

LOOKING BACK & CHARTING THE WAY FORWARD: USING THE GLOBAL CONSENSUS STATEMENT ON EXPANDING CONTRACEPTIVE CHOICE FOR YOUTH

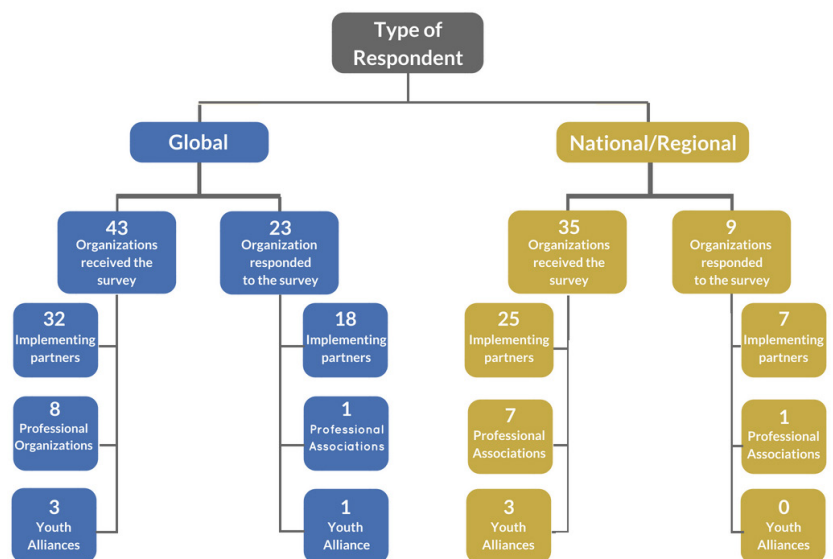
A Summary of Survey Results



Introduction

Since 2015, the Global Consensus Statement—Expanding Contraceptive Choice for Adolescents and Youth to Include Long-Acting Reversible Contraception (LARC)—has sought to advance evidence, programs, and policies that contribute to providing a wide range of contraceptives to adolescents and youth. To date, 48 organizations have endorsed the Global Consensus Statement: 8 professional associations, 3 youth alliances, 32 implementing partners, and 5 who reported being either donors or “others.” The Expanded Method Choice for Youth Working Group is composed of organizations charged with advancing use of and support for the Global Consensus Statement. In early 2018, the Working Group distributed a survey to the 43 professional associations, youth alliances, and implementing partners that endorsed the Global Consensus Statement. Looking back over the past three years, the survey asked how the organizations had used the Global Consensus Statement as an advocacy tool. Looking forward, the survey asked the organizations how they intend to use the Global Consensus Statement in the future. The survey was also used to determine resources that organizations may need going forward to better use the Consensus Statement as an advocacy tool. The Evidence to Action Project, on behalf of the Working Group, has examined survey responses, and results of select questions are presented in this brief.

Figure 1. Organizations surveyed by type



About the Survey

The Working Group¹ distributed two separate versions of the survey: one to global organizations and one to regional and national offices of those global organizations. Both surveys consisted of three modules. Module I was the same for all respondents, asking about experience using the Global Consensus Statement over the past two years. Module II was composed of questions specific to the respondent's organizational category: professional association, youth alliance, or implementing partner. Module III asked questions about how the organizations anticipated using of the Global Consensus Statement over the next two years and what resources might be helpful to using the tool effectively.

The survey was open for two months, from February-April 2018,² and was sent to 43 organizations that have endorsed the Global Consensus Statement, 36 of which have national/regional offices. The survey to global organizations received 22 completed responses (41% of all recipients), with 4 organizations giving multiple responses. The survey to national/regional offices received 9 completed responses (23% of all recipients), with 2 organizations giving multiple responses. Of responses, most responses (around 90%) came from implementing partners. One global youth alliance and two professional organizations also responded. The global survey consisted of 26 questions, and the one to national/regional offices consisted of 24 questions. Of these, there were 7 questions that were identical in both surveys.

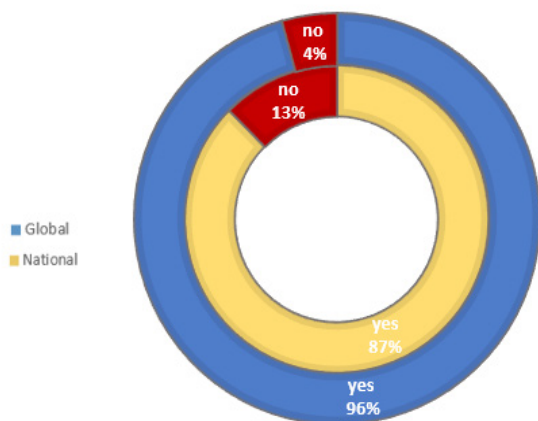
Results

Over the past two years, has your organization taken steps to actively engage in contributing to advancing the Global Consensus Statement's agenda on expanding contraceptive choice for adolescents and youth to include LARC?

Responded "Yes":

96% of global organizations

87% of national/regional offices

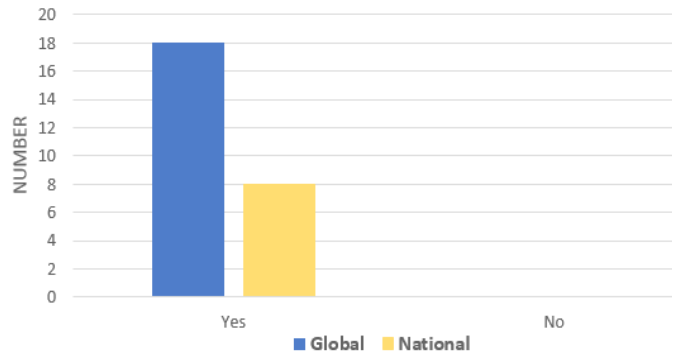


Do you feel that, over the next two years, your organization will take steps/actions to be actively engaged in contributing to advancing the Global Consensus Statement agenda on expanding contraceptive choice for youth to include LARC?

Responded "Yes":

100% of global organizations

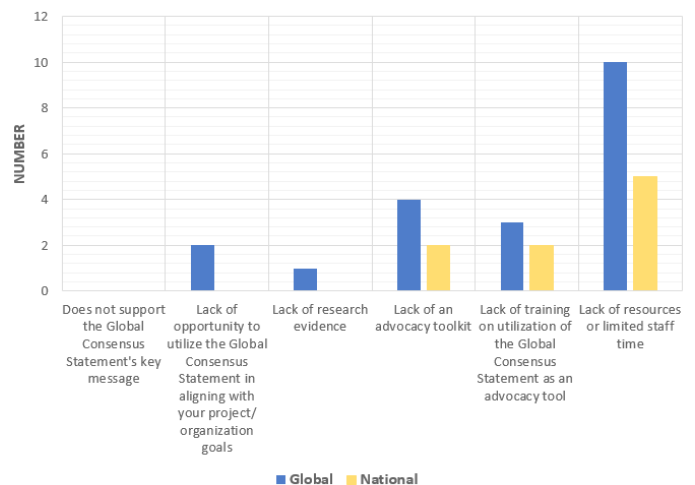
100% of national/regional offices



What inhibiting factor(s) going forward may prevent your association/ affiliation/organization from being actively engaged in contributing to the advancement of the Global Consensus Statement agenda? Check all that apply.

Top 3 responses

- Lack of resources or staff time
- Lack of an advocacy toolkit
- Lack of training on use of Global Consensus State



¹ Members of the Working Group are: USAID, Pathfinder International and its Evidence to Action Project, FHI360, Marie Stopes International, Population Services International, and FP2020.

² The methodology for distributing the survey to Working Group members is described below:

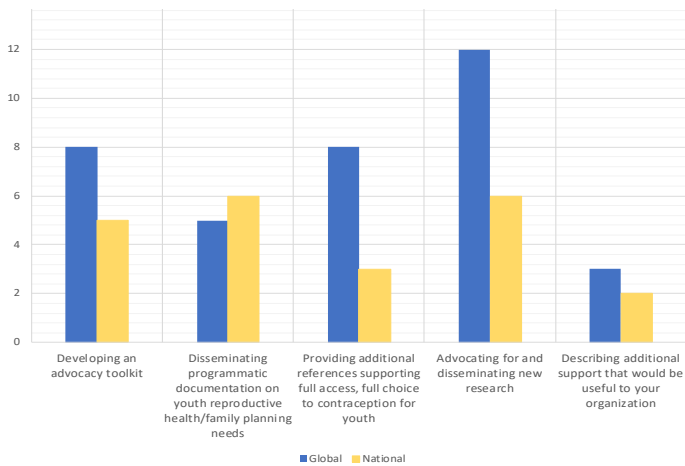
- February 21, 2018: email sent to the 45 Global Consensus Statement endorsing organizations (excluding donors) confirming points of contact.
- February 27-28, 2018: email with a link to the survey sent to global organizations, with request for those with national/regional offices to disseminate the survey to those offices accordingly.
- March 19, 2018; April 4 & 9, 2018: Reminder emails sent to global endorsing organizations who had not yet completed the survey and had not sent to/received responses from national/regional offices.
- April 12, 2018: Survey closed



How can the Expanding Method Choice for Youth Working Group best support your organization/ affiliation/ association in utilizing the Global Consensus Statement? Check all that apply.

Top 3 responses:

- Advocating for and disseminating new research
- Developing an advocacy toolkit
- Providing additional references supporting full access, full choice to contraception for adolescents and youth



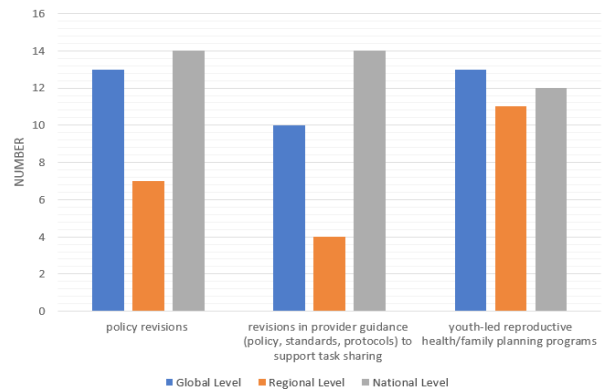
Organizations were asked how they had used the Global Consensus Statement as an advocacy tool.

Not many organizations responded to this question. Five organizations (global and regional/national) checked all of the available responses:

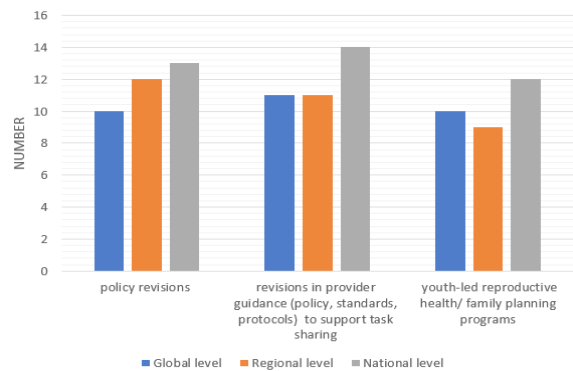
- To support implementation plans for youth-led reproductive health and family planning programs
- As an evidence-sharing tool at national meetings or in national technical working groups
- To revisit adolescent and youth sexual and reproductive health strategy to expand method choice to include LARC
- To include activities in work plans that expand method choice for adolescents to include LARCs
- As a reference or evidence-sharing in proposals or donor meetings

Global

My organization, over the past two years, has advocated for:

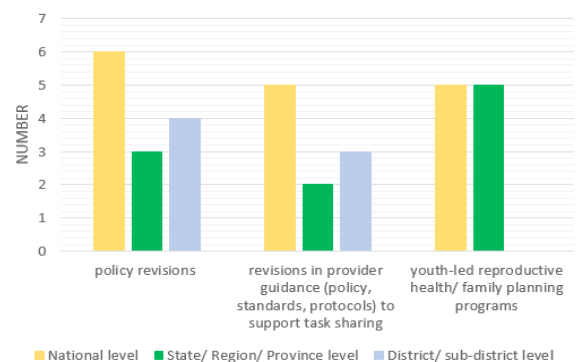


Over the next two years, my organization may use the Global Consensus Statement to advocate for:

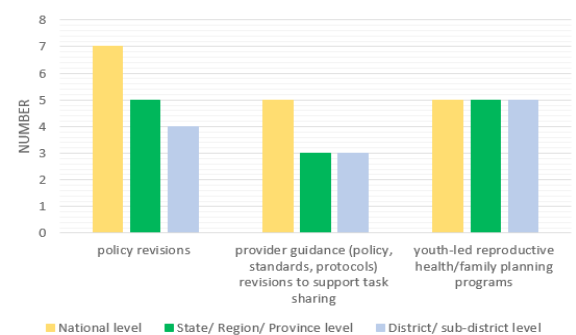


National/Regional

My organization, over the past two years, has advocated for:



Over the next two years, my organization may use the Global Consensus Statement to advocate for:

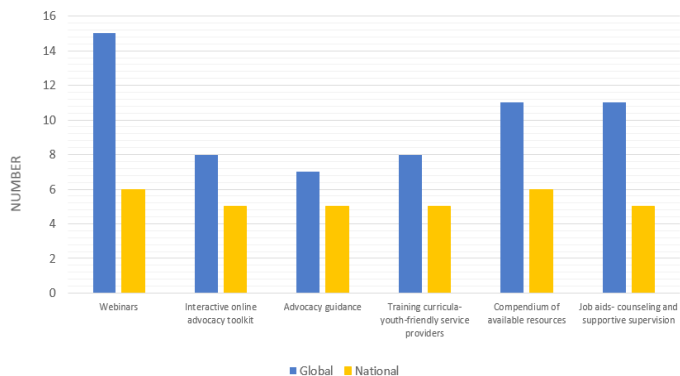


"Don't know" responses: policy revisions = 1 provider guidance = 1 youth-led programs = 3

Organizations were asked how they like to receive information from the Expanding Method Choice for Youth Working Group.

Top three choices:

- Webinars
- Compendium of available resource
- Job aids (counseling and supportive supervision)



Professional associations and youth alliances were asked if they had shared the Global Consensus Statement with their regional and national offices and affiliations.

The single response received from one professional association affirmed that the association had shared the information with some regional and national associations. The responding youth alliances responded that they had shared the Global Consensus Statement regionally and to more than a dozen (11-21+) national offices.

Implementing partners were asked if their organizations had shared the Global Consensus Statement with their country offices. About two-thirds of respondents had shared the Statement with some or all of their offices, while 38% responded that they were not aware of if it had been shared.



Conclusions

Survey results show that expanding method choice for youth to include LARC remained a priority area for endorsing organizations of the Global Consensus Statement over the past two years and will remain a priority going forward. Looking back, concerted efforts have been made to share the Global Consensus Statement, particularly among global organizations to national offices. Organizations have used the Global Consensus Statement for different types of advocacy at different levels: namely, policy and provider guidance revisions, and development of youth-led reproductive health and family planning programs. These are advocacy efforts which organizations plan to continue over the next two years. However, looking forward, several inhibiting factors, including lack of human and financial resources and lack of training on how to use the Global Consensus Statement as an advocacy tool, may prevent some organizations from progressing with planned advocacy efforts. The Expanding Method Choice for Youth Working Group can play a role in supporting endorsing organizations, particularly through the development of advocacy toolkit and further guidance on use of the Global Consensus Statement as an advocacy tool.

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For more information on the Global Consensus Statement—Expanding Contraceptive Choice for Adolescents and Youth to Include Long-Acting Reversible Contraception (LARC),

[click here](#)