Promoting Universal Access to Sexual and Reproductive Health and Rights

Improving access to sexual and reproductive health (SRH) services and rights has tremendous power to transform the lives of individuals by giving them the ability to make and enact their own choices about SRH. The resulting reductions in mortality and fertility can even foster a country’s economic growth. Yet 225 million women who want to avoid pregnancy are not using modern contraception, and 1 in 3 women still experience physical or sexual violence in their lifetime.

Chemonics is working to change this by assisting and empowering all people — men, women, youth, and vulnerable groups such as LGBTQ communities and adolescent girls and young women — to access accurate information and safe, effective, affordable, and acceptable family planning methods; protect themselves from sexually transmitted infections; reduce violence against women and girls; and build strong policies to reduce harmful practices.

Our Work

Our programs support low-cost, high-impact interventions for clinical and community-based family planning and gender-based violence (GBV) prevention. Through grants to local organizations, we’re working to improve SRH services in health facilities, youth centers, and one-stop clinics. We also provide technical assistance and support procurement for essential reproductive health commodities in more than 15 countries across Africa, Asia, and Latin America and the Caribbean. We are committed to addressing policy, financing, delivery, and socio-economic barriers to accessing contraceptive commodities and information. Our efforts are advancing contraceptive security by helping countries ensure equitable access to reproductive health commodities.
Expanding Access to Reproductive Health Services

In addition to improving social protection mechanisms for vulnerable populations, our work in reproductive health helps grow markets to expand choices of contraceptive methods and commodities. Around the world, we lead cross-sectoral efforts and partnerships to increase access to SRH services for vulnerable and hard-to-reach populations.

- We leverage global commodity procurement and logistics to increase availability of essential reproductive health commodities including injectables, implants, and combined oral contraceptives; male and female condoms; and fertility awareness methods.
- In the Philippines, we built the capacity of private sector actors in management and delivery of essential family health services to improve access to high-quality family planning services. This resulted in the creation of 50 public-private service delivery networks in 36 provinces, formally integrating more than 1,200 public and 750 private facilities and providers.
- In Rwanda, our efforts to expand access to family health services ensured that 443,314 new users received family planning services in project-supported health facilities.

- Through the HRH2030 (Human Resources for Health in 2030) program, Chemonics is updating the Training Resource Package for family planning, which is used to train health care providers on providing various methods of family planning options.
- As the elected chair of the Systems Strengthening Working Group of the Reproductive Health Supplies Coalition, we are committed to supporting the Take Stock campaign to end contraceptive stockouts in the world’s poorest countries.
- We also work to advance sexual and reproductive health in fragile states. In Pakistan, we assisted the government to conduct a situational analysis that informed a plan to incentivize local industry to invest in local family planning commodity production.

PRACTICAL TOOL

Addressing Gender Bias to Improve Family Planning

Through HRH2030, we identified significant gaps in family planning providers’ awareness of gender and other biases that contribute to family planning service inequities. To address this, we developed a definition of gender competence and created the Gender Competency Framework for Family Planning Service Providers. This global framework delineates the needed knowledge, skills, and attitudes to provide gender equitable family planning services. It can be used to develop trainings, create job descriptions, and conduct supportive supervision.

Topics covered include:

- Promoting individual agency
- Engaging men and boys as partners and users
- Using gender-sensitive communication
- Facilitating positive couples’ communication and decision-making
- Supporting legal rights and status related to family planning in accordance with rights and local laws
- Addressing gender based violence

The full report can be found at www.hrh2030program.org