

# The National Composite Index for Family Planning (NCIFP)

## Chad 2014 Results

### What is the NCIFP?

The NCIFP is a new tool developed to support FP2020's efforts to improve the enabling and policy environment for family planning. The NCIFP measures both the existence of policies and program implementation, using 35 individual scores organized under five dimensions: **Strategy**, **Data**, **Quality**, **Equity**, and **Accountability**.

**Strategy** – whether the 1) national FP strategy/plan includes objectives that are quantified and 2) targets to reach the poorest and most vulnerable; 3) resource requirements are projected; 4) means to broaden participation among diverse stakeholders are supported; 5) seniority of FP program director; and 6) policies that facilitate contraceptive importation or local manufacturing.

**Data** - whether the government 7) collects data to monitor special sub-groups (e.g. the poor) and 8) availability data on private sector commodities; 9) quality control of service statistic in place; and 10) data used to ensure access by vulnerable groups; 11) adequate client record keeping in place; and 12-13) uses various data sources for program operations, monitoring and evaluation.

**Quality** – whether the 14) government uses WHO-based FP procedures; 15) has FP task-sharing guidelines; 16-17) has and uses quality of care indicators in public and private facilities, 18) has adequate structures in place to address quality, 19) collects information on informed choice and provider bias, 20) has adequate training programs in place, 21) logistics and transport systems insure sufficient stock, 22) adequate supervision system in place, 23) informed choice on sterilization, 24-25) access to IUD and implant removal.

**Equity** - whether 26) policies are in place to prevent discrimination; 27) extent to which service providers discriminate against special groups; 28) underserved areas are served by CBDs; and 29-30) the entire population has access to modern methods.

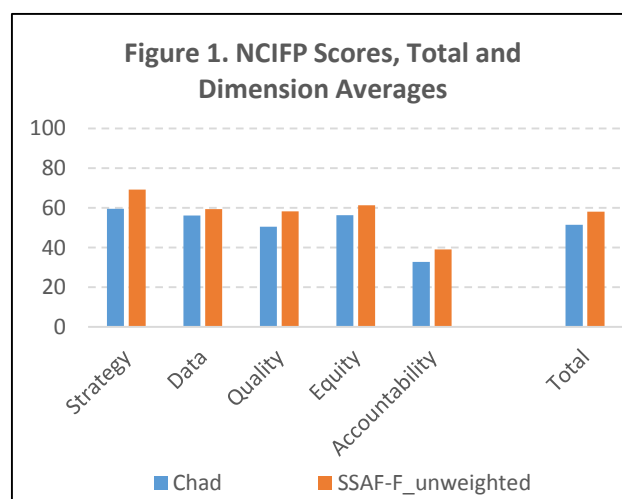
**Accountability** – whether there are 31) national, sub-national and facility-level mechanisms in place to monitor voluntary, non-discriminatory FP provision; 32-33) mechanisms to report denial of services in place and reviewed; 34) client feedback solicited, and 35) system in place to encourage dialogue between clients and providers.

The NCIFP builds on the long-standing *National Family Planning Effort Index* (FPE). In 2014, the two questionnaires were fielded jointly in 90 countries by the Health Policy Project (implemented by Palladium with USAID funding) USAID and the Track20 project of Avenir Health (with funding from the Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation). NCIFP data allow assessments of FP programs and can help stimulate discussions among stakeholders about factors that help make FP programs effective, widely supported and sustainable.

### What do the Chad results look like?

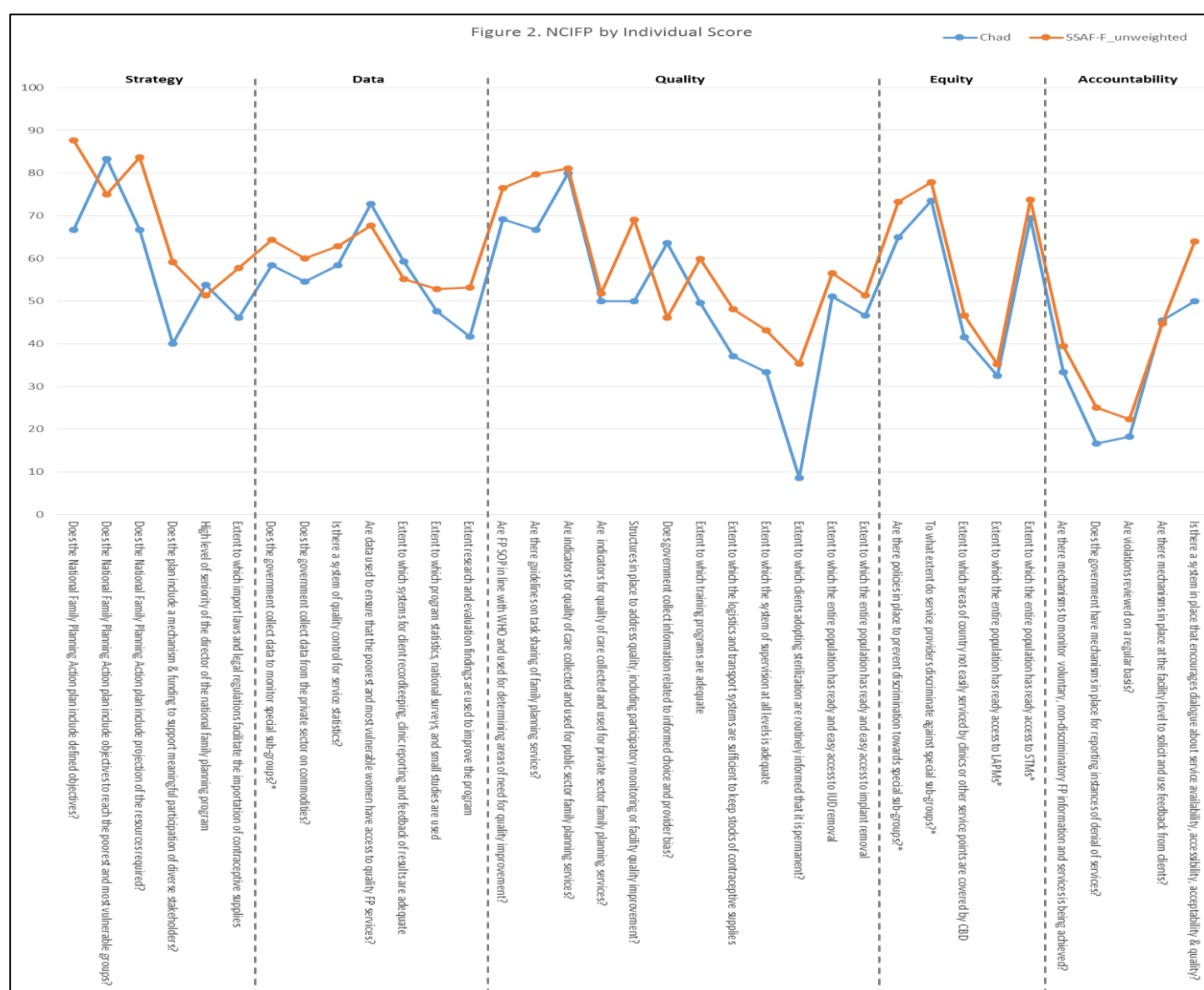
Chad's total NCIFP score was lower than the Francophone SSAF average for (51 v 58, in Figure 1). Chad also averaged lower than the region across all five NCIFP dimensions. The patterns of individual item scores are similar for Chad and SSAF-F (Figure 2), indicating similarities in what program areas are achieving more strongly, and, less well. Most of Chad's ratings, although often lower, were not too far from regional averages. Notably, the country's three highest scores outscored the region: 1) the national FP strategy having objectives to reach the poorest and most vulnerable groups, 2) the use of data to ensure that such groups have access to quality FP services, and 3) government collection of data on informed choice and provider bias.

If focus is made on scores that are lower than the country's average NCIFP of 51, Chad's low ratings include all items under Accountability and various Quality items, particularly on whether acceptors are routinely informed about sterilization being permanent, the adequacy of FP training, logistics and supervision systems, and the population's easy access to implant and IUD removal. The other low-scoring items are: under Strategy, whether the national FP strategy includes a mechanism and funding to support stakeholder participation and whether legal regulations facilitate contraceptive importation; under Data, on whether data are used for program operations, monitoring and evaluation; and under Equity, on extent to which areas unserved by clinics are covered by CBDs and the population's easy access to LAPMs.



## Implications

Chad faces many social, economic, and political challenges including very high poverty, high dependence on agriculture (hence much affected by climate shocks) and oil revenues (severely affected by the global oil price collapse), low economic productivity, and conflicts involving incursions from rogue groups from neighboring countries (African Economic Outlook, 2016). Moreover, Chad has one of the highest maternal and child mortality rates in the world. According to the 2014-15 Demographic and Health Survey, the country's total fertility rate was 6.4 and even higher in rural areas. Modern contraceptive use among married women ages 15-49 was only 5 percent. Family planning has been identified by researches and health practitioners as a most cost-effective intervention. Countries that invest in family planning can reap immediate health benefits especially in saving the lives of mothers and children, as well as investment savings in the health, education, social and environmental sectors that extend well into the future (PRB, 2009). The 2014 NCIFP results point to a number of challenges affecting Chad's national FP program. The results show that despite the country's many socioeconomic and political challenges, the country's NCIFP ratings are generally not very different nor far below corresponding regional averages. Chad even outscored the region in terms of efforts to provide services to the poorest and most vulnerable. Nevertheless, improving access to family planning services and information should be a major component of efforts to improve Chad's development initiatives.



Want to know more: Read the full NCIFP report and use the interactive data tool available at [track20.org](http://track20.org)

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