

RWANDA COMMITMENT SELF-REPORTING QUESTIONNAIRE 2018



Thank you in advance for taking the time to complete this questionnaire.

The Family Planning 2020 (FP2020) Secretariat surveys all FP2020 commitment makers to gather updates on overall progress, major activities, and key areas of challenge in fulfilling commitments. We use these responses to support information and knowledge sharing and transparency among FP2020 commitment makers and the broader family planning community.

We look forward to publishing your response on your country's dedicated country webpage—<http://www.familyplanning2020.org/rwanda>—on FP2020's website.

We request that you submit your response by **Friday, June 8, 2018**. Please complete the attached Word document and submit to Martyn Smith on msmith@familyplanning2020.org with a copy to Holley Stewart on hstewart@familyplanning2020.org.

Should you have any questions or concerns, please contact Holley Stewart on hstewart@familyplanning2020.org or Rudy Shaffer on rshaffer@familyplanning2020.org.

Thank you again for your commitment to improve the lives of women and girls through greater access to voluntary family planning. We look forward to your response.

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This year we have modified the questionnaire to include 1) the 2017 commitment and elements of Rwanda's original commitment that still stand, and 2) three standard questions we're requesting of all FP2020 commitment-making countries.

As you provide your updates below on each element of your commitment, kindly focus on progress made, any major challenges or barriers you faced, and share information on any key upcoming commitment-related milestones. **Please provide updates that reflect the July 2017- May 2018 period only.**

UPDATE QUESTIONNAIRE

COMMITMENT OVERVIEW

The Government of Rwanda aims to disseminate the first ever integrated RMNCAH policy to all partners concerned at all levels to advance the cost-effective implementation of maternal, newborn and child health (MNCH) & family planning/ adolescent sexual and reproductive health (FP/ASRH) strategic plans using an integrated and coordinated approach to facilitate harmonization of activities among partners and systematic monitoring for greater impact.

It also seeks to improve awareness and demand creation on FP among community members and improve access of FP services especially for young people through improved and sustainable supply chain of commodities, capacity development of health service providers, increased social and behavior change communication (SBCC), use of FP champions among targeted audience, strengthened implementation of comprehensive sexuality education programme in schools and out of schools as well as the use of new technologies.

In addition to that, the Government of Rwanda intends to increase FP method choice including access to long term methods, and increase mCPR by addressing missed opportunities in post-partum period. Furthermore, the Government of Rwanda commits to link evidence-based programming for high impact interventions with policy development and strategy formulation to reach FP goals through relevant research conducted, shared lessons learnt and best practices.

1. **COMMITMENT:** Disseminate the first ever national integrated Reproductive, Maternal, Newborn, Child, Adolescent Health (RMNCAH) policy and FP/ASRH strategic plan and monitor their implementation at all levels.

In the space below, please provide an update on activities undertaken in 2017-2018 in support of these elements of your commitment:

Updates:

- RMNCAH policy finalized, presented in various technical working groups and validated in Maternal Child Health Technical Working Group, on the table on SMM
- Being reviewed by senior management of the Ministry of Health to be endorsed and signed
- FP/ASRH strategic plan finalized and presented in FP/ASRH TWG and validated, two costing workshops organized and inputs provided to the consultant, the work is still ongoing towards finalization

Challenges

- It took long for the RMNCAH policy to be endorsed as it is the first integrated policy and merging FP/ASRH also for the first time took some time to ensure that no critical elements are left behind
- The budget for dissemination is limited for the policy to reach all levels for dissemination

Key upcoming commitment-related milestones

- Follow up RRM funds to facilitate the upcoming dissemination related activities
- Presentation of RMNCAH policy and FP/ASRH strategic plan in Joint health sector working group retreat taking place in June 2018
- Signature of the policy and strategic plan
- Dissemination of the policy and strategic plan during World population day celebrations in July 2018 and after, using different channels
- Development of policy and strategic plan friendly versions for the readers (links, booklets, pamphlets with highlighted elements)
- Monitoring throughout implementation through coordination meetings at all levels

2. **COMMITMENT:** Scale up the postpartum family planning (PPFP) in all health facilities and increase method choice including access to long term methods.

In the space below, please provide an update on activities undertaken in 2017-2018 in support of these elements of your commitment:

Updates:

- PPFP scaled up in all public health facilities from 23/30 Districts through trainings of health service providers working in targeted services, mentorship and provision of medical kits needed to facilitate the provision of the services according to the needs
- Knowledge sharing workshop on PPFP organized involving different stakeholders to share the lessons learnt and best practices around PPFP interventions organized in February 2018.

Challenges

- The budget for PPFP interventions scale up is limited to address missed opportunities in Family planning through all public health facilities as well as private clinics

Key upcoming commitment-related milestones

- Continuous mentorship sessions in all targeted health facilities
- Scale up of PPFP interventions in the remaining seven Districts to target public health facilities and all the private clinics/hospitals
- Follow up RRM funds to facilitate the upcoming PPFP scale up activities

3. **COMMITMENT:** Expand strategies for FP awareness-raising to increase demand and address the lack of knowledge on FP among community members and inadequate use of FP services by young people.

In the space below, please provide an update on activities undertaken in 2017-2018 in support of these elements of your commitment:

Updates:

- FP campaigns organized in February in Rusizi District targeted as having the lowest modern contraceptive prevalence rate and the most dominated by religious beliefs with regards to modern contraceptive use. As a result, 3654 clients received modern contraceptives which contributed to 3,2% of FP uptake in Rusizi District in the month of February 2018 and 3% (3048) of the users belongs to the catchment area of health facilities managed by FBOs.
- Maternal and Child Health week campaign organized across the country in May 2018 including FP awareness-raising to increase demand and FP uptake.
- Rwanda Television and radio talk show organized by the Ministry of Health, Ministry of Gender and Family Promotion, Member of Parliament, a religious leader and UNFPA, around FP, nutrition and hygiene
- The Prime Minister Order prepared to define roles and responsibilities of public Institutions and Civil Society to implement human Reproductive Health law
- BCC materials developed and distributed in five Districts of Western Province targeting young people
- ICFP2018 preparations ongoing and various channels & materials are being used to increase awareness on FP
- Radio talk show on FP/ASRH every Saturday through Isango star radio
- Awareness raising and messaging on FP in 2892 saving groups composed by vulnerable groups
- Awareness raising on FP/ASRH among young people through peer educators and Parent and Adolescent communication forum around FP/ASRH in 10 Districts
- Youth corners created in various health centers and schools
- Support to FTYM with FP information and services in Rubavu District
- Awareness raising on FP/ASRH among deaf youth in Nyagatare District\

Challenges

- FP awareness raising activities have limited budget and though have to be continuous using various channels and targeting different segments of Rwandan population.

- The FP barriers study 2017 has shown that 74% of women who were using contraception have ever discontinued and some of them don't switch to another method nor have need to have a child.
- Youth friendly corners are still few and scattered in health facilities which needs much attention, new innovative strategies in order to reach young people in a sustainable way

Key upcoming commitment-related milestones

- Increase FP awareness raising and demand creation taking advantage of World Population Day and World Contraception Day's celebrations in July and September respectively towards ICFP2018
- On-going preparation of ICFP2018 that will take place in Rwanda through different subcommittees and national steering committee and information on FP is part of all ongoing preparations
- Meeting with religious leaders on their role in mobilizing their fellows on Family planning
- East African Youth caravan organized by AFRIYAN aiming at creating awareness on Adolescent Sexual and Reproductive Health and Family Planning planned to take place in Kigali in November 2018
- ASRH/FP outreach campaign to address the issue related to a high number of adolescent pregnancies

- 4. COMMITMENT:** To link evidence-based programming for high impact interventions with policy development and strategy formulation conduct new studies to inform policies, strategy formulation and evidence-based programming for high impact interventions to achieve FP goals.

In the space below, please provide an update on activities undertaken in 2017-2018 in support of these elements of your commitment:

Updates:

- FP barriers study finalized, presented through various meetings waiting for signature
- Government oversight on Family Planning programme done in February- March 2018 by Parliament of Rwanda- Senate Committee on Social Affairs, Human Rights and Petition.
- Addis Ababa declaration on population and development +5 review report and validated
- Rapid assessment on the use of youth friendly services including family planning
- Demographic Dividend Rwanda profile available and being used in Strategic document
- Comprehensive Sexuality Education KAP study conducted and validated

Key upcoming commitment-related milestones

- Service Delivery point survey (SDP) 2018 planned to be conducted in October 2018 in order to assess the availability of Reproductive Health commodity and life-saving medicines in service delivery points.
- Netherlands Interdisciplinary Demographic Institute (NIDI survey 2018) to assess the FP expenditure flow

Please respond to all parts of the following 3 questions:

1. How has the Government engaged civil society organizations, young people, and marginalized women and girls in decision-making about national family planning programs and policies?

- Engagement of a representative of CSO among FP2020 focal points at country level

- In coordination through Technical working groups which include representative from CSO, youth led and women organizations
- Engagement in the whole process of RMNCAH policy and FP/ASRH strategic plan development
- Creation of social well-being cluster involving CSO, youth led organizations and other vulnerable groups

a. *What challenges have you faced in working with these groups? (please give examples)*

Some engagement requires some funding which is sometimes limited

b. *How has this engagement supported reaching your FP2020 commitment?*

Synergy in implementation of different interventions towards above Rwanda Commitments

2. *Please share successes and/or lessons learned from these engagements.*

- Youth participation was instrumental to orient programmes that respond to their specific needs
- Involvement and collaboration of all stakeholders from the onset is instrumental in moving forward key high impact interventions, policy finalization, study finalization and resource mobilization
- Increased ownership of the programme among stakeholders

3. *How is the Government integrating family planning into universal health coverage (UHC)-oriented schemes and what is/are the mechanism(s) being used or considered?*

- FP is a national priority for development hence, included in national strategic development policies such as the EDPRS IV and Vision 2050;
- Development of an integrated RMNCAH policy and strategy that promote an integrated approach towards FP information and services
- Performance contracts that include FP indicators at all levels
- Post-Partum Family Planning being scaled up
- FP outreach services being organized across the country
- Task shifting and community based provision of Family Planning
- Health posts being established in all administrative cells
- Community Based Health Insurance Scheme (national) increased access to health services
- Performance Based Financing approach (at supply side) facilitated provision of quality health services and contributed to increased health service uptake;

4. *Did the FP2020 Focal Points participate in your country's 2018 data consensus meeting?*

The consensus workshop will take place in June 2018

a. *If so, what insights were gained?*

NA

b. Were domestic expenditures data reviewed as part of the data consensus meeting? If so, please share insights and challenges you had in reviewing and validating these data.

NA

Please provide the following information on the Government's point of contact for this update:

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