

# The National Composite Index for Family Planning (NCIFP)

## Mali 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.

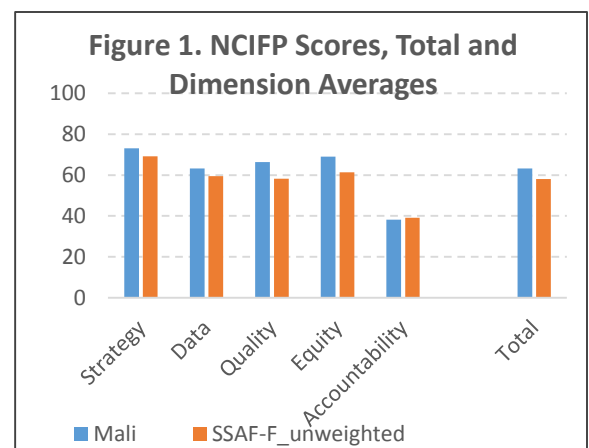
### What do the Mali results look like?

Overall, Mali scored higher than the Francophone SSAF region (63 vs 58, as shown in Figure 1). The country also scored higher than the region across the NCIFP dimensions except Accountability.

The general patterns of individual item scores are similar for Mali and Francophone SSAF (Figure 2), indicating similarities in what areas are achieving more strongly, and, less well. It can be noted that the country rated higher than the region for some NCIFP items. Mali received a perfect score for two Quality items - having FP task sharing guidelines and collection/use of quality of care indicators for public sector FP services. Mali's scores for various items approximated those of the region. The country's lowest scores were for the Strategy item regarding seniority level of the national FP program director and Accountability items regarding whether mechanisms are in place for reporting denial of services on non-medical grounds and reviewing violations regularly.

### Implications

In December 2014, the Government of Mali pledged to increase contraceptive use in the country from 10% in 2012 to at least 15% by 2018, reduce unmet need, and give priority to teens and young adults (ages 15 to 24). Interventions include dissemination of the 2002 reproductive health law; advocacy targeted to the highest levels of the State and to religious and traditional community leaders to support reproductive health (RH) and FP as a development priority; increase by 5% per year the state budget for



contraceptive purchase; mobilize state resources and partners in RH/FP and health in accordance with the Abuja target (10%); and diversify sources of RH/FP financing by mobilizing the private sector. Mali also pledged to strengthen partnership with stakeholders (e.g., the private sector, public corporations and professional organizations) in implementing the National FP Action Plan. On January 1, 2015, the Government committed to the FP2020 partnership by improving contraceptive access throughout the country; strengthen national campaigns promoting FP under the aegis of the Prime Minister; support behavior change communication and focus on the youth, women and men in urban, suburban and rural areas; improve transparency and accountability; and monitor at the ministerial level the implementation of the National FP Action Plan. The NCIFP provides data that can be used by Mali stakeholders to further strengthen the national program as well as assess progress and achievement.



Want to know more: Read the full NCIFP report and use the interactive data tool available at [track20.org](http://track20.org)