Why SAAF was created

Launched in 2006 in response to the urgent need for funding to improve women’s access to safe abortion

➢ A public health vision on abortion:
  Gareth Thomas, MP - asks IPPF to prepare a report on abortion: *Death and Denial*, launched in January 2006.

➢ A support to this vision:
  DFID commits £3 million to establish a fund to increase access to safe abortion services, and is joined by other donors (Denmark, Norway, Sweden and Switzerland), who pledge altogether $13.3 million
What is SAAF

- A global grant making mechanism dedicated and specific to abortion
- An efficient means of providing small grant support to local NGOs
- SAAF plays a complementary role within the health architecture
- A mechanism that demonstrates huge demand and readiness of groups
SAAF Key Principles of Operation

- Supports non-governmental organisations (NGOs), research/other institutions, national/regional coalitions/networks, alliances

- Supports projects which address the issue of promoting safe abortion and/or preventing unsafe abortion, through the entire spectrum of activities from service delivery to advocacy for policy change initiatives

- It is project-driven and gives preference to specific, in-country initiatives.

- The fund is progressively providing more support to its grantees through M&E visits and technical assistance.
Governance and management

- The SAAF Secretariat is hosted by IPPF and provides the administration and oversees the financial management.

- An independent multi-agency Board governs and oversees the work of SAAF
  - Composed of representatives of larger NGOs working in the field of abortion, donors and individuals with relevant experience.
  - Provides strategic direction and oversight of the fund

- The Technical Review Panel (TRP)
  - An independent team of experts appointed by the Board to guarantee the integrity and consistency of an open and transparent proposal review process.
SAAF activities

• Primarily a grant mechanism:
  - 2007: 50 projects with grants up to US$210,000 over a maximum period of two years
  - 2011: 35 projects with grants up to US$160,000 over a maximum period of three years

• But more and more support to grantees and networking:
  - TA remotely and in the field
  - Grantees regional meetings
  - Participation at conferences
  - Website
The SAAF grants

- Activities supported (non exhaustive)

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<th>Research</th>
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<td>- Research and documentation</td>
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- Level of funding

Currently a maximum of US$160,000 in total for an implementation over a maximum of three years.
Some figures from the first round

- More than 330,000 women received a safe abortion or a treatment for an incomplete abortion
- 5,500 service providers have been trained in MVA and/or medical abortion
- 7,500 people have received advocacy training
- 44 new abortion related services have been established
- More than 360,000 people have been reached with information messages about safe abortion.
A Few Case Studies

- Advocacy in **Uruguay**: *Mujer y Salud in Uruguay* (MYSU) led the campaign for the legalisation of abortion in Uruguay, central in bringing abortion into the election campaign in 2010.

- Creating support for providers in **Darfur**: PPFAI and their Sudanese partner Safe International supported the creation of a network of providers offering abortion and post-abortion care in Darfur.

- **ISSP** in **Burkina Faso** conducted, in collaboration with the Guttmacher Institute and INED, an extensive national study on the incidence of unsafe abortion (Published in Sept. 2011).
Learning and networking

- **SAAF grantees regional meetings**
  An opportunity to learn more about all the achievements, the national contexts and also to create a momentum for collaboration and support

- **SAAF website and protected forum**
  To advertise the fund and provide the grantees with a password protected virtual community

- **SAAF presence at conferences**
  - Women Deliver 2010, 2013
  - ICMA conference, Lisbon 2010
Keep an eye on the website for the next round of funding.

To be advertised end of 2012-early 2013