

Engaging Men in Family Planning

Unmet need for contraception can lead to unintended pregnancies, which poses serious health risks for women and children. The engagement of men in family planning is critical if interventions to increase access and uptake are to have their intended impact.

Key Outcomes of Engaging Men

- Reduced myths and misconceptions in the community
- Increased participation of men and boys in FP activities
- Knowledge and self-efficacy on use of an FP method
- Men as supportive parties on FP choices and contraceptive use



Boda Boda riders receiving health information on family planning.

Steps to Engage Boda Boda Riders

1

Identify locations

Research locations of boda boda drivers around the catchment areas in order to maximize contact.

2

Select trainees

Identify and select boda boda riders to be trained on FP. Train champions in FP. Once trained, they will provide information on reproductive health information and services to their peers and networks. Use client testimonials and engage male champions.

3

Distribute materials

Provide brochures and family planning pamphlets during the engagement forums.

4

Form proper systems

Establish a referral system to FP services through a hotline and facility staff.

Steps to Use Male Family Planning Champions

1

Select champions

Identify and select male champions and train champions in FP.

2

Promote advocacy in community

Support religious leaders and prominent male leaders to deliver messages normalizing FP and contraception legitimizing men's participation in FP. Organize sensitization events and meetings with key male influencers and "early adopters" to encourage them to champion family planning provision. Allow champions to share their personal experiences with family planning. Give information on FP/AYSRH including nearby facilities. Facilitate discussions on social and gender norms in the community with community groups, during dialogue days. During the forms.

3

Provide public recognition

Recognize the male champions during health days and events/activities they participate.

Suggested Topics for Male Engagement

- Basics of FP? What is FP?
- Myths and misconceptions on FP
- Barriers to men's use of and support for contraception
- Benefits of FP
- Contraception methods
- Linking FP with household decision-making
- Men as agents for change