

The Universal Access to Female Condoms (UAFC) Joint Programme is a programme initiated by Oxfam Novib, i+solutions, the Netherlands Ministry of Foreign Affairs and Rutgers WPF. Donors of the programme are Danida, Sida, Norad, the William and Flora Hewlett Foundation and the Netherlands Ministry of Foreign Affairs.

As UAFC Joint Programme, we aim to make the female condom available, affordable and accessible for all. Women and girls face the consequences of unprotected sex and bear a huge burden of unwanted pregnancy and risk of HIV/AIDS infection. The female condom is the only device that offers dual protection, is women-initiated and is available now. Universal access to female condoms should therefore be a priority.

We advance universal access by:

- Working on large scale, integrated programming in Cameroon and Nigeria - working on supply, demand and sustained commitment.
- Negotiating procurement price and supporting broadening of the product base, to increase choice and competition and decrease price.
- Raising awareness about the effectiveness, acceptability and demand for the product - among others via a paper doll campaign that is currently collecting messages in 20 different countries, demanding access to female condoms.
- Getting international institutions, donors and governments to make female condoms an integral part of their RH and HIV/ Aids policies and invest in procurement and programming.
- Conducting research in our pilot countries that will show once and for all what access means in concrete terms - STI's averted, pregnancies averted, increasing contraceptive prevalence.

We are committed to continue this work. Considering that the female condom not only helps prevent mistimed and unwanted pregnancies, but is also proven to be highly effective in protecting against STIs, including HIV and that it helps to increase a woman's negotiation power, this women-initiated dual prevention method also helps achieve other MDGs (3 and 6). Something which we were incited to do as a Coalition by our Chair, Julia Bunting, yesterday!

Without governments, international organizations, donors and the private sector, Access for All cannot be achieved. But as civil society organisations, we are uniquely positioned to raise public awareness, be society's conscience, hold governments and other stakeholders accountable for commitments made and mobilize the men and women that use RH products to stand up for their rights. I therefore call upon all other civil society organizations here today to join us in continuing their wonderful work. Together we can achieve Access for All!

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www.condoms4all.org