

Qualitative Assessment of HIPs Implementation and Scale Up

We would like to ask you about your work, voluntary family planning programs in your country and contraceptive use, and the implementation and scale up of High Impact Practices in family planning in your country. You do not have to join this study; it is your choice. There will be no penalty if you decide not to join. We understand that you may feel pressure to participate in this study because of your or your employer's connection to USAID or US federal funding. You should not feel any pressure to participate in this study related to these connections. No one will use your decision to participate or not against you or your employer, nor will your decision directly benefit your or your employer's relationship with USAID. If you say yes, we will ask you to participate in an electronic survey about your work and family planning programs in your country. The survey will take about 5 minutes to complete. The survey is voluntary, and we will work to keep your responses confidential by erasing any identifiable information from your responses and only allowing the main members of the study team to see your responses. When you start the survey, you may change your mind about participating at any time and leave the survey. You may also complete some questions and leave other questions blank.

At the end of the survey, we will ask you if you are interested in participating in an interview or a group discussion via Zoom with other study participants. This is also completely voluntary. The group discussion will last about 1 hour. The interviews will also last about 1 hour. If you decide to participate in an interview or focus group, you may decide to leave the meeting at any time if you decide you no longer want to participate.

If you decide to leave the study after completing the survey or interview and decide you would no longer like to include your responses in this study, you may contact us at any time, and we will delete your response from the study. If you decide to leave the study during or after the focus group discussion, we will try not to include your specific responses in our analysis; however, we will not delete the recording or transcript which includes other participants' responses.

When we share the results of this study with others, we may use direct quotes from the survey responses, focus groups, and interviews. We may use the quotes because they share valuable or detailed information and help explain the results of this study in a meaningful way. We will not use a quote if we believe you could be reasonably identified from the quote, and we will not attach your name or other identifiable information to the quote. We may share the country and a general job description to give context (for example, "An employee from a community-based organization in Country X stated that...").

Risks

There are no physical risks related to participating in this study. We will only ask you questions related to your observations regarding your work in family planning and the implementation and scale up of voluntary family planning programs and contraceptive use. There is a minimal risk that someone outside the study will see your information; however, all members of the research team will be expected to take precautions to keep your responses confidential. All data will be stored on a secure platform through USAID. We are interested in knowing where you work and



your role there to understand your perspective, but we will not use this information in a way that others can identify you when we share the results of this study.

In accordance with USAID requirements, the anonymous data from the survey will be stored *without identifiable information* in the <u>Development Data Library</u>. To protect your privacy, the researchers have recommended that the data from this survey should not be shared with the general public and that the data should be categorized as restricted, which means that only individuals who work for the Development Data Library and individuals who work for USAID and obtain special permission could access the data from the library. The interview and focus group data will not be stored in the Development Data Library.

If you agree to be contacted after the survey and are invited to participate in a group discussion via Zoom with other study participants, you should be aware of the risks related to participating in a group discussion. Other participants in the group discussion may recognize you. We will ask everyone in the group discussion to keep the discussion confidential, but this depends on trust between participants. The study team is committed to keeping the discussion confidential and encouraging all participants to do the same, but there is a risk that discussion group members will share information outside of the discussion. You may decide to participate in an individual in-depth interview instead of a group discussion if you are concerned about sharing your responses with other participants.

There are some risks associated with participating in a group discussion or interview via Zoom. De-identification of recordings is limited because your voice may be recognizable. To mitigate some risk of identification, you may turn off your camera and/or use a pseudonym when you join the Zoom meeting for a group discussion for interview.

We understand that in some contexts, conversations about family planning can be sensitive or controversial. Before participating in this study, you should consider how your responses may affect your reputation, employability, and criminality in your country if confidentiality is breached. The study team will take all possible measures to ensure the confidentiality of your responses.

Benefits

There are no direct benefits to you for participating in this study. Your answers may help us improve resources and support for the implementation of voluntary family planning programs and the utilization of evidence-based, high impact practices in family planning in your country and others.

You may contact Maria Carrasco (mcarrasco@usaid.gov), Senior Implementation Sciences Technical Advisor, in the Research, Technology and Utilization Division, Office of Population and Reproductive Health, USAID about your questions or problems with this work. Please call or contact the Institutional Review Board (IRB) of the Public Health Institute (PHI) if you have questions about your rights as a study participant. Contact the IRB if you feel you have not been treated fairly or if you have other concerns. The IRB is available 9am to 5pm at 1-510-285-5500.