



FAMILY PLANNING PROGRAM OVERVIEW

The Challenge

More than 225 million women in developing countries, who want to choose the number, timing, and spacing of their pregnancies, are not using a modern method of contraception.

When a woman bears children too close together, too early, or too late in life, the health of the mother and baby are at risk. Expanding access to family planning is vital to safe motherhood, healthy families, and prosperous communities.

The Opportunity

Each year, greater access to family planning has the potential to:

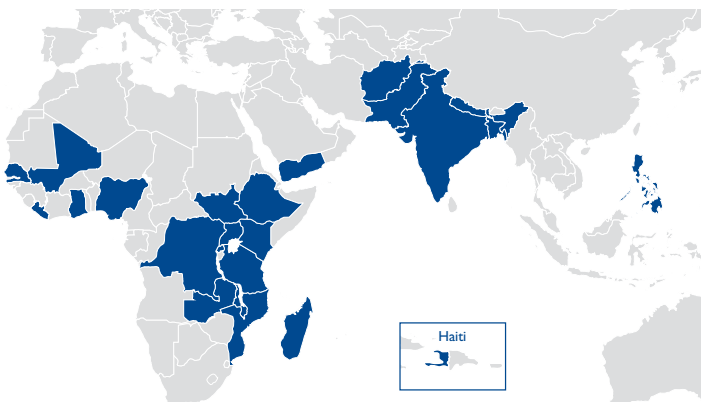
- Prevent up to 30 percent of the more than 287,000 maternal deaths that occur
- Save the lives of 1.4 million children under the age of five in our priority countries

Where We Work

The U.S. Agency for International Development (USAID) advances and supports voluntary family planning and reproductive health programs in nearly 40 countries across the globe. Moreover, the Agency's work focuses on 24 high-priority countries where the need for family planning is greatest.

Since the implementation of the family planning program, 24 countries have "graduated" from USAID assistance – having reached high levels of modern contraception use (between 51 percent and 70 percent) and low levels of fertility (between 2.3 and 3.1 children per woman).

USAID's Population and Reproductive Health Priority Countries



Benefits of Family Planning



Protects the health of women and children

by reducing high-risk pregnancies and allowing sufficient time between pregnancies



Advances and secures reproductive rights

by empowering individuals and couples to freely choose their family size



Improves women's opportunities for education, employment, and full participation in society



Reduces poverty by contributing to economic growth at the family, community, and national levels



Decreases unsafe abortion and the need for abortion all together



Mitigates the impact of population dynamics on natural resources and state stability



Reduces HIV and AIDS through the prevention of new HIV infections and mother-to-child transmission via increased access to information, counseling, and condoms

Program Goals

As a core partner in Family Planning 2020, USAID is working with the global community to reach an additional 120 million women and girls with family planning information, commodities, and services by 2020.

USAID's Family Planning program also makes substantial contributions to the Agency-wide goals of creating an AIDS-Free Generation and Ending Preventable Child and Maternal Deaths, as well as the Obama Administration's goal of Ending Extreme Poverty. Of the program's 24 priority countries, 23 are also priorities for Maternal and Child Health programs, maximizing opportunities for integration and synergy.

U.S. International Family Planning Assistance

As the world's largest family planning bilateral donor for 50 years, USAID is committed to helping countries meet the family planning and reproductive health needs of their people. The Agency's family planning and reproductive health program budget was \$575 million during fiscal year 2015.

Our Approach

USAID's Office of Population and Reproductive Health takes a rights-based approach to family planning by implementing programs rooted in voluntarism and informed choice. In order to promote equal access to family planning and reproductive health services, the Office prioritizes investing in research, informing policy, improving monitoring and evaluation, and empowering underserved groups, particularly youth and rural and remote populations. From 2014–2020, our programs will work toward advancing five technical focus areas:

Broad Method Choice that enables individuals and couples to freely choose and correctly use a contraceptive method that best meets their lifestyle and reproductive desires

Social & Behavior Change that is evidence-based, interactive, and uses a range of communication channels to positively influence the demand for and use of family planning information, products, and services

Supply Chains that deliver high quality contraceptives and related reproductive health supplies to clients when and where they need them at an affordable cost

Family Planning Workforce that is well trained, responsive, fair, and efficient in order to achieve the best health outcomes possible

Total Market Approach that coordinates and capitalizes on the comparative advantages of public, nonprofit, and commercial sector contributions to increase family planning access and uptake

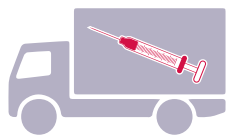
USAID's Impact

Since the launch of the family planning program in 1965, modern contraceptive use in the 27 countries with the largest USAID-supported programs has increased from under 10 percent to 37 percent, and the number of children per family has dropped from more than 6 to 4.5. In fiscal year 2015, the Guttmacher Institute estimates that U.S. international family planning assistance had the potential to reach 28 million women and couples with contraceptive services and supplies, helping to prevent 12,000 maternal deaths and 6 million unintended pregnancies. In addition to family planning, USAID's work in reproductive health focuses on ending child marriage, female genital mutilation and cutting, gender-based violence, population-health-environment, and more.

Commodities Donated in Fiscal Year 2014



841 million
male condoms



29.3 million
injectables



25.6 million
oral pills



2.3 million
IUDs



1.8 million
implants