



# Responding with Essential Sexual and Reproductive Health and Rights (SRHR) Provision and New Delivery Mechanisms (RESPOND)























# **Project Overview**



### **RESPOND**

The project forms part of the Australian Government Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade's (DFAT) Indo-Pacific Sexual and Reproductive Health and Rights COVID-19 Surge Response (C-SURGE) program, in partnership with MSI Reproductive Choices (MSI).



### **ULTIMATE OUTCOME**

Enhanced Sexual and Reproductive Health and Rights (SRHR) for populations impacted by the COVID-19 pandemic in the Asia Pacific region.



### OUTCOME

Improved utilisation of high-quality and equitable SRHR information and services by the most vulnerable, with a focus on innovative approaches and restoring services that have been impacted due to COVID-19.

# Our Presence



- Bangladesh
- Bhutan
- Cambodia
- Cook Islands
- Fiji

- Indonesia
- Kiribati
- Laos
- Maldives
  - Nepal

- Pakistan
- Papua New Guinea
- Philippines
- Samoa
- Solomon Islands

- Sri Lanka
- Tonga
- Tuvalu
- Vanuatu



## Key Annual Achievements At A Glance

August 2021- July 2022



6,642,138 SRH services

• Provided through 875 service delivery points



1,644,030 clients

- 38.7% are vulnerable and underserved
- 7.5% reached via telemedicine and alternative service delivery models



640,553 CYPs

- 81 maternal deaths averted
- 121,859 unplanned pregnancies averted
- 49,166 unsafe abortions averted



Couple years of protection (CYP) - The total number of years of contraceptive protection provided to a couple based on the type of contraceptive item used. It is the most widely used method for calculating the impact of contraceptive services.



Women & Girls



**Underserved Communities** 



**Young People** 



Underserved Communities (people in hard-to-reach areas, people with disabilities, LGBTQI+ populations)



66

### Rowen, Rizal Province, Philippines

"I'm grateful to the mobile team for providing me with information on various methods of contraception. I want to have control over how many children I have and when they are born."



"

#### Achala, Seethawaka, Sri Lanka

"I've had two children, but no one ever told me how important health screening and family planning options are, so I had my first pap smear and breast exam at the Family Planning Association of Sri Lanka's RESPOND mobile clinic."



High-quality & equitable Sexual and Reproductive Health (SRH) services provided through established service delivery channels.

- 7,336 service providers trained
- 24,540 clients referred for Sexual and Gender-Based Violence (SGBV) follow on support
- Provision of SRH and Family Planning services in geographically remote and hard to reach locations





"The RESPOND Project has enabled greater consciousness of the need for local government units to further strengthen the health system and tap into the participation of stakeholders, often regarded as mere beneficiaries of programs, to genuinely take part in the process of asserting their rights and have their voices heard in health governance."

"

Nandy A. Senoc, Executive Director,
Family Planning Organization of the Philippines (FPOP)



Women, men & young people have access to digital health services (telemedicine) & alternative delivery models (home-based care, self-care, etc)



- The Promotion of Family Health Association (PFHA)
   Laos & Reproductive Health Association of Cambodia (RHAC) piloted telemedicine guidelines.
- The Family Planning Association of Sri Lanka (FPASL) & Society of Health Education (SHE)
   Maldives started using dedicated technology platforms for telemedicine.
- Rahnuma-Family Planning Association of Pakistan (FPAP) delivered a new provider-clientprovider telemedicine model with the integration of in-person, self-care models.



"Rahnuma-FPAP believes in empowering underserved communities, to practise self-care and access quality sexual and reproductive health and rights information and services through telemedicine approaches. We were able to put our beliefs into action through the RESPOND project, reaching 1 million clients during the pandemic and providing 3.4 million quality SRHR services, including to thousands of Afghan refugees."

Syed Kamal Shah, Chief Executive Officer, Family Planning Association of Pakistan (Rahnuma-FPAP)





# **Output 3: Key Highlights**



Women, men and young people receive quality, trusted & accessible information on Sexual and Reproductive Health and Rights (SRHR) and COVID-19.

• 5,030,761 visits to digital platforms showcasing SRHR information



"Stereotypes and discrimination are two of the most persistent barriers to bodily autonomy. I believe that by providing Comprehensive Sexuality Education (CSE) and raising awareness online, we can encourage young people to talk openly about their sexual health and well-being."



Leah Boeagavi, Youth Volunteer,
Papua New Guinea Family Health Association (PNGFHA)



"Access to SRHR information is crucial for adolescent girls because it gives them vital information on gender identity and expressions. It may also help to reduce child marriages, teen pregnancies, and sexually transmitted infections."

> Vaseva Tabua Macanalagi,Youth Advocate, Reproductive & Family Health Association of Fiji (RFHAF)





Further engagement with Ministry of Health & local governments

Proven during year one, particularly where there is limited health infrastructure & service reach.

Strengthening SGBV capacity & gender responsiveness

Stronger referral pathways and partnerships to increase access to services.

Strengthening & expanding mobile & telemedicine services

Upskilling service providers & community distributors on alternative service delivery & referral.







"We have revived 23 clinics in various IPPA chapters through the RESPOND program. The grant was used to renew IPPA clinic licences, hire and train medical personnel, renovate clinics, calibrate medical equipment, and develop telemedicine services."

Eko Maryadi, Executive Director, Indonesian Planned Parenthood Association (IPPA)







