

WHO FP Accelerator Plus

Project Newsletter
Issue 2 | May 2023

Scaling up evidence-based family planning practices

WHO participants from HQ, Regional offices (AFRO, PAHO, SEARO, EMRO) and country offices (DRC, Guinea, Madagascar, Mali, Myanmar, Nepal, Nigeria, Niger, Pakistan, Sri Lanka, Timor-Leste) and partners (BMGF, USAID, UNFPA, Expand Net, FP 2030 and JHPIEGO) met in Geneva, 13-17 February, 2023 to review the available evidence and develop plan and strategies for scaling up evidence-based FP practices, to support universal access to SRH and attainment of Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) targets 3.1, 3.7 and 5.6. Discussion focussed on developing knowledge products, supporting member states and partners in implementation and scaling up post-pregnancy family planning, social behaviour change communication, task sharing among community health workers, self-care interventions for SRHR, emerging contraception, and technical assistance coordination mechanism (TAC) for AYSRH programmes under the [WHO FP Accelerator Plus project](#).



Dr Pascale Allotey, Director, WHO SRH /HRP, highlighted the importance of coordination within WHO and with partners to accelerate the scale- up of evidence-based practices in family planning.



Participants discussed the work plan and Results Framework and Results Tracker of WHO FP Accelerator Plus, 13-14 February 2023, WHO Headquarters



Evidence from systematic reviews to scale up PPFPP, task sharing/expansion and SBCC for FP was reviewed on 15-16 February 2023



WHO staff from all three levels discussed and identified approaches to support scaling up evidence-based family planning practices on 17 February 2023

COUNTRY NEWS

South-East Asia Region

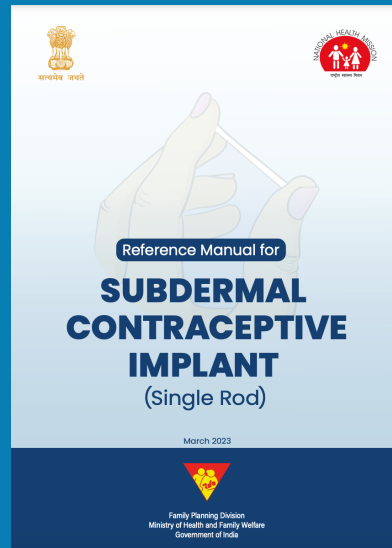
Indian Insights

National Guidelines on Subdermal Contraceptive Implant

Ms. Roli Singh, Additional Secretary & Mission Director (NHM), MoHFW inaugurated the 'National Dissemination Workshop for Subdermal Contraceptive Implant' (single rod) and presented the Reference Manual developed in collaboration with WHO.

The first group of trainers (gynaecologists and rural doctors) were trained on single rod subdermal contraceptive implant in Delhi (21-22 March 2023). These trainers will disseminate the training at the sub-national level.

ASHA FP counselling booklet has been updated and published with regard to the new methods (single rod subdermal contraceptive implants, the non-hormonal pill Centchroman and the hormonal contraceptive injection Medroxyprogesterone acetate).



National Guidelines on Subdermal contraceptive implants (single rod)

Implant card with information that the women receives.

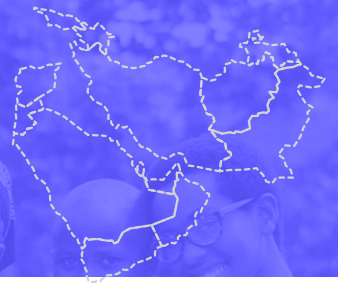
Launch of Family planning Self-care kits



Dr Roderico H. Ofrin, WHO Representative in India and Dr S.K. Sikdar, Advisor RCH, Ministry of Health and Family Welfare, Government of India at the release of the self-care kits during the G20 workshop, Goa, India

The self-care kits developed with the support of the WHO team were presented at the stand of the Ministry of Health's FP department at the G20 workshop in India. The kits contain pregnancy tests, condoms and emergency contraception pills. They are labelled with the QR code and contain information on family planning, contraception and counselling as per the WHO guidelines on self-care interventions for health and well-being.

Eastern Mediterranean Region



Moroccan Marvel

Scaling up contraceptive access in Morocco

To expand contraceptive options in **Morocco**, the WHO guide on **self-care interventions** for health and well-being was adapted and integrated into the national SRH strategy. A pilot project on the introduction of the self-administered injectable contraceptive was recently completed, involving a quadrilateral partnership between WHO; the Organisation Panafricaine de lutte contre le sida (OPALS); the Family Planning Department of the Ministry of Health and Social Protection; and UNFPA.

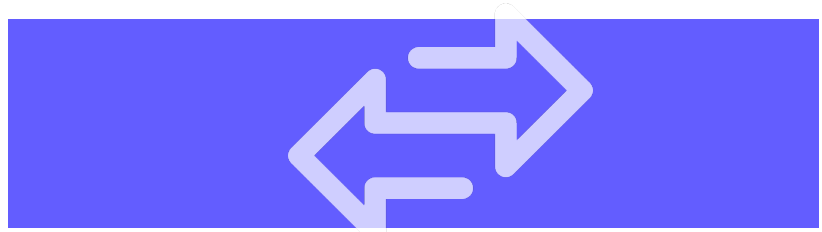
Experiences with the introduction of self-care interventions were shared on World Contraception Day 2022. Discussions are currently underway to scale up self-administered injectable contraceptives in Morocco.



Introduction of self-administered injectable contraceptives during a training session in Morocco

South-South Learning Exchange (SSLE)

Madagascar- Burkina Faso



The Madagascar team, consisting of representatives from the Departments of Safe Motherhood and Family Planning, the JSI Access Collaborative and WHO, met the Burkina Faso national and district-level officials to share ideas/experiences on advocacy, governance, training, monitoring and scale-up of self administered DMPA SC in Madagascar. The team visited districts and health centres to hear from district managers, health care provider, communities and clients about their experiences.



Midwife at the MCH health centre of Naghrin, Boulimiougou explaining the use of self-injection, using a condom model, to the Director of Family Health and the Madagascar team.



WHO, MoH, partners from Madagascar meet with colleagues in Burkina Faso for SSLE, 18-20 April 2023

Purposeful Partnerships

ExpandNet

ExpandNet is celebrating its 20th anniversary as an informal global network of public health and development professionals working to advance the science and practice of scaling up.

In February 2023, members of the ExpandNet Secretariat attended the FP Accelerator Plus meetings in WHO HQ, Geneva, to identify areas for future collaboration to strengthen scaling up capacity between WHO headquarters, regional and country office staff, government stakeholders and other implementing partners. Last month, staff from WHO attended the first meeting of the new ExpandNet Global Advisory Council that was established to guide the work in the coming years.



ExpandNet & WHO's guidance tools to support planning and implementing scale-up processes

Office Orchestra

Family Planning and Comprehensive Abortion Care Toolkit for Primary health care workforce

WHO released volumes 1 and 2 of the FP and CAC toolkit for the primary healthcare workforce. This guide is designed for programme and curriculum developers who are preparing or revising formal education and training programmes and curricula for the FP and CAC workforce. This toolkit is available in [English](#), [Spanish](#) and [French](#).



Volume 1 focuses on competencies for the primary healthcare workforce & volume 2 focuses on programme and curriculum development

Implementation of WHO SMART guidelines-Digital Adaptation Kits (DAK) in Zambia



MOH Directorates from SRH/Family Health, ICT and M&E, WHO updated the FP DAK with national reporting tools - 21-24 April.

WHO / HRP supported the Ministry of Health of Zambia in strengthening its national electronic health record system (SmartCare Plus) and digitising HMIS. Following the November 2022 meeting to adapt and validate the content of DAK, a four-day workshop was held in Kabwe to align FP DAK with the national FP reporting tools (HIA2 forms and registers). This meeting was conducted by the MoH SRH/Family Health, ICT and M&E Directorates to jointly standardise the content of the digital system. The DAK will be adapted and rolled out countrywide. The SMART guidance approach will be used to update the national HMIS tools, such as the FP card.

Family Planning Global Handbook for Providers 2022

Following the launch of the *handbook WHO FP* at the International Conference on Family Planning on 15 November 2022 in Pattaya, Thailand, WHO and the IBP Network hosted a *webinar* for all family planning providers, partners, donors and users of the handbook on 29 March 2023. The updated manual includes two new chapters: FP for women at high risk of HIV and provision of FP services during an epidemic.



What's New in This Edition?

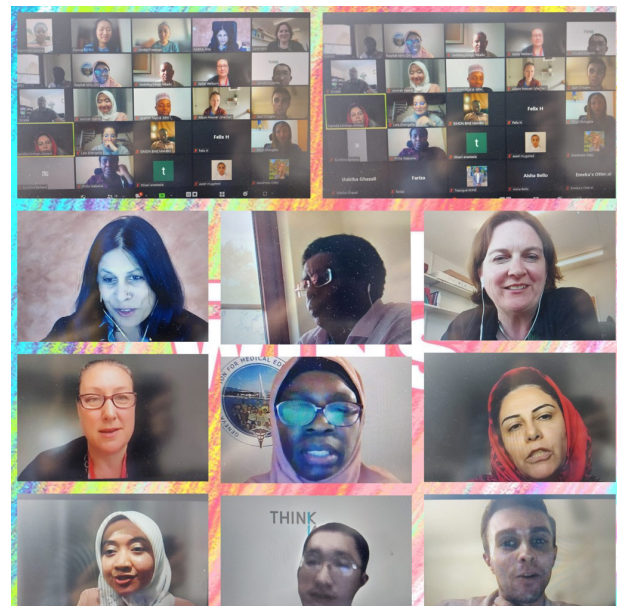
- New family planning recommendations from WHO**
 - Women and girls at high risk of HIV can use all hormonal contraceptive methods
 - Self-injection is an additional approach to offer clients who use DMPA-SC
- New chapters in this edition**
 - Family Planning for Women at High Risk of HIV (Chapter 23)
 - Providing Family Planning Services During an Epidemic (Chapter 27)
- New coverage in this edition**
 - Gender Equality and Gender Inclusiveness (pp. xv–xvii)
 - Self-Injection Can Be an Option (in Chapter 4, p. 83–86)
 - STI Signs and Symptoms (in Chapter 22, p. 343)
 - Screening and Treatment (in the section on Cervical Cancer in Chapter 22, pp. 351–354)
- Expanded or updated coverage**
 - Instructions on implant insertion and removal (in Chapter 9, pp. 142–148, pp. 157–160)
 - Family Planning in Postabortion Care (in Chapter 25, pp. 383–387)
 - Medical Eligibility Criteria for Contraceptive Use (Appendix D)

Global FP handbook for providers- 2022

WHO ICFP Scientific writing, mentoring and coaching workshop

Following the *Scientific Writing, Mentoring and Coaching course* held at the International Conference on Family Planning in Pattaya, Thailand, 14-17 November 2022, WHO, in collaboration with the *Geneva Foundation for Medical Education and Research*, is offering participants 6 months of coaching (21 November - 20 May 2023) to improve their skills and confidence in writing a high-quality scientific manuscript.

Two webinars were held on *2 February* and *13 April 2023* with trainers, coaches, organisers and participants. Participants found the course useful. 4 of the 43 participants completed their manuscripts and submitted them for publication. The participants gave suggestions on motivation and organisational support for young authors, the usefulness of webinars in networking, and criteria for selecting participants in future workshops to facilitate completion of the course by the students and prevent fallouts.



Trainees and coaches sharing their experiences during a Webinar on 13 April 2023

Our Prized Products - Publications

Commentary

BMJ Global Health Fulfilment of fertility desires for the attainment of Global Sustainable Development Goals

Gitau Mburu, Asantesana Kamuyongo, Nancy Kidula, Rita Kabra, Nandita Thatte, James Kiarie, Pascale Alolley

To cite: Mburu G, Kamuyongo A, Kidula N, et al. Fulfilment of fertility desires for the attainment of Global Sustainable Development Goals. *BMJ Global Health* 2023;8:e007222. doi:10.1136/bmjgh-2022-012222

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The release of the first global infertility estimates in over a decade by the WHO¹ is a notable achievement in global health. The global community has made significant gains in improving human health, through a sustained effort to address modifiable causes of mortality and morbidity² and the promotion of sexual and reproductive health and rights (SRHR) for all.³ As countries move to achieve universal health coverage (UHC) and Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs), SRHR efforts remain crucial given their link

care (interventions aimed at prevention, diagnosis and treatment of infertility), aid in the fulfilment of fertility desires, while mitigating negative health outcomes such as high-risk pregnancies, unplanned births, unsafe abortions and involuntary childlessness. Contraception is a life-saving intervention with health, social (empowerment, education) and economic benefits.^{4,5} Likewise, infertility has negative social, mental health and economic impacts,^{6,7} and if left unaddressed, interferes with the right to found a family.

Open access

Protocol

BMJ Open Scoping review protocol to map evidence on South-South learning exchange in family planning

Komal Preet Allagh, James Kiarie, Isotta Triulzi, Rita Kabra

To cite: Allagh KP, Kiarie J, Triulzi I, et al. Scoping review protocol to map evidence on South-South learning exchange in family planning. *BMJ Open* 2023;17:e001685. doi:10.1136/bmjopen-2022-001685

Prepublication history and additional supplemental material for this paper are available online. To view these files, please visit the journal online (<http://dx.doi.org/10.1136/bmjopen-2022-001685>).

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ABSTRACT

Introduction South-South learning exchange (SSLE) is an interactive learning process where stakeholder teams exchange knowledge and experience to help one, or both to work towards change, by identifying, adopting and/or strengthening implementation of a best practice. SSLE has been conducted between countries to share knowledge on best practices and policies in family planning. To the best of our knowledge, no scoping review has been conducted to synthesise evidence on SSLE in family planning. In this paper, we outline the protocol to conduct scoping review on SSLE in family planning.

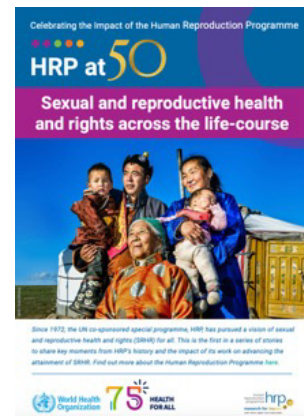
Methods and analysis Arksey and O'Malley's scoping review framework with additions from Levac et al will be used to guide this scoping review. We will search electronic databases (Medline, Embase, CINAHL, Hinari,

STRENGTHS AND LIMITATIONS OF THIS STUDY

- This will be the first scoping review to identify effective approaches, barriers, facilitators to conduct South-South Learning exchange in family planning.
- Stakeholders will be consulted and engaged throughout the review process.
- A comprehensive search strategy is developed with the consultation of a chief librarian to promote a sensitive search.
- The quality of the included studies will not be assessed.

or local administrative units. The SSLE can offer value to both teams by supporting bidi-

The Human Reproduction Programme is celebrating its 50th birthday. The story shares key moments from HRP's history and its work on advancing the attainment of SRHR. HRP at 50: Sexual and reproductive health and rights across the life-course. March 2023



Health Topics Countries Newsroom Emergencies Data About WHO

Home / Newsroom / Feature stories / Story / In Nigeria, self-administered contraception is helping women to access their sexual and reproductive health rights



In Nigeria, self-administered contraception is helping women to access their sexual and reproductive health rights. They can use it in any setting, whether they live in an IDP camp, urban area, remote community or anywhere else. The injection provides three months of contraceptive cover, which is also a game changer for many women who want or need long-lasting protection.



COMING SOON

- 20-25 May 2023- SSLE (Study tour) between Burkina Faso and Madagascar
- 30-31 May 2023- Partners meeting on AYSRH TAC mechanism, WHO Headquarters
- 11-14 June 2023- 33rd International Confederation of Midwives Triennial Congress, Bali, Indonesia

Share your experiences!



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

WHO FAMILY PLANNING ACCELERATOR PLUS PROJECT

Department of Sexual and Reproductive Health and Research, World Health Organization, 20 Avenue Appia, 1211 Geneva 27
[www.who.int/teams/sexual-and-reproductive-health-and-research-\(srh\)/overview](http://www.who.int/teams/sexual-and-reproductive-health-and-research-(srh)/overview)

DISCLAIMER

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 WHO FP-Accelerator Plus 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 2023.

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