

The National Composite Index for Family Planning (NCIFP) Rwanda 2014 Results

What is the NCIFP?

The NCIFP is a new tool developed to support FP2020's efforts to improve the enabling and policy environment for family planning. The NCIFP measures both the existence of policies and program implementation, using 35 individual scores organized under five dimensions: **strategy**, **data**, **quality**, **equity**, and **accountability**.

Strategy – whether the 1) national FP strategy/plan includes objectives that are quantified and 2) targets to reach the poorest and most vulnerable; 3) resource requirements are projected; 4) means to broaden participation among diverse stakeholders are supported; 5) seniority of FP program director; and 6) policies that facilitate contraceptive importation or local manufacturing.

Data - whether the government 7) collects data to monitor special sub-groups (e.g. the poor) and 8) availability data on private sector commodities; 9) quality control of service statistic in place; and 10) data used to ensure access by vulnerable groups; 11) adequate client record keeping in place; and 12-13) uses various data sources for program operations, monitoring and evaluation.

Quality – whether the 14) government uses WHO-based FP procedures; 15) has FP task-sharing guidelines; 16-17) has and uses quality of care indicators in public and private facilities, 18) has adequate structures in place to address quality, 19) collects information on informed choice and provider bias, 20) has adequate training programs in place, 21) logistics and transport systems insure sufficient stock, 22) adequate supervision system in place, 23) informed choice on sterilization, 24-25) access to IUD and implant removal.

Equity - whether 26) policies are in place to prevent discrimination; 27) extent to which service providers discriminate against special groups; 28) underserved areas are served by CBDs; and 29-30) the entire population has access to modern methods.

Accountability – whether there are 31) national, sub-national and facility-level mechanisms in place to monitor voluntary, non-discriminatory FP provision; 32-33) mechanisms to report denial of services in place and reviewed; 34) client feedback solicited, and 35) system in place to encourage dialogue between clients and providers.

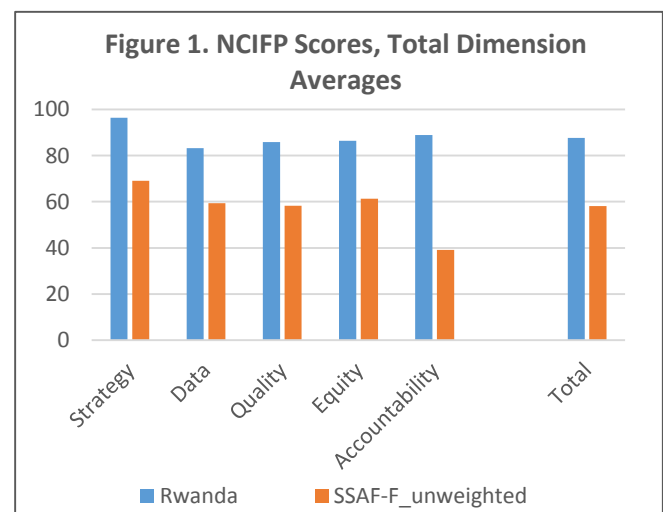
The NCIFP builds on the long-standing *National Family Planning Effort Index* (FPE). In 2014, the two questionnaires were fielded jointly in 90 countries by the Health Policy Project (implemented by Palladium with USAID funding) and Avenir Health (with funding from the Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation). NCIFP data allow assessments of FP programs and can help stimulate discussions among stakeholders about factors that help make FP programs effective, widely supported and sustainable.

What do the Rwanda results look like?

Rwanda's total NCIFP score was much higher than the Francophone SSAF regional average (88 v 58, as shown in Figure 1). The country also scored higher than the region across all five NCIFP dimensions.

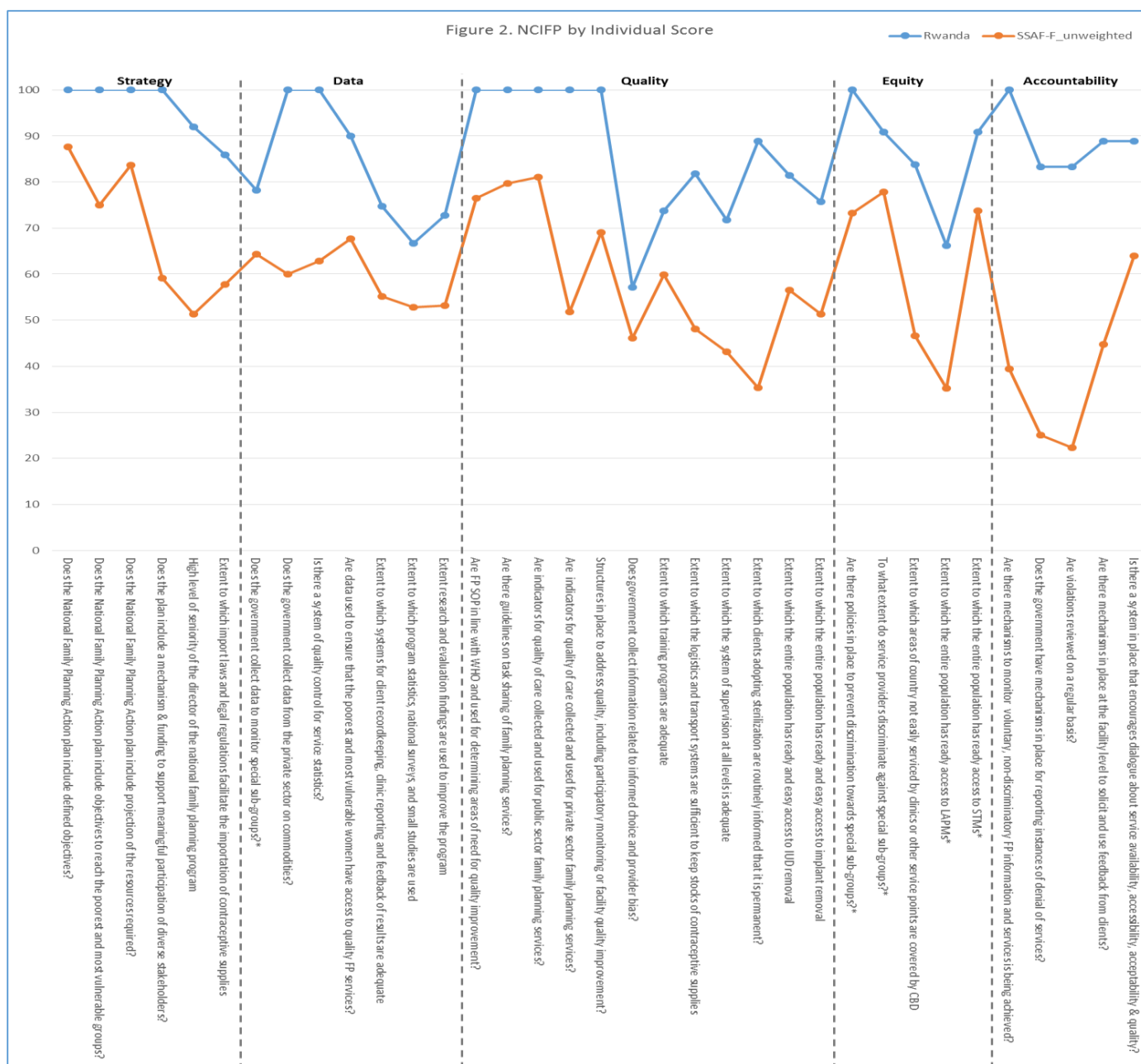
The general patterns of individual item scores are similar for Rwanda and Francophone SSAF (Figure 2), indicating similarities in what areas are achieving more strongly, and, less well. However, Rwanda outscored the region in all NCIFP items, and even earned perfect ratings in 13 items, particularly under Strategy and Quality. Another notable result: Rwanda scored in the 80s or higher across all individual items under Accountability.

If a score of 70 or below is used to identify activities for which Rwanda received relatively "low" scores and therefore requiring more improvement, the following items stand out: extent to which program statistics, surveys and studies are used (under Data); government collection and use of information on informed choice and provider bias (under Quality); and extent to which all sectors of the population have ready and easy access to LAPMs (under Equity).



Implications

During the London Summit on Family Planning on July 11, 2012, President Paul Kagame, on behalf of the Government of Rwanda, pledged to ensure the availability of family planning services in all Rwanda administrative villages (Imidugudu) through 45,000 existing community health workers. Such efforts aim to expand information dissemination to the general public to increase awareness of various FP choices available, introduce LAPMs, and integrate high-quality FP services in all hospitals and health centers. Rwanda's high NCIFP ratings in 2014 suggest that the country has progressed in moving its FP program further and achieve FP2020 commitments. The NCIFP ratings also point to activities that need to be further strengthened: LAPM services, government collection and use of information on informed choice and provider bias, and use of data from various sources for program monitoring and evaluation.



Want to know more: Read the full NCIFP report and use the interactive data tool available at track20.org

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