

Advancing the FP Monitoring Landscape Track20's lasting impact

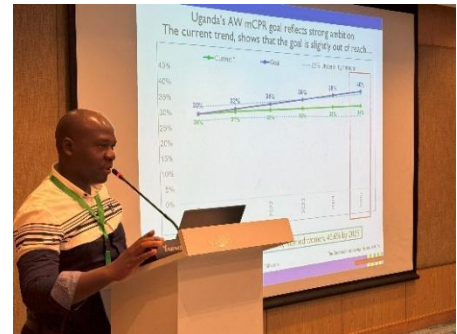
The Track20 project has worked for over a decade at the global, regional, and country levels to reform and refine FP monitoring methodologies and advance the field overall. Quantifying the impact of the project at the individual level of each country, donor, and project that has used Track20 data, models, tools, analytic code, and methodologies to enhance their work and expand their influence in a succinct way is challenging. However, this brief provides a high-level look at some of our most significant areas of contribution and impacts over the life of the project.

Contributions to Global Change:

Shaping how the world measures and uses FP data

Over the past decade, Track20 has not just participated in FP monitoring but has set the standard for how data are generated, interpreted, and applied. The project's models, indicators, and methodologies are now embedded in the work of governments, donors, multilaterals, and advocacy organizations. These contributions have made FP programs more comparable across countries, more accountable to results, and more resilient in the face of shifting donor landscapes and declining survey availability.

- Annual estimates as the global benchmark:** The Family Planning Estimation Tool (FPET) has become the field's reference point for tracking progress between surveys. FPET estimates have been adopted widely by governments, donors, projects, and global initiatives as a central source of monitoring data. This standardized estimation approach has allowed comparability within and across countries and regions and has elevated FP programs' strategic capabilities to the level that higher resources areas like HIV and maternal health have been working at for years.
- A new service statistics standard:** Track20's Estimated Modern Use (EMU) indicator joins CYPs as the 2nd ever globally accepted service statistics-based indicator. Based on a country's most up-to-date routine data, EMU can be used to track population-level changes in contraceptive use at subnational, national, and cross-national levels. The EMU can also be used as input into FPET to introduce recent data into the annual estimation process. This is more critical than ever when the future of surveys is unknown.
- Global FP spending transparency:** Aggregated country spending data from Track20's Family Planning Spending Assessment (FPSA) is combined with Kaiser Family Foundation data to generate the only global estimates of FP spending. Reporting this data has prompted more transparency and accountability and increased commitments to domestic FP funding.
- Driving program strategies:** Track20 data and analysis has facilitated the scale up of high impact practices (HIPs). For example, the project's ongoing generation, sharing and presenting of Postpartum Family Planning (PPFP) data through opportunity briefs, FP Goals and FP Goals Lite applications, PPFP community of practice and working group meetings, elevated this opportunity to increase availability of PPFP and has led to the inclusion of PPFP in most CIPs and new strategies.
- Measuring Quality:** With the Method Information Index (MII), Track20 took the first step toward a universal quality indicator. Although the MII is not a comprehensive indicator of quality of care, it represents an agreed-upon minimum level of information that should be provided to women.



Country data system strengthening:

Prioritizing sustainability of government systems

Research shows that every dollar invested in health data systems in low- and middle-income countries generates over thirty dollars in return.¹ Track20's work demonstrates this return in practice. By strengthening national monitoring capacity, embedding tools within government HMIS, and building a skilled M&E officer network, the project has transformed FP and RMNCAH data systems into sustainable platforms that continue to deliver impact well beyond donor cycles.

- **Building national expertise, not parallel systems:** Track20's country-first approach, anchored in an embedded network of M&E Officers, shifted analytic capacity from projects to governments. These officers are now sought-after resources for donors, implementers, and peers across countries, providing South-to-South technical support and representing governments in dialogues where they were once absent.
- **Building assets within national systems:** Track20's FP DataPro, the first FP-focused app available to all DHIS2 users, is expanding how HMIS data is used and by whom. FP DataPro provides a complete environment for operational use: automated dashboards, rapid data quality checks, mapping, interactive analytics, and routine and special report generation. By reducing the analysis burden on program staff, the app makes facility-level performance and data quality visible to managers closest to implementation—ensuring routine data are not just collected but acted upon. FP DataPro is embedded directly in 13 national platforms and governed by ministries of health. In Rwanda, FP DataPro made FP data visible in the government's new Data Intelligence Center, where it sits alongside maternal and child health data to inform high-level decision making.
- **Positioning FP in broader health ecosystems:** FP is no longer on the sidelines in Zimbabwe, where Track20's FP and complementary data marts launched alongside HIV into the new interoperable national data ecosystem, positioning FP at the table and on the cutting-edge.
- **Innovating to capture the full market:** Zimbabwe's Track20 M&E Officer pioneered a systematic approach to integrating private sector data into the HMIS. By addressing pharmacists' barriers to data sharing, he enabled the system to capture most of the total FP market — a breakthrough in contexts with high private sector provision. His model has become a focal point of South-to-South learning exchanges, inspiring other countries to adapt similar approaches.



Advancing the FP Monitoring Landscape Track20's lasting impact

Enhancing Country M&E:

Building approaches & tools to reinforce government leadership

- Institutionalizing data review:** Since 2018, Track20 has supported country-led consensus meetings where governments validate annual FP2030 estimates, review program performance, and assess progress toward global and national goals. These meetings are now institutionalized as part of routine monitoring in many countries, engaging a broad set of stakeholders in data-based program planning. Notably, 13 countries have held consensus meetings for eight consecutive years, while another four have missed only once in that time — clear evidence of institutionalization.


- Embedding Data Capacity into Government Structures:** Track20's M&E Officer model has reshaped national staffing approaches. The Philippines created a new FP M&E position within government payroll. Kenya transitioned its Officer into the National Council for Population and Development. Ghana not only absorbed its Officer's salary but restructured all reproductive health M&E roles to emphasize data analysis, deliverables, and decision-linked outputs — and is now planning its next iteration. These shifts demonstrate governments' willingness to sustain and deepen investments in analytic capacity.
- Unlocking Efficiency and Cost Savings with DataPro:** In 13 countries, FP DataPro has changed how governments manage routine data. Automated reports and anomaly detection reduce staff workload and save both time and money. M&E Officers now flag facility-level issues in real time, often following up immediately by WhatsApp or email, while spending more of their effort on strategic analysis instead of clerical reporting.
- Creating tools that address emerging issues:** Track20's interactive tools are developed directly in response to country requests. For example, the mCPR Impact Tool was created to provide critical insights to help countries navigate service disruptions during the COVID-19 pandemic. Results showed that the decreases in mCPR were more limited than expected, allowing programs to be more strategic in their response. This active monthly monitoring approach developed during COVID is now being applied to quantify the impacts of the recent USAID funding cuts. Countries using the DHIS2 FP DataPro app are able to do these monthly estimates and those without FP DataPro can use the SS-to-EMU Excel tool.
- Operationalizing HIPS at the country level.** Track20's data and guidance have supported countries in determining which HIPS they should prioritize and the levels of scale-up needed. For example, Track20 worked with Nigeria's FP program on prioritization and the development of detailed CIP scale-up plans using FP Goals, tailoring each state's programming to facilitate state-level contributions to the national goals.