

### **MYANMAR**

HTTP://WWW.FAMILYPLANNING2020.ORG/MYANMAR

In July 2016, the government of Myanmar shared the following update on progress toward achieving its Family Planning 2020 commitment during the 2015-2016 time period (commitment included below for reference). **The government added new information to this update in April 2017.** 

### **POLICY & POLITICAL UPDATES**

- In 2016, Myanmar has made some progress in the policy environment for providing clinical contraceptive methods by trained and skilled nurses and volunteered, such as the commitment for task shifting to Auxiliary Midwives (AMW) in FP services; some methods of family planning like OC pills and condom can be provided by AMW. Long-term methods of family planning (particularly, implant) training is scheduled to start in July 2016 for the public sector, with a nationwide roll out planned for 2016-2017 with the support of UNFPA, PSI, Jhpiego and ObGy Society/ MMA. Pathfinder International has supported cascade trainings for implants in Southern Shan State in 2016. There will be trainings of health care providers to give services targeted to peri-urban poor in the Yangon region (reaching 34 townships), in the Mandalay region (23 townships), and in the Magway region (25 townships), where maternal mortality is high and unmet need is high.
- In March 2016, an FP2020 conference was conducted in Lashio, Northern Shan State, in collaboration with Pathfinder International, Myanmar Partners in Policy and Research (MPPR) and UNFPA. This follows a similar conference that was organized in Taunggyi, Southern Shan State, in May 2015.
- On May 31 2016, a High-Level Consultation Meeting was organized in Naypyitaw to update the new Minister of Health and Sports H.E. Dr. Myint Htwe and Minister of Social Welfare, Relief and Settlement Win Myat Aye about FP2020 progress on the 2016 action plan, in collaboration with UNFPA, Pathfinder International and MPPR. The commitment was reaffirmed strongly by participants, including many donor agencies, NGO and CSO partners. This activity was supported by the FP2020 Rapid Response Mechanism.
- During November 17-18, 2016, MOHS, Pathfinder International and MPPR organized a family planning conference in Kayin State. Over 70 participants attended from all 7 townships, including 26 participants from NGOs, Ethnic Health Organizations, and the Karen Department of Health and Welfare. The participants identified bottlenecks for FP2020 goals and action plans to overcome challenges. Director of Maternal and Reproductive Health Dr. Hla Mya Thway Einda of MOHS as well as the State Health Director and his team attended and provided inputs to the plans.
- Myanmar has developed a five-year strategic plan for reproductive health and developed a Costed Implementation Plan (CIP) in 2014 to meet the commitment on Family Planning 2020. All implementing partners are providing FP services according to the strategies and guidance of that plan, but the government plans on revisiting the CIP this year 2016 to explore the gaps in family planning.
- Lead Working Group on Family Planning and Lead Working Group on RH are being conducted quarterly in alignment with the Reproductive Health Technical Working Committee meetings and any recommendations are discussed at the Maternal Newborn and Child Health Technical Strategic Group. In addition, the FP commodity meeting and coordination meetings of the nationwide training effort are also occasionally conducted occasionally.

### **FINANCIAL UPDATES**

- During the 2015-2016 budget year, the Ministry of Health and Sport was able to procure US \$0.56 million worth of contraceptives and spent US \$2.8 million for all logistics of maternal and reproductive health (records, registers, and maternal medicines).
- According to the Government of Myanmar's budget for 2015-2016, the total health budget was 753.001 billion kyats.

- The Ministry committed to scaling up the reproductive health commodity logistics system to two states and
  regions out of 17 states and regions in this year and then nationally through harmonizing it into the national
  system.
- To improve the monitoring system of family planning, capacity building of M&E officers from Myanmar was carried out with the support of Track 20 team and Consensus Building Workshops were conducted since last year with all FP stakeholders.

### **PROGRAM & SERVICE DELIVERY UPDATES**

- In an effort to implementing a monitoring system to strengthen quality of care, the government of Myanmar agreed to—during the discussion for nationwide Implant training—the Lead FP Working Committee agreed to use a post training assessment form and quality control checklist with technical support from JHPIEGO and PSI as part of monitoring effectiveness. An assessment study on implant removal will also be conducted by MOHS and JHPIEGO to highlight the quality of care in service provision.
- Myanmar is working continuously on strengthening its logistics management information system to ensure reproductive health commodity security. Since 2014, RH Commodity Logistic System was being implemented in 12 townships. In 2016, with technical support from JSI and financial support from UNFPA and Pathfinder International, 55 townships under Shan (South) and Mandalay regions are having the LMIS expanded. To cover all other State/ Region, the funding gap to cover all other states and regions still exists and is under the negotiation of the MOHS with 3MDG fund.
- Nationwide Long Acting Reversible Contraceptive (LARC) Implant Training are being provided to health care
  providers in public sector in collaboration with partner organizations since 2016 through a public-private partnership
  approach. Out of 17 States and Regions, 5 States and Regions (Yangon, Mandalay, Magway, Southern Shan, Kayin)
  have conducted Implant trainings and currently Chin State (hilly area) and Ayarwaddy Region (delta area) are being
  carried out. With financial support from Pathfinder International, and technical support from PSI and Ob/Gyn Society,
  implant training was conducted in Southern Shan State organized by MPPR in Oct-Nov 2016. A total of 50 medical
  professionals from townships were trained on Implant insertion and removal, FP counseling technieques, and held
  discussions on effective FP service delivery.
- The Total Market Approach for FP is being conducted by PATH in collaboration with MOHS and UNFPA. Introduction
  of Sayana Press in Myanmar is still going on in collaboration with UNFPA and other private partners. UNFPA has
  been procured 0.8 million doses of Sayana Press in 2016 and, with the MOHS's lead to get pre-registration waiver,
  Sayana Press initiation program began in the second quarter of 2016. This will increase additional users of modern
  method of contraception.
- With funding from Pathfinder International, MPPR collaborated with Pinlaung Township in Southern Shan States to conduct AMW training focusing on FP service delivery among young people. One hundred seventy vounteers were trained with basic SRH skills and provided with FP service delivery kits to aid their community outreach activities among young people in villages.
- To improve the monitoring system of family planning, the capacity building of M&E officers was carried out with the support of the Track 20 team, and Consensus Building Workshops were conducted since last year to get consensus among stakeholders and discuss data utilization, data monitoring, private sector involvement, and other monitoring issues.
- With support from the Packard Foundation through Pathfinder International, the Departments of Public Health and Medical Research and MPPR designed an innovative mixed method research project to collect information about the sexual and reproductive health behaviors of young people in two townships in Southern Shan State. Results will be available in Spring 2017 which will support the development of pilot activities in Southern Shan to promote young people's sexual and reproductive health. Pathfinder International also provided support to MOHS to translate the

participant handouts for the Adolescent SRH training modules into Myanmar language which will be used to promote youth-friendly services nationwide among health providers.

FAMILY PLANNING

FAMILY PLANNING 2020

The following text is the commitment made by the government of Myanmar at the 2012 London Summit on Family Planning. To review the commitment online, please visit: <u>http://www.familyplanning2020.org/myanmar</u>.

The government of Myanmar views family planning as critical to saving lives, protecting mothers and children from death, ill health, disability, and under development. It views access to family planning information, commodities, and services as a fundamental right for every woman and community if they are to develop to their full potential.

### Objectives

- 1. Increase CPR from 41 percent to 50 percent by 2015 and above 60 percent by 2020.
- 2. Reduce unmet need to less than 10 percent by 2015 (from 12 percent in 2013).
- 3. Increase demand satisfaction from 67 percent to 80 percent by 2015.
- 4. Improve method mix with increased use of long acting permanent methods (LAPMs) and decentralization to districts.

#### POLICY & POLITICAL COMMITMENTS

Myanmar aims to strengthen the policy of providing clinical contraceptive methods by trained/skilled nurses, midwives and volunteers through better collaboration among multi-stakeholders within the context of Nay Pyi Taw Accord. The government of Myanmar also pledges to implement people-centered policies to address regional disparity and inequity between urban and rural and rich and poor populations. In addition, Myanmar commits to expanding the forum of family planning under the umbrella of the Health Sector Coordinating Committee and to creating an Executive Working Group on Family Planning as a branch of the Maternal Newborn and Child Health Technical Strategic Group.

#### FINANCIAL COMMITMENTS

In fiscal year 2011-2012, Myanmar committed USD \$1.29 million for the purchase of contraceptives during the 2012-2013 financial period. Myanmar pledges to increase the health budget to cover nearly 30 million couples by 2020. The Myanmar Ministry of Health & Sports commits to working toward increasing the resources allocated to family planning in state budgets. The government is also committed to ensuring results-based management through new initiatives for effective fund flow mechanisms and internal auditing.

#### **PROGRAM & SERVICE DELIVERY COMMITMENTS**

Myanmar seeks to boost partnership with the private sector, civil society organizations, and other development partners for expanded service delivery. The government of Myanmar will continue to strengthen the logistics management information system to ensure reproductive health commodity security through improved projection, forecasting, procurement, supply, storage, systematic distribution, and inventory control. In addition, Myanmar will implement a monitoring system to strengthen quality of care and ensure women have a full range of contraceptive options.

The government of Myanmar will review and develop a five-year strategic plan for reproductive health through a consultative process, and Myanmar's family plan will address regional disparities and inequalities. The government also commits to improving the method mix with increased use of LAPMs.