Why do we measure what we do? Reflecting on the history and current use of demand-side family planning indicators

Measuring Demand side of FP: Case for Uganda

Fredrick Makumbi

Makerere University, School of Public Health- Uganda

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Fertility desires, Intended Pregnancies, and total demand for FP: ALL women, age 15-49 yrs; Sept 2022 survey





Use of Key indicators -Policy and program documentation: **Targets and monitoring of FP program**



4.2 PROGRAMMATIC GOALS

Two programmatic mCPR goals are provided under an ambitious scenario.

Ambitious Goals

- 1. Increase national mCPR from 30.4% in 2020 to 39.6% (All Women) by 2025 through improving access to sexual and reproductive health and rights information and services.
- 2. Increase national mCPR from 38.7% in 2020 to 46.6% (married women or women in union) by 2025 through improving access to sexual and reproductive health and rights information and services.
- 3. Reduce the unmet need to 15% with the ultimate goal of achieving below 10% by 2025.



Ugandan Government FP2030 Commitments

COMMITMENT OBJECTIVES

OBJECTIVE 1: INCREASE EQUITABLE ACCESS AND VOLUNTARY USE OF MODERN CONTRACEPTIVE METHODS FOR ALL WOMEN AND COUPLES

1.1 OBJECTIVE STATEMENT: The Government of Uganda commits to increase the mCPR for all women from 30.4% in 2020 to 39.6% by 2025 and reduce unmet need from 17% in 2020 to 15% by 2025.

1.2 TIMELINE: September 2021-July 2025

Limitations of two key FP indicators

1. Unmet need

- *Estimated for:* All women, married women and sexually active unmarried women
- Unmet need is <u>not individual-level/person defined</u>, but been used as such
 - Pregnant women with unintended pregnancy at the time, are now included
- Total demand
 - Limitations of unmet need directly affect this measure too
 - What does a changing demand, or demand satisfied mean?

<u>Suggested adjustments</u> to key indicators for enhanced monitoring for FP program progress & Impact

- Define a <u>"risk set</u>" for the unmet need focusing only on the sexually active irrespective of marital status;
 - i. Then non-sexually active will not contribute to estimate of "need"
- 2) Intention for future use of contraceptive
 - i. Individual **or Person-centered**/defined measure
 - **ii.** All non-current FP users are included, unlike in unmet where women non-FP users and wish to limit and postpone childbearing 2+ years
 - iii. Likely to yield a better estimate of potentially **needed FP services**
- 3) Comprehensive/Adequate FP knowledge
 - Comprehensive/Adequate FP knowledge is not defined/assessed yet may be important for informing individual's decision on FP method use or non use

Thank you