



September EDITION

This month's spotlight: Delivering MNCH and FP services during COVID-19 in Pakistan

Country Conversations



Just released: Delivering MNCH and FP services during COVID-19 in Pakistan

In 2022, WHO conducted a study to document the experience of engaging with the private sector in health to maintain the delivery and use of maternal, newborn and child health (MNCH) and family planning (FP) services during the COVID-19 pandemic. The recently released case studies summarize the findings from Pakistan.

[Learn more](#)

What We've Been Up To...



The Country Connector has a fresh **new look**

We have just completed the Country Connector revamp which started in early 2023. The revamp included reorganizing the site to make it more user friendly, featuring the human element in our branding and giving the Connector a more modern look. Click [here](#) to view the highlights of the revamp and check the new [website](#).



Webinar: Strengthening SRH outcomes through private sector engagement: integrating lessons and evolving approaches

On 25 July, the Country Connector joined MSI Reproductive Choices and Pathfinder International in a webinar on strengthening sexual and reproductive health outcomes through private sector engagement. The webinar convened speakers from USAID, ThinkWell Global, PharmAccess, WHO and the Ethiopia Federal Ministry of Health. Click [here](#) to view the recording and download the webinar [presentation](#).



Expert Consultation: Joining forces for Primary Care

Between 27-28 August, the Country Connector participated in an expert consultation in Cairo, Egypt. The consultation was organized by WHO Regional Office for the Eastern Mediterranean and aimed to assist the region in developing guidance for the minimum requirements of primary care facilities from structural, functional and operational perspectives. This guidance is envisaged to support Member States in establishing and running fit-for-purpose primary care facilities that meet existing and future needs of the population through system-wide stewardship and effective engagement of private providers in the delivery of primary care services.



Satellite session: Advancing Women's Health in Africa via the Private Sector

On 19 July 2023, the Country Connector was featured in a satellite session on Advancing Women's Health in Africa via the Private Sector. The session was part of the 6th Women Deliver Conference (WD 2023) in Kigali, Uganda. It was organized by the Coalition for Women's Health Africa (COWHA) and aimed to discuss the challenges and opportunities for the private sector to enable access to health in Africa and to increase the responsiveness of health systems to the health needs of women.



The Country Connector at the UNHLM: Sustainable Approaches to Improve Maternal Health and Achieve UHC through strategic private sector collaborations

The Country Connector co-sponsored a hybrid session in collaboration with Merck for Mothers and Devex on 19 September, 2023 in New York ahead of the U.N. High-level Meeting (UNHLM) on Pandemic Prevention, Preparedness and Response. The event featured lessons learnt in health financing and investment for sustainability and resilience to advance equitable access to care. The speakers highlighted the policies and practices to be strengthened to help in accelerating progress towards health-related SDGs with a focus on target 3.1 which is concerned with the reduction of the global maternal mortality ratio to less than 70 per 100 000 live births by 2030.

[Learn More](#)

Partner Showcase Corner



Private Sector Engagement for Tuberculosis Elimination: India's Journey from Pilots to National Scale-Up (2012-2021)

India has the world's largest burden of Tuberculosis (TB), accounting for 26% of the global burden. The World Bank developed a policy brief and working paper to synthesize key policy reforms and implementation insights garnered from engaging the private sector, as part of donor transition and national scale-up through domestic funding (2012-2021).

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Soon on the Country Connector

Maturity Model and M&E framework on the governance of the private sector in mixed health systems

We have completed a systematic review which synthesized the available literature on governance of private health care financing and delivery. Results from the review are currently being used to develop a Maturity Model and a Monitoring and Evaluation (M&E) Framework on the governance of the private sector in mixed health systems. The Maturity Model will support governments in matching policy instruments with required capacities for better governance of the private sector in health. While the M&E framework will enable them to

Data for Governance

We are finalizing a study protocol that aims to explore the data that are currently being collected by governments and how they are being used for governance of the private sector in health. The study will be conducted in selected countries with support from USAID and will result in the development of country case studies and a comparative insights analysis. The protocol is expected to be published by Q1 2024.

The Country Connector on Private Sector in Health is developed and maintained by the World Health Organization with generous support from USAID and Merck for Mothers

measure the impact of private sector engagement activities on the governance of health policy goals and health system outcomes The draft Maturity Model and a M&E framework are expected to be available in Q4 2023.



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