



**Cutting-edge
Leadership** in

Family Planning

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, and rights-based 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 rigorous research, we investigate the unmet need for contraception, potential barriers to contraceptive use, and innovative approaches for delivering services. 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. This lays the groundwork

for effective delivery and utilization of quality family planning services.

» FHI 360 has been an advocate for and leader in the use of **costed implementation plans (CIPs)**, multiyear actionable roadmaps, to help governments achieve their family planning goals. FHI 360 has supported CIP development and execution in five countries and contributed to guidelines and tools as part of the *FP2020 CIP Resource Kit*.

» In Uganda, FHI 360 is implementing *Emanzi*, an intervention that uses community health workers to engage men in family planning. The intervention aims to affect men's attitudes toward gender equality, increase shared decision making and communication, and increase uptake of family planning methods and HIV testing by couples.

» Mobile phone technology is used to provide women and men globally with vital family planning information that not only educates but also influences behavior. FHI 360's innovative **Mobile for Reproductive Health (m4RH)** text messaging platform

has been implemented in four countries and adapted by partners in additional countries.

→ **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 used by professionals in dozens of countries, often with four additional checklists that FHI 360 developed for providers to determine a client's eligibility for contraceptive services. The checklists are now also available through a mobile phone application.

» In sub-Saharan Africa, FHI 360 has led the scale-up of **community-based access to injectable contraceptives**. Our research and advocacy has resulted in national policy changes that enable community health workers in 10 countries to safely provide

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



injectable contraception to more than 70 million women in rural areas.

→ **Creating innovative technologies**

FHI 360 has helped to bring more than half a dozen female contraceptive products to market in more than 30 countries. We continue to lead the development of groundbreaking contraceptive products, tools and methods that respond to current 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 times a year. The first phase of the project identified a number of promising concepts, and three of these are now in proof-of-concept testing.

→ **Increasing contraceptive choice**

Long-acting and permanent methods are safe and convenient and are 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.

» To better **understand factors affecting the use of long-acting methods**, FHI 360 is conducting a longitudinal study that will follow a cohort of long-acting reversible contraception users. The study explores factors affecting initial choice of method, side effects experience and management, and switching and discontinuation.

» 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 pregnancy prevention for up to four years. Since 2008, this game-changing product has been registered in more than 25 countries in sub-Saharan Africa, Asia and Latin America.

Family planning is central to human development

POVERTY:

Family planning results in greater economic security.

HUNGER:

Frequent pregnancies lead to poor maternal nutrition.

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.

HEALTH:

Family planning reduces maternal death, increases child survival and contributes to prevention of 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.

SANITATION:

Several contraceptives can help young women manage their menstrual hygiene.



Current FHI 360 family planning projects, programs and initiatives

- » **Contraceptive Technology Innovation (CTI) Initiative**
Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation, 2013–2018
- » **Envision FP: Transforming Contraception to Expand Access and Choice**
U.S. Agency for International Development, 2015–2020
- » **Advancing Partners and Communities (APC)**
U.S. Agency for International Development, 2012–2017
- » **Support for International Family Planning and Health Organizations (SIFPO) 2**
U.S. Agency for International Development, 2014–2019
- » **Passages: Transforming Social Norms for Sexual and Reproductive Health**
U.S. Agency for International Development, 2015–2020
- » **Knowledge for Health (K4Health)**
U.S. Agency for International Development, 2013–2018
- » **Evidence for Contraceptive Options and HIV Outcomes (ECHO) Study**
Multiple funders, 2015–2019
- » **Sino-implant (II) Initiative**
Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation, 2007–2018



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