Promoting quality and rights based family planning services

The WHO FP Accelerator project supports partners and ministries of health (MoH) to accelerate quality and rights-based family planning (FP) services within the broader frameworks of the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs), Universal Health Coverage (UHC) and the WHO 13th Global Programme of Work (GPW13). The project contributes specifically to the attainment of SDG targets 3.1, 3.7 and 5.6, and to the GPW13 goal of 1 billion more people covered by UHC. The WHO-FP Accelerator Project is coordinated by the Contraception and Fertility Care (CFC) Unit in the WHO Department of Sexual and Reproductive Health and Research (WHO/SRH) and implemented with WHO’s Regional and Country offices. The project is being implemented in 14 countries.

FP Accelerator project: Current activity and progress
Afghanistan

**Competency-based training on long-acting reversible contraceptives**

WHO co supported the Ministry of Public Health to conduct a national level FP competency-based training including long-acting reversible contraceptives (LARC) for 32 health providers (doctors and midwives) at the Rabia Balkhi Training centre in Kabul. The training was conducted for 5 days (22-26 January 2022) and included both theory and practical sessions.

Pakistan

**Pre-marital counselling tool**

‘Aghaaz’ a pre-marital counselling (PMC) tool was developed by the Ministry of National Health services regulations & coordination, WHO Pakistan and Forum for Safe Motherhood. It provides information on reproductive health and rights, including family planning. The PMC tool will be translated into local languages (Urdu and Sindhi) and piloted in 2022 followed by a midline assessment to address any gaps before disseminating it in all the provinces.

Myanmar

**Adolescent and Youth Friendly Health Services (AYFHS) Training for Basic Health care providers**

WCO Myanmar conducted a virtual training and orientation session on basic concepts of AYFHS and SRH needs of adolescents and youth, including contraception, using the AYFHS manual for basic health staff. 20 participants (1 doctor, 1 nurse, 8 outreach health workers, 6 mobile health workers and 4 health care volunteers) from the local CBOs in Sagaing region were trained from 26-27 February 2022, using a mix of methods (PowerPoint presentations, group exercises & discussions, case study, Q & A sessions).
India
Digitalization of MEC wheel
WCO India is supporting the digitalization of the India adapted MEC wheel and its availability in regional languages. A specific budgetary line for printing the adapted MEC wheel has been created by the Ministry of Health and family welfare (MoHFW) for the budget cycle 2022-2024.

Africa Region

Mali
Training of trainers on harmonized FP tools
In collaboration with the Directorate-General for Health and Public Hygiene and the General Department of Health and Reproduction, WCO Mali conducted a training of trainers on the harmonized family planning tools to develop a national pool of trainers. 38 participants (health providers, FP focal points, midwives) were trained in Koulikoro.

Guinea
Post-training follow-up on DMPA-s/c in 7 regions
WCO supported the MoH to conduct a post-training follow-up for health providers and community relays from the 7 administrative regions of the country (Kindia, Boké, Mamou, Labé, Kankan, Faranah and N’Zérékoré) trained to offer DMPA-s/c in 2020. The follow-up training was conducted for 363/431 (84%) health providers and 1686 /2210 (76%) community relays.

Niger
Scale-up plan of PPFP 2022-2026
Following the PPFP situational analysis, WCO Niger supported the MoH to design a PPFP scale-up plan (2022-2026), with an aim to increase the contraceptive prevalence rate from 45.9% to 60% in 2026, increase PPFP use from 60% to 75% in 2026 and to strengthen availability and use of long-acting reversible contraceptive methods.

Training school nurse providers on contraceptive technology
With the support of WCO Niger, the Directorate of Health and family planning, conducted training sessions in Dosso for 16 school nurse providers on contraceptive technology and comprehensive sex education from 18 to 23 November 2021.
South-South learning exchange

Nepal-Sri Lanka

Following the SSLE WCO Nepal supported the MoPH to develop a National PPFP advocacy tool for use by all levels (from policymakers to community health volunteers). The advocacy tool will be used at provincial level by providers to advocate for use of FP. After 6 months of the introduction of the e-LMIS, 85% of Regional Medical Supplies Departments (RMSDs) in Sri Lanka have adopted the digital modality and weaned off paper-based LMIS for reporting monthly stocks and requesting FP commodities. The next phase will focus on ensuring all RMSDs (100%) use the e-LMIS and scale up e-LMIS coverage to the divisional level.

### Sample of FP commodity request/return form

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Details of Items</th>
<th>Amount remaining at the beginning of the month</th>
<th>Amount received during the month</th>
<th>Amount used during the month</th>
<th>Amount remaining at the end of the month</th>
<th>Amount requested</th>
<th>Amount received</th>
<th>Reconciliation difference</th>
<th>Percentage of reconciliation differences</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Contraceptives</td>
<td>23462</td>
<td>20214</td>
<td>2107</td>
<td>20610</td>
<td>15500</td>
<td>15500</td>
<td>15500</td>
<td>15500</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Oral pills</td>
<td>9650</td>
<td>650</td>
<td>320</td>
<td>8670</td>
<td>14500</td>
<td>14700</td>
<td>14500</td>
<td>14500</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Injectable clients</td>
<td>7425</td>
<td>7126</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>4975</td>
<td>13425</td>
<td>13400</td>
<td>13400</td>
<td>13400</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>IUCD services</td>
<td>900</td>
<td>900</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>900</td>
<td>13500</td>
<td>13500</td>
<td>13500</td>
<td>13500</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sterilised implants</td>
<td>178</td>
<td>178</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>178</td>
<td>648</td>
<td>648</td>
<td>648</td>
<td>648</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total sterilised implants</td>
<td>270</td>
<td>270</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>270</td>
<td>1200</td>
<td>1200</td>
<td>1200</td>
<td>1200</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Nigeria-Uganda

The implementation guidelines and training manual on quality of care in FP were developed and validated in Nigeria, using the WHO QoC checklist and planning guide for QoC in health system. A landscape analysis of development partners implementing quality of care in family planning was conducted. WCO will support the implementation of the revised National FP training manual in FCT, Abuja and Kebbi for QoC in FP as part of the ongoing RMNCAH QoC implementation.

### Revised National FP training manual, Nigeria

Guinea- Cote d’Ivoire

The learning needs for Guinea is revised ‘to strengthen PP/PAFP services for youth, as well as data collection on the use of these services by the youth’.

Madagascar- Burkina Faso

A virtual meeting on SSLE was held between Madagascar and Burkina Faso on 7 March 2022, with the participation of representatives from WHO CO, RO and HQ. The learning objective for Madagascar is ‘how to strengthen implementation of self-injection of DMPA S/C’. The learning objective for Burkina Faso is ‘how to strengthen community family planning program’.
Two virtual meetings were held (20 January and 3 March 2022) to review the progress of the FP Accelerator project. The meetings were attended by staff from WHO country offices, WHO regional office of Africa and South-East Asia, as well as headquarters. Countries shared the progress of the work in 2021 and the next steps planned for 2022. Countries have submitted work plans for 2022-2023.

WHO HQ received a request from the Ministry of Public Health, Afghanistan, to assess the health of adolescents and youth in the country and review the outcomes of the Afghanistan National Reproductive, Maternal, New-born, Child and Adolescent Health strategy (2017-2021). MAMTA Health Institute for Mother & Child and CARE International, through CARE Afghanistan, were identified as the technical assistance (TA) partners. Phase 1 of the TA has been completed using a desk review, landscape analysis and two prioritisation exercises. Pregnancy prevention, pregnancy management and care, gender-based violence, mental health, substance use, and nutrition were identified as priority health problems among adolescents and youth. In order not to overwhelm the health system, which is currently facing many challenges, the many recommendations to improve young people’s SRHR were clustered around an ‘opportunities framework’. Discussions are ongoing with MOPH, WCO and UNFPA Afghanistan to agree on the focus for phase 2.

FP Accelerator project monthly meetings

Two virtual meetings were held (20 January and 3 March 2022) to review the progress of the FP Accelerator project. The meetings were attended by staff from WHO country offices, WHO regional office of Africa and South-East Asia, as well as headquarters. Countries shared the progress of the work in 2021 and the next steps planned for 2022. Countries have submitted work plans for 2022-2023.

Publication

WCO Pakistan led the documentation of leveraging the private sector in Pakistan to strengthen family planning services.

Meet the Team

Dr. Brigitte Nsiku Kini
National Programme Officer, RMNCAH
WHO Democratic Republic of Congo

I am a medical graduate with a post-graduation in Obstetrics and Gynecology and a master’s degree in Public Health. I have 21 years of experience in reproductive health, maternal & child health in both development and emergencies, capacity building of providers, development of plans, and resource mobilization. I am currently the RMNCAH focal point at the WHO country office in the DRC and am responsible for the coordination of partners involved in the implementation of the Multisectoral plan on RMNCAH+N to pool efforts and mobilize resources, both domestic and external. This will enable the country to achieve the objectives of the Global Strategy for Women’s, Children’s and Adolescents Health (2016-2030).

The FP Accelerator project has strengthened WHO’s involvement in family planning and strengthened the coordination of interventions and data management. It has helped us to prioritize FP at the country level. The project has most significantly contributed to the introduction of the PFFP counselling tool and MEC wheels in the training curriculum of midwifery students in the Higher Institutes of Medical Technology.

I envision the following long-term changes for family planning in DRC: integration of FP in the training curriculum of doctors, midwives and nurses, promotion of self-care, the establishment of sentinel sites for monitoring the effects and quality of FP and pair education for the provision and use of FP services for adolescents.

Dr. Fatoumata Idrissa Tessougue
National Programme Officer, Maternal, neonatal, child and adolescent health
WHO Mali

I am a medical graduate with a Master’s degree in public health and reproductive health programme management, with more than 27 years of professional experience in reproductive health programmes. I have been a UNFPA Medical Advisor in Reproductive Health to the Regional Directorate of Public Health in the Gao region as Head of Reproductive Health activities and Family Planning programmes and focal point for Nutrition and HIV/AIDS for 6 years. Currently, I am the National Programme Officer for Reproductive, Maternal, Neonatal, Child and Adolescent Health at the WHO country office, a position I have held since 2008.

The FP Accelerator project supports Mali and has contributed to the availability of harmonized training and monitoring documents for family planning activities; improving family planning indicators through the annual editions of the National FP Campaign; assessing the quality of family planning services, the results of which will make it possible to develop an action plan to improve the quality of family planning care.

Share your experiences!

We invite you to post experiences and lessons learned during implementation of the FP Accelerator project with us.

FAMILY PLANNING ACCELERATOR PROJECT

This newsletter is designed for those involved or interested in the FP-Accelerator project at WHO Headquarters, Regional and country offices. It features current and upcoming activities, accomplishments by the team and useful resources. We welcome submissions of project updates by any team member for inclusion in the next newsletter, scheduled for August 2022.

For more information, kindly contact:
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