

Sustaining the Impact: Population and Reproductive Health

Information gaps

- Family planning (FP) integration in a wide range of health and development areas creates new information needs.
- There is a continuous need for accurate monitoring and evaluation (M&E) data to assess and improve FP program performance.
- The ability to collect, report, analyze, and use routine data is a challenge for most low- and middle income countries (LMICs).

MEASURE Evaluation's strategic approach

Develop measures, tools, and guides to support strong data collection and M&E by FP program implementers, donors, and stakeholders.

- Conduct research and evaluation to inform program and policy decision making.
- Develop methods to improve health information systems.
- Build local capacity to conduct research.

Building research capacity

MEASURE Evaluation's population and reproductive health portfolio funded research by local agencies in 11 countries in Asia and Africa through 19 small grants.

This investment built research capacity in these countries, increased the evidence base in routine information for FP, and disseminated findings to local stakeholders.

Here are some examples of these funded studies:

- Integrating FP data in health information systems in Pakistan
- Determining motivators for using routine FP information in Nigeria
- Assessing how effectively routine FP data are analyzed, interpreted, and communicated in South Sudan

Contributing to global goods

The FP/Reproductive Health Indicators Database, which has been accessed more than 1.2 million times by global visitors since 2015, is a reference for programs and policymakers on safe motherhood, male engagement, and other related topics.

A manual on monitoring the integration of FP and HIV services presents indicators of success in integrating these services.

A cost reporting system helps reproductive health programs and organizations assess routine information on the costs of services.

Informing programs & policy

MEASURE Evaluation is developing a tool to measure reproductive empowerment in sub-Saharan Africa.

We are evaluating a pilot implementation in Tanzania of new World Health Organization guidance for counseling on hormonal contraception and the risk of acquiring HIV.

Our guide for M&E of population, health, and environment programs is a resource for these programs.

What's needed now

Provide technical assistance to help LMICs adopt standard indicators to track the status of their programs.

- Assess and improve the quality of routine data.
- Support the use of routine data for decision making through training in analytical methods and through systems strengthening.

Impact

Our M&E guides, tools, toolkits, and resources are widely available to strengthen M&E in projects and country programs. They improve the measurement of quality and success. Research findings fill knowledge gaps and contribute to programmatic improvement. Country and local capacity to conduct research and implement strong M&E systems has grown.

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Key M&E guides and tools

Male engagement in family planning: Gaps in monitoring and evaluation. MEASURE Evaluation. 2017. <https://www.measureevaluation.org/resources/publications/tr-17-203>

FP/RH Indicators Database, MEASURE Evaluation. https://www.measureevaluation.org/prh/rh_indicators

Integrating gender in the monitoring and evaluation of health programs: A toolkit. MEASURE Evaluation. 2017. <https://www.measureevaluation.org/resources/publications/ms-17-122-en>

Monitoring the integration of family planning and HIV services: A manual to support the use of indicators to measure progress toward PEPFAR's 90-90-90 targets and protect women's reproductive rights. MEASURE Evaluation. 2016. <https://www.measureevaluation.org/resources/publications/tr-16-138>

Quick investigation of quality: A user's guide for monitoring quality of care in family planning (2nd ed.). MEASURE Evaluation. 2016. <https://www.measureevaluation.org/resources/publications/ms-15-104>

Handbook for research on the family planning market. Volume 1: Using data to inform a Total Market Approach to family planning. MEASURE Evaluation. 2016. <https://www.measureevaluation.org/resources/publications/tr-16-131a?searchterm=TMA>

Reproductive health cost reporting system: A user's guide. MEASURE Evaluation. 2018. <https://www.measureevaluation.org/resources/publications/ms-18-126>

A Guide for Monitoring and Evaluating Population-Health-Environment Programs: Second Edition. MEASURE Evaluation. 2018. <https://www.measureevaluation.org/resources/publications/ms-18-131>

Key references for research and evaluation

Availability of family planning services and quality of counseling by faith-based organizations: A three country comparative analysis. Reproductive Health, 14:57, 2017. <https://www.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/pubmed/28482905>

Monitoring and evaluation in family planning: Strengths, weaknesses, and future directions. MEASURE Evaluation. 2016. <https://www.measureevaluation.org/resources/publications/wp-16-163>

Small Grants for Research Program, MEASURE Evaluation. <https://www.measureevaluation.org/our-work/capacity-building/small-grants-program>

Expected in 2019

Research paper: "Use of family planning and maternal and child health services by adolescents and young women in five sub-Saharan countries"

Research paper: "Quality of family planning services in HIV-integrated and nonintegrated health facilities in Malawi and Tanzania"

Evaluation results: "Evaluation of Tanzania's pilot implementation of HIV risk communication on hormonal contraceptive uptake"

Evaluation results: "Assessment of mainstreaming of youth-friendly health services on service quality and voluntary contraceptive uptake"

Implementation results: Data quality assessment of family planning indicators in Tanzania

Tool: Guide for improving M&E of youth and adolescent programs

Tool: Measures of reproductive empowerment

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