



WHO FP Accelerator Plus

Project Newsletter
Issue 4 | December 2023

FP Accelerator Plus

The WHO [FP Accelerator Plus project](#) builds upon past efforts by the Family Planning (FP) Umbrella (2015-2018) and Accelerator projects (2019-2022) to support partners and Ministries of Health (MoH) in implementing evidence-based, gender-responsive programmatic interventions and accelerating the scaling up and sustaining of WHO-recommended FP evidence-based practices. The project specifically contributes to the attainment of Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) targets 3.1, 3.7, and 5.6, as well as the WHO 13th Global Programme of Work goal of covering an additional 1 billion people under Universal Health Coverage (UHC). The WHO-FP Accelerator Plus Project is coordinated by the Contraception and Fertility Care (CFC) Unit in the WHO Department of Sexual and Reproductive Health and Research (WHO/SRH).

Geographic scope focuses on 14 countries:

Eastern Mediterranean Region

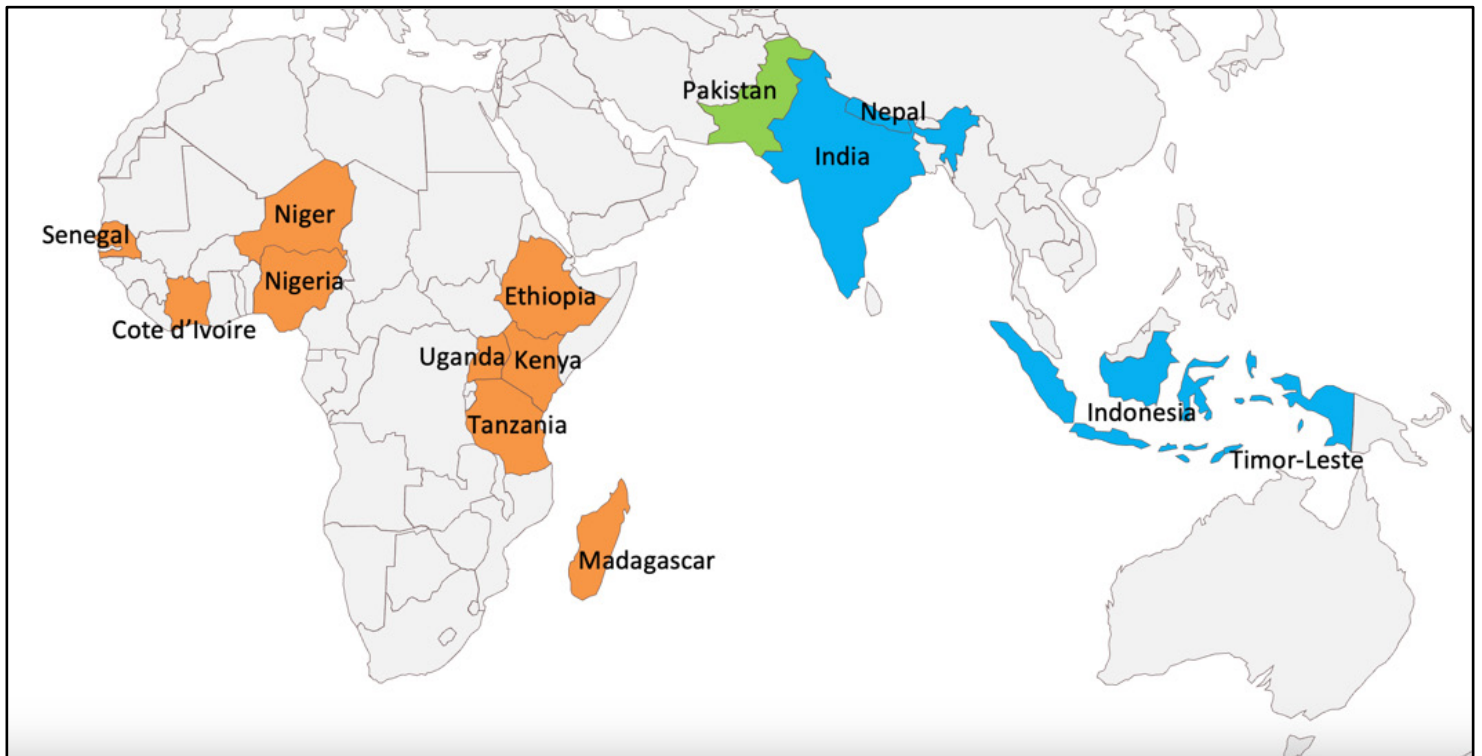
Pakistan

South-East Asia Region

India, Indonesia, Nepal, Timor-Leste

African Region

Cote d'Ivoire, Ethiopia, Kenya, Madagascar, Niger, Nigeria, Senegal, Tanzania, Uganda



Country News

South-South Learning Exchange (SSLE)



Nepal - Sri Lanka

The Family Health Bureau, Ministry of Health and WHO Sri Lanka hosted a Nepalese delegation to gain insights from community health facilities and hospitals, focusing on integration of FP with pre-conception care, adolescent health, maternal care and well-women programs. This guidance aims to strengthen Post-Pregnancy Family Planning (PPFP) using a life course approach in Nepal.



MoH, provincial, and district-level program managers, as well as service providers from Nepal, visited colleagues in Sri Lanka, 20-24 November 2023.

Madagascar - Burkina Faso

Following a study tour to Madagascar, Burkina Faso team crafted an action plan aligning with the Ministry of Health's vision to improve contraceptive accessibility. A pilot program introducing self-administered DMPA s/c injection at the community level is underway in two regions.



Follow-up meeting with Burkina Faso Ministry of Health, UNFPA CO, and WHO CO on 16 October 2023.

Office Orchestra

SEARO Regional Capacity Building Workshop on Family Planning

The WHO Regional Office for South East Asia convened a workshop to fortify family planning services. Participants delved into the updated Training Resource Package, WHO FP Accelerator Plus project, South-South learning exchange, bottleneck analysis, task sharing, demand generation and scaling up post pregnancy family planning.



Regional Capacity Building Workshop on Family Planning in Kathmandu, Nepal, 12-14 September 2023.

WHO Consultation on Self-care Interventions

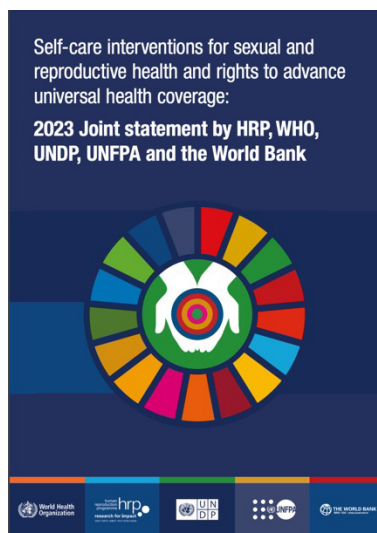
A global consultation in Geneva set the stage for developing implementation guidance on self-care interventions for health and well-being.



Participants in the WHO Consultation on Self-Care Interventions for Health and Well-being in Geneva, 18-20 September 2023. Credit: WHO/A. Tardy.

Interagency Joint Statement on Self-care Intervention Launch

At the World Health Summit in Berlin, a joint statement on [self-care interventions for sexual and reproductive health and rights](#) was launched. The statement calls for increased commitments and investments and identifies five critical areas where strategic action is needed—financing, health and care workforce, partnerships and accountability, regulation of quality and research. Versions are available in English, [French](#), and [Spanish](#).



Dr. Pascale Allotey, Director of WHO SRH/HRP, and Dr. Manjula Narasimhan at the launch of the Interagency Joint Statement on Self-Care Intervention. Credit: WHO/C. Massoneau.

Scoping Meeting: Leveraging Digital Channels for FP Information Access

WHO convened stakeholders to explore digital channels for promoting FP information access and services. The meeting, reviewing existing efforts, aims to develop a toolkit for integrating sexual and reproductive health content into digital tools.



Dr. Tedros Adhanom Ghebreyesus, WHO Director-General, with participants of the scoping meeting in Geneva 19-20 October 2023.

Accelerating Access to Postpartum and Post-abortion Family Planning Workshop

In Kathmandu, FP 2030 hosted a workshop with 150 participants from 15 countries. Stakeholders, including policymakers, civil society organizations, and academia, discussed scaling up postpartum and post-abortion family planning. Donors pledged commitments to support the discussed initiatives.



Representatives from 15 countries (Bangladesh, Ethiopia, Ghana, Indonesia, India, Kenya, Malawi, Nepal, Nigeria, Pakistan, Philippines, Rwanda, Tanzania, Sierra Leone, and Zambia) at the Accelerating Access to PPF and PAFP Workshop in Kathmandu, Nepal, 31 October to 3 November 2023.

Bottleneck Analysis (BNA)

Bottle Neck Analysis (BNA) refers to a systematic approach to facilitate the identification of obstacles, gaps, and challenges, paving the way for collective problem-solving to scale up evidence-based family planning practices. Triangulating data from diverse sources, the BNA ensures a comprehensive understanding of the landscape. WHO has curated a standardized protocol to guide countries to conduct BNA in the realm of Post-pregnancy Family Planning (PPFP), task-sharing, and Social Behavior Change (SBC). Recently unveiled at the SEARO regional capacity building workshop on Family Planning (12-14 September) and the XXIV FIGO World Congress of Gynaecology and Obstetrics (9-12 October), the protocol is gaining traction. Collaborative efforts with countries like Pakistan, Nigeria, India, Nepal, Indonesia, Uganda, and Ethiopia are underway to implement the BNA protocol, with Pakistan already launching the initiative and commencing data collection in November.

Step 1: Preparation

- Problem definition & methods refinement
- Tool Adaptation

Step 2: Data collection

- Desk review on:
 - Policy & guidance alignment assessment
 - National Data
 - Case studies
- Key informant interviews

Step 3: Consensus workshop

- Presentation of desk review & KII findings
- Review & ranking of local bottlenecks
- Identification of potential solutions



A meeting was held between WCO Pakistan, national consultants, WHO HQ, and WHO-EMRO to discuss BNA on 7 November 2023.

Purposeful Partnerships

XXIV FIGO World Congress of Gynecology and Obstetrics (9-12 September 2023)

Scientific Paper Writing Session

Lessons learned from the Scientific Writing, Mentoring, and Coaching course organized at ICFP 2022 were presented at the FIGO World congress session on *“How to Write a Scientific Paper and Get It Published”*. This aimed to enhance young professionals capacity for publishing scientific manuscripts.



Prof. Jane Hirst shared experiences and lessons learned in supporting junior scientists to publish on 10 October 2023.

Health System Strengthening for PPFP Programs

On October 12, WHO shared its experiences and lessons learnt in supporting PPFP programs through the FP Accelerator project. Insights on South-South learning exchanges and lessons from Nepal and Nigeria emphasized health system strengthening.

Joining Forces: Family Planning Global Assembly

Organized by FIGO's Committee on Contraception, the *Family Planning Global Assembly* featured discussions on integrating contraception into pregnancy and post-pregnancy care. WHO presented on post-pregnancy family planning, adolescent health, and regional commitments.



The panelists Dr. Rita Kabra, Dr. Samukeliso Dube, and Dr. James Kiarie (from left to right) on 10 October 2023.

Digitalization of SRH Services Panel Discussion

A WHO-led panel discussed the SMART Guidelines – Digital Adaptation Kits in antenatal care and family planning. This session showcased global efforts in digital family planning and facilitated knowledge exchange.



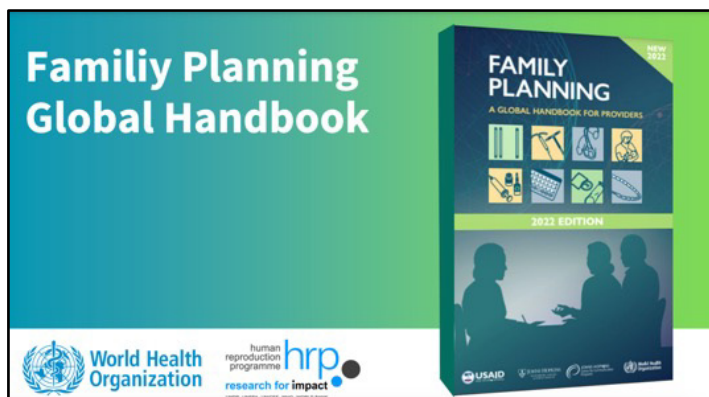
Panelists at the session on the digitalization of SRH services through WHO SMART guidelines - Digital Adaptation Kits on 9 October 2023.

Evolution of Adolescent and youth commitments from FP 2020 to FP 2030

The WHO AYSRHR TA Mechanism in collaboration with FP 2030, evaluated country commitments from FP2020 to FP2030 on adolescent's access to and uptake of contraceptives, using a scoring tool. The analysis revealed overall improvements in policy, programmatic and financial components of the commitments.

Publications

This [story](#) provides insights into Madagascar team's visit to Burkina Faso (South-South learning exchange) to learn on strategies for scaling up self-administered DMPA S/C injection.



The [powerpoint presentation](#) highlights the key updates in the 2022 Family Planning Global Handbook. It includes details on the handbook's evolution over the years and job aids.

This **systematic review** focuses on effective strategies for scaling up demand generation. These strategies include interpersonal communication, mass media exposure and demand side financing. The successful implementation of these strategies is influenced by factors such as knowledge about FP methods, availability of modern methods and accessibility to services.

RESEARCH **Open Access**

Implementation strategies, facilitators, and barriers to scaling up and sustaining demand generation in family planning, a mixed-methods systematic review

Ashraf Nabhan¹, Rita Kabra², Alyaa Ashraf³, Fatma Elghamry³, James Kiarie² and Family Planning Research Collaborators³

Abstract

Background Demand generation aims to increase clients' desire to use family planning. The aim of this work was to systematically summarize strategies, facilitators, and barriers to scaling up and sustaining demand generation in family planning.

Methods We searched electronic bibliographic databases from inception to October 2022. We included quantitative, qualitative, and mixed methods reports on demand generation strategies in family planning, regardless of country, language, publication status, or methodological limitations. We assessed abstracts, titles and full-text papers according to the inclusion criteria, extracted data, and assessed methodological quality of included reports. We used the convergent integrated approach and a deductive thematic synthesis to summarize demand generation themes

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REVIEW ARTICLE
Gynecology

The impact of cascade training—A FIGO and WHO Department of Sexual and Reproductive Health and Research collaboration to improve access to quality family planning globally

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Abstract
Globally, there are considerable barriers to accessing safe and effective contraceptive methods. Increased awareness and utilization among obstetricians and gynecologists (OB/GYNs) and allied health professionals of the WHO's tools and guidelines on contraception is a possible avenue to changing this. A cascade-training model, based on regional training-of-trainer workshops followed by national workshops, was used

This **review article**, highlights the collaboration between WHO and FIGO to develop a cascade training model, including regional training of trainer workshops and national cascade training workshops to share key WHO global FP tools and guidelines among OB/GYNs in 29 countries across three regions.



Thank You

WHO FAMILY PLANNING ACCELERATOR PLUS PROJECT

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[https://www.who.int/teams/sexual-and-reproductive-health-and-research-\(srh\)/overview](https://www.who.int/teams/sexual-and-reproductive-health-and-research-(srh)/overview)

Share your experiences!



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

We welcome submissions of updates by any team member for inclusion in the next newsletter, scheduled for March 2024.

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.

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