FAMILY PLANNING

Program Goals: Reduce unmet need for family planning and increase the contraceptive prevalence rate

Over the past two decades, the total fertility rate in Madagascar has decreased from 6 to 4.5 children per woman. Use of family planning has increased modestly, and the modern contraceptive rate for married women increased from 29 percent in 2009 to nearly 39 percent in 2017. The unmet need for family planning among married women decreased during this same time period from 24 to nearly 17 percent, although wide regional and income variations exist across Madagascar.

KEY AREAS OF INTERVENTION

Expand Access to Contraceptives in Rural & Underserved Communities

- Support in-service training of community health volunteers (CHVs) to provide family planning (FP) counseling
- Utilize pregnancy test kits to allow CHVs to screen potential FP users
- Provide long-acting FP methods through mobile outreach services in hard-to-reach communities
- Build CHV competency to provide integrated maternal and FP services

Promote the Use of Family Planning (FP) & Health Behaviors

- Apply behavior change communication targeting youth using peer educators, youth hotlines, and innovative technology such as e-vouchers
- Promote FP through a variety of media outlets to increase demand for postpartum FP and long-acting reversible contraceptive (LARC) or permanent methods
- Communicate the process for adopting the new reproductive Health and Family Planning bill, which will enable better access to FP products and services

Create an Enabling Environment for FP & Expand the Contraceptive Mix

- Scale up use of Sayana Press®, a lower does presentation of Depo-Provera, through an easy-to-use injection device
- Build capacity of public health facilities to provide LARCs and permanent FP methods
FAMILY PLANNING (FP) PROJECTS AND IMPLEMENTING PARTNERS

USAID provided $14 million during fiscal year 2017 to fund the following projects:

1. Mikolo / MSH
2. Mahefa Miaraka / JSI
3. Integrated Social Marketing (ISM) / PSI
4. Health Policy Plus (HP+) / Palladium
5. Support for International Family Planning Organizations (SIFPO) / MSI
6. Maternal and Child Survival Program (MCSP) / Jhpiego

666,710 family planning/reproductive health services provided

KEY ACHIEVEMENTS FISCAL YEAR 2017

- Contributed to the promulgation of the new FP law providing universal access and informed choice to FP methods and services
- 400,000 unwanted pregnancies prevented through 666,710 sexual reproductive/family planning services provided
- 10,068 CHVs supported by community-based projects provided FP information, services and/or referrals
- Attained 1,434,002 couple years protection (CYP)
- Over 14,000 clients used vouchers to help defer the costs of FP services at private social franchise clinics
- Distributed 3.4 million FP method pills and 1.9 million units of FP injectables

FAMILY PLANNING IN ACTION

MOBILE FAMILY PLANNING CLINICS PROVIDE LIFESAVING SERVICES

Despite a decrease in Madagascar’s total overall fertility rate from 6 to 4.5 children per woman, the country has one of the highest adolescent fertility rates in the world with 163 births per 1,000 adolescent girls. As part of the government of Madagascar’s goal of universal health coverage, USAID works in tandem with the Ministry of Public Health to provide family planning services in hard to reach areas of the country.

The USAID funded mobile clinics are vans staffed by medical doctors, midwives, and drivers, and provide a full range of family planning services throughout 15 of Madagascar’s 22 regions.

Offering services to adults and adolescents, the mobile clinics increase access to comprehensive, high quality, voluntary family planning services in hard to reach communities. The clinics also promote the Malagasy government’s commitment to improving access to quality healthcare for all its citizens.

5+ million units of family planning injectables and pills distributed

PHOTO: ANNE DAUGHERTY/USAID