

IMPLEMENTING THE MINIMUM INITIAL SERVICE PACKAGE (MISP), INCLUDING HIV/STI SERVICES IN CRISIS RESPONSE ACROSS THE ASIA-PACIFIC REGION

Authors:

RAJRATTAN LOKHANDE¹, YUKARI HORII¹

¹*International Planned Parenthood Federation (IPPF)*

Background:

The SPRINT Initiative, executed by the International Planned Parenthood Federation (IPPF) with support from Department of Foreign Affairs & Trade (DFAT), Australia, is implemented across 14 priority countries in Indo-Pacific region to address the gaps in the Minimum Initial Service Package (MISP) implementation, as identified in global evaluation by Inter-Agency Working Group (IAWG). It works across the disaster management cycle, including mitigation, preparedness, response, and early-recovery. This involves advocacy, and networking for inclusive policies.

Approach:

In response phase, the SPRINT supports MISP implementation across various natural disasters and protracted crises. In 2023, SPRINT supported eight crises, in seven countries, namely Pakistan floods, earthquake in Indonesia and Nepal, Vanuatu two cyclones, displaced population in Thailand and conflicts in Yemen and Sudan. In coordination with local authorities, partners, including affected communities and vulnerable groups, the response is implemented through national member associations. Medical services are provided through static clinics, tent, mobile and outreach team, based on the local context. Client-centred, sexually reproductive health (SRH) services, including HIV/STI are provided. Communities are mobilised through local volunteers and government healthcare workers through health information sessions and demand generation activities. The quality is ensured through quality-of-care tool, safeguarding privacy and confidentiality.

Outcomes/Impact:

Over 68,803 affected populations were reached with SRH health information and clinical services. These include 26,292 (38%) vulnerable groups (people with disability-280, LGBTQI-1,694, children-5,654, young people-13,646, PLHIV-228 and pregnant & lactating mothers-4,790). Around 17,659 HIV and 40,908 STI services were provided in these crisis responses. 329 clients were tested for HIV and 4,711 clients were treated for STI.

Innovation/Significance:

- Integrating HIV/STI within the comprehensive SRH service package, especially during the crisis response.
- Mobilizing affected-communities through mid-media and communication activities for demand generation.
- Promoting localization and accountability to affected population through engaging vulnerable groups, strengthening local institutional capacities to ensure HIV/STI service continuum.

Disclosure of Interest Statement: