

PSP-One AND RESEARCH, MONITORING & EVALUATION

May 2008

PSP-One's Research, Monitoring and Evaluation (RME) team provides support to policy makers and program managers seeking to gain a better understanding of the private health sector by evaluating innovative initiatives and documenting promising approaches.

PSP-One Technical Assistance: The RME team provides support and technical assistance in the following ways:

CONTRIBUTING TO THE GLOBAL KNOWLEDGE BASE ON PRIVATE SECTOR PROGRAMS

PSP-One global studies aim to answer critical questions for private sector programs on issues of sustainability, quality and equity. Examples of PSP-One's global studies include:

When Donor Support Ends: The fate of social marketing products and the markets they help create This study assessed the performance of social marketing interventions under the manufacturer's model, a model that has the potential to achieve sustainability, in four middle-income countries that have graduated contraceptive products. Results indicate that the manufacturer's model can contribute to a higher commercial share of a method among low and middle income women and that this share may remain the same after the donor support is withdrawn.

Equity of Access to Contraceptive Products and Services: Does Private Sector Expansion Help or Hurt? This study determined whether private sector expansion contributed to increased inequity by examining DHS data from five countries where the private sector share of modern

Evaluating the effectiveness of a quality improvement tool among Ugandan midwives

PSP-One conducted a quasi-experimental evaluation to assess the impact of a quality improvement tool among members of the Uganda Private Midwives Association (UPMA). Quality of care was measured at baseline and follow-up among 248 midwives assigned to three groups: (1) midwives using the tool with supervision, (2) midwives using the tool without supervision; and (3) midwives that were not using the tool at all (comparison group). Improvements in family planning care, antenatal care, counseling, and structural aspects (such as equipment, supplies, and business skills) were greater in the group of midwives whose supervisors were also trained on the tool. Findings suggest that the use of a self-assessment quality improvement tool may increase provider self-awareness about quality issues, as well as empower providers to take a problem-solving

approach to improve structural and process aspects of quality. The role of the supervisor appears to be important in supporting midwives in identifying solutions to problems and mobilizing resources to address them.





contraceptive use has increased over time. The research found no support for the hypothesis that increased private sector supply leads to higher inequity in modern contraceptive prevalence.

INFORMING AND EVALUATING INNOVATIVE PRIVATE HEALTH SECTOR STRATEGIES

PSP-One also conducts in country research to inform and evaluate innovative private health sector strategies.

Increasing Latent Demand for Family Planning (FP) Using commercially based market research strategies, PSP-One is conducting a Client-Centered Market Segmentation Study in the Philippines to identify potential FP consumers based on their attitudes, lifestyles and values. The market segments identified through this study will be used by local stakeholders to develop customized FP marketing strategies based on unique segment profiles.

Evaluating Behavior Change Among Youth Research has shown that young people prefer the private sector, particularly pharmacies, to meet their reproductive health and family planning (RH/FP) needs. Previous pharmacy initiatives targeted to young people have only demonstrated supply-side effects, and little is known about the impact of this type of initiative on contraceptive use. PSP-One is implementing a Youth Friendly Initiative in Lucknow, India with the goal of improving supply and increasing demand for RH/FP services among young married couples. A quasi-experimental evaluation will assess the impact of this initiative on modern method use among the target group.

SUPPORTING EFFORTS TO MONITOR PRIVATE SECTOR PROGRAMS

Developing Performance Indicators for global aggregation and comparison as well as indicators that accurately reflect the unique achievements of the PSP Task Orders and contribute to USAID Mission Strategic Objectives. In addition to monitoring the performance of PSP-One activities, the RME team oversees performance monitoring for all PSP Task Orders. Specifically, PSP-One led the development of core indicators for all Private Sector Task Orders and reports results achieved by all Task Orders annually to USAID.

About PSP-One

The PSP-One project is USAID's flagship project, funded under Contract No. GPO-I-00-04-00007-00, to increase the private sector's provision of high-quality reproductive health and family planning (RH/FP) and other health products and services in developing countries. PSP-One is led by Abt Associates Inc. and implemented in collaboration with eight partners:

Banyan Global

Dillon, Allman and Partners, LLC

Family Health International

Forum One Communications

IntraHealth International

O'Hanlon Health Consulting

Population Services International

Tulane University School of Public Health and Tropical Medicine

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