A 14% Increase in the Use of Modern Contraceptive Methods Among Married Women and a 25% Increase Among Married Young Girls 15 - 19 Years Old

Overall, Prevalence of Modern Methods Among Married Women has Increased from 57.3% to 65.6%. The Country is on Track to Achieve the 2020 Target, which is 68%

The family planning method mix remains dominated by the pill although the utilization of implants more than doubled in the past 5 years. This is the result of the national efforts to promote long-acting family planning.
Family planning is central to gender equality and women's empowerment, and it is a key factor in reducing poverty. UNFPA works to support family planning by:

1. Ensuring a steady, reliable supply of quality contraceptives; strengthening national health systems; advocating for policies supportive of family planning.
2. Gathering data to support this work; UNFPA also provides global leadership in increasing access to family planning, by convening partners – including governments – to develop evidence and policies, and by offering programmatic, technical and financial assistance to developing countries.
3. UNFPA is a strong technical partner of MoHCC and ZNFPC in strengthening the Family Planning Policy, Service Delivery and Commodity Security. With funding support from UKaid, the Government of Sweden and Irish Aid, the National Family Planning Strategy 2016-2020 was developed, more than 1300 service providers were trained on Family Planning, and over 30,000 women received implant insertions. UNFPA also provided Family Planning Commodities worth over USD 10 million in the last 4 years.

**Unmet Need Decreased by 20% in the Last Five Years Among Married Women**

Unmet need decreased by 20% in the last five years among married women, after being stable for over two decades. The decrease was more pronounced among young girls (27%). Unmet need has decreased for women of all educational backgrounds and decreased by half among the most educated women, but it has increased by more than ten points among women without education. Unmet need is twice as high among sexually active unmarried women (20.5%). It is also higher among urban sexually active women compared to their rural counterparts (22.5 versus 17.9%).

**Where to Invest More?**

1. **Conduct research** to understand contraceptive use, determinants and unmet need patterns.
2. **Improve method mix** and strengthen the promotion and uptake of long acting family planning methods to widen women's choices.
3. **Increase access to family planning** methods for young people and unmarried sexually active women.

**UNFPA Work on Family Planning**

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