



WHO FP Accelerator Plus

Project Newsletter

Issue 5 | April 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).

Geographic scope focuses on 14 countries:

Eastern Mediterranean Region

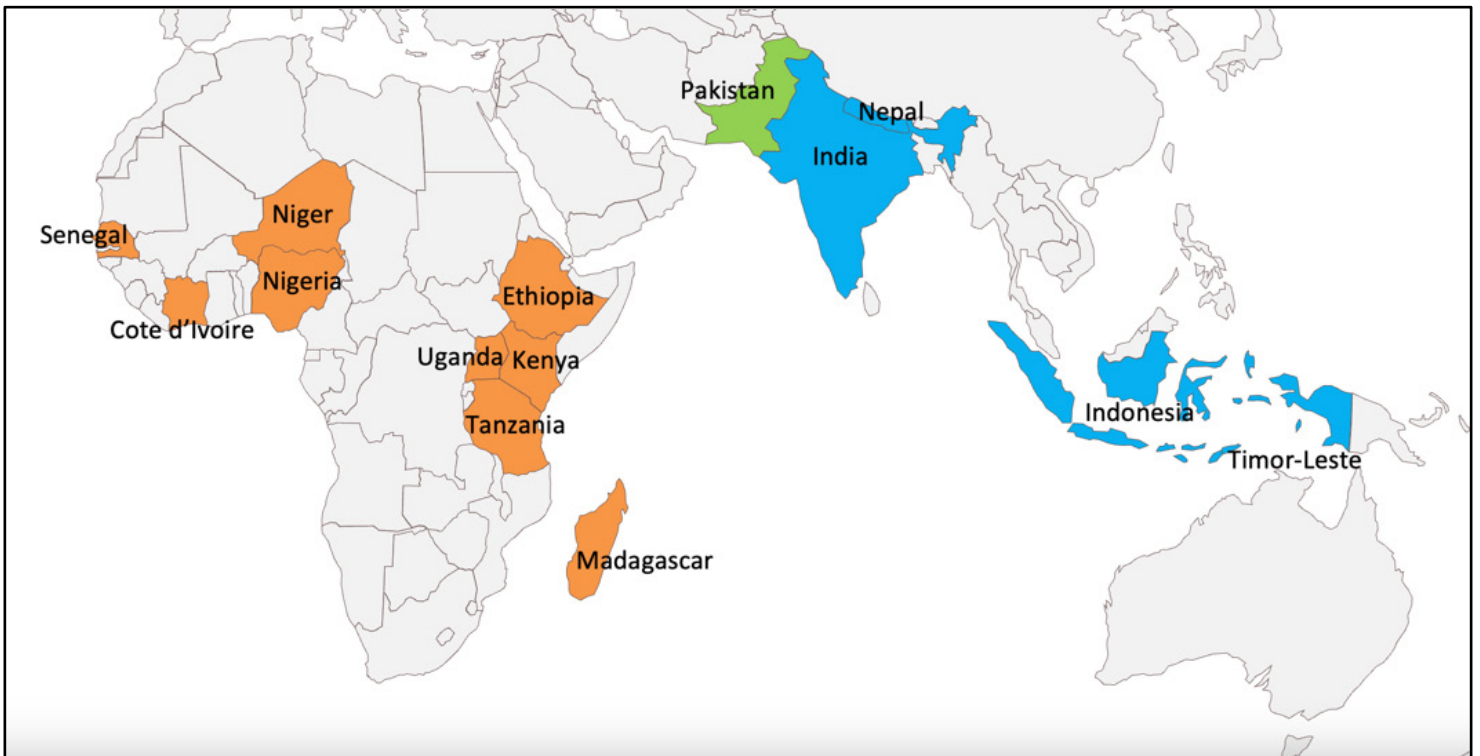
Pakistan

South-East Asia Region

India, Indonesia, Nepal, Timor-Leste

African Region

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

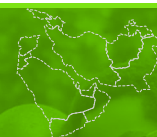




Bottleneck analysis

The Bottleneck Analysis (BNA) is a systematic approach designed to identify obstacles, gaps, and challenges hindering the scaling up of evidence-based family planning practices. WHO has developed a standardized protocol to assist countries in conducting BNA in post-pregnancy family planning, task sharing, and social behavior change and communication.

Eastern Mediterranean Region



Pakistan

In collaboration with SPHERE Consulting, the BNA was initiated in November 2023 to identify and address barriers hindering the scaling up and sustaining of gender-responsive post-pregnancy family planning, task sharing, and social behavior change communication strategies.

Key informant interviews are being conducted with stakeholders at the policy, implementation, and service delivery levels, including public and private sector providers, NGOs, health professionals, allied health professionals, and community workers. BNA aims to cover 15 districts across Pakistan, comprising two districts in Balochistan, four in Punjab, three in Sindh, two in Khyber Pakhtunkhwa, one in ICT, two in Gilgit-Baltistan, and one in Azad Jammu and Kashmir. Data collection has been completed in nine of these districts. Insights from the BNA will enable the Ministry of National Health Services Regulations and Coordination to scale up evidence-based family planning interventions in Pakistan.



Interview with the Population Program wing, Ministry of National Health Services Regulations and Coordination



Interview with the Director of Integrated Reproductive Maternal Newborn & Child Health (IRMNCH) and Nutrition Program, Punjab

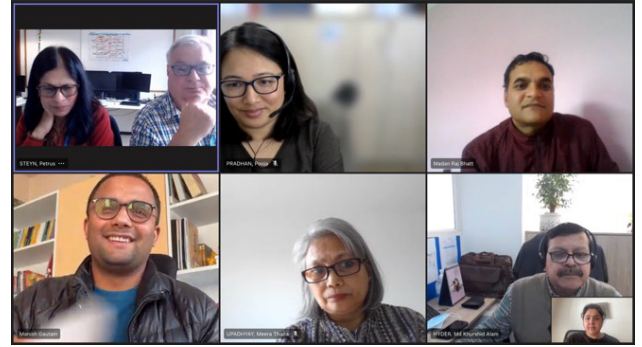


Discussions with the District Health Officer, Lahore

South-East Asia Region

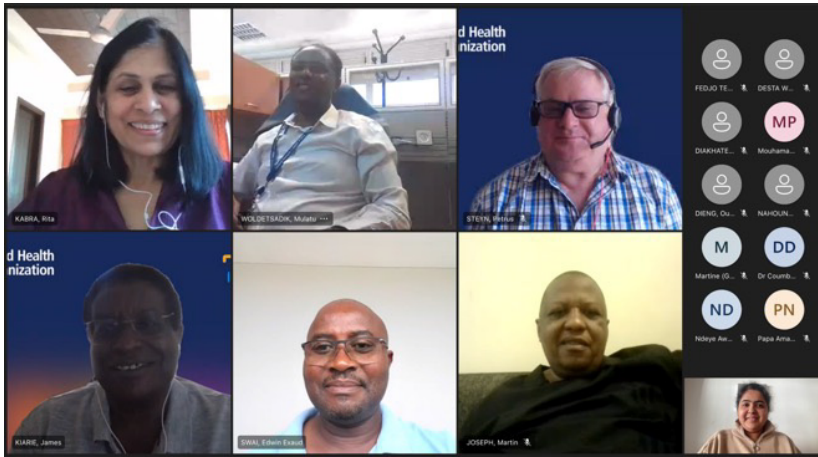
Nepal

In March 2024, WHO Nepal, in collaboration with Family Welfare Division, initiated the bottleneck analysis to determine the challenges in scaling up strategies for post-pregnancy family planning and social and behaviour change communication. Desk review has been initiated. The analysis will be completed by July 2024.



BNA Nepal Kick-off meeting, attended by representatives from WHO HQ, Regional Office, Country Office and Anweshan Pvt. Limited, 4 March 2024

African Region



Colleagues from WHO HQ and country offices in Cote d'Ivoire, Ethiopia, Kenya, Nigeria, Senegal, Tanzania and Uganda during the monthly BNA update meeting for the AFRO Region, 19 March 2024

Seven countries within the region (Cote d'Ivoire, Ethiopia, Kenya, Nigeria, Senegal, Tanzania and Uganda) are having discussions with MoH and technical working group in the country to initiate the BNA. Following MoH approval, data collection will begin in April 2024.

South-South Learning Exchange (SSLE)

Madagascar - Burkina Faso

Madagascar is implementing the lessons learned following the SSLE tour to Burkina Faso. MoH has launched a strategy aiming to increase the number of women using family planning to over three million within 100 days. To support this strategy, the Safe Motherhood and FP Department conducted a workshop to update the action plan for self-administered DMPA s/c injection. Stakeholders, including technical working group members, discussed achievements in self-administered DMPA SC injection in 2023 and plans for scaling up DMPA SC, identifying progress, barriers, and opportunities for updating the 2024 action plan. The workshop facilitated the exchange of best practices among partners.



Opening remarks by the Director of Family Health, Madagascar, during the workshop on the development of action plan for self-administered DMPA S/C injection, 28-29 February 2024



Group work to identify the barriers and opportunities for scaling up self-administered DMPA S/C injection in Madagascar

The Burkina Faso team is set to launch a pilot phase of community initiation of DMPA S/C self-injection across three health districts spanning three regions: Kongoussi in the Centre-North, Gourcy in the North, and Dandé in Hauts Bassins.

Office Orchestra

41st Scientific and Technical Advisory Group (STAG) meeting

At the 41st STAG meeting held from 5-7 March, an HRP marketplace was set up specifically on 5 March 2024. At this event, the seven units of the SRH Department presented their achievements, progress and future plans across the different thematic areas. The accomplishments of the WHO FP Accelerator Plus project, including SSLE, were also showcased.



Staff from the Contraceptive and Fertility Care unit showcasing their work at the marketplace during the STAG meeting, WHO Headquarters

Director-General Excellence Award for Innovation

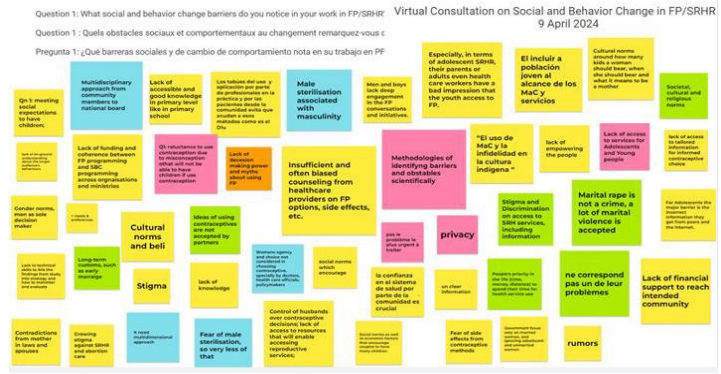
The Self-care team was honoured with the award for their outstanding work on the self-care wheel, a hybrid paper and digital solution that aims to demystify self-care and strengthen links between self-care and facility-based care.



Dr Manjulaa Narasimhan and the self-care team receiving the award from Dr Tedros Adhanom Ghebreyesus

Virtual Convening on Social and Behaviour Change Strategies for Family Planning

In collaboration with civil society organizations (CSOs), the WHO IBP network facilitated a consultation on 9 April 2024 to assess gaps, needs and priorities in SBC strategies for family planning programming. This virtual event brought together 180+ participants from 50+ countries, including representatives from Ministries of Health, Local CSOs, academia and others. The consultation was conducted in English, with interpretation in French and Spanish.



Purposeful Partnerships

FP2030 and Profamilia Colombia have translated the WHO FP BNA protocol and the instruments into Spanish. A consortium of partners comprising of FP2030/LAC Hub, UNFPA LACRO office, PAHO/CLAP and RHSC/ForoLAC, have partnered to roll out the PFPF bottleneck analysis in 9 countries in the region. These include Brazil, Mexico, Belize, Peru, Guatemala, Honduras, the Dominican Republic, Paraguay, and Colombia. Data collection will start in April, and results are expected by mid-July.



Publications

BMC Public Health

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Research | [Open access](#) | Published: 15 February 2024

Challenges and opportunities for improving access to adolescent and youth sexual and reproductive health services and information in the coastal counties of Kenya: a qualitative study

[Evaline Chepchirchir Langat](#), [Abdu Mohiddin](#), [Flaura Kidere](#), [Anisa Omar](#), [Job Akuno](#), [Violet Naanyu](#) & [Marleen Temmerman](#)

[BMC Public Health](#) 24, Article number: 484 (2024) | [Cite this article](#)

This [article](#) informs the development of the AYSRHR strategy and county-level implementation plans for the Jumuiya ya Kaunti za Pwani coastal region in Kenya. The study explores the AYSRHR situation in the region, providing valuable insights into the barriers and facilitators affecting adolescents' access to SRHR information and services at individual, interpersonal, and contextual levels.

Better way of working

OPEN ACCESS

Scaling postpartum family planning services in the Democratic Republic of Congo: outcomes and lessons learned

Rita Kabra¹, Komal Preet Allagh², Brigitte Nsiku Kini,³ Robert Mulunda Kanke,³ James Kiari¹

This [case study](#) outlined promising results in the uptake of FP methods among new acceptors during the postpartum and post-abortion period by integrating training on FP counselling into the midwifery curriculum and training midwives on the use of a PFPF counselling tool and MEC wheel.

nature medicine

Perspective <https://doi.org/10.1038/s41591-024-02844-8>

Self-care interventions for women's health and well-being

Received: 17 November 2023 | Accepted: 31 January 2024 | Published online: 07 March 2024

Manjulaa Narasimhan¹, James R. Hargreaves², Carmen H. Logie², Quarraisha Abdool-Karim³, Mandip Aujla⁴, Jonathan Hopkins⁵, Jane Cover⁶, Olive Sentumbwe-Mugisa⁷, Allan Maleche⁸ & Kate Gilmore¹⁰

[Check for updates](#) | The human right to health is universal and non-exclusionary, supporting

This [perspective](#) explores the opportunities that self-care interventions offer to advance the health and well-being of women with an approach grounded in human rights, gender equality and equity.

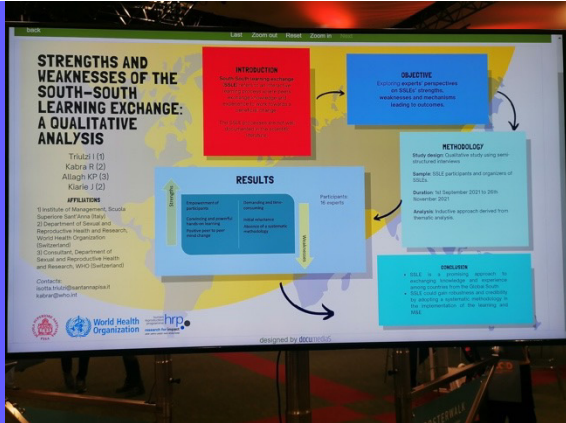
Self-care interventions and universal health coverage

Manjulaa Narasimhan,^a Priya Karna,^b Olumuyiwa Ojo,^c Dhammika Perera^d & Kate Gilmore^e

This *perspective* emphasizes the importance of integrating evidence-based, quality self-care interventions into government public health policies to achieve sustainable and equitable healthcare outcomes. It showcases global examples where WHO-recommended self-care interventions have effectively met the needs and rights of patients and clients, as well as the ethical and legal obligations of national policymakers.

The art of medicine The cycling of self-care through history

The *paper* delves into the historical evolution of self-care. It explores how self-care has been a fundamental aspect of human existence throughout history, adapting and evolving in response to societal changes, cultural beliefs, and advancements in healthcare knowledge. It highlights how various factors, including economic disparities, healthcare access, and technological innovations have influenced self-care.



Dr. Isotta Triulzi highlighted the strengths and weaknesses of South-South Learning Exchange via a poster during the European Public Health Conference held in Dublin, 10 November 2023



COMING SOON

- **14-15 May 2024:** National Workshop on orientation for family planning Digital adaptation kits, Islamabad, Pakistan
- **11-13 June 2024:** Scoping meeting on emerging contraceptives, Geneva, Switzerland

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

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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)

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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 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 July 2024.

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