

Guttmacher Institute Commitment



Narrative:

The Guttmacher Institute pledges to help build the scientific infrastructure necessary to advance equitable, evidence-based family planning policies and programs worldwide, by carrying out timely research that is responsive to the express needs of in-country and global stakeholders. The Institute further commits to strategically disseminate evidence to key decision-makers and other stakeholders and to carry out evidence-based advocacy with the intention of bringing about reforms that expand access to family planning and related SRH services. In carrying out these activities, the Institute will collaborate with a wide range of partners—from local research institutions to UN agencies—to amplify the reach and impact of our work and support the aims of key allies across the globe. A theme cutting across Guttmacher’s contribution will be a focus on advancing equity and anti-colonialist praxis, as detailed below. Guttmacher commits to four contributions to advance the goals of the FP2030 partnership:

- (1) Generating timely and actionable FP evidence
- (2) Disseminating FP evidence strategically
- (3) Carrying out evidence-based advocacy to build supportive policy environments
- (4) Cultivating equitable partnerships that center in-country ownership

(1) Generating timely and actionable FP evidence

The Institute commits to producing evidence to help data-informed decision-making to advance the goals of FP2030. This includes research on the needs for FP services, with an emphasis on highlighting inequities, the specific needs of adolescents, and measures of autonomy and reproductive justice. We will generate new evidence on the impacts that can be achieved through FP at the country, regional and global level, including both the short-term health benefits and longer-term social and economic impacts. We will produce data on the cost-savings that results from FP investments, to support economic arguments for the inclusion of FP within UHC packages, and data on the investments needed to meet FP needs. Guttmacher will play a critical role in the global monitoring of indicators, producing country-level estimates of unintended pregnancy and abortion that can point to family planning needs. We also commit to playing a coordination role to support alignment in the use of country-level unintended pregnancy and abortion data across different organizations modeling the impacts of family planning. Guttmacher will also support the monitoring and measurement developments of FP2030 and its PME Working Group.

(2) Disseminating FP evidence strategically

Working with our partners, we will strategically disseminate new evidence to advance FP investments, programs and policies. We will distill complex research into dynamic easy-to-use resources and content accessible to non-technical and non-academic audiences; engage media to

help shape the narratives that inform public discourse; call out junk science and counter stigmatizing narratives; and utilize our social media platforms to amplify evidence from Guttmacher and our partners. In our communication efforts, we will elevate research that documents the needs of marginalized and excluded populations along with policy recommendations that seek to redress inequities.

(3) Carrying out evidence-based advocacy to build supportive policy environments

We will bring our expertise in evidence-based advocacy to bear to advance sound FP policies. We will advocate directly to key actors with the power to implement policy change or allocate resources (e.g., via regular briefings for bilateral donors). When working at the country and regional levels, we will largely play a supportive role, ensuring that our partners take the lead on policymaker engagement. Our staff will participate in relevant advocacy coalitions working to advance access to and funding for family planning, such as the International Family Planning Coalition in the U.S., as well as support advocates using evidence from Adding It Up, Just the Numbers and the Family Planning Investment Impact Calculator to make the case for increased funding for family planning. We will seek to influence relevant UN statements, processes, and agreements and craft policy analyses that explicate the implications and applications of evidence and lay out targeted policy recommendations. Across these efforts, we will promote individual rights and needs by situating FP within the comprehensive package of SRHR as defined by the Guttmacher-Lancet Commission.

(4) Cultivating equitable partnerships that center in-country ownership and are aligned with the decolonizing global health agenda

Finally, we commit to centering equitable partnerships. This commitment emerges from an understanding that our work would not be possible without the expertise of our partners. As a U.S.-based organization that does not maintain regional or country offices, we have long relied on partnerships to understand research needs, carry out culturally sensitive work, and ensure that our research makes an impact. We will ensure that our FP-focused work is informed by the express needs of stakeholders, including creating opportunities for partners to surface research ideas that speak to current opportunities and needs and ensuring that communication of research and policy recommendations is designed and conducted in collaboration with partners. Where there is demand, we will work to build and strengthen the capacity of local institutions and actors to carry out research, communications, and advocacy on FP, including by providing targeted trainings and hands-on technical assistance.

Outcomes:

- Produce at least two new rounds of global, regional, sub-regional and country-level estimates of unintended pregnancy and abortion, including new estimates for adolescents.
- Generate new in-depth country evidence on the incidence of unintended pregnancy and abortion in at least five countries.
- Publish at least two updates of our Adding It Up estimates of family planning needs, costs and impacts at the global, regional, sub-regional, and country levels.
- Publish annual updates of our Just the Numbers analysis on the impact of the U.S. government's investment in international FP and the benefits of increased funding.
- Expand our estimating of family planning needs, costs and impacts by producing sub-national estimates in at least 2 FP2030 countries.
- Engage in formal partnerships with at least 20 organizations at the country, regional and global levels