

# Population Reference Bureau Commitment



## Narrative:

PRB is committed to a future in which every woman and girl can make an informed decision about whether and when to use contraceptives and receive quality care when seeking and accessing services. Yet we recognize that millions of women and girls around the world can't consistently access quality care throughout their lives, and many fail to find a modern method that suits their needs. Persistent barriers to reproductive health are particularly pronounced for women and girls who face discrimination and disadvantage based on age, poverty, marital status, disability, race, ethnicity, sexuality, or gender identity.

These barriers continue in part because, despite growing commitments to family planning (FP) from many governments, FP policies are not always fully evidence-based, FP funds are not always spent in the most efficient, high impact ways, and many of the commitments made are not actualized in ways that lead to meaningful change. Evidence-informed, supportive policy environments, strong policy implementation and accountability, and efficient implementation of FP best practices and programming are critical to make equitable, high-quality care for women and girls a reality. PRB commits to four main contributions to advance the goals of the FP2030 partnership, leading efforts in FP and reproductive, maternal, newborn, and child health (RMNCH):

- 1) Policy and technical analysis
- 2) Understanding and use of research and data
- 3) Policy advocacy and strategic communication
- 4) Learning and knowledge management

These four mutually reinforcing strategies will advance sound FP policymaking, ensure strong implementation of those policies, and promote effective programming. Working with partner organizations, local governments, media, and other stakeholders, PRB commits to supporting development of evidence-informed policies that respond to local priorities, are fully implemented with equitable and transparent results, and supported by effective programming.

Policy and technical analysis. PRB will conduct and support analysis that includes both PRB-led, original analysis and analysis conducted by partners with technical guidance and oversight from PRB experts. We commit to conduct at least 10 original policy and technical analyses that will deepen understanding of FP data, including national, subnational, and regional variations and trends, and shed light on complex FP topics such as the dynamics of contraceptive use, comparability of FP policy environments, and/or the interactions between fertility and development outcomes such as educational attainment and labor productivity. Further PRB will also contribute technical expertise, oversight, and financial support through at least 5 mutually beneficial partnerships that support research and analysis conducted by universities and research institutions in lower- and middle-income countries – supporting local researchers and leaders to inform measurement approaches and promote use of data within their communities.

Understanding and use of research and data. PRB will promote use of FP data, information, and analysis for different purposes and audiences – from ensuring that members of the media know how to identify reputable FP data sources to assessing implementation of existing FP policies. This work will be accomplished in coordination with and in complement to the efforts of international FP data partners, national health information systems, and other data producers. To advance the goals of the FP2030 partnership, PRB commits to working directly with at least 500 data users with customized support to strengthen skills to use data and research appropriately, create visualizations to compellingly communicate data, and reach policy and program decisionmakers through different communications channels. PRB will also work with partners to further strengthen the knowledge and skills of researchers and data producers to tailor their research and analysis to focus on questions facing decisionmakers and implementers, so their data and research is more likely to be used.

Policy advocacy and strategic communication. PRB commits to providing tailored, flexible support to partners undertaking FP policy advocacy initiatives and raising the visibility of critical issues through effective strategic communications. We view our national and subnational civil society partners as experts on the FP policy environments within which they work and commit to equitable, transparent, and mutually beneficial partnerships to advance locally defined FP goals and priorities. Through these initiatives, we will connect and galvanize FP policy communities, build bridges between sectors, and expand the rosters of multisectoral FP champions –directly contributing to at least 200 changes in political priorities, strategies, or policies by 2030 that strengthen the enabling environment for equitable access to high-quality FP for women and girls globally. Our efforts will inspire decisionmakers to strengthen financial commitment and domestic resource mobilization for FP/RMNCH in the national and subnational geographies within which we work.

Learning and knowledge management. PRB commits to organize, adapt, and share information to help increase FP program efficiency and effectiveness, improve decision-making, and promote learning and creativity within our community. Specifically, we will curate and organize resources; create and manage platforms for regular sharing of experiences and emerging knowledge; convene communities of practice and other learning communities; and produce syntheses and other topical summaries. PRB commits to producing at least 10 FP learning and knowledge management resources such as compendiums of best practice case studies, learning platforms to share country or subnational applications and approaches that may be replicable, or syntheses and evidence summaries.

## **Outcomes:**

Our commitment will directly contribute to at least 200 changes in political priorities, strategies, or policies that strengthen the enabling environment for equitable access to high-quality FP for women and girls globally. Our efforts will inspire decisionmakers to strengthen financial commitment to and domestic resource mobilization for FP/RMNCH in the national and subnational geographies within which we work.