



**What's new?**  
**Highlights of our recent activities & impact!**  
July 2017



**High-level Panel on family planning at the European Development Days**



**KEY SOLUTIONS FOR DEVELOPMENT: YOUTH EMPOWERMENT AND FAMILY PLANNING**

**8 June – 9:00**  
European Development Days  
Tour & Taxis Brussels  
Register at: [eudevdays.eu](http://eudevdays.eu)  
Contact: [aguieu@ippfen.org](mailto:aguieu@ippfen.org)



Countdown 2030 Europe co-organised a key high-level panel entitled "Key solutions for development: family planning and youth empowerment". The panel discussed ways in which countries entering a period of demographic transition should invest in young people and how to expand access to family planning by investing in critical policies. Speakers included Alexander De Croo, Belgian Deputy Prime Minister and Minister of Development Cooperation, Mattias Lundberg Head of the Global Partnership for Youth and Development at the World Bank and Ambassador Augustine Mahiga, Minister of Foreign Affairs, Tanzania.

[Click here to read more!](#)

## New European Consensus for Development Prioritises Women and Girls' Sexual and Reproductive Health



Thanks to the tireless efforts made by Countdown 2030 Europe partners, **family planning and sexual and reproductive health are firmly embedded in the new European Consensus for Development.** Countdown 2030 Europe Partners met with representatives both in Brussels and at national level to ensure that strong commitments to family planning and sexual and reproductive health were clearly laid out in the document. Gender equality and a greater focus on youth empowerment, both critical to poverty reduction, have been strengthened throughout the document compared to the previous version from 2005.

[Click here to read more!](#)

## Rutgers Deliver 'Happy Boxes' to Dutch Parliament to Highlight Issues on Family Planning



Countdown 2030 Europe partner, [Rutgers](#), surprised members of the newly formed parliamentary committee on international trade and development cooperation with a 'Happy Box' at an event in the Dutch parliament. 'Happy Boxes' are typically given to expectant mothers and are usually filled with products and advice on maternal care. However, the twenty boxes delivered to parliamentarians were filled with information on topics pertaining to sexual and reproductive health and family planning. The event highlighted the broad support among civil society [Click here to more!](#)

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*Countdown 2030 Europe are advocates for universal access to reproductive health in the developing world, working in 12 European countries and with the EU institutions to ensure funding and policy commitments for family planning and reproductive health in Europe and around the world. Visit our [website](#) for up-to-date information about related policies in European countries and the EU, as well as data about their funding commitments. We are also part of [Joining Voices](#), a global advocacy project that aims to tackle the unmet need for family planning.*



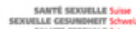
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