Strengthening family planning and contraceptive services using WHO contraception guidelines

**Objectives and Background**

Unintended pregnancy, resulting from unmet need for family planning/contraception, is a problem that threatens the lives and well-being of women and girls and their families globally. Populations most impacted are sexually active adolescents, individuals with low socioeconomic status, those living in rural communities, and those coping with conflicts and disasters. Latest estimates indicate that 225 million women in developing countries have an unmet need for modern contraceptive methods. The need is greatest within populations where risks of maternal mortality are highest.

The project aims to strengthen and improve equitable access to quality family planning services at scale, and to maintain family planning as a global development priority through favourable policies and using evidence to inform optimal services. Through this project, WHO will be able to advocate for and promote the use of its contraception guidelines, facilitate regional and national adaptations of recommendations, review and update the guidelines to incorporate new knowledge, and provide technical assistance to member states through regional and sub-regional mechanisms.

**Geographic location**

Africa, Asia and the Eastern Mediterranean.

**Main deliverables**

- A comprehensive adaptation guide to support interpretation and adoption of the WHO MEC and SPR guidelines into national policies and programmes
- SPR pocket guide: A job aid for front-line providers offering contraceptive services, adapted from WHO’s *Selected practice recommendations for contraceptive use* (SPR)
- Novel digital platform for health care providers and programme managers that compiles all WHO recommendations related to postpartum family planning to promote easy and quick access to information.
- Tool to monitor key human rights principles and standards in contraceptive service programmes.
- Tool for assessing quality from a human rights perspective in contraceptive programmes.
- Package of implementation, advocacy and scale-up tools including a “how to” manual for selecting the most appropriate tools at the most appropriate time.
- Guide for the documentation of implementing practices.

**Partners**

IBP consortium

**Sources of funding**

BMGF

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