



Snapshot of Accomplishments Madagascar

October 2022 to September 2023

ACTIVITY OBJECTIVES	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Improve quality of private sector services for better supply quality. 2. Ensure youth markets drive demand and improve access/ supply to hard-to-reach urban and peri-urban population. 3. Consolidate and further capacitate public private dialogue (PPD) platforms to better engage private providers and encourage stewardship. 4. Mobilize financial resources to improve private sector capacity, responsiveness, and financial sustainability
GEOGRAPHIC FOCUS AREAS	Antananarivo (Analamanga Region), Boeny Region, and Vakinankaratra Region
HEALTH AREAS	Family Planning; Maternal and Child Health; Nutrition
TECHNICAL AREAS	Financing; Market Information; Stewardship; Supply and Demand
REPORTING PERIOD	October 2022 to September 2023

Select Accomplishments

Developed Strategies to Improve Financial Services for Private Providers

In Madagascar, private providers have a difficult time accessing financing which will help them to provide quality health products and services. Through a participative process and a co-creation workshop

between a range of stakeholders from microfinance and financial institutions (MFI) and private sector groups and associations – including from the Private Health Sector Group (Groupement du secteur privé de la sante or GSPS) – FHM Engage was able to better understand MFI's reluctance to provide financing to private providers. FHM Engage worked with the stakeholders to develop strategies to overcome barriers and financing reluctance, facilitated prototype-designing sessions of health services with potential MFI, and facilitated opportunities for collaboration between associations of private providers with two potential MFIs.

Created the Public and Private Exchange Platform (PEPP) to Convene Key Public and Private Health Actors

Despite the commitment of the Government of Madagascar to engage stakeholders around one vision of health, integration of the private sector into the health system remains challenging. To facilitate coordination and collaboration between key public and private health stakeholders in Boeny, FHM Engage brought together leadership of the regional directorate of the public health (DRSP) and convened representatives of key health actors to create the Public and Private Exchange Platform (PEPP). The intention of the PEPP is to build capacity of the team to engage and improve partnership climate and to ensure that the private sector is effectively involved in the development and implementation of the country's health policy and strategy. The PEPP has convened five times this year to build vision, values, and identify key areas of collaboration. Participants have included the private sector, regional public representatives, and technical and financial partner representatives like USAID, UNICEF, and the World Health Organization.

Trained Local Coaches in Quality Assurance of FP, MCH, and Nutrition Services

With the support from the local subawardee, Institut de Technologie de l'Education et de Management (ITEM), FHM Engage conducted Training of Trainers (ToT) activities to strengthen the capacity of local training coaches in quality assurance and continuous quality improvement (QA/CQI), and training engineering. From July 10 to 12 in Majunga, the capital of Boeny, 20 trainers from the two Faculties of Medicine of Majunga and Antananarivo, and private sector leaders from Boeny and Vakinankaratra regions participated in a training workshop facilitated by experts from ITEM. The main topics of sessions included training leadership, communication, self-development, engineering processes and different stages, curriculum design, face-to-face training facilitation, and training evaluation. The final session allowed the trainers to practice a training simulation with a working group. ITEM will continue to work with FHM Engage to improve ToT curriculum in FP, MCH, and nutrition, to develop a capacity strengthening report of trainers and coaches, and to share their results.

Worked with Training Institutes to Improve the Quality of Pre-Service Skill Training and Health Services

“Quality of healthcare starts from training curriculum” was the message shared by private providers to spur an increase in quality of care by filling an existing gap in current medical training in Madagascar. Toward this vision, FHM Engage partnered with two Faculties of Medicine (Antananarivo and Majunga) to introduce five new topics in their curriculum to improve the quality of pre-service skill training and health services: Quality assurance, entrepreneurship, business management, personal development, and community-based dialogue. Each year, more than 200 new doctors graduate from the two faculties. The

improved quality assurance modules will now be available in the training courses of all 8th year students of the Faculties of Medicine.

In addition, FHM Engage worked with the Private Paramedical Institutions to create the Platform of Private Paramedical Training Institutes of Vakinankaratra (PIPFP-VAK). The platform brings together seven institutes that deliver training programs to more than 100 students of paramedics (nurses, midwives, counselors, and laboratory technicians) in the region each year. The same aforementioned five topics will be introduced to the training program of 3rd year students of the Paramedical Institutions.

Supported Training to Increase Technical Capacity and Maturity of Private Health Sector Actors

To support and encourage GSPS and its key members, as well as the Association of Private Hospitals in Madagascar (AHPM), to be vibrant stewards or representatives of the private health sector in Madagascar, FHM Engage collaborated with the West African Health Federation (WAPH/FOASPS) to conduct a series of trainings on strategic orientation, action plan development, governance, membership management, networking, and advocacy. FHM Engage and FOASPS also led a training session for PEPP members on the private and public partnership environment to enhance communication and collaboration between private and public health sector stakeholders.

Due to FOASPS' support, participating private sector representatives developed advocacy plans including on how non-profit and for-profit private providers can access priority and free family planning (FP) and maternal, child health (MCH) products through the public supply chain of SALAMA, a public health product wholesaler in Madagascar and on tax exemption for health equipment.

Cover banner photo: Participants take part in an FHM Engage supported Training of Trainers exercise in Boeny region. Credit: FHM Engage.