

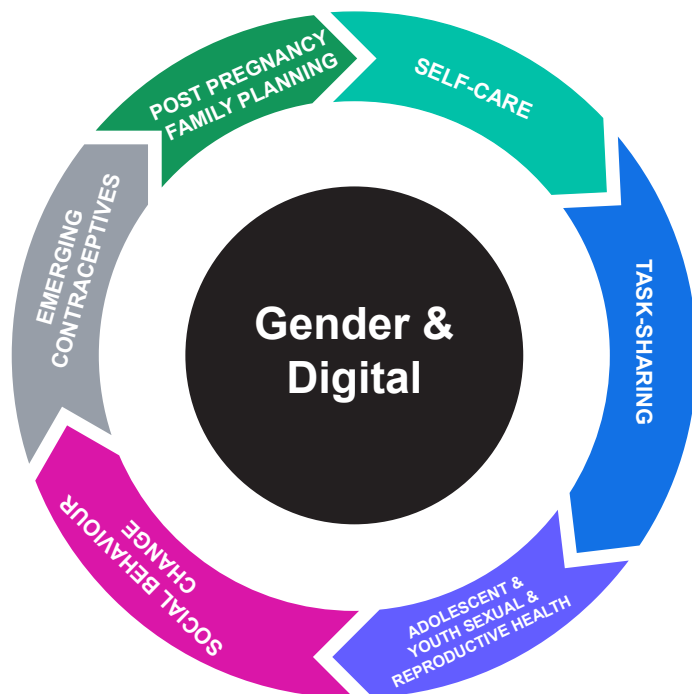


WHO FP Accelerator Plus

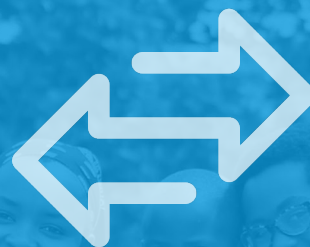
Project Newsletter
Issue 7 | December 2024

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 accelerating the scaling up and sustaining of WHO-recommended gender responsive 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).

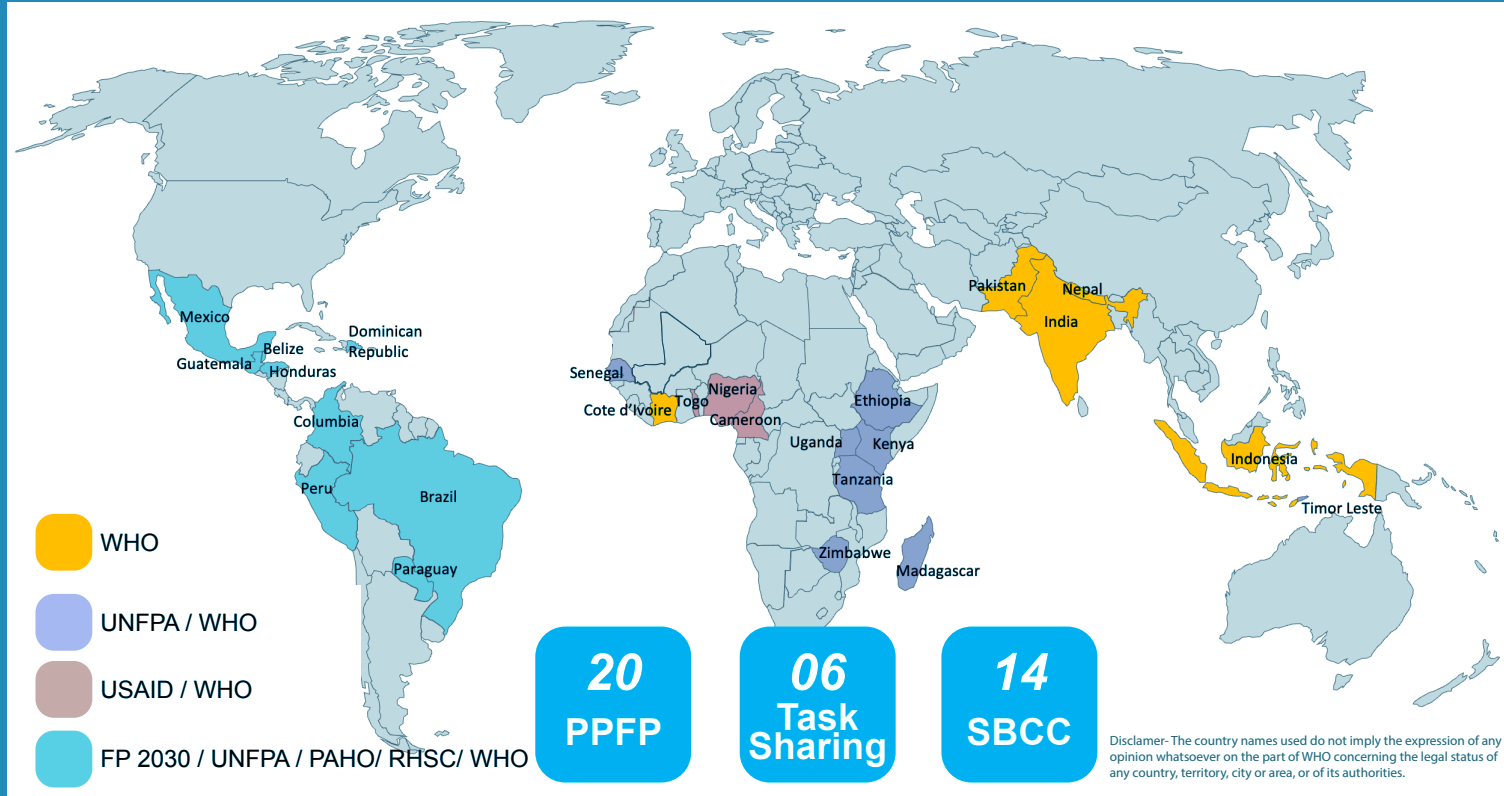


Country News



Bottleneck analysis (BNA)

25 countries across four regions have embarked on BNA using a [standardized protocol](#) to assist countries to develop National plans for scaling up evidence-based family planning practices in accordance with country context and consensus.



Countries implementing the bottleneck analysis

Eastern Mediterranean Region

Pakistan

The Ministry of National Health Services, Regulation, and Coordination, in collaboration with the WHO country office, hosted a two-day workshop to validate the BNA findings. Over 55 participants from four provinces and federal areas attended, reviewed the findings, prioritized bottlenecks in postpregnancy family planning, task sharing, and social behavior change (SBC) and proposed solutions for sustainable scale-up. The workshop ended with a shared commitment to strengthen Pakistan's family planning program, with plans to disseminate BNA findings and implement proposed solutions.



Stakeholders participating in the consensus-building workshop held in Islamabad, Pakistan, August 7-8, 2024

African Region

Ethiopia

WHO and UNFPA conducted BNA to identify strategies for scaling up postpregnancy FP, SBC and task sharing in Ethiopia. The data collection involved 69 key informant interviews, a policy review, case study analysis and a DHIS-2 data review. A consensus-building workshop was held to prioritize bottlenecks and propose solutions. Following the dissemination of the BNA findings, MoH with support from WHO and partners will develop a scale-up strategy based on proposed solutions.



Stakeholders prioritizing key bottlenecks at the BNA consensus-building workshop, Ethiopia, August 12 to 17, 2024

South-East Asia Region

Nepal

Following the completion of the BNA, a consensus-building workshop brought together 50 stakeholders, including policymakers, program managers, service providers, FP experts, civil society, professional and partner organizations. Facilitated by the Family Welfare Division, Ministry of Health and Population and WHO country office, participants prioritized key bottlenecks and proposed solutions for scaling up postpregnancy family planning and SBC for FP during the workshop. MoH with WHO and partners is developing a strategic scale up plan and raising funds through program planning and budgeting.



Experts at the BNA consensus-building workshop held in Kathmandu, Nepal, August 9-10, 2024

Office Orchestra

Supporting Resource for Social Behaviour Change in contraceptive programmes

A technical working group meeting gathered insights on an evidence-based resource designed to promote, implement and scale up social and behaviour change within contraceptive programmes for national policymakers and programme managers. Over 20 participants attended, including technical working group members and WHO representatives from country, regional and headquarters offices. A consensus was reached on key recommendations and the next steps.



Technical working group meeting to review a resource on social behaviour change within contraceptive programmes, Geneva, Switzerland, August 20-21, 2024

Guidance document on Task sharing in Family Planning Programs and Services

A technical expert group meeting reviewed the evidence on factors influencing the successful scale-up of task-sharing, focusing on external influences, policy attributes, and health systems drivers. As an outcome, the guidance document is being developed and set for completion by the end of 2024. Following its development, WHO, in collaboration with Ministries of Health, plans to implement this guidance across countries.



Technical expert group meeting on the guidance document for task sharing in FP programs and services, Geneva, Switzerland, September 23-24, 2024

Co-Designing Workshop on Scaling-Up Postpregnancy Family Planning

A two-day workshop held in Geneva brought over 25 experts, including members of the steering committee and representatives from UNFPA, USAID, FP 2030, the Scaling community of practice, ExpandNet, Jhpiego WHO regional office and headquarters. Participants collaborated to review and refine the guidance document for scaling up postpregnancy family planning and achieved consensus on a near-final draft. Following the workshop, the document will be revised based on the input received and then sent for external peer review.



Steering committee and experts gather to review strategies for scaling up postpregnancy family planning, Geneva, Switzerland, September 25-26, 2024

Webinar on Bottleneck Analysis for Scaling-up Family Planning Evidence-Based Practices

In collaboration with the IBP network, a webinar was hosted on October 3rd, featuring BNA findings from five countries—Cameroon, Ethiopia, Nepal, Pakistan, and Togo. Each country team presented the key challenges identified, proposed solutions, and the next steps to address these issues in scaling up family planning services. The event was attended by more than 135 participants, including representatives from ministries of health, implementing partners, civil society organizations and global stakeholders in reproductive health.



Panellists share country findings from the Bottleneck analysis during the webinar on October 3, 2024

Purposeful Partnerships

ExpandNet - Scaling-up workshop series

ExpandNet hosted a series of workshops to strengthen the capacity of WHO Accelerator Plus project staff and consultants in applying scientific scale-up principles for the systematic scale-up of evidence-based practices across member states. The series included three virtual learning exchanges held on July 30, July 31 and August 13 and were attended by 20 participants from WHO country offices, regional offices and headquarters. Each 1.5 to 2-hour session provided a deep dive into the science of scale-up and its practical applications.



West Africa Breakthrough ACTION (WABA) - BNA in Cameroon and Togo

The WABA program adapted the WHO BNA protocol to conduct a social and behaviour change-focused BNA in Cameroon and Togo, integrating a capacity assessment with key informant interviews to identify bottlenecks and opportunities for capacity-sharing among stakeholders. In Cameroon, 17 KIIs and a secondary analysis of DHS data was completed, followed by a consensus-building workshop in Kribi. The workshop brought together representatives from UNFPA, the Ministry of Health, private radio stations, traditional leaders and the Association des sage-femmes. As a result, SBC components are being incorporated into Cameroon's National Strategic Plan for 2024-2030.



Stakeholders identify potential solutions for prioritized bottlenecks, Kribi, Cameroon, May 29-31, 2024

CATEGORIE	RANG/SCORE	GOÛTS DÉTACHÉS
MEDICAMENTS TECHNOLOGIE, PRESTATION DE SOIN		COMPÉTENCE
RESSOURCES HUMAINES		FORMATION ET PÉDAGOGIE
RESSOURCES HUMAINES		CAPACITÉ
RESSOURCES HUMAINES		MOTIVATION
PRESTATION DE SERVICES	8	SYSTÈME DE RÉFÉRENCE
PRESTATION DE SERVICES	7	FOURNITURES
PRESTATION DE SERVICES	6	FRAIS
PRESTATION DE SERVICES	5	SURVEILLANCE
PRESTATION DE SERVICES	4	GESTION

Prioritizing bottlenecks at the BNA consensus-building workshop, Kpalimé, Togo, June 4-6, 2024

In Togo, 29 KIIs and a secondary DHS data analysis were conducted, culminating in a consensus-building workshop in Kpalimé. Participants included representatives from the Ministry of Health, Togolese Association for Family Well-Being (ATBEF), Forces en Action pour le Mieux-être de la Mère et de l'Enfant (ONG FAMME,) Handicap International, Expand PF and community health workers. To foster ongoing SBC capacity building, a WhatsApp group was created to connect the Ministry of Health, CSOs/NGOs, partners and graduating social science students.

Publications

Content available at: <https://www.ipinnovative.com/open-access-journals>

The Journal of Community Health Management

Journal homepage: <https://www.jchm.in/>

Original Research Article

Knowledge, perception and practices adapted during COVID-19: A qualitative study in a district in Maharashtra, India

Bhavya M K¹, Ranjan Kumar Prusty¹, Deepti Tandon¹, Rita Kabra², Komal Preet Allagh², Shabana Khan¹, Beena Nitin Joshi^{1*}

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This [research article](#) presents insights from a qualitative study on community perceptions and practices to prevent COVID-19 transmission in a district in Maharashtra, India. Conducted as a part of a broader WHO multi-country study, the findings reveal that the community had basic knowledge of COVID-19 and followed government-recommended preventive measures while also relying on traditional practices. Social media and community health workers were identified as key sources of information.

International Journal of GYNECOLOGY & OBSTETRICS

EDITORIAL | Free Access

Strengthening the family planning component of maternal health care: A new call to action to seize the opportunity provided by universal health coverage and primary healthcare frameworks

Vandana Tripathi, Saumya RamaRao, Rita Kabra, Laura Raney, Anna Temba, Jane Wickstrom, Aparna Sridhar

The [editorial](#) emphasizes the critical need to integrate family planning services within maternal healthcare to enhance the reach and effectiveness of reproductive health initiatives. It argues that universal health coverage (UHC) and primary health care (PHC) frameworks offer a unique opportunity to prioritize family planning as an essential element of maternal health. By enhancing FP services through UHC and PHC, the editorial advocates for a comprehensive approach to ensure access, ultimately leading to improved health outcomes, better resource allocation and greater sustainability of maternal health programs.

The [article](#) examines the AYSRH component within FP2020 and FP2030 country commitments, using a scoring guideline to assess completeness, clarity and quality. Findings indicate that FP2030 commitments provide more comprehensive strategies and activities to deliver contraceptive information and services to adolescents and youth (AY) compared to FP2020. However, gaps remain, particularly in areas such as dedicated budgets for AY family planning, measurable targets, addressing root causes impacting AY family planning, and reducing financial barriers.



FP2020 and FP2030 Country Commitments: A Mixed Method Study of Adolescent and Youth Sexual and Reproductive Health Components

Asantesana Kamuyango,^a Shreya K. Arora,^b Laura Raney,^c Ahmed K. Ali,^a Venkatraman Chandra-Mouli^d

Key Findings

- Adolescent and youth sexual and reproductive health (AYSRH) content is stronger in the FP2030 country commitments compared to the FP2020 country commitments.

ABSTRACT

Introduction: Family Planning 2020 (FP2020) was established in 2012 with the goal of expanding contraceptive access. By 2020, 46 countries had made commitments to FP2020. A sustained focus on adolescents and youth (AY) began in 2016. During the commitment formulation process, substantial support was offered to countries to develop AY commitments based on sound data.



COMING
SOON

- New resources from WHO (in early 2025):**
 - WHO Guideline on Preventing Early Pregnancy and Poor Reproductive Outcomes Among Adolescents in Low- and Middle-Income Countries
 - Scaling up Postpregnancy Family Planning: A Practical Guide
 - Supporting Guide for Social Behaviour Change for Contraception
 - Supporting Guide to Scaling up Task Sharing in Family Planning
- January- February 2025:** BNA consensus workshop in Cote d'Ivoire, Kenya, Tanzania and Senegal
- March 2025:** Regional dissemination workshop on 'Scaling up Postpregnancy Family Planning: A Practical Guide'
- November 3-6, 2025:** International Conference on Family Planning, Bogotá Colombia

WHO FAMILY PLANNING ACCELERATOR PLUS PROJECT

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[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.

Share your experiences!



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

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 March 2025.

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