



SRMH Team Updates

CARE tool on Women's Empowerment: WE-MEASR The SRMH Team at CARE USA is pleased to share with you a multidimensional quantitative survey tool, the [WE-MEASR \(Women's Empowerment- Multidimensional Evaluation of Agency, Social Capital & Relations\)](#) . The [WE-MEASR](#) was designed for use with women and consists of 20 statistically reliable short scales and indices that measure women's empowerment in domains critical to sexual, reproductive, and maternal health.

You can find the tool here:

<http://familyplanning.care2share.wikispaces.net/Measuring+Women+Empowerment>

Please feel free to circulate the tool to other colleagues. Should you have any questions on the WE-MEASR, please contact SRMH Senior Advisor for Global Policy and Advocacy, Christina Wegs (cwegs@care.org).

New products from the Maternal Health Alliance Project (MHAP) Two new resources from MHAP are now on the SRMH wiki. One resource is a recent update on the project and the other resource, "Evidence of Impact: Stories from the Field" highlights how community members, health providers, and local government officials are working together to overcome reproductive and maternal health access, utilization and provision challenges in Ntcheu, Malawi. Both resources can be found here:

<http://familyplanning.care2share.wikispaces.net/Maternal+Health+Project>

The final report for SRH in Emergencies global learning workshop is out! A global learning workshop on Sexual and Reproductive Health in Emergencies facilitated by CARE USA'S SRMH team took place in Atlanta, Georgia, USA on 13-17 October, 2014. This learning workshop focused on increasing knowledge and skills among field-based staff to support and implement SRMH services throughout the emergency preparedness and response cycle. [The final workshop report](#) can be found here:

<http://familyplanning.care2share.wikispaces.net/SRH-E+Global+Workshop+2014>

For any questions about the workshop, please contact Carolyn Baer at cbaer@care.org

CARE staff presented in 142nd APHA Annual Meeting & Expo in New Orleans in Nov Serena Huang, Program Officer with the SRMH team, attended the 2014 American Public Health Association (APHA) Annual Meeting in New Orleans. On November 18, Serena presented the poster, "[Determinants of long-acting reversible contraceptive \(LARC\) use among women in Chad: Results from Supporting Access to Family Planning and Post-Abortion Care \(SAFPAC\) Initiative.](#)" Within the context of the SAFPAC program working in the Logone Oriental Region and Moyen Chari Region, the poster examines the influence of age, religion, parity and location



on women's decisions to choose LARC. You can find the poster here: <http://familyplanning.care2share.wikispaces.net/SAF-PAC>

Cops in Chad and Family Planning – An Unlikely Duo The SAF-PAC (Supporting Access to Family Planning and Post-Abortion Care) project's story on the police training in Chad was featured in the Saporta Report. Find link here:

<http://saportareport.com/leadership/globalhealth/2014/11/10/family-planning-in-chad/>

Please also find below CARE's poster presentation (from ICFP 2013) on this story:

[Policy implementation to improve access to family planning: Using local police to promote women's right to family planning using national sexual and reproductive policy in Chad](#)

CARE Chad and CARE DRC Policy Landscaping Reports/Internal Review meetings on safe abortion CARE Chad and CARE DRC commissioned policy landscaping reports to document policy barriers/opportunities to access to safe abortion care. On November 18, CARE Chad co-convened internal review meetings with Ministry of Health and other colleagues to share findings and discuss opportunities for joint action to address barriers to safe abortion. CARE Chad is planning to do a workshop on this topic in early 2015. CARE DRC held its workshop in October, and is now working on a roadmap for joint action. This is part of CARE Chad and CARE DRC's ongoing work to catalyze joint action to address barriers to access to safe abortion care. This work is supported by the global SAF-PAC project, (Supporting Access to Family Planning and Post-Abortion Care). The Senior Advisor for Global SRMH Advocacy will be partnering with the SAF-PAC team and CARE Chad and CARE DRC to document and share progress and lessons learned with the broader organization. For more information, please contact Jimmy Nzau: jnzau@care.org.

CARE USA's Gender, Education and SRMH teams Collaboration on ASRHR Colleagues across the Gender, Education and SRMH teams are working together to map and align the global processes through which CARE is advocating for adolescent sexual, reproductive health and rights (ASRHR). The group will be developing joint ASRHR advocacy priorities and messages and articulating concrete advocacy targets for each process. These colleagues are also collaborating on the development of several fundraising proposals focused on empowering girls and achieving positive economic, educational and health outcomes.

CARE presents at Institute of Medicine Forum on Public- Private Partnerships (PPPs) for Global Health and Safety Carolyn Baer recently attended a workshop of the Institute of Medicine's Forum on Public-Private Partnerships for Global Health and Safety to explore opportunities for identifying and applying lessons learned and best practices for PPPs from experiences of successes and failures. Carolyn's presentation focused on PPP that CARE relies on during our emergency preparedness and response programs that are multi-faceted, long-term alliances that yield high impact. Carolyn shared examples of successful PPPs with UPS,



Emirates, InterContinental Hotel Group, and Pfizer and the roles they play throughout the humanitarian continuum.

SRMH&Rights Global Updates

New CARE Briefing Paper on population and climate change We are pleased to share a [new briefing paper](#) from CARE International's Poverty, Environment and Climate Change Network that was launched Dec. 3rd at the COP20 UN climate talks in Lima, Peru. This paper is a great example of global collaboration on a topic that is important to both SRMH and climate change stakeholders!

'Choice not control: Why limiting the fertility of poor populations will not solve the climate crisis' argues that strengthening women's and girls' reproductive rights is a global imperative for equitable development, but it must be a priority *in its own right*, regardless of a country's population growth and carbon footprint.

The paper is in response to increasing global focus on family planning as a strategy to address climate change: the brief draws attention to the problems and risks with that approach and, in short, lays out CARE's position that (1) reproductive rights should be viewed as intrinsic and not instrumental and (2) that climate change is the result of overconsumption not overpopulation. For any enquiries, please contact Agnes Otzelberger on aotzelberger@careclimatechange.org

CARE Learning Tour to Cambodia On November 21-26, CARE USA and CARE Australia co-led an SRMH-focused learning Tour to Cambodia with key policy-makers from both countries. The trip highlighted how U.S. and Australian investments are helping to ensure women's sexual, reproductive and maternal health. The delegation consisted of CARE staff, members of congress, representatives from USAID and other CARE partners who traveled to Phnom Penh, Sre Ambel and Siem Reap to see how women and their families are living with daily maternal, newborn and child health challenges. The delegation visited health centers and clinics, met with women's groups and youth, and engaged with women and their families who are seeking health services. For more information on the trip or on how CARE is following up to build support for investments in SRMH, please contact Nicole deBrander from CARE USA (ndeBrabander@care.org) or Alex Lamb with CARE Australia (Alexandra.Lamb@care.org.au)

Newsletter 04 of CARE-GSK Community Health Worker Initiative is out! CARE-GSK Community Health Worker Initiative ensures consistent, high quality, life-saving and sustainable maternal, newborn & child health (MNCH) care to a population of 1.4 million people in a very remote area, through a public private partnership by mobilizing 3,000 community health volunteers, 2,100 community health workers, 700 local government members, 1,075 public & private



health providers & development of 168 private community based skilled birth attendants (P-CSBA).

CARE USA SRMH team would love to hear about anything new in the sexual, reproductive or maternal health programming in your country! If you would love to share anything with this listserv community, please sent your content to shuang@care.org. We will compile your content and include it in the next bi-monthly update.

Other Updates *(Apologies for cross-posting)*

FP2020 Launches Rights and Empowerment Principles for Family Planning FP2020's efforts are underpinned by a rights-based approach to ensuring equitable access to family planning information, services and supplies.

Christine Galavotti, CARE's Senior Director of Sexual, Reproductive and Maternal Health, represents CARE on the FP2020 Rights and Empowerment Working Group, a small global advisory group for FP2020 that is shaping the guiding principles/norms for rights-based family planning through the FP2020 initiative.

On International Human Rights Day, FP2020 launched [the Rights and Empowerment Principles for Family Planning](#). This foundational document lays out the ten fundamental human rights principles which must be respected, protected and fulfilled in order to reach and sustain goals for meeting contraceptive needs.

Essential interventions: implementation strategies and proposed packages of care In an effort to accelerate progress towards achieving Millennium Development Goal (MDG) 4 and 5, provision of essential reproductive, maternal, newborn and child health (RMNCH) interventions is being considered. Not only should a state-of-the-art approach be taken for services delivered to the mother, neonate and to the child, but services must also be deployed across the household to hospital continuum of care approach and in the form of packages. The paper proposed several packages for improved maternal, newborn and child health that can be delivered across RMNCH continuum of care.

This is a great recent article summarizing RMNCH packages of care, written by some of the major MNCH health experts in the world.



The Global Financing Facility (GFF) was launched at UN General Assembly The GFF was launched at UN General Assembly to accelerate progress on Reproductive Maternal Newborn Child and Adolescent Health (RMNCAH), The GFF is intended to support the new Global Strategy for Women's, Children's and Adolescents' Health, to be developed in 2015 in conjunction with the new Sustainable Development Goals. CARE is providing feedback on priorities for GFF and the new global strategy through the Partnership for Maternal, Newborn and Child Health. For more information please contact Christina Wegs (cweggs@care.org)

New HIP (High Impact Practices) Brief on Keeping Girls in School The brief is entitled: "[Educating Girls: Creating a foundation for positive sexual and reproductive health behaviors](#)". The purpose of this brief, written by Karen Hardee, Population Council; Shawn Malarcher, USAID; and Linda Cahaelen, USAID, is to describe the relationship of girls' education on family planning and reproductive health and behaviors; highlight evidence-based practices that increase girls' enrollment, retention, and participation in school; and provide recommendations for how the health sector can support keeping girls in school.

Transforming Gender Norms, Roles, and Dynamics for Better Health With funding from the Asia Bureau at USAID, the Health Policy Project (HPP) and the University of North Carolina's MEASURE Evaluation Project, together with the Public Health Foundation of India (PHFI) and the International Center for Research on Women (ICRW), undertook a systematic review of the impact of gender-integrated programs on health outcomes. The report presents comprehensive and up-to-date evidence showing how gender-integrated programming influences health outcomes in low- and middle-income countries: in particular, reproductive, maternal, neonatal, child, and adolescent health; HIV prevention and the AIDS response; gender-based violence; tuberculosis; and universal health coverage. CARE's ISOFI (Inner Spaces, Outer Faces Initiative) is reviewed in this [report](#).

SRMH Issue in Focus: Respectful Maternity Care

Every day, and in every part of the world, women experience disrespect and abuse in facility-based maternal health care. Disrespect and abuse in maternal health care is as a form of violence against women and violation of human rights that acts as a powerful deterrent to women seeking health care.

How is CARE taking action?

- CARE is an active member of the *Respectful Maternity Care Alliance*, a global consortium of partners who are working together to eliminate disrespect and abuse in maternal health care and promote respectful maternal health care for all women, everywhere.



The RMC Alliance is convened by the White Ribbon Alliance for Safe Motherhood, and other members include: WHO, USAID, JHPIEGO, Family Care International, the Center for Reproductive Rights, and FIGO.

- Along with 70 other organizations, CARE has endorsed a WHO Statement on [the elimination and prevention of disrespect and abuse during facility-based childbirth](#).
- In December, CARE joined partners from the Respectful Maternity Care Alliance developed a 1 year joint strategy to advocate for the integration of participatory monitoring and accountability mechanisms in the next global strategy Global Strategy for Women's, Children's and Adolescents' Health (this strategy will support implementation of the new sustainable development goals.) For more information, contact Christina Wegs (cwegs@care.org)
- Several of CARE's programs have been featured as models for practical approaches for ensuring respectful, rights-based sexual, reproductive and maternal health care for all women, including a program in Peru which has been documented by the International Initiative on Maternal Mortality and Human Rights, and which informed the UN Human Rights Council's guidelines (http://www2.ohchr.org/english/issues/women/docs/A.HRC.21.22_en.pdf) on implementing a 2009 UN Resolution on Preventable Maternal Mortality and Human Rights.

Key Resources

- [Disrespect and Abuse in Childbirth: Challenging the Quality and Accountability Agendas, Lynn Freedman and Margaret Kruk, Lancet The Lancet, Volume 384, Issue 9948, Pages e42 - e44, 20 September 2014](#)
- Exploring Evidence for Disrespect and Abuse in Facility-based Childbirth: A Landscape Analysis (USAID/ TRACtion, Bowser and Hill, 2010) A review of the evidence of disrespect and abuse in facility-based childbirth. This includes the review of published and gray literature with regard to the definition, scope, contributors, and impact of disrespect and abuse in childbirth, promising intervention approaches, and the identification of gaps in the evidence. http://www.coregroup.org/storage/documents/elluminates/Respectful_Care_at_Birth_9-20-101_Final.pdf



- Poster/flyer about Respectful Maternity Care from White Ribbon Alliance http://whiteribbonalliance.org/wp-content/uploads/2013/10/RMC_Poster.pdf
- Toolkit on Respectful Maternity Care (USAID Maternal and Child Health Integrated Program (MCHIP) This package of materials is designed to provide clinicians, trainers, managers and other stakeholders involved in the provision of maternity care with the tools necessary to begin implementing RMC in their area of work or influence. This toolkit contains program learning documents, such as: surveys and briefs on country experiences; training materials; tools to assess and improve RMC within programs and services; job aids; and a resource list. <https://www.k4health.org/toolkits/rmc>
- A Guide for Advocating for Respectful Maternity Care, featuring a case study on CARE's Community Score Card approach (Health Policy Project and White Ribbon Alliance, 2013) http://www.healthpolicyproject.com/pubs/189_RMCGuideFINAL.pdf
- USAID TRAction/Respectful Maternal Care: links to collaborative research and intervention development funded by USAID through the TRAction project, including evidence and models from implementation research projects in Tanzania. <http://www.tractionproject.org/research-areas/access-to-skilled-care/respectful-maternal-care>
- Respectful Maternity Care Resources from the Maternal Health Taskforce <http://www.mhtf.org/topics/respectful-maternity-care/>