WHO FP Accelerator Plus
Project Newsletter
Issue 4 | December 2023

FP Accelerator Plus
The WHO FP Accelerator Plus project builds upon past efforts by the Family Planning (FP) Umbrella (2015-2018) and Accelerator projects (2019-2022) to support partners and Ministries of Health (MoH) in implementing evidence-based, gender-responsive programmatic interventions and accelerating the scaling up and sustaining of WHO-recommended FP evidence-based practices. The project specifically contributes to the attainment of Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) targets 3.1, 3.7, and 5.6, as well as the WHO 13th Global Programme of Work goal of covering an additional 1 billion people under Universal Health Coverage (UHC). The WHO-FP Accelerator Plus Project is coordinated by the Contraception and Fertility Care (CFC) Unit in the WHO Department of Sexual and Reproductive Health and Research (WHO/SRH).

Geographic scope focuses on 14 countries:

**Eastern Mediterranean Region**
- Pakistan

**South-East Asia Region**
- India, Indonesia, Nepal, Timor-Leste

**African Region**
- Cote d’Ivoire, Ethiopia, Kenya, Madagascar, Niger, Nigeria, Senegal, Tanzania, Uganda
The WHO Regional Office for South East Asia convened a workshop to fortify family planning services. Participants delved into the updated Training Resource Package, WHO FP Accelerator Plus project, South-South learning exchange, bottleneck analysis, task sharing, demand generation and scaling up post pregnancy family planning.

Country News
South-South Learning Exchange (SSLE)

Nepal - Sri Lanka
The Family Health Bureau, Ministry of Health and WHO Sri Lanka hosted a Nepalese delegation to gain insights from community health facilities and hospitals, focusing on integration of FP with pre-conception care, adolescent health, maternal care and well-women programs. This guidance aims to strengthen Post-Pregnancy Family Planning (PPFP) using a life course approach in Nepal.

Madagascar - Burkina Faso
Following a study tour to Madagascar, Burkina Faso team crafted an action plan aligning with the Ministry of Health's vision to improve contraceptive accessibility. A pilot program introducing self-administered DMPA s/c injection at the community level is underway in two regions.

Office Orchestra

SEARO Regional Capacity Building Workshop on Family Planning
The WHO Regional Office for South East Asia convened a workshop to fortify family planning services. Participants delved into the updated Training Resource Package, WHO FP Accelerator Plus project, South-South learning exchange, bottleneck analysis, task sharing, demand generation and scaling up post pregnancy family planning.
WHO Consultation on Self-care Interventions

A global consultation in Geneva set the stage for developing implementation guidance on self-care interventions for health and well-being.

Interagency Joint Statement on Self-care Intervention Launch

At the World Health Summit in Berlin, a joint statement on self-care interventions for sexual and reproductive health and rights was launched. The statement calls for increased commitments and investments and identifies five critical areas where strategic action is needed—financing, health and care workforce, partnerships and accountability, regulation of quality and research. Versions are available in English, French, and Spanish.

Scoping Meeting: Leveraging Digital Channels for FP Information Access

WHO convened stakeholders to explore digital channels for promoting FP information access and services. The meeting, reviewing existing efforts, aims to develop a toolkit for integrating sexual and reproductive health content into digital tools.

Accelerating Access to Postpartum and Post-abortion Family Planning Workshop

In Kathmandu, FP 2030 hosted a workshop with 150 participants from 15 countries. Stakeholders, including policymakers, civil society organizations, and academia, discussed scaling up postpartum and post-abortion family planning. Donors pledged commitments to support the discussed initiatives.
**Bottleneck Analysis (BNA)**

Bottleneck Analysis (BNA) refers to a systematic approach to facilitate the identification of obstacles, gaps, and challenges, paving the way for collective problem-solving to scale up evidence-based family planning practices. Triangulating data from diverse sources, the BNA ensures a comprehensive understanding of the landscape. WHO has curated a standardized protocol to guide countries to conduct BNA in the realm of Post-pregnancy Family Planning (PPFP), task-sharing, and Social Behavior Change (SBC). Recently unveiled at the SEARO regional capacity building workshop on Family Planning (12-14 September) and the XXIV FIGO World Congress of Gyneacology and Obstetrics (9-12 October), the protocol is gaining traction. Collaborative efforts with countries like Pakistan, Nigeria, India, Nepal, Indonesia, Uganda, and Ethiopia are underway to implement the BNA protocol, with Pakistan already launching the initiative and commencing data collection in November.

**Purposeful Partnerships**

**XXIV FIGO World Congress of Gynecology and Obstetrics (9-12 September 2023)**

**Scientific Paper Writing Session**

Lessons learned from the Scientific Writing, Mentoring, and Coaching course organized at ICFP 2022 were presented at the FIGO World congress session on "How to Write a Scientific Paper and Get It Published". This aimed to enhance young professionals capacity for publishing scientific manuscripts.

**Health System Strengthening for PPFP Programs**

On October 12, WHO shared its experiences and lessons learnt in supporting PPFP programs through the FP Accelerator project. Insights on South-South learning exchanges and lessons from Nepal and Nigeria emphasized health system strengthening.

**Joining Forces:Family Planning Global Assembly**

Organized by FIGO’s Committee on Contraception, the Family Planning Global Assembly featured discussions on integrating contraception into pregnancy and post-pregnancy care. WHO presented on post-pregnancy family planning, adolescent health, and regional commitments.
Evolution of Adolescent and youth commitments from FP 2020 to FP 2030

The WHO AYSRHR TA Mechanism in collaboration with FP 2030, evaluated country commitments from FP2020 to FP2030 on adolescent’s access to and uptake of contraceptives, using a scoring tool. The analysis revealed overall improvements in policy, programmatic and financial components of the commitments.

Publications

This story provides insights into Madagascar team’s visit to Burkina Faso (South-South learning exchange) to learn on strategies for scaling up self-administered DMPA S/C injection.

The powerpoint presentation highlights the key updates in the 2022 Family Planning Global Handbook. It includes details on the handbook’s evolution over the years and job aids.

Digitalization of SRH Services
Panel Discussion

A WHO-led panel discussed the SMART Guidelines – Digital Adaptation Kits in antenatal care and family planning. This session showcased global efforts in digital family planning and facilitated knowledge exchange.
This systematic review focuses on effective strategies for scaling up demand generation. These strategies include interpersonal communication, mass media exposure and demand side financing. The successful implementation of these strategies is influenced by factors such as knowledge about FP methods, availability of modern methods and accessibility to services.

This review article highlights the collaboration between WHO and FIGO to develop a cascade training model, including regional training of trainer workshops and national cascade training workshops to share key WHO global FP tools and guidelines among OB/GYNs in 29 countries across three regions.