

ACCELERATING QUALITY FAMILY PLANNING SERVICES

WHO-FP ACCELERATOR PROJECT NEWSLETTER

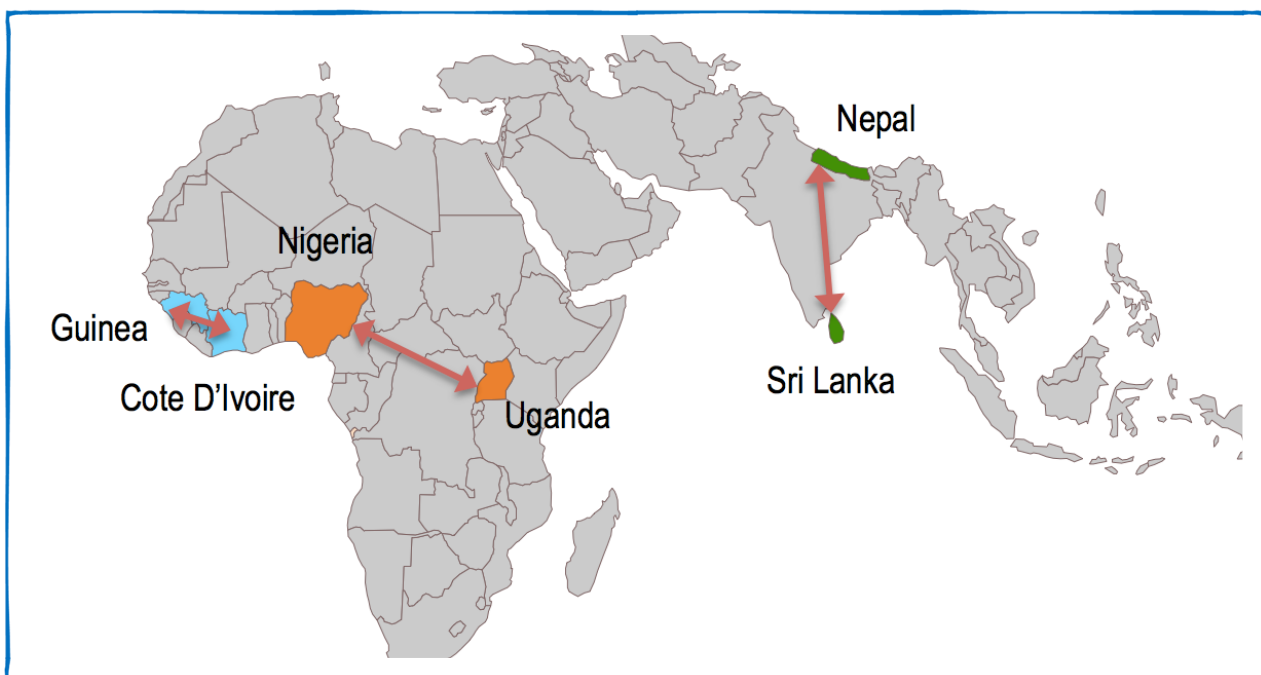
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WHO FAMILY PLANNING ACCELERATOR PROJECT

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 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.

Implementation of the FP Accelerator Project is in progress in the 14 countries. Activities were adapted due to COVID-19 pandemic. Under the FP Accelerator project, South-South learning exchange (SSLE) progressed between six countries to share experiences and best practices to accelerate the implementation of evidence-based interventions, such as task sharing, integration of family planning within other health care services, and improving quality of care for family planning services.

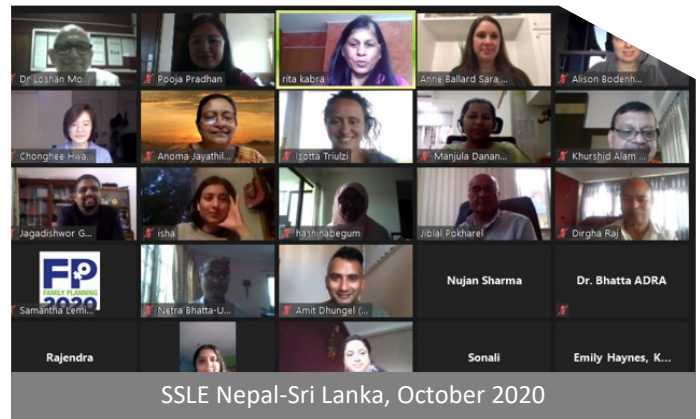


Six countries engaged in South-South learning exchange

COUNTRY NEWS

South-South Learning Exchange (SSLE)

After Action Reviews were conducted with countries to understand the value of the South-South learning exchange and to identify areas of improvement. Participants from MoH and WHO HQ, regional and country representatives and several stakeholders (Jhpiego, USAID, UNFPA, FP2030) shared their challenges, successes, lessons learned and what can be improved throughout the process. Early engagement of various stakeholders, endorsement of the process by the national technical working group, and the availability of standard operating procedures are crucial to facilitate the process.



Webinar on SSLE to improve access to FP services

Ministries of health, partners and the three levels of WHO from 6 countries discussed experiences and lessons learned in conducting South-South learning exchange to accelerate FP services, during an online webinar held on 26 April 2021.

This virtual event brought together 280 participants from 72 countries, including representatives from MoH, FP 2030, Path Finder, JHPIEGO, USAID, UNFPA, FHI 360, IBP Network, WHO CO, RO and HQ, academia and other civil society organizations. Key speakers were the Ministers of Health from Uganda, Sri Lanka, Nepal, Guinea, Côte d'Ivoire and technical staff from WHO Nigeria, Regional office and HQ.

"Some challenges can be overcome by adaptation of best practices from other countries."

Dr Loshan (MoH Sri Lanka) explains the value of SSLE during the webinar



"SSLE continued as virtual meetings due to COVID-19 challenges. Although participants preferred face to face meetings, an advantage was that more stakeholders could participate in the discussion, especially representatives from the provincial government. Having the provincial government in these exchange meetings is beneficial as they are the main implementers and they need to participate in these cross-country conversations."



Ms. Kabita Aryal

Community Nursing Administrator, Chief, Family planning and RH section, Family welfare division, Department of Health, Teku, Kathmandu, Nepal

AFRICAN REGION

• Madagascar

Guidance on quality of care in family planning

WHO supported the Ministry of Health to develop an implementation guide to improve quality of care of FP services. The guide is under review and will be used to train regional and district managers.



FP Committee meeting, Madagascar
February 2020

• Mali

Quality of care in contraceptive information and services, based on human rights standards: A checklist for health care providers

Qualité des soins dans la fourniture des informations et des services de contraception fondée sur les normes relatives aux droits de l'homme :
Liste de contrôle pour les prestataires de soins de santé

WHO Quality Assessment Tool (French version)

Assessment of the quality of FP services

The Ministry of Health requested WHO to assess the quality of FP services in Mali in 12 health facilities (2 health districts per region and 2 CSCom per district) in 3 regions (Sikasso, Koulikoro and Segou), using the WHO quality assessment tool. The results will help develop an improvement plan for quality of FP services.



Focus group discussion to understand women's perspective on PPFP, Dosso, Niger, April 2021

• Niger

Situational analysis on PPFP

A situational analysis on PPFP services in Niger was conducted in collaboration with USAID and UHC. It will be completed in May 2021. Following this, WHO would support implementation of key interventions to strengthen PPFP services in the country.

• Tanzania

Revision of midwifery pre-service curriculum

The Zanzibar Nurses and Midwives Council (ZNMC) reviewed and updated the midwifery pre-service curriculum, based on the latest WHO FP guidelines.

The content includes:

- Introduction to FP;
- Providing FP services according to guidelines and protocols;
- Promotion of male participation in FP;
- Provision of quality SRH services to adolescent and youth;
- Integration of FP with HIV and AIDS services.



Review of midwifery pre-service curriculum
Zanzibar, Tanzania, August 2020

Revision of FP/HIV training tools

WHO supported the Ministry of Health, Tanzania, to update the FP/HIV integrated training materials to include new evidence-based information published by WHO.

COUNTRY NEWS

EASTERN MEDITERRANEAN REGION

• Afghanistan

Scaling up of PFPF/PAFP corners

The PFPF/PAFP corners established in Kabul and Herat are monitored quarterly since February 2020 for performance. Preliminary results show an improvement in uptake of both immediate postpartum and post-abortion IUDs (487 to 616) and implants (28 to 137). 85% of health care providers demonstrate the knowledge and skills on provision of PFPF/PAFP services. 80-90% of performance of health providers meet the standards outlined in the FP QI checklist.

In Bamyan province, the United Nations Population Fund (UNFPA) joined hands with WHO to scale up PFPF/PAFP corners in 20 health facilities.

Post Partum Family Planning and Post Abortion Family Planning Monitoring Tool Updated version Oct, 2020		
Province		
District		
Organization		
Name and title of Observer		
Health facility type: HSC, BHC, CHC, DH, Regional and Tertiary Hospital		
Date of assessment		
Please make sure this contraceptive methods, equipment and material are available in delivery and procedure room?	Yes	No
Availability of post abortion family planning (PAFP) services?		
Availability of PFPF services?		
Availability of FP IEC materials?		

PFPF/PAFP monitoring tool, Afghanistan

• Pakistan



Assessment of QoC in FP, Shaikh Zaid Women Hospital, Pakistan, Sept. 2020

Quality of care in family planning assessment

The assessment of quality of care (QoC) in family planning was completed at 8 identified health facilities. The key challenges observed were the shortage of regular supplies and equipment, poor data management and shortage of trained staff.

SOUTH-EAST ASIA REGION

• Myanmar

MEC wheel distribution and cascade trainings

Cascade trainings on the use of MEC and MEC wheels were conducted at 5 medical universities (1-Yangon, 2- Yangon, Mandalay, Magway, Taunggyi) and the Defense Services Medical Academy, for staff ranging from 1st year OBGYN postgraduate students up to the professors and heads of OBGYN units, in January 2021. Two batches of virtual trainings for GP network in the Yangon region were organized.

MEC wheels (English version) were distributed to the Department of Public Health (Maternal and Reproductive Health Division) and OBGYNs from both public and private sectors in Yangon region.



Adapted MEC Wheel in Myanmar

• Nepal

Training on PPIUD

FIGO and WHO organized a refresher training on PPIUD insertion for members of the Nepal Society of Obstetricians and Gynecologists (NESOG).



Refresher training for NESOG Nepal, 12 Dec. 2020

COUNTRY NEWS

• Timor Leste

Standardized FP training

Using the harmonized national family planning training tool, a national training workshop was held for midwives and medical doctors from identified community health centers and health posts in Viqueque municipality in November 2020. A follow-up training, planned in March 2021, was postponed due to the second wave of COVID-19.



Country office training health providers at Viqueque Municipality, Timor Leste, 16-28 Nov. 2020

Meet the Team



Dr. Qudsia Uzma
NPO, Maternal, Newborn, Child and Adolescent Health
WHO CO, Pakistan

I am a medical graduate with a postgraduate degree in public health and project management. I have more than 18 years of professional experience with public health programmes and have been affiliated with the federal government and an international NGO. Currently, I manage the Reproductive, Maternal, Newborn, Child and Adolescent Health programme, in close coordination with the Government counterparts and development partners.

During my professional tenure, I have significantly contributed to designing and implementing large-scale public health programmes and rejuvenated the organization's profile in reproductive health and family planning, by establishing close collaborations with academia, professional associations (SOGP & MAP) and civil society organizations in the country. I provide technical assistance to the Ministry in standardization of training packages on family planning for both in-service and pre-service capacity building, and updating national guidelines based on latest evidence.

I believe that the FP Accelerator project will contribute meaningfully towards keeping family planning a priority agenda in the country through sustained advocacy with government and communities.

Dr. Paata Chikvaidze
Programme Manager, Reproductive, Maternal, Newborn, Child and Adolescent Health
WHO CO, Afghanistan

I hold an MD in surgery and a PhD in Obstetrics & Gynecology from Tbilisi State Medical University, as well as an MPH degree in Health Policy, Administration and Behavior Change Communication from the State University of New York. I have 14 years of medical practice in reproductive endocrinology, infertility surgery and family planning. During 1992-1999, I taught contraceptive technology and family planning in 12 countries in Eastern Europe and Central Asia. I have 20 years of experience in planning and administering public health and health promotion programmes both in development and humanitarian settings.

I joined WHO Eastern Mediterranean Regional Office in 2007 as a Medical Officer, Reproductive Health and Research. For the past 8 years, I have led the RMNCAH programme at the WHO country office in Afghanistan. During 2016-2018, I was a member of WHO team at the Technical Advisory Group for FP HIPs, hosted by USAID HQ.

The FP Accelerator project supported formation of postpartum and post-abortion family planning (PP/PA FP) corners in 25 health facilities, making immediate PP/PA FP services readily available through trained service providers. By the end of the project, we hope to demonstrate that institutionalization of well-functioning "FP corners" in the health facilities may notably improve the PP/PA FP service quality and uptake of long-term reversible contraceptives.

**Afghanistan
FP Accelerator
team**



From left to right:
Dr Adela Mubasher,
Dr Sidrah Rashidi,
Ms Tamana Nazar and
Dr Paata Chikvaidze (Team leader)

UPDATES FROM REGIONAL OFFICES AND HQ

» Delivery for Impact

The WHO Department of Delivery for Impact (DFI) discussed with colleagues on how to focus on impact and achieve the country/ UHC goals, Triple Billion targets.

The team provided guidance on how to link the country strategies and plans to the desired outcome, as well as how to identify specific indicators to monitor the outcomes and report on them.



Dr Parvel Ursu, Director, DFI, explains the principles of Delivery for Impact, 26 April 2021

» Report on Global Strategy for Women's, Children's and Adolescents' Health (2016-2030)

WHO finalized the report on the Global strategy for Women's, Children's and Adolescents' Health (2016-2030) for the 74th World Health Assembly*.

It addresses the progress and stagnation, as well as the programmatic response in the area of women's, children's and adolescents' health. The report highlights the role of the WHO FP Accelerator project in supporting 14 countries to accelerate access to quality and rights-based family planning services, using WHO evidence-based guidelines. It summarizes the adaptations countries have made to mitigate the indirect effects of COVID 19 and ensure continuation of FP services during the COVID-19 pandemic.

https://apps.who.int/gb/ebwha/pdf_files/WHA74/A74_14-en.pdf

**The World Health Assembly (WHA) is the decision-making body of WHO and its main functions are to determine the policies for the Organization, appoint the Director-General, supervise financial policies and review and approve the proposed programme budget.*

» Adolescent-Responsive Contraceptive Services: Institutionalizing adolescent-responsive elements to expand access and choice

WHO, SRH/HRP contributed to the update of this brief.

<https://www.fphighimpactpractices.org/briefs/adolescent-responsive-contraceptive-services/>



Family planning: an online evidence-based course

WHO and Geneva Foundation for Medical Education and Research are jointly conducting a Family planning: an online evidence-based course, from 14 June to 11 July 2021.

The course will cover frameworks of FP, contraceptive methods, use of FP guidelines and tools, principles of FP counseling, COVID-19 and FP telemedicine.

The deadline for application is 31 May 2021.



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

FAMILY PLANNING >>> ACCELERATOR PROJECT

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The content of this publication does not necessarily represent the views, decisions or policies of the World Health Organization. Responsibility for the information and views expressed in the publication lies entirely with the authors.

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 2021.

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