



# IBP Network Strategic Plan 2021 – 2025

## INTRODUCTION

For more than two decades, the IBP Network has worked to support the implementation and scale up of effective practices and global guidelines through its convening power and neutral platform for knowledge-sharing and collaboration. In that time, IBP has made significant contributions to bridge the gap between knowledge generated by the family planning community and the use of that knowledge to improve family planning and reproductive health outcomes.

The IBP Network is guided by its five-year strategic plan. Its last strategic plan was developed in 2016, outlining the network's plan up until the end of 2020. This document outlines IBP's strategy for the next five years: 2021 – 2025. It comes at a critical time; the world continues to face health, economic and environmental challenges that threaten sexual and reproductive health (SRH) gains of the past decade<sup>1</sup>. IBP must not only continue to pursue its mandate, but it must do so within this new reality. It must also do so in new, collaborative ways with other partners in support of [the World Health Organization's triple billion targets](#) and the [UN Sustainable Development Goal 3 and specifically target 3.7 and 5.6](#).

The strategy refresh was initiated by the IBP Secretariat with guidance from the IBP Steering Committee and support from the IBP Strategy Task Team, which was convened to provide an open and transparent process. The process involved all of IBP's members through an iterative process over several months. The IBP Secretariat also sought the support of an external consulting team with experience in global health and strategic planning. The consultant team conducted an assessment of member feedback from April through May 2020 by reviewing existing documents, surveys, and evaluations, and by conducting one-on-one discussions with almost two dozen past IBP Network Chairs, Steering Committee members, and key stakeholders. The assessment also included in-depth discussions with current members of the Network's Secretariat. Findings were presented to the IBP Steering Committee in June 2020 for feedback and are summarized in the *2020 IBP Strategy Refresh: Stakeholder and Member Assessment Findings and Recommendations Report*.

Overall, the assessment identified that members of the IBP Network continue to find great value in IBP and feel that its mission and vision have stood the test of time and continue to remain relevant. Members largely support the ongoing strategic and diversified expansion of its membership base and ongoing expansion into other topical areas in which there are synergies and natural connections to sexual and reproductive health. Member feedback from the assessment was incorporated into the development of this strategic plan.

A draft of the strategic plan was presented to the Steering Committee and to IBP Members in August 2020 for review, after which it was presented to the IBP Secretariat in September 2020. The plan was finalized in December 2020.

<sup>1</sup> <https://www.guttmacher.org/article/2020/07/covid-19-threatens-unravel-years-progress-reproductive-health-and-rights>

# Strategic Plan: 2021 – 2025

## MISSION STATEMENT

To support the dissemination and use of evidence-based guidelines and programmatic interventions in SRH through IBP’s convening power, diverse membership, and neutral platform for knowledge-sharing and collaboration.

## VISION STATEMENT

Global SRH guidelines and effective practices are disseminated and implemented to improve reproductive health outcomes around the world.

## STRATEGIC GOALS

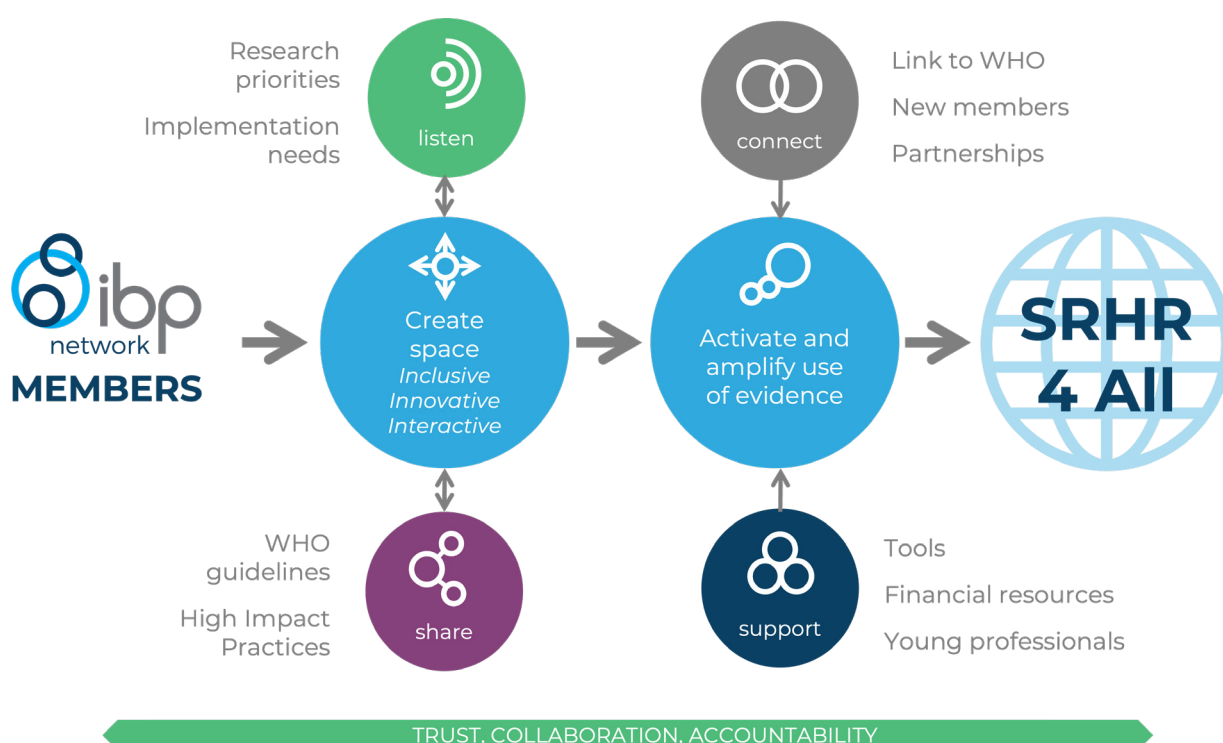
Over the next five years, IBP will strive to achieve the following goals and annually evaluate and communicate its progress with members.

**Goal 1:** Increase access to global guidelines, information and resources related to effective practices among country-level implementers through multiple knowledge-sharing channels

**Goal 2:** Support implementation and documentation of effective practices, guidelines and tools and to advance learning around implementation science

**Goal 3:** Facilitate collaboration among internal and external partners through the network’s convening power and coordination efforts

## THEORY OF CHANGE



## Defining Where IBP Makes a Difference



### KNOWLEDGE DISSEMINATION AND EXCHANGE

The dissemination of information, guidelines and evidence-based effective practices of implementation and tools. To this end, IBP engages global, regional and country-level IBP members, policy makers and implementers in active knowledge-sharing and exchanges. It does so through in-person and through virtual platforms, including its Online Community Engagement Platform.



### SUPPORTING IMPLEMENTATION

To shape global and national policy and practice, IBP supports the implementation of evidence-based guidelines/tools and effective practices. IBP plays a crucial role in making the linkages between global guidelines and local implementation and impact, through facilitating the sharing of effective practices across countries and regions. The tools, project documents, guidelines, research and implementation documentation that the IBP Network provides are useful methods of supporting country dissemination, adaptation and implementation.



### PARTNERSHIP

IBP relies on effective partnerships to achieve its mission. Collaborating across its membership, IBP leverages the influence of its membership base and capacities to promote effective practices and WHO guidelines. This kind of collaboration at regional and global level expands IBP's capacity to influence a wide range of countries and organizations globally.

## Mechanisms of Action: How IBP Will Achieve its Objectives

To achieve our objectives, IBP supports the following mechanisms of action, with examples of operational tactics included within each.

#### Knowledge Distribution and Sharing of Effective Practices

- Online Community Engagement Platform
  - Communities of Practice
  - Listserv
- Face-to-face and virtual meetings
- Interactive webinars on technical topics
- Engagement of representatives of multiple partner organizations and task teams to promote guidelines and effective practices

#### Country and Regional Engagement (program managers and service providers)

- Regional IBP workshops and field-based regional members meetings
- Participation in regional and national conferences

#### Documentation of Effective Practices and Implementation

- Emerging practices identified, assessed and documented
- Documentation of expanded use of effective practices at the country level
- Capacity building in the documentation of implementation practices and processes among members and regional entities

#### Diverse and Expanding Network of Members

- Enhance the enabling environment for diverse stakeholders to engage
- Provide tools and communications in multiple languages
- Provide engagement mechanisms in virtual, real-time settings
- Ongoing outreach to potential new members to expand diversification by geography, organizational size, perspective and technical expertise





### Neutral convener

- Uniquely positioned within the World Health Organization, IBP serves as a trusted, neutral convener offering members a credible space to access resources and share ideas and learnings
- IBP will leverage this neutrality to partner with a range of organizations and across SRH topics in line with partner priorities

### Collaboration with other Partners and Networks

Joint or coordinated activities with internal members and external global and regional groups and initiatives (e.g. HIPs, WHO, FP2020, Advance Family Planning, the East, Central and Southern African Health Community (ECSA), West African Health Organization (WAHO), the Ouagadougou Partnership) to advance implementation and scale-up of high-priority effective practices (external collaboration).

## The Way Forward

As IBP embarks on the next phase of its journey, this strategic plan reaffirms the relevance and strength of its mission: to ensure evidence-based sexual and reproductive health and rights (SRHR) practices reach those who need them most. In an increasingly complex and interconnected world, the IBP Network remains a critical platform, uniquely positioned to convene, catalyze, and connect a global community of researchers, practitioners, policymakers, and advocates. By embracing innovation, partnerships, and elevating the voices of country-level local partners, IBP will continue to bridge the gap between knowledge and action. This plan is not a roadmap and a call to collective purpose. **Together, as a diverse and growing network of not-for-profit, research, professional and civil society organizations, we have the power to transform knowledge into impact, support the implementation and scale up of what works, and advance family planning and reproductive health and rights for all.**



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