Meeting the Demand for Modern Contraception: the role of the private sector

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The private health sector and family planning

• Support for increasing the contribution of the private sector to contraceptive supply and FP services keeps growing
• But the actual role and limitations of this sector are not always well understood
• Using DHS data between 1992 and 2012, the SHOPS project analyzed sourcing patterns for FP in three regions
• The findings reflect positive trends but also challenges in leveraging the full potential of the private sector
The private sector share of FP users has been stable since 1992 but differs by region.
...and by method

Modern contraception users who obtained their method from the public or private sector (2005 – 2012)

### Asia
- **Short-acting methods**
  - Public: 41%
  - Private: 59%

### LAC
- **Short-acting methods**
  - Public: 46%
  - Private: 54%

### SSA
- **Short-acting methods**
  - Public: 71%
  - Private: 29%

### Asia
- **LARC and Permanent methods**
  - Public: 69%
  - Private: 31%

### LAC
- **LARC and Permanent methods**
  - Public: 67%
  - Private: 33%

### SSA
- **LARC and Permanent methods**
  - Public: 21%
  - Private: 79%
In the three regions, the private sector has a strong role in the provision of short-acting methods.

Source of FP methods by sector (2005 - 2012)

Source: Demographic Health Surveys
But the public sector is the main provider of injectable contraceptives


Source: Demographic Health Surveys
A substantial proportion of poor women in all regions obtain FP methods from the private sector.

Use of the private sector by two lowest-income quintiles (%)\(^3\)
(among women of reproductive age, married and in union)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Region</th>
<th>Asia</th>
<th>Latin America</th>
<th>Sub-Saharan Africa</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Use of private sector (%)</td>
<td>33%</td>
<td>25%</td>
<td>17%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Select countries:
- Philippines: 43%
- Indonesia: 68%
- Haiti: 55%
- Honduras: 31%
- Uganda: 38%
- Nigeria: 51%

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A substantial proportion of poor women access short acting methods in the private sector

*Lowest two wealth quintiles

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Country</th>
<th>% of poor women using short-acting methods who went through the private sector</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Indonesia</td>
<td>90%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>India</td>
<td>75%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Philippines</td>
<td>60%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Colombia</td>
<td>50%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Bangladesh</td>
<td>40%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Kenya</td>
<td>30%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Nepal</td>
<td>20%</td>
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<tr>
<td>Bolivia</td>
<td>20%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Honduras</td>
<td>20%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Pakistan</td>
<td>20%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Malawi</td>
<td>10%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Tanzania</td>
<td>10%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Madagascar</td>
<td>5%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Peru</td>
<td>5%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Source: Demographic Health Surveys
Fewer access LARC and PM in the private sector

*Lowest two wealth quintiles*

- Tanzania
- Malawi
- Indonesia
- Honduras
- Bolivia
- Kenya
- Colombia
- Pakistan
- Philippines
- Nepal
- Bangladesh
- India
- Madagascar
- Peru

% of poor women using LARC or PM who went through the private sector

Source: Demographic Health Surveys
Challenges in achieving a sustained role for the private sector in FP service delivery

• Determining with accuracy who can and cannot afford private sector services is complex
• Increasing private sector provision of LARC and PMs to the poorest requires sustainable financing
• The commercial viability of an intervention involving the private sector cannot be assumed
• Independent private providers are poorly organized, limiting opportunities to enroll them in contracting and QA programs
• Getting a clear picture of the share of the private sector in a given market can be difficult and time-consuming
Private Sector Counts

A SHOPS Plus Tool to Inform Family Planning Programs

Photo credit: Jessica Scrampton
Easy-to-use tool provides information about FP method use and sourcing in 30 countries
Hover over the pie graphs for more detail.

Source of Modern Contraceptives (Public and Private), All Methods

Select a Contraceptive Method
- All Methods

Select Geographic Region
- Bangladesh

Select a Region for Comparison
- Nigeria

Select Additional Region for Comparison
- Sub-Saharan Africa

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Contraceptive Prevalence by Method and Source (Public and Private)

Hover over the bar graphs for more detail.

1999
- 10.5%

2003
- 10.6%

2008
- 12.2%

Condom Use Prevalence: 5.5%
- Private: 94.55%
- Public: 5.45%
- Nigeria

Compare Additional Region/Country

ACCESS THE DATA

#RHSUPPLIES2016
Data to inform programming
Funded by USAID
DHS data
Easy to use
Images
Logo end slide

#SHOPS2015
shopsproject.org