The Impact of and Response to COVID-19 in Sub-Saharan Africa

Philip Anglewicz 1/7/25







BILL & MELINDA GATES INSTITUTE for POPULATION and REPRODUCTIVE HEALTH



KEY ACHIEVEMENTS UNDER PMA AND PMA2020





How PMA Works







Where We Work

DR Congo	University of Kinshasa
Uganda	Makerere University
Kenya	International Centre for Reproductive Health
Nigeria	CRERD
Burkina Faso	ISSP/University of Ouagadougou
Niger	National Statistical Institute (INS)
India	Indian Institute of Health Management Research
Côte d'Ivoire	ENSEA





Data: Performance Monitoring for Action (PMA)

PMA study design COVID-19 updates

PMA Panel Surveys: Timeline																							
	2019						2021				2022												
Country	QTR 4	QTR 1	QT	r 2	QTR 3	QTR 4		QTR 1		QTR 2		QTR 3		QTR 4		QTR 1		QTR 2		QTR 3		QTR	4
DR Congo	P1		FQ			P2				SDP				P3				SDP					
Nigeria	P1		FQ			P2				CEI				P3				CEI					
Kenya	P1		FQ			P2				CEI				P3				CEI					
Burkina Faso	P1		FQ			P2				CEI				P3				CEI					
India				>	P1			SDP				F	20			SDP				I	P3		
Cote d'Ivoire			>		P1			SDP	5DP			P2				SDP			P3		P3		
Uganda			>		P1			CEI				P2				CEI					P3		
Niger		>		>	P1			CEI				P2				CEI				I	P3		
	P1	P1 Phase 1		SDP+0	EI	P2		Phase 2		SDP	SDP+0	SDP+CEI		P3		Phase 3		SDP	SDP+(DP+CEI			
			CEI	CEI fo	ollow-up					CEI	CEI follow-up					CE			CEI follow-up				



PMA COVID-19 Surveys: Approach



Correspondence with PMA countries

Our PIs in-country liaised with COVID-19 authorities in their countries, considered logistical feasibility, reviewed proposed topics and questions

Survey Instrument topics covered

- Awareness of COVID-19
- Exposure to COVID-19 messages in the media
- COVID-19 risk perception
- Knowledge of COVID-19 symptoms and transmission
- Risk mitigation practices
- Socioeconomic consequences of COVID-19
- Impact of COVID-19 on access to and use of family planning & health services, and fertility intentions

Training of interviewers (Resident Enumerators)

- Completely virtual in Nigeria, Kenya, and the DRC
- In person (socially-distanced) in Burkina Faso

PMA COVID-19: Data Collection

PMA COVID-19 Data Collection

- Phone numbers collected for participating women in baseline core survey
- Interviewers conduct COVID-19 interviews via phone, enter information on smart phones via ODK
- Target samples: women providing phone numbers in Kenya (nationally-representative), Burkina Faso (nationally-representative), DRC (Kinshasa), and Nigeria (Kano, Lagos)
- Can link baseline core survey (socioeconomic characteristics, family planning characteristics, etc...) with COVID-19 information

PMA: COVID-19 Data Collection

PMA COVID-19 study design

- Phone numbers collected for participating women in baseline core survey
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- Target samples: women providing phone numbers in Kenya (nationally-representative), Burkina Faso (nationally-representative), DRC (Kinshasa), and Nigeria (Lagos)
- Can link baseline core survey (socioeconomic characteristics, family planning characteristics, etc...) with COVID-19 information
- PMA used inverse probability weighting to adjust for women not providing a phone number, and not responding to the survey- using baseline

PMA COVID-19 Phone Survey Response Rates

Good reproductive health policy starts with credible research

OUR WORK TOPICS REGIONS

INSTITUTE

Crisis on the Horizon: Devastating Losses for Global Reproductive Health Are Possible Due to COVID-19

GLOBAL HEALTH: SCIENCE AND PRAC Dedicated to what works in global health programs

Protecting women's health and rights during Covid-19

Experiences and feminist perspectives from West African civil society

A BAR PLAND

INCLUDE SEXUAL AND REPRODUCTIVE **HEALTH IN COVID-19 FUNDING APPEALS**

ADVOCACY RESOURCES AVAILABLE AT IAWG.NET/COVID19/ADVOCACY ductive Health in Cris

COMMENTARY

OPEN O ACCESS

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Opportunities and Challenges of Delivering Postabortion Care and Postpartum Family Planning During the **COVID-19** Pandemic

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PERSPECTIVE

Reproductive health under COVID-19 – challenges of responding in a global crisis

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Fertility Intentions: Population-Level Trends

- Goal: compare population-level estimates of fertility desires from pre-COVID surveys from late 2019/early 2020 (baseline) with phone-based surveys of the same sample of respondents conducted in June and July of 2020 (during COVID-19).
- Identify changes in fertility desires as a result of the COVID-19 pandemic.
 - Changes in the women reporting that she would like to have a/another child or no more children, and if she would like to have a/another child, how long she would prefer to wait before the birth
 - Categorized women as (1) wanting a child within 24 months, (2) after 24 months, or (3) not desiring any more children

Fertility Intentions: Population-Level Trends

- Significant differences between the two surveys in Burkina Faso, Kenya, and Lagos: declines in the proportion of women who stated that they wanted no more children and modest increases in the percentage of women who reported that they wanted a child but not for another 2+ years.
- In Burkina Faso, there was also a five percentage-point increase in women desiring a child within two years.
- No significant differences between the two surveys in Kinshasa or Kano.

Individual-Level Contraceptive Changes During COVID-19

- Goal: estimate the extent to which women's contraceptive status changed at the individual-level (i.e., contraceptive adoption, discontinuation, and switching) between the pre-COVID-19 and COVID-19 periods
- Analysis limited to women who were at risk of unintended pregnancy (sexually active, not sterile, not pregnant, and not trying to have a child in the next year)

Data from Burkina Faso and Kenya

Individual-Level Contraceptive Changes During COVID-19

- Among women at risk of unintended pregnancy, most did not change their contraceptive use status during COVID-19
- Those who changed their status were more likely to adopt a method than discontinue use

Individual-Level Contraceptive Changes During COVID-19

- Among **women at risk of unintended pregnancy** who were using contraception before and during the pandemic:
- Most were using methods during COVID-19 that were as or more effective, relative to their prepandemic method
- Only 5% of these women in Burkina Faso and 7% in Kenya switched to less effective methods

Thank you!

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Bill & Melinda Gates Institute for Population and Reproductive Health

Acknowledgments and Thank You

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