Rethinking FP Measurements from Reproductive Rights & Social Justice lens

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What is the Measure of fulfilled Rights?
Current FP measures

- Quantitative
- Performance,
- Success,
- Efficiency

- Unmet need
- Couple Year Protection
- Contraceptive Prevalence Rate
- Contraceptive Method Mix
The standard definition of unmet need for family planning (UMN), included in the numerator:

• All pregnant women (married or in consensual union) whose pregnancies were unwanted or mistimed at the time of conception.

• All postpartum amenorrheic women (married or in consensual union) who are not using family planning and whose last birth was unwanted or mistimed.

• All fecund women (married or in consensual union) who are neither pregnant nor postpartum amenorrheic, and who either do not want any more children (limit), or who wish to postpone the birth of a child for at least two years or do not know when or if they want another child (spacing) but are not using any contraceptive method.

Source - WHO, [Unmet need for family planning (%) (who.int)](http://www.who.int)
Unmet need – unmet rights

• Reproductive Biology is measured – Ability of become pregnant
• Eligibility to become pregnant is considered
• Exclusive indicator – men, Young people
• Single people (not married, not in consensual relationships)
Measuring Uptake of FP
## Hierarchy of Methods

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Method</th>
<th>Conversion</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Sterilization (Male/Female)</td>
<td>10 Globally / 13 (India, Nepal)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>IUD / Hormonal IUS</td>
<td>4.6/4.8</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Implants (3 Year / 5 Year)</td>
<td>2.5/3.8</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Fertility Based Methods &amp; Stdrd Days Method</td>
<td>1.5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Diaphragm</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Depo Provera (DMPA) Injectable</td>
<td>0.25 CYP per dose (4 doses per CYP)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Combined Oral Contraceptives</td>
<td>0.0667 CYP per pack (15 cycles per CYP)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Progestin-only Pills (POP, packs of 35 pills)</td>
<td>0.0833 CYP per pack (12 cycles per CYP)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Condoms (Male/Female)</td>
<td>0.00833 CYP per unit (120 units per CYP)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Noristerat (NET-En) Injectable</td>
<td>0.167 CYP per dose (6 doses per CYP)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Cyclofem Monthly Injectable</td>
<td>0.077 CYP per dose (13 doses per CYP)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Monthly Vaginal Ring/Patch</td>
<td>0.067 CYP per cycle (15 units per CYP)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Emergency Contraception</td>
<td>0.05 CYP per dose (20 doses per CYP)</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Couple Year Protection

• Couple-Years of Protection (CYP) is the estimated protection provided by family planning (FP) methods during a one-year period, based upon the volume of all contraceptives sold or distributed free of charge to clients during that period.

• This includes permanent methods, such as sterilization, and the lactational amenorrhea method (LAM).

• Demographic Indicator

• Does not measure FP programme access effectively

• Skewed towards provider based methods

• Is it really useful anymore?

• Can it be replaced by Contraceptive Method Mix?

Source – USAID, Couple-Years of Protection (CYP) | Global Health | Health Areas | Family Planning and Reproductive Health | U.S. Agency for International Development (usaid.gov)
What we still need to measure?

- Quality of FP Services
- Efficiency and Effectiveness
- Granular details of reasons for drop-outs
- Supply side / Demand side
Invisibility Cloak

- Young people
- Unmarried women
- Men
Measure what can be measured, and make measurable what cannot be measured.

Galileo Galilei