



**Cutting-edge
Leadership** in

Family Planning

Family planning is the foundation for human development. It can improve the health and well-being of women and families, reduce poverty and dramatically expand possibilities and potentials. For more than four decades, FHI 360 has played a pioneering role in transforming family planning policies and increasing the availability of high-quality contraceptive methods, counseling and services around the world. In close partnership with health ministries, community organizations and funders, FHI 360 identifies and addresses the most critical research questions, while introducing life-changing innovations that improve and save lives. Our work engages communities from the start, empowering them to lead their own initiatives and take control of their own health and well-being for generations to come.

→ **Increasing demand and support for family planning**

Through evidence-based research, we investigate the fertility intentions of women of reproductive age, the unmet need for contraception, new methods of contraception, potential barriers to contraceptive use and the best ways to design and evaluate family

planning programs for maximum cost-effectiveness. FHI 360 works with the World Health Organization and health ministries to develop supportive policies, improve national systems and incorporate the latest findings into guidelines and trainings, laying the groundwork for effective delivery and utilization of quality family planning services.

→ **Improving systems and service delivery**

FHI 360 research and programs have led to widespread adoption of evidence-based tools, guidance and practices that result in more efficient service delivery.

- » FHI 360 introduced and trained health care providers to use a **pregnancy checklist** to help rule out pregnancy in non-menstruating women. Today, this tool is being used by professionals in dozens of countries, often with three additional checklists that FHI 360 developed for providers to determine a client's eligibility for contraceptive services.
- » In sub-Saharan Africa, FHI 360 led the scale-up of **community-based family planning**, including community-based access to injectable contraceptives.

Our research and programs in Kenya, Madagascar, Nigeria and Uganda resulted in national policy changes that enabled community health workers to safely provide injectable contraception to women in hard-to-reach rural areas.

- » FHI 360 has been at the forefront of **efforts to integrate family planning and HIV services** in sub-Saharan Africa, a key strategy for increasing access to contraception and preventing unintended pregnancies among HIV-positive women. Our behavioral, biomedical and programmatic research contributed to the evidence-base of cost-effective, integrated, service delivery best practices.

→ **Creating innovative technologies**

Clinical trials led by FHI 360 have evaluated the safety, effectiveness and acceptability of nearly every type of modern contraceptive method. Our research and development programs have helped to bring more than half a dozen female contraceptive products to market in over 30 countries. Today, we continue to lead the development of

FROM SCIENCE TO ACTION:

Moving together toward 2020

At the 2012 London Summit on Family Planning, FHI 360 joined the international community in making a bold pledge to reach an additional 120 million women with unmet need for family planning by 2020. We have committed to:

- » Allocating US\$1 million of our resources for the development and introduction of new contraceptive technologies
- » Expanding the evidence base for safe and effective family planning and turning high-quality evidence into policy and practice
- » Continuing our efforts to widen the array of safe, effective and affordable contraceptives worldwide



groundbreaking contraceptive products, tools and methods that respond to current family planning needs and anticipate those of the future.

- » FHI 360 is supporting early testing of innovative approaches to develop an **injectable contraceptive that lasts for at least six months**. Currently available injectables are effective for up to three months, requiring women to return to their provider four to 12 times per year. The first phase of the project identified a number of promising concepts, and four of these are now in proof-of-concept testing.
- » **Mobile phone technology** is used to provide women and men globally with vital family planning information that not only educates but also influences behavior. It also allows FHI 360 projects to increase information about family planning service sites, supply outlets and family planning use.

➔ **Increasing contraceptive choice**

Long-acting and permanent methods are safe, convenient and the most effective methods of modern contraception available.

Yet in many countries, particularly in sub-Saharan Africa, there is a high unmet need for these methods. FHI 360 has played a leading role in revitalizing long-acting and permanent methods, such as intrauterine devices (IUDs), implants and vasectomy.

- » In Ethiopia, India and Kenya, FHI 360 has **increased awareness of and demand for IUDs**.
- » In Rwanda, FHI 360 provided important **research on vasectomy** methods and technical assistance for the national scale-up of vasectomy services.
- » FHI 360 has been a leader in helping to **reduce the cost of implants** in resource-constrained settings through the introduction of Sino-implant (II) — a low-cost, highly effective contraceptive implant that provides discreet, long-term pregnancy prevention for up to four years. Since 2008, this game-changing product has been registered in more than 20 countries in sub-Saharan Africa, Asia and Latin America.

Family planning is central to human development

POVERTY AND HUNGER:

Better birth spacing reduces incidence of low birth weight and poor maternal nutrition. Family planning results in more economic security and less hunger.

EDUCATION:

Family planning reduces the need for girls to drop out of school because of unintended pregnancy or care of younger siblings.

GENDER EQUALITY: Family planning empowers women in many ways, including enabling them to achieve their desired family size.

MATERNAL AND CHILD

HEALTH: Family planning reduces maternal death due to unintended pregnancy and increases child survival.

HIV/AIDS: Preventing unwanted pregnancies among HIV-positive women is a key component of programs to prevent mother-to-child HIV transmission.

ENVIRONMENT: A family with fewer children needs less land, food and water and puts less pressure on a country's forests and tillable land.



Current FHI 360 family planning projects, programs and initiatives

» **Contraceptive Technology Innovation (CTI) Initiative**

Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation, 2013–2018

» **Longer-Acting Injectable Contraception**

Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation, 2011–2016

» **Preventive Technologies Agreement (PTA)**

U.S. Agency for International Development, 2009–2014

» **Program Research for Strengthening Services (PROGRESS)**

U.S. Agency for International Development, 2008–2013

» **Sino-implant (II) Initiative**

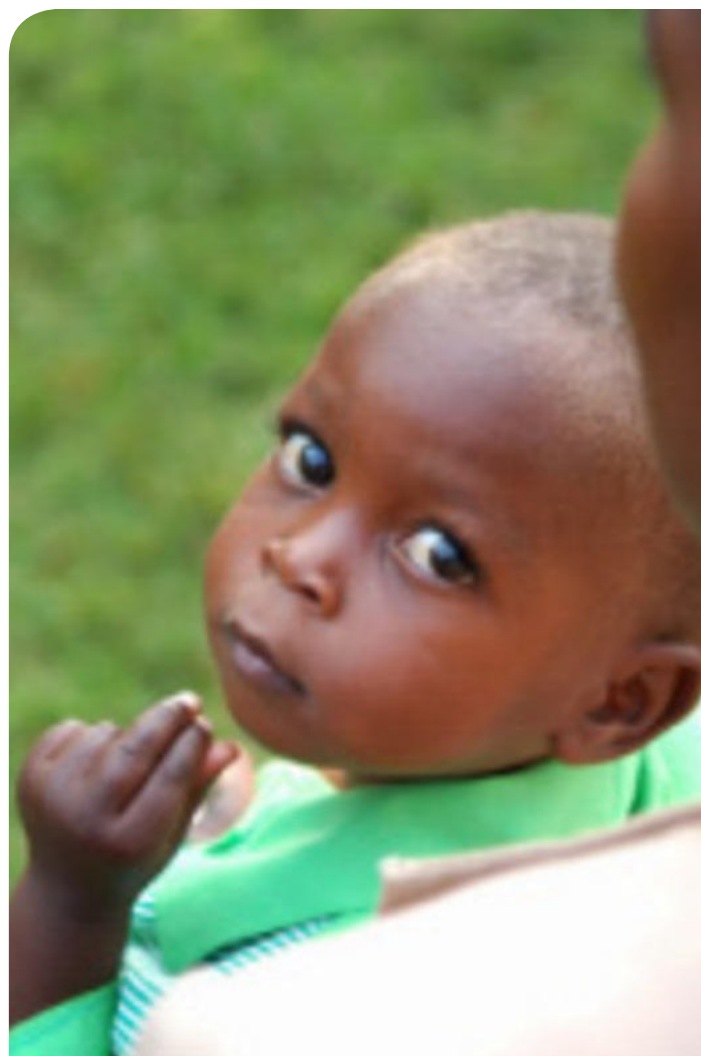
Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation, 2007–2017

» **Urban Reproductive Health Initiative — Senegal**

Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation, 2009–2014

» **Urban Reproductive Health Initiative — Uttar Pradesh, India**

Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation, 2009–2015



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GOOGLE+
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FHI 360 HEADQUARTERS

2224 E NC Highway 54
Durham, NC 27713 USA
T 1.919.544.7040
F 1.919.544.7261

WASHINGTON, DC OFFICE

1825 Connecticut Avenue NW
Washington, DC 20009 USA
T 1.202.884.8000
F 1.202.884.8400

ASIA PACIFIC REGIONAL OFFICE

19th Floor, Tower 3
Sindhorn Building
130-132 Wireless Road
Kwaeng Lumpini, Khet Phatumwan
Bangkok 10330 Thailand
T 66.2.263.2300
F 66.2.263.2114

EAST AND SOUTHERN AFRICA REGIONAL OFFICE

1115 Burnett Street
Hatfield Square, Building 3, 4th Floor
Hatfield, Pretoria 0083 South Africa
T 27.12.762.4000
F 27.12.762.4001

www.fhi360.org

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