

PAKISTAN

Spotlight on Family Planning: Tracking Progress on the FP2020 Pledges

The Spotlight on Family Planning series offers a snapshot on progress governments have made in delivering on their FP2020 pledges, made at the London 2012 Family Planning Summit.

Rahnuma, Family Planning Association of Pakistan (Rahnuma-FPAP, the IPPF Member Association in Pakistan) and other civil society organizations (CSOs) have identified a number of 'high priority' pledges: progress towards these pledges is critical for increasing access to modern family planning (FP) methods. The table shows achievements and failures in delivering on these promises.

Pakistan's FP2020 pledges

Government of Pakistan's progress on its FP2020 pledges

What has civil society achieved?

Achieve universal access to reproductive health by 2020 and raise the contraceptive prevalence rate (CPR) to 55% by 2020

- Every province has set a target for their own CPR:
- Punjab province: 35% to 58% CPR¹
 - Sindh province: 30% to 45% CPR²
 - Khyber Pakhtunkhwa (KPK) province: 29% to 42% CPR³
 - Balochistan province: 14% to 32% CPR⁴

- In partnership with the Research and Advocacy Fund, Rahnuma-FPAP convened CSOs and launched a campaign to hold government to account for its FP2020 pledges.
- Rahnuma-FPAP mobilized provincial CSOs to demand provincial governments allocate adequate resources to family planning and develop plans to improve CPR.

Post-18th Amendment provinces will develop health sector strategies for 2012–2020, including FP promotion

- All provincial governments are implementing strategic health plans that include family planning promotion.
- Punjab province is implementing a Facebook campaign and has committed to increase budget allocations to family planning.

- Rahnuma-FPAP represents civil society on a number of government technical committees and provides guidance to help ensure government strategies will advance FP2020 pledges.

Post-18th Amendment provinces will regularly monitor contraceptive prevalence rates (CPR)

- All provincial governments have committed to deliver universal access to family planning services and are developing health and population strategies in line with this commitment.
- Provincial governments have committed to allocate adequate resources to family planning.

- The Family Planning Champions Group is a coalition of CSOs including Rahnuma-FPAP, Population Council Pakistan, UNFPA, Marie Stopes and others. The Champions Group has successfully advocated to provincial governments to monitor the CPR.

Provinces will prioritize population issues in health and development plans, using the National Population Policy (2010)

- All provincial population policies have been drafted and endorsed by the provincial cabinet. They have yet to be formally approved by the provincial chief ministers.

- CSOs at provincial level have engaged in technical working groups to contribute to the provincial population policies. This has helped ensure that the policies reflect the needs of people at community level.

Increase annual public spending for family planning services

- National government budget allocations for family planning have increased since 2012.
- Punjab province has made health services a priority. For 2015–16, the government allocated 11.5% of the budget to health.
- Budget allocated for family planning is often used for other purposes. Government ministries are not always held accountable for family planning indicators.

- In the Punjab, Sind and KPK provinces, Rahnuma-FPAP and other CSOs implemented a campaign to demand US\$197.7 million for family planning services in provincial budgets.
- Family planning CSOs are coordinating with other sectors.
- Since Rahnuma-FPAP has advocated for increased family planning allocations in provincial budgets, the Punjab, Sindh and KPK governments have steadily enhanced their budgetary allocations for population-related activities.

¹ Punjab Growth Strategy 2018 and Punjab Health Strategy 2012–2020

² Sindh Budget 2015/2016

³ KPK Health Strategy 2010–2017

⁴ Population Council Pakistan

Gaps in the FP2020 pledges and recommendations for government action




The government has made some progress towards its pledges, but existing efforts are not enough to deliver on its promises by 2020. In addition, other problems and gaps have emerged. The government must address these problems urgently. Civil society calls on the government to:

- 1 Demonstrate political commitment to deliver the FP2020 pledges.** To date, there has been slow progress on all family planning indicators due to inadequate financial commitments and ownership by governments and government ministries.
- 2 Allocate government funding to family planning at the provincial level.** Budgets are a responsibility of provincial governments, due to devolution.
- 3 Invest in effective procurement and logistics systems for family planning** to ensure commodity security and address unmet need for family planning, including unmet need for long-acting reversible contraceptives. In the absence of a functioning supply chain, unmet need will increase.




Where we are now

The following nationwide statistics¹ reflect, in part, recent government improvements to family planning services.

Indicator measure at 2013




-  16.9% CPR (modern methods) (increase of 0.5% from 2012)
-  1,943,000 unintended pregnancies averted (increase of 92,000 from 2012)
-  29% of married women have an unmet need for family planning (decline of 0.6% from 2012)

Method mix in 2013

-  Condom: 34%
-  Female sterilization 33%
-  Injections: 11%

Rahnuma-FPAP's contribution to SRH services

Rahnuma-FPAP fulfills an important role in meeting demand for SRH services. For example:

-  Rahnuma-FPAP provided 999,923 couple years protection in 2014, an 18% increase from 2013
-  Rahnuma-FPAP services resulted in 410,342 unintended pregnancies being averted in 2014, a 10% increase from 2013
-  Rahnuma-FPAP provided family planning services to 206,829 new users in 2014, a 14% increase from 2013

¹ Avenir Health (nd) Track20. Available from: www.track20.org. [Accessed: 25/08/2015].

Joining Voices is an advocacy project that aims to safeguard and strengthen financial commitments to reproductive health and family planning, and reinforce political leadership on universal access. *Joining Voices* is facilitated on behalf of civil society by IPPF and the Countdown 2015 Europe Consortium, led by IPPF European Network.

For more information about Rahnuma-FPAP: www.fpapak.org

For more information about Joining Voices: www.joiningvoices2020.org

For more information about IPPF: www.ippf.org UK Registered Charity No. 229476

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