

# A 'BUSINESS UNUSUAL' PLATFORM FOR SCALING UP AND SUSTAINING URBAN REPRODUCTIVE HEALTH SOLUTIONS

THE THE CHALLENGE INITIATIVE



## **AN INCREASINGLY URBAN WORLD**

The United Nations reports that by 2050, nearly 70% of the world's population will be urban with 90% of that urbanization occurring in Africa and Asia.

Almost all that growth will be concentrated in poor urban settlements. Poor urban women have considerably worse health outcomes, when compared with their wealthier urban counterparts and rural women.





## **FAMILY PLANNING SOLUTIONS**

Reaching urban women and girls, particularly those living in slums, with family planning solutions is essential.

When women and girls can control their own destinies by choosing the number and spacing of their children, it makes the future brighter for all of us.





## **BUSINESS 'UNUSUAL'**

The Challenge Initiative empowers local city governments to provide for the family planning needs of their own communities with evidence-based high-impact solutions.

It is a "business unusual" platform that delivers funding and technical expertise to support the rapid scale up of family planning solutions for the urban poor, while laying the groundwork for long-term sustainability.

Targeting rapidly growing urban areas in Asia and Africa will have the greatest impact.

## **WHERE WE WORK**

The Challenge Initiative currently works through four regional "accelerator hubs" located in East Africa, Francophone West Africa, Nigeria and India. These regions previously implemented high-impact family planning solutions under the successful Urban Reproductive Health Initiative. These solutions have been curated and are now part of TCI University.



## **HOW WE WORK**

Local governments self-select to participate, bringing political commitment, financial and human resources, and their own ideas for solving their family planning challenges. Once qualified, they can seek financial support from the Initiative's Challenge Fund. They also receive technical expertise and guidance to identify their most pressing family planning needs, which are then matched with solutions. The local government implements its program while the Initiative sets up monitoring systems to track progress and provide immediate feedback.

#### LOCAL GOVERNMENTS PROVIDE



**Political Commitment** 



Financial Resources from Challenge Fund

THE INITIATIVE PROVIDES



Human & Financial Resources

Ideas for Solving Family Planning Issues



Mentoring & Technical Expertise



Evidence-Based Family Planning Solutions



EVERY \$1 INVESTED IN FAMILY PLANNING ANNUALLY GENERATES \$120 IN BENEFITS TO SOCIETY.

## **OPPORTUNITIES FOR INVESTORS**

We know family planning is one of the best investments we can make to not only improve the lives of women and girls living in urban slums, but also all global citizens.

Family planning positively impacts global challenges such as maternal and child mortality, urban poverty, gender equality, human rights and global climate change.

We welcome additional multilateral, bilateral and private investors to contribute to our Challenge Fund and expand our impact.

Investors can leverage their support because additional donor funds can unlock more resources from local governments and other donors. The Initiative is led by the Bill & Melinda Gates Institute for Population and Reproductive Health at the Johns Hopkins Bloomberg School of Public Health. Our regional accelerator hubs are locally registered country offices of established international non-governmental organizations with highly competent staff who have a deep understanding of local context and experience implementing high-impact family planning solutions.



Bill & Melinda Gates Institute *for* Population *and* Reproductive Health









Healthy lives. Measurable results.

**TCIURBANHEALTH.ORG**