response, and resilience;
2. Map risks and existing interventions in the OP countries;
3. Improve coordination of actions between state, humanitarian, local CSO actors;
4. Secure the budget dedicated to FP funding to prevent reallocation to other sectors during the crises;
5. Continue efforts to allocate domestic resources to the purchase of contraceptives and RH products;
6. Implement youth-focused learning programs on the solutions and challenges of the humanitarian crisis;
7. Further involve research institutions in evidence-based decision making;
8. Promote consideration of FP commitments specific to the contexts of humanitarian crises;
I. Introduction

“Family Planning (FP) in the context of a humanitarian crisis: Preparedness, Response, Resilience” was the theme of the Ouagadougou Partnership 10th Annual Meeting held from December 13 to 16, 2021, under the chairmanship of Professor Charlemagne Ouédraogo, Minister of Health, Public Hygiene, and Welfare of Burkina Faso, the host country of the meeting. This theme was highly topical given the social, security, health, and political environment in the nine (9) OP member countries.

Indeed, the OP countries are variously affected by humanitarian crises that originate from the political instability of the states, community, military, and terrorist conflicts, climate change, and the COVID-19 pandemic. The data collected and analyzed on a regular basis by the United Nations Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs (OCHA) in West Africa shows a significant deterioration in the humanitarian situation in the region affecting more than twenty-eight (28) million people, the majority of whom are women, youths, and adolescents, the priority targets of reproductive health (RH) and family planning (FP) services 1. Such situation has a strong impact on household and women’s incomes, and access to reproductive health and family planning services 2.

Despite this context, the nine (9) OP countries (Benin, Burkina Faso, Côte d’Ivoire, Guinea, Mali, Mauritania, Niger, Senegal, and Togo) have combined their efforts around the vision for “A Francophone West Africa where easy access to quality family planning saves and improves the lives of women and youth and serves as a catalyst for sustainable development for all.”

Therefore, the 10th OPAM provided the countries with an opportunity to share their experiences in preparing for, responding to, and being resilient to these crises. As usual, the meeting was an opportunity to celebrate the successes achieved in the region. It was organized by the Ouagadougou Partnership Coordination Unit (OPCU), in collaboration with the national organizing committee, under the leadership of the Technical Secretariat for Accelerating Demographic Transition. The objective was to share the countries’ contributions to reaching the OP’s target (13 million new modern contraception users by 2030). The 4-day, semi-virtual meeting held in Ouagadougou brought together governments, parliamentarians, local authorities, donors, CSOs, implementing partners, religious, customary, and community leaders, youths, journalists, private sector representatives, and independent participants.

II. Opening Ceremony

The official opening ceremony of the 10th OPAM was a highly solemn moment attended by more than a thousand participants gathered in small groups in the nine OP countries or connected individually in virtual mode. It featured five (5) speeches delivered by prominent personalities.

In her opening remarks, OPCU Director Marie Ba congratulated Prof. Charlemagne Ouédraogo on his reappointment as head of the Department of Health. Then she praised the resilience of the nine OP countries in the context of the crises that had been shaking the region. She also thanked the Ministry of Health of Burkina Faso and the organizing committee of the 10th OPAM for the successful organization of the meeting which started on December 13, the Youth Day. That day, which recorded an exceptional participation of 391 people connected online, allowed young people to celebrate their contributions to the progress of the OP. In conclusion, she recalled the OP’s vision and objectives.

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2 Koudou, Opadou and Ajioti, Guillaume and Djoueou, Viviane Estelle (2016) Trauma, psychosocial reintegration and resilience among women-victims of rape during armed conflict in Côte d’Ivoire. Rivista di Criminologia, Vittimologia e Sicurezza, 10 (1). pp. 4-25. ISSN 1977-033X
While noting the OP’s leadership in engaging stakeholders to boost family planning in Francophone West Africa, Dr. Samukeliso Dube, Executive Director of FP2030, commended FP2030’s fruitful collaboration with the OP and emphasized her organization’s commitment to continue collaborating with the OPCU to benefit from the innovations implemented by OP countries to address humanitarian crises.

Speaking on behalf of the UNFPA Regional Director for West and Central Africa, the UNFPA Resident Representative in Burkina Faso, Mr. Auguste J. Kpognon, reviewed the history of the OP and highlighted the tangible progress before stressing the importance of the Humanitarian Nexus and the mobilization of domestic resources as reliable approaches to provide an appropriate response to the effects of crises on the OP’s targets.

As for Ms. Mala Khanna, Assistant Deputy Minister for Sub-Saharan Africa, Global Affairs, Canada, she positively appreciated the synergy of actions of Francophone West African countries fostered by the OP, which enabled significant progress to be made. She also announced the increase in Canada’s support and funding for the OP to $700 million over the next 10 years.

In his remarks, Prof. Charlemagne Marie Ragnag-Newendé Ouédraogo, Minister of Health, Public Hygiene, and Welfare, thanked the OPCU for choosing Burkina Faso to commemorate the 10th anniversary of the OP, after its establishment in Ouagadougou in February 2011.

According to Burkina Faso’s Minister of Health, Public Hygiene, and Welfare, since its inception, the OP has succeeded in bringing together the actions of the nine governments in Francophone Africa around its vision for “A Francophone West Africa where easy access to quality family planning saves and improves the lives of women and youths and serves as a catalyst for sustainable development for all.”

He stressed the relevance of the theme of the meeting and invited the stakeholders to double their efforts and ingenuity to effectively respond to people’s urgent family planning needs.
III. Conduct of the meeting

In addition to the opening ceremony, the 10th OPAM included three major events: a day devoted to youths, a celebration of the progress made by the countries in the first ten years of the OP, and a review of the countries’ preparedness, response, and resilience actions to address the recurrent humanitarian crises.

3.1 Youth Day

The day of December 13, 2021 was dedicated to young people who took the opportunity to question their vulnerability to humanitarian crises. Chairied by the Secretary General of the Ministry of Youth and Promotion of Youth Entrepreneurship of Burkina Faso, the day started with an opening ceremony followed by two plenary sessions. Four (4) speeches were pronounced at the opening ceremony by:

- The President of the Young Ambassadors of Burkina Faso;
- The Director of the Bill & Melinda Gates Institute for Population and Reproductive Health;
- The Director of OPCU;
- And the Secretary General of the Ministry of Youth and Promotion of Youth Entrepreneurship, represented by the Youth and Continuing Education Advisor.

It emerged from the Youth Day that humanitarian crises particularly affected young people who represent more than 65% of our people. Indeed, during the crises, the youth face new vulnerabilities or an aggravation of the vulnerabilities that existed before the crises: (1) They are willingly or forcibly recruited in armed groups. (2) They face unprecedented restrictions on access to basic social services due to closing of schools, health facilities, and other public services. (3) They are forced into isolation or forced into marriage. (4) They are subjected to the worst forms of gender-based violence (GBV) or simply killed. (5) They are more stigmatized. (6) Their mobility is not only reduced but they also
face a lack of medical, legal, and psychosocial assistance. It has been established that out of five deaths among young people and adolescents, three occur during crisis. Therefore, while committing to the opportunity provided by OPAM to identify sustainable and innovative solutions to support women and girls affected by humanitarian crises, the youth propose the following solutions to address this situation:

- Suspend mass awareness activities and focus on communication channels such as radio, television, SMS and social networks;
- Create a community of committed young people to serve as relays for family planning programs;
- Develop learning programs focused on young girls.

Two (2) important activities were conducted on that day:

- Launch of the second edition of the OP Youth Advocacy Contest

Before the start of the 2022 edition, the Association for the Promotion of Sexual Health and Youth Empowerment of Cote d’Ivoire (AP2SAJ-CI) presented the highlights of the 1st edition of the OP Youth Advocacy Contest. Forty (40) youth organizations from the nine (9) OP countries took part in the competition, which resulted in the selection of eight (8) associations for the semi-final, then four (4) for the final. The competition was won by AP2SAJ, which distinguished itself by the originality of its advocacy and ability to bring together peer associations around its project.

The theme of the 2nd edition of the competition will be: “Taking into account the youth component in the OP’s research agenda.” The call for applications for this edition will begin in February 2022 and will remain open for four (4) weeks. Six (6) organizations will be selected based on application files. They will each receive coaching and will have to challenge one another in the semi-final and the final stages.

- Advocating for greater participation of French-speaking countries in the International Conference on Family Planning (ICFP)

The 10th OPAM was an opportunity for the ICPF organizing committee to report on the conference. One after the other, the heads of the eight (8) sub-committees presented their sub-committees to encourage a strong participation of Francophone Africa in the 6th edition of the ICPF, which will be held in Pattaya City, Thailand, from November 14 to 17, 2022. The meeting will be semi-virtual and targets more than 5,500 participants from over 120 countries. The key dates are as follows:

- November 1 to December 17, 2021: Applications for the Youth Trailblazer Award;
- February 1, 2022: Opening of ICFP registration;
- February 1 to March 15, 2022: Submission of abstracts at ICFP;
- April 5 to June 22, 2022: EXCELL Award Nominations.

The Conference Secretariat and the IBP network will work closely with the OP, WAHO, and other regional partners to support the OP countries to prepare this global scientific meeting on FP.

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3 Dr Hatimou Tahi Bako Almoctar – Niger

4 CIPF: Presentation of the International Conference on Family Planning 2022


3.2 Progress of the OP over the past ten years

The progress of the OP was presented in two (2) parts: the first one in the form of a presentation by the Director of the OPCU and the second one in the form of videos shown by each of the nine (9) OP countries. It should be noted that despite the humanitarian crises that have shaken the region, the OP has made remarkable progress in sexual and reproductive health rights, particularly in family planning, over the past ten years. Through sustained advocacy with parliamentarians, governments, administrative, religious and customary authorities, policies have been improved to create a more favorable environment for FP and SRHR in general.

During this period, other major achievements have been made to accelerate progress towards attaining the OP's objectives. These achievements include institutional reforms for repositioning FP, the adoption of FP strategic plans (National Strategic Maternal Health Plans, FP Recovery Plans, FP Acceleration Plans), increased endogenous resources for FP funding, and major innovations. For example, Mali established the Office National de la Santé de la Reproduction (National Reproductive Health Office) in April 2021, Niger decreed free FP throughout the country in April 2016, while Burkina Faso established a Secrétariat Technique chargé de l’Accélération de la Transition Démographique (Technical Secretariat for Accelerating the Demographic Transition, ST/ATD) in February 2018.

According to the OPCU Director, this progress is the result of unprecedented stakeholder engagement and commitment, particularly the Ministries of Health in our countries, which have had a significant impact on regional indicators. One of the most illustrative achievements was recorded in Senegal, which doubled its contraceptive prevalence rate in ten years (from 12% in 2009 to 26% in 2019). Similarly, Burkina Faso’s contraceptive prevalence rate increased from 15% in 2010 to 32% in 2021. Overall, the number of additional users in the region has doubled in 10 years, from 3 million in 2011 to 7 million in 2021.

From 2015 to 2021, two million seven hundred and fifty thousand (2,750,000) additional users were registered in all nine (9) OP countries. They exceeded the target of two million six hundred and sixty thousand (2,660,000) additional users by eighty-six thousand (86,000). As shown in the figure below, six (6) countries have reached or exceeded this target. These are Côte d’Ivoire, Burkina Faso, Niger, Mali, Senegal, and Mauritania.

It should be also noted that at the beginning of this new decade, the OP exceeded its target for additional female users. In 2021, 460,000 additional users were identified in the OP countries, which is 30,000 more than the expected target. Only 3 countries, including Togo, Benin, and Guinea, did not reach their 2021 targets, as shown in the figure below.
In terms of impact, more than sixty-five thousand (65,000) maternal deaths, seven million (7,000,000) unsafe abortions, and nineteen million seven hundred thousand (19,700,000) unwanted pregnancies have been prevented in the region from 2011 to the present.

3.3 The OP in the context of recurrent humanitarian crises

The OP countries preparedness, response, and resilience in the context of crises have been addressed in three (3) plenary sessions: preparedness in the context of humanitarian crises in OP countries, the economic impact of crises on women, and multisectoral response in humanitarian crises.

According to the OCHA Humanitarian Affairs Officer for West and Central Africa, OP countries are affected by humanitarian crises in different ways. The main causes of these crises are security instability and/or conflict/violence, climate change effects, droughts, floods, food insecurity, COVID-19 effects, and political instability. The analysis of OCHA data on population exposure to danger, vulnerability, and coping capacity suggests a significant deterioration in the humanitarian situation in the region over the past three (3) years due to increased security incidents in Mali, Niger, and Burkina Faso. This data also indicates that there is a progressive extension of these incidents to northern Côte d’Ivoire, Benin, Togo, Senegal, and Mauritania. In those countries, human rights violations, violence, and protection needs are on the rise and particularly affect women and children (28.7 million people).

On the other hand, the functionality of the health infrastructure that has been intended to serve as a bulwark for providing SRHR and family planning services has been under severe strain. To date, 141 health facilities have been reportedly closed in the region (46 in Burkina Faso, 19 in Mali, 76 in Niger). Besides, according to a study conducted by UN Women on the economic impact of COVID-19 on women and presented by Papa Alioune SECK, UN Women Research and Data Officer, four (4) out of five (5) women have reported a decrease or total loss of income, while 19% has reported an increase in difficulties in accessing reproductive health and FP services. Overall, the economic growth of the OP countries has significantly slowed down. The example of Burkina Faso is fully illustrative. Indeed, the country’s growth rate dropped from an average of 6.2% per year since 2016 to 1.9% in 2020.

As for the specific impact of humanitarian crises on FP, the Director of APHRC’s West Africa Regional Office has reported a significant reduction in the rate of FP service utilization ranging from -8.5% in Côte d’Ivoire to -24.1% in Niger in the first months of the COVID-19 pandemic.

Evolution of the security context in OP countries

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However, according to the same study, this reduction in the early hours of the crisis has been “followed by an upturn in several countries.” Far from being a coincidence, this increase in the use of FP services in the OP countries has been the result of response actions developed by the various health stakeholders in each of the affected countries, as seen in the videos. These actions, which undeniably reflect the region’s preparedness, response, and resilience to crises, have been grouped into the following four (4) areas:

i. Leadership/Governance
   - Development and implementation of contingency and continuity of services plans;
   - Implementation of the Minimum Initial Service Package (MISP);
   - Improved coordination of interventions through the Humanitarian Nexus (health cluster, protection cluster).

ii. Supply of products
   - Development and implementation of emergency supply plans;
   - Development of innovative strategies for the distribution of contraceptives to the last mile (use of traders, armed forces, etc.).

iii. Adapting service delivery strategies to the contexts
   - Implementation of task delegation to CHWs;
   - Implementation of subcutaneous DMPA self-injection;
   - Implementation of mobile SRH teams;
   - Erection of advanced health posts in IDP camps.

iv. Mobilization of domestic resources
   - Increased government subsidy for contraceptives;
   - Fundraising at the community level.

3.4 Other highlights of the meeting

In addition to the plenary sessions, three (3) other highlights made the 10th OPAM exceptional. These were the focus on the commitments of the OP countries, the new civil society engagement strategy, and the results of the journalist award competition and the poster session.

3.4.1 OP countries commitments

To maintain the gains made over the past ten (10) years and to contribute significantly to the achievement of the OP’s 2030 objective (13 million additional users), all OP countries have made new FP2030 commitments with the OPCU’s technical and financial support. These commitments have been developed considering those already made in other areas (national policies, ICPD plus 25, the Generation Equality Forum, the SDGs).

These commitments, which are supported by an accountability plan, are programmatic, political, financial, and youth-focused.

3.4.2 Civil society engagement strategy and contribution to preparedness, response, and resilience in the context of humanitarian crises

In addition to the country commitments, a new OP civil society engagement strategy has been developed through an inclusive process involving all stakeholders. In addition to refining and refocusing support and collaboration with CSOs and regional initiatives, the strategy will allow for a more focused approach to better integrate CSO expertise and capacity into the OP’s activities and draw lessons for setting the course for the coming years.

The objective is to make CSOs in each OP country work together to lead sustainable family planning movements that will result in 6.5 million additional modern contraceptive users between 2020 and 2030 with the following expected outcomes:
- Annual increase in the Motion Tracker score at the country level;
- Annual improvement in the methods and other service quality measures;
- And OP countries reaching their targeted number of additional contraceptive users every year.

On the 4th day of the meeting dedicated to the civil society, field actors shared key experiences with the audience.

In Senegal, the Women’s Platform for Peace in Casamance has developed an ambitious advocacy program in this region that has experienced several decades of armed conflict to bring the belligerents to the negotiating table. The platform has built peace houses, a center for the holistic management of gender-based violence, and health service delivery points to facilitate people’s access to health care, especially for pregnant women.

In Niger, the civil society has initiated several actions to deal with the multi-faceted crises that have plagued the country. These include the introduction of FP in the MISP (Minimum Initial Service Package), the establishment of “safe spaces” in the sites of displaced persons, strengthened collaboration with the various stakeholders (Government, TFPs, international NGOs) due to the experience of CSOs in adaptation, and the establishment of a community implementation and interaction mechanism.

In Mali, the Alliance des Religieux de l’Afrique de l’Ouest pour la Promotion de la Santé et le Développement (Alliance of West African Religious Leaders for Peace and Development) has provided assistance to internally displaced persons, established consultation frameworks for dialogue between religious movements, and facilitated peaceful coexistence.

These actions have been conducted in a context of political, security, and health crisis, the major consequences of which have been the departure of the administration from certain areas, people’s difficulty to access basic services, and the massive displacement of communities inside and outside the country.

In Mauritania, since the outbreak of the pandemic, the journalists have called on the authorities to be more open in providing information. Cross-checking has been made in the media in real time and the national figures on daily trends have been accessible to the media and through the Ministry of Health’s daily update. Information campaigns have been also carried out and the journalists have been invited to virtual orientation meetings through the WHO and UNICEF fact checking tool against disinformation.

3.4.3 Results of the 6th edition of the FP Media Production Awards Competition and Poster Session

Every year since 2015, the OPCU has organized, in partnership with Population Council, the Journalist Awards Competition and the Best Poster Competition. The objective of the Journalist Awards Competition is to boost media production on FP issues. The results of the 2021 edition, which was launched in July 2021, were announced on December 16, 2021, the last day of the OPAM. Eight (8) prizes were awarded to eight (8) winners from Benin, Burkina Faso, Guinea, and Senegal. The results are as follows:

Blog Prize: The 1st prize was awarded to Mr. Chamsou Dine BAGUIRI for his text entitled “Boom des grossesses post-confinement en milieu scolaire: quelle thérapie pour l’Afrique? (Boom of post-confinement pregnancies in schools: which therapy for Africa?)” The 2nd prize was awarded to Mr. Ibrahima FALL for his text entitled “Prise en compte des besoins des jeunes en Santé Sexuelle et Reproductive dans les engagements du Sénégal (Taking into account young people’s Sexual and Reproductive Health needs in Senegal’s commitments).” The 1st prize was awarded to Mr. Chamsou Dine BAGUIRI for his text entitled “Boom des grossesses post-confinement en milieu scolaire: quelle thérapie pour l’Afrique? (Boom of post-confinement pregnancies in schools: which therapy for Africa?)” The 2nd prize was awarded to Mr. Ibrahima FALL for his text entitled “Prise en compte des besoins des jeunes en Santé Sexuelle et Reproductive dans les engagements du Sénégal (Taking into account young people’s Sexual and Reproductive Health needs in Senegal’s commitments).”
Printed and Online Press: The 1st prize was awarded to Ms. Zalissa SORE for her article entitled “Méthodes contraceptives : cette pilule qui passe facilement chez certains, difficilement chez d’autres (Contraceptive methods: A pill easy to swallow for some, difficult for others)” The 2nd prize was awarded to Mr. Fulbert ADJIMEHOSSOU for his article entitled “PF au Bénin : Le droit de véto persistant des hommes (FP in Benin: The persistent right of veto of men)”.

Radio Prize: The 1st prize was awarded to Mr. Achille FATONDJI for his program “Les droits à la santé sexuelle et reproductive : quand l’information fait défaut. (Sexual and reproductive health: when information is lacking)”. The 2nd prize was awarded to Mr. Kolawolé Boniface BIAOU for his program “Contraception : quand la femme béninoise exige désormais des méthodes applicables aux hommes. (Contraception: when Beninese women demand methods applicable to men).”

Television Prize: The 1st prize went to Ms. Alexandra DJOTAN for her program “Eliminer les obstacles pour une prévalence contraceptive au Bénin (Eliminating obstacles to contraceptive prevalence in Benin).” The 2nd prize went to Mrs. Hadiatou BARRY for her program “PF : les avantages chez les femmes à mobilité réduite (FP: the benefits for women with reduced mobility).”

As for the Poster Competition, three (3) organizations were awarded prizes following the selection process. These are:

- Tulane University / CERA Group / Population Council: Best Poster Champion of Social and Behavior Change Award;
- PSI Mali: Best Innovation Award;
- Medics del Mundo Burkina Faso: Best Youth Leadership Poster Award.
Six (6) successive speeches marked the closing ceremony of this OPAM: Collaboration, Union, Multisectoriality, Complementarity, Synergy, Partnership, Involvement, Inclusion, Integration, Development Nexus, Experience Sharing, Coordination, Innovation, Dynamism, Resilience, Commitment, Adaptation, Determination, Coaching, Accountability, Action, We are together ...

Six (6) successive speeches marked the closing ceremony of the 10th OPAM:
- Moukailou K. Ouédraogo, PO/FP2030 Youth Focal Point, Burkina Faso;
- Mamoutou Diabaté, President of the Coalition of CSOs/FP;
- Honorable Maimouna Ouédraogo/Sawadogo, Member of the National Assembly of Burkina Faso, represented by Dr. Barry Adjami;
- Ms. Esther Loeffen, Ambassador of the Netherlands to Burkina Faso;
- Ms. Marie Ba, Director of OPCU;
- Mr. Wilfried S. Ouédraogo, Secretary General of the Ministry of Health of Burkina Faso, representing the Minister of Health, Public Hygiene, and Welfare

The six speakers stressed the relevance of the theme of the OPAM, which allowed the panelists to share their experiences, the good practices, and evidence on the countries’ resilience to humanitarian crises. Then they welcomed the engagement of all stakeholders, especially youth, in the OP discussion forums and expressed their satisfaction with the outcomes of the meeting (achievement of the objectives of the meeting). Finally, they invited the participants to continue to rally around the OP’s vision to reach the objective of 13 million additional users by 2030.
V. Conclusion

The 10th anniversary of the OP comes at a time when the region is facing complex, profound, and unprecedented humanitarian crises. All OP countries are affected by these crises to varying degrees. It is in this particular context that the 10th OPAM was held in late 2021. In spite of this situation and through the organizing committee’s commitment and the OPCU’s strong leadership, this edition of the OPAM met the double challenge of mobilizing actors from the nine countries of the region and beyond, and providing quality deliberations. More than one thousand (1,000) participants, broken out into small groups or virtually connected, conducted sustained reflections on the effects of the current particular environment on FP service delivery. They reaffirmed with one voice the importance of preparedness and innovation to provide an appropriate and effective response to crises and to strengthen people’s resilience. At the end of the meeting, they shared hopes for the following prospects: (1) strengthening the OP 2021-2030 strategy instruments (OP Governance, Youth Strategy, Civil Society Engagement Strategy, OP Research Agenda); (2) new FP commitments made by OP governments; and (3) renewed commitment of donors (Canada, Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation, Hewlett Foundation, etc.).
## Attendance Report

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>SESSIONS</th>
<th>ONLINE ATTENDANCE</th>
<th>AVERAGE IN-COUNTRY ATTENDANCE</th>
<th>TOTAL ATTENDANCE</th>
<th>TOTAL REGISTERED</th>
<th>ATTENDANCE RATE</th>
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<tr>
<td>DAY 1 (Youth day)</td>
<td>954</td>
<td>240</td>
<td>1194</td>
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Other statistics

COUNTRIES OF ORIGIN OF PARTICIPANTS:

31