

IMPACT OF SUSTAINABLE INSTITUTIONALIZATION OF HIGH-IMPACT INTERVENTIONS OF THE CHALLENGE INITIATIVE WITH LOCAL GOVERNMENT IN PAKISTAN'S SINDH

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BACKGROUND

The Challenge Initiative (TCI) is an innovative development platform that scales up family planning (FP) and reproductive health for underserved urban Pakistanis alongside local governments. Local leaders participated in transformational leadership events to learn TCI's sustainability and coaching strategy. This strategy stresses local ownership of high-impact behaviors and actions. This effort aims to integrate efficient and scientifically established approaches into the local healthcare system, promoting a self-sustaining process of improving family planning services.

OBJECTIVES

The initiative is enhancing the local health system and ensuring the sustainability of high-impact interventions beyond the program's conclusion. Family planning and other health initiatives will benefit from this as well as improved health services.

METHODOLOGY

This qualitative research has predetermined questions in a set order and open-ended structured interviews with government officials, including director health services, district health officers, population welfare officers, and the TCI team.

RESULTS

In September 2022, TCI has commenced these projects in 8 Districts of Sindh, a province in Pakistan, with the objective of augmenting the availability of family planning services nationwide and ensuring the long-term sustainability of this initiative within local government. The local government needs technical assistance of TCI approaches to implement proven interventions in all districts of Sindh province.

CONCLUSION

TCI, in collaboration with local government, has effectively enhanced the capacity and fortified the local government, resulting in an increase in the utilization of family planning services and the enhancement of access to family planning information.

Moreover, the implementation of high-impact interventions facilitates the expansion of service delivery, creates an enabling environment, provides training for trainers, and establishes monitoring and evaluation systems within local government. This approach aims to achieve the goals of the Family Planning 2030 agenda and ensure the sustainability of high-impact interventions for family planning without requiring additional support.

