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Development and Implementation of
Referral Systems:
Experience from the *Uganda Child
Spacing Program*

**Flexible Fund & Advancing Partners Meeting:
Making CBFP Part of the Health System**
Tuesday, April 30, 2013

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Background



- Uganda Child Spacing Project (2006-2011)*
- Scaling up Community-based Distribution of DMPA (Depo) in Uganda (2012-2013)*

****Thank you Flexible Fund!***

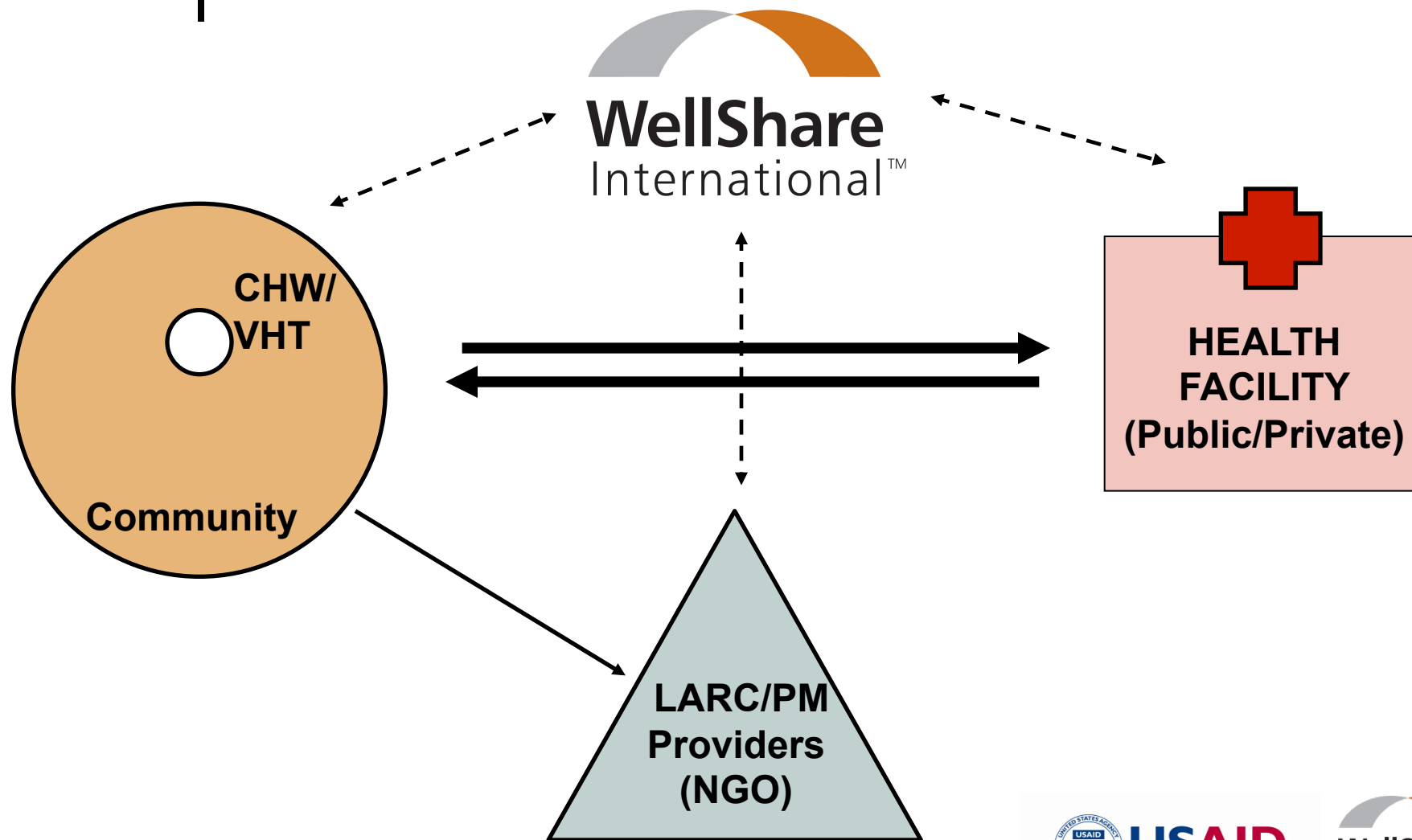


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Referral System



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Development

- Worked with District Health Team, health workers and CHW/VHTs to develop referral format
 - Revised over life of project
- Trained CHW/VHTs on referrals, follow-up, data collection
 - Involved health workers in CHW/VHT training –
RELATIONSHIP BUILDING
 - Included refresher training over life of project
- Built capacity of health workers in data collection and supervision including referrals



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Referral Form

PART ONE. Client referral form for Family Planning Community Health Workers (FPCHWs)

(To be retained by the health unit staff)

Date

Name of Health Unit Staff

Client Name

Village

Parish

Sub County

Reason(s) for Referral

1. Contraceptive method (please specify)

2. Side effects management (please specify)

3. Maternal health services (please specify)

4. STD management (please specify)

5. Other (please specify)

Signature

Tear as per the margin

.....

PART TWO: Client referral form FPCHWs**(To be completed by health unit staff and returned to the referring FPCHW)**

Date		
Client's Name:		
Has received services from this health unit as per the referral (Tick Appropriately)	Yes	
	No	
Name of Health Unit Staff		
Name of Health Facility/Center		
Service(s) provided		



Effectiveness

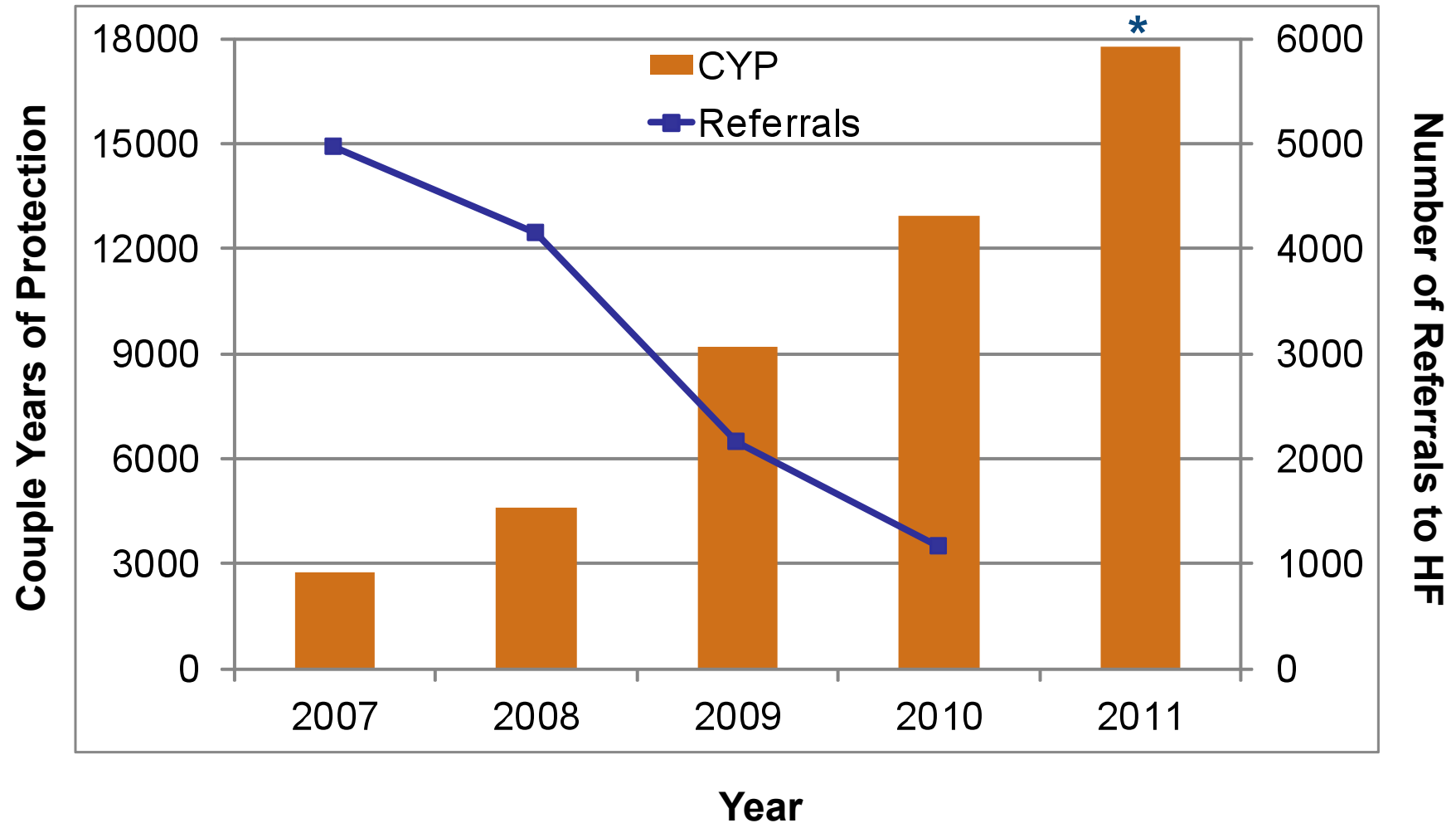
- Quarterly meetings with CHW/VHTs
 - Reviewed activity logs – # of referrals
 - Discuss referral outcomes during the quarter
- Problem solving with district-level Family Planning Implementation Teams
 - Feedback on resolution of issues via CHW/VHTs
- CYP data collection from health facilities
 - Incorporates community and private provider CYP



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**Uganda Child Spacing Program
Couple Years of Protection (2007-2011) and Number of CHW/VHT Client
Referrals to Health Facilities**



* Referral data not available for 2011

Data Sources: CYP from Sembabule and Mubende District HMIS; Referrals from CHW/VHT activity logs

Continuing Challenges



- Referrals not attended to due to staff attrition or lack of personnel at health facilities
 - Method choice limited due to lack of trained staff
- Client referral needs not met due to stock-outs
- Not sustainable (\$) or feasible to print community-level referral forms
- Some clients do not want to be seen with a referral form for FP



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Thank you!



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