EngenderHealth Capabilities in Gender-Transformative Change Programming

ORGANIZATIONAL OVERVIEW

EngenderHealth offers expertise in sexual and reproductive health (SRH) and family planning, maternal health, and gender equity. EngenderHealth is committed to creating transformative, sustainable change by advancing sexual and reproductive rights as human rights, expanding access to critical health information and training, and delivering quality services. With funding from various donor agencies, private foundations, and other funding institutions, EngenderHealth collaborates with governments, private sector partners, local organizations, and communities to achieve such change. In program year 2019–2020, EngenderHealth implemented an annual revenue of $35 million. During this period, EngenderHealth supported activities in 16 countries across Asia, Africa, and the Americas through which we achieved the following results:

- 2,535,760 individuals received contraceptive care
- 4,184,900 unintended pregnancies were averted
- 1,150,000 unsafe abortions were averted
- 59,100 child deaths and 4,700 maternal deaths were prevented
- $276,385,500 in direct healthcare costs were saved

TECHNICAL EXPERTISE

EngenderHealth integrates gender-transformative change approaches across all of our projects, beginning with conducting gender analyses that inform program design. We apply a social analysis and action approach to reflect, explore, and challenge beliefs and biases as well as prejudices and practices that affect SRH outcomes. To support this, we recently developed a Gender, Youth, and Social Inclusion (GYSI) Staff Training Manual, for use by project and partner staff as well as healthcare providers, local leaders, community organizations, and other key stakeholders. In addition to offering a series of training modules designed to help teams reflect upon and challenge GYSI-related norms that affect programming, the manual trains teams on designing, implementing, and monitoring gender- and youth-transformative and socially inclusive programs. The manual also includes a GYSI Marker, which is an ongoing monitoring and accountability tool to measure gender- and youth-transformative and socially inclusive programming.

EngenderHealth recognizes the impact that families, communities, institutions, and policies have on attitudes and behaviors and responsively applies a multifaceted approach targeting these various spheres of influence. For example, at the national level, we advocate for gender-equitable, youth-friendly, and socially inclusive policies and programs, while at the facility level, we train healthcare providers and administrators to support gender-sensitive and youth-friendly counseling and services. We also partner with local leaders to deliver community-, school-, and workplace-based interventions in order to address gender stereotypes and eradicate discriminatory practices that impact the health and well-being of all members of a community.

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1 EngenderHealth trains healthcare providers and supports health facilities in partnership with governments and local organizations to offer quality reproductive health services. These data represent the results of those services. Data on reduced deaths and cost savings estimated using the Marie Stopes International Impact 2 Model.
EngenderHealth empowers women and girls by generating awareness of SRH rights; improving access to rights-based SRH and maternal health services; and addressing harmful gender norms, including gender-based violence (GBV). Furthermore, understanding the pivotal role men and boys play in promoting gender equality and ensuring positive SRH outcomes, we have become pioneers in male engagement. We seek to meaningfully engage men and boys to challenge negative notions of masculinity and promote healthy relationships, and facilitate effective interpersonal communication and shared decision-making. We have implemented our award-winning Men as Partners approach in more than 30 countries and we are a founding member of MenEngage, a global alliance advocating for gender equality.

SELECT PROGRAM HIGHLIGHTS

Burundians Responding Against Violence and Inequality (BRAVI)

EngenderHealth received $7 million from the United States Agency for International Development (USAID) for this five-year (2014–2019) program in Burundi. BRAVI employed a gender-transformative change approach to strengthen the health sector to support GBV survivors and to deliver GBV services. Working across 53 facilities (9 hospitals and 44 health centers), BRAVI trained nearly 300 providers, supervisors, and directors on GBV service provision; sensitized more than 125 nonmedical staff on GBV survivor support; and oriented more than 3,500 community leaders on available GBV services by conducting site walk-throughs at project-supported facilities. BRAVI engaged youth by coordinating with a life skills initiative operating in 20 schools to promote learning around gender norms and adolescent and youth SRH issues, including GBV. EngenderHealth further reached more than 250,000 community members with anti-GBV information through a mobile text message awareness campaign. Building upon the success of this work, we are now supporting a local organization in implementing USAID’s three-year follow-on project, GIR’ITKEKA.

Essential Gender-Based Violence Services and Prevention

The US Department of State awarded EngenderHealth $6 million for this three-year (2016–2019) project to support comprehensive, quality GBV prevention and response services in Malawi. With a goal of decreasing GBV incidence and increasing uptake of related services, EngenderHealth employed a multi-sectoral approach to address the underlying causes of GBV and associated harmful patriarchal norms that perpetuate violence. The project engaged men and boys to challenge negative notions of masculinity while simultaneously empowering women and mitigating their vulnerability. We also provided capacity building support to civil society and governmental actors to improve access to quality services. More specifically, to raise awareness, the project trained nearly 40 district-level gender and social welfare officers, 229 traditional and religious leaders, 77 male champions, 500 teachers, 84 youth peer educators, and 517 community and youth organizations to disseminate anti-GBV messages and promote care-seeking behavior. The project also helped establish 86 safe homes/safe spaces offering immediate shelter for GBV survivors and established 64 mobile courts that in turn heard nearly 250 GBV cases. In total, by championing social change and supporting referrals and case management, the project reached more than 75,000 individuals with critical GBV prevention and response support services.

I used to beat my wife so much... With the trainings, I understood that no fault can justify hitting my wife... Before the training, when I came home and I wanted to do sex, I jumped on my wife. Thanks to the trainings, I understood that this is called rape...Now I seek for consent.

BRAVI Training Participant