INTRODUCTION

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY
Collaboration is the animating principle of the Family Planning 2020 partnership. The spirit of collaboration is what enables disparate stakeholders to find common ground and join together in service of a shared vision.

The FP2020 approach is to create an inclusive space where that can happen, even in today’s uncertain political and financial environment: a space where policymakers and technical experts can connect, where countries and donors can align, where government officials and grassroots organizers can work together, where ordinary citizens can speak up and have their voices heard.

In the past six years, this collaborative approach has enabled our partners to bring rights-based family planning programs and voluntary contraception to millions more women and girls than would have been thought possible just a decade ago. Now we’re taking that model to the next level. We’re working closely with other sectors to identify overlapping goals and align our energies, leveraging the benefits that emerge when we pool our strengths. This is also the model that will serve us in the post-2020 world, as we move toward the vision of the Sustainable Development Goals.

CONNECTING ACROSS SECTORS

Collaboration with other sectors has been a defining feature of the past year. FP2020’s links with the maternal health community are growing deeper and stronger, at both the country and global level. Together with our partners in the humanitarian sector, we’re expanding the body of work on family planning in crisis settings. The family planning and HIV communities, siloed for so long into different funding streams, are beginning to break down the barriers that have kept us apart. As universal health coverage assumes a central role in countries’ long-range strategies, family planning partners are spending more time in discussions with ministries of finance and economic development.
We’re continuing to explore new pathways with the private sector, building off the innovative partnerships announced at last year’s Family Planning Summit. Our partnerships with youth-led organizations are blossoming, as is our connection with faith communities. And our burgeoning relationship with the environmental sector is hugely promising, opening a pathway to achieving healthy people and a healthy planet.

REACHING MORE WOMEN AND ADOLESCENT GIRLS WITH BETTER-QUALITY SERVICES

More women and adolescent girls than ever before are using family planning. As of July 2018, the total number of women and girls using a modern method of contraception in the world’s 69 lowest-income countries had grown to more than 317 million. This is 46 million additional users than existed in 2012, the year FP2020 was launched—an increase that is approximately 30% greater than the historic trend.
Along with growth in the total number of contraceptive users, we're also registering other measures of improvement. Substantially more women are now taking advantage of postpartum family planning. Long-acting reversible contraceptives (LARCs) are now more widely available, especially implants, and several countries are registering impressive uptakes in use. The mix of available contraceptive methods has improved significantly in 20 countries, meaning that more women are able to find the short-term, long-acting, emergency, or permanent method that suits their needs and preferences.

As of July 2018, the total number of women and girls using a modern method of contraception in the world's 69 lowest-income countries had grown to more than 317 million.

The data also illuminate the areas where we still have work to do. Women need full information about different contraceptive options and their possible side effects in order to make an informed choice about the method that best suits their needs. The data indicate there is significant room for improvement in the quality of counseling provided in most FP2020 countries. High-quality care and full, free, voluntary, and informed decision making are crucial aspects of rights-based family planning, as defined in FP2020's Rights and Empowerment Principles.

FUNDING FOR FAMILY PLANNING
The financing landscape for family planning continues to be uncertain. Global donor funding has risen slightly since the last report—from US$1.20 billion in 2016 to US$1.27 billion in 2017—but remains well below the peak of US$1.43 billion in 2014. While overall US appropriations for development aid have remained stable, many programs that were formerly funded are no longer eligible under the Protecting Life in Global Health Assistance policy (PLGHA is an expansion of the Mexico City Policy). Other programs remain chronically under- or un-funded, or are struggling within a domestic context of devolution or insufficient government resources.

On a more positive note, for the first time we're able to present validated estimates of domestic government expenditures on family planning for 31 FP2020 focus countries. This is a groundbreaking achievement for the family planning sector, and represents years of work to establish the necessary methodologies to collect, analyze, and validate these estimates.

With a firmer grasp on domestic government expenditures, we're able to present a more accurate picture of total spending on family planning across the 69 FP2020 focus countries. We estimate that in 2016, total spending for family planning stood at US$3.4 billion. Of this total, 48% was from donors, 34% was from domestic governments, 14% was out-of-pocket, and the remaining 4% was from corporations, NGOs, and other domestic organizations. It should be stressed that these are aggregate figures; the domestic government percentage is heavily weighted by a handful of large countries and should not be considered representative of most FP2020 countries.

**THE FP2020 PARTNERSHIP**
The FP2020 partnership continues to expand, with new commitments in the past year from **Egypt, the Kyrgyz Republic, and Sri Lanka**. This brings the total number of commitment-making countries to 44. Commitments are a powerful tool for marshalling resources and galvanizing progress. The vast majority (93%) of additional users of contraception since 2012 are in FP2020 countries that have made a commitment to the partnership.

We also have new civil society partners, including **Promundo**, which focuses on male engagement, and several youth-led organizations that will be formalizing their commitments by the end of this year.

The Global Goods announced at the 2017 Family Planning Summit are continuing to unfold. The UNFPA Supplies bridge funding mechanism was successfully operationalized in the first quarter of 2018, enabling countries to avoid procurement bottlenecks and stock-outs of contraceptive commodities. The Global Family Planning Visibility and Analytics Network (FP VAN), managed by the Reproductive Health Supplies Coalition, is set to be launched by the end of the year, with pilot country VANs in Malawi and Nigeria. DMPA-SC is being introduced, scaled-up, or piloted in 32 FP2020 countries, and the DMPA-SC Access Collaborative is providing technical support to over a dozen FP2020 countries.

This report includes an overview of the FP2020 Accountability Framework, which builds on the *monitor-review-act* framework used by the *Every Woman Every Child Global Strategy for Women's, Children's and Adolescents’ Health*. We extend the framework to include a fourth process—*share*—to capture the way in which FP2020 promotes transparency and collaboration. Together these four processes form a cycle of learning, action, and continuous improvement.
LOOKING AHEAD

FP2020 is a success story. We’re bending the curve and accelerating progress on family planning. We’ve helped put women’s health back at the center of the global development agenda. We’ve reinvigorated a movement and sparked a thousand local initiatives, from the tiniest rural village to the largest metropolis. This partnership works.

But as much as we’ve accomplished, we recognize that our original ambitious goal of 120 million additional users of contraception will not be reached by 2020. Looking at projected trends, the hill is simply too steep to climb in the two short years remaining in this initiative. Although we’ve achieved many of our goals as a community and several countries are on track to reach their specific FP2020 objectives, in other areas we’re lagging. It will take a few years longer to reach 120 million—but we will reach it. Our commitment is as strong as ever. The FP2020 goal remains a critical milestone on the road to 2030 and the Sustainable Development Goal of universal access to family planning.
With the launch of this report, the FP2020 Reference Group is inviting the global family planning community to begin considering a post-2020 vision. They’ll be asking the community to speak, to decide what comes next. The process of defining and shaping that post-2020 framework will be inclusive, dynamic, and participatory.

Above all, it will be a collaboration.

---

1 All references in this report to girls should be understood to mean adolescent girls. While there are no universally accepted definitions of adolescence and youth, the United Nations understands adolescents to include persons aged 10–19 years and youth as those aged 15–24 years. Together, adolescents and youth are referred to as young people, encompassing the ages of 10–24 years. For statistical purposes, the following age groups are defined: 10–14, 15–19, and 20–24. See: https://www.unfpa.org/sites/default/files/resource-pdf/One%20pager%20on%20youth%20demographics%20GF.pdf.

2 This figure does not include South Africa, which made a commitment to FP2020 but is not one of the 69 focus countries. South Africa’s GNI does not qualify it as one of the world’s poorest countries, based on the World Bank 2010 classification using the Atlas Method.

FROM THE FP2020 REFERENCE GROUP CO-CHAIRS

With 2020 approaching fast, the FP2020 community is at a pivotal moment. Our goalpost is in view and we’re accelerating into the final stretch. Momentum is high. At the same time, we’re starting to look ahead to what comes next. What happens after 2020?
We all know that, while 2020 will mark the endpoint of this specific initiative, it won’t really be a finish line. We’ve achieved many of the goals we set as a community, and progress is ahead of the historical trend. For the first time, more than 317 million women in the world’s poorest countries are using modern contraception. But there are many areas where our efforts have fallen short. It’s estimated that, across all developing countries, 214 million women who want to delay or prevent pregnancy are not using a method of modern contraception.3

And so we have an opportunity to set a new vision: one that is ambitious, specific, and achievable.

Our north star is universal access to family planning, which the Sustainable Development Agenda calls for achieving by 2030. Our post-2020 vision will need to map out exactly where we’re going—collectively and as individual countries—and how to get there. And we’ll need a new framework that, like FP2020, is grounded in human rights, partnership, and collaboration.

This is something for us to think through together as a community. The process of defining and building consensus on a post-2020 vision needs to be transparent, focused, and inclusive, incorporating a diversity of perspectives from a wide range of stakeholders.

Over the next months the FP2020 Reference Group will begin gathering insights and recommendations from the global community on what that post-2020 framework might look like. These are some of the questions we’ll be asking:

- How can we build on the historic progress made by the FP2020 movement? How can we sustain that momentum and link it to the longer horizon?
- We know that success begins at the country level. How can we make our next framework even more country-owned and
Women and girls must be at the heart of development. How can we ensure that our plans and goals resonate with what women and girls really need?

How can we better link our efforts to global trends and initiatives, including universal health coverage and the changing landscape for development finance?

We have an opportunity to create a new vision that will realize the initial promise of FP2020 and take it further, ensuring that more women and girls all over the world can reach their full potential.

This is our moment to go beyond linear thinking. We have an opportunity to create a new vision that will realize the initial promise of FP2020 and take it further, ensuring that more women and girls all over the world can reach their full potential.

The FP2020 partnership has been a historic success. Our country-led, globally backed development model is saving women’s lives, advancing sexual and reproductive health and rights, and transforming communities across the world. This is powerful work for the global family planning community to build on.

We’re excited about we’ve achieved so far, and full of optimism about how much more we can do. This community’s commitment to women and girls is unwavering, and we must keep working until universal access is a reality for the millions of women and girls still waiting. Let’s keep going.
FROM FP2020’S EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

In last year’s report, we told the story of the FP2020 partnership. This year, we’re turning that inside-out. Instead of talking about all the things that are part of family planning, we’re focusing on all the things that family planning is part of. We’ve dedicated an entire section of this report to showcasing the cross-sectoral collaboration that we believe is the future of development.

It’s fitting that we’re launching this report at the fifth International Conference on Family Planning (ICFP). With the theme of “Investing for a Lifetime of Returns,” the 2018 ICFP is all about how family planning pays multiple dividends across the board—in health, quality of life, empowerment, economic growth, security and stability, and environmental sustainability. The corollary is that something as effective as family planning shouldn’t be walled off or siloed. It needs to be integrated into all our development strategies.
The collaborations that have flourished over the past year are an incredibly important step forward. And the year ahead promises more of the same. Through a fellowship supported by CARE, we are working closely with humanitarian partners to support the provision of family planning in crisis settings, and with country partners to include family planning in domestic resilience strategies. In July, FP2020 co-hosted a panel at the International AIDS Conference—the first time we've participated in the conference—and we're now starting to map out how we can align our work with partners in that sector. We're also one of the co-sponsors of next year's Women Deliver Conference (June 2019) and are helping to lead two programming tracks: one on "Improving Access to Family Planning and Reproductive Health Services" and another on "Girls' and Women's Health, Safety, and Well-Being in Humanitarian Settings."

It seems the spirit of collaboration is energizing us all.

Collaboration is of course the paradigm of the Sustainable Development Agenda: mutually reinforcing goals, integrated development, alignments in funding. I believe the partnerships that are growing or emerging now show how that paradigm will actually function. Each sector or discipline has its own essential expertise, reservoir of knowledge, and longstanding relationships. None of that should be lost. Integrated development means more seats at the table, and an opportunity for all of us to move forward together.

But it takes time to build the relationships of trust that enable this kind of collaboration. FP2020's convening power means that we can use this platform to align our work and create more opportunities for sectors to work together. That’s one of the greatest strengths of FP2020, and something I hope we can carry forward into the post-2020 framework.
Only by joining forces can we unlock the progress that will enable every girl and woman, every child and adult, to thrive—and to transform our communities and our planet.

The truth is that none of us can achieve our development goals without a multisectoral approach. The Sustainable Development Agenda calls on us all to recognize that our fates are intertwined. Only by joining forces can we unlock the progress that will enable every girl and woman, every child and adult, to thrive—and to transform our communities and our planet.

Photo by Jonathan Torgovnik _Getty Image Reportage_