Information sheet for key informants

Title of Study: Understand the impact of COVID-19 on the ability of women to access FP services and products in Uganda.

Principal Investigator: [Contact information removed]

Funding Source and/or Sponsor: USAID through FHI 360

What are some general things you should know about this study?

Research for Scalable Solutions (R4S) is a five-year family planning (FP) implementation science project funded by the U.S. Agency for International Development (USAID). FHI 360 leads the project, in partnership with Evidence for Sustainable Human Development Systems in Africa (EVIHDAF), Makerere University School of Public Health in Uganda (MakSPH), Population Services International (PSI), and Save the Children (STC). R4S partners are working together with a range of country research agencies to strengthen research capacity and support countries in their journey to self-reliance.

R4S project in Makerere University School of Public health, a USAID-funded project through FHI 360 together with the Ministry of Uganda, will conduct this study to assess the evolution of the COVID19 interventions across various stages of the epidemic and their potential impact on SRH and Maternal Newborn Child Health (MNCH) services provision.

What is the purpose of this study?

The goal of the study is to document the impact of the COVID-19 pandemic on the availability of family planning products and reproductive health (RH) and maternal, newborn and child health (MNCH) service delivery and use, including family planning (FP), and to document adjustments and innovations to bridge gaps in service provision and uptake.

How many people will take part in this study?

Up to 48 interviews will be conducted in Uganda. Interviewees include RH and MNCH implementing partners, district commodity storehouse keepers and RH/MCH/FP focal persons, health facility in-charges and volunteer health teams (VHTs). To the extent possible, major private-for-profit care providers in the selected districts will also be included. The respondents will be purposively sampled based on their expertise, knowledge and contribution towards the RH, MNCH and FP programs in Uganda.

How long will your participation in the interview last?

The interview will take about 60 minutes of your time.

What will happen if you take part in the study?

If you choose to participate in this study, you will be required to share opinions about the uptake of SRH, MNCH and FP services, any adjustments or innovations made to ensure continuity of service delivery.

What are the possible benefits from being in this study?

You will not benefit personally from being in this study. Your responses and responses of other participants will be analysed to inform the development strategic decisions for Uganda to ensure the continuity of equitable and quality service delivery while still containing the COVID19.

What are the possible risks or discomforts involved with being in this study?
You may experience discomfort from answering questions about your opinions and experiences. You do not have to participate, and we will not tell anyone if you choose not to participate. If you choose to participate, you are free not to respond to any question. Your name will not be connected with your responses. We will make every effort to protect your privacy and confidentiality while you are in the study.

How will your privacy be protected?
We will make an audio recording of the interview to ensure we accurately capture your responses. The recording of discussion will be stored on one computer with password protection and will be destroyed once the study is over. Your interview will be assigned a code instead of any identifying information. No participant will be identified in any report or publication about this study.

Please confirm if it is okay to record this interview (place your initials or your mark on the line that best matches your choice. If meeting is virtual the interviewer records for the respondent)

_____ OK to audio record me during the study
_____ NOT OK to audio record me during the study

What if you want to stop before your part in the study is complete?
You can withdraw from this study at any time, without penalty.

Will you receive anything for being in this study?
You will be compensated with 40,000ugx for your time participating in this study. We will also provide an additional 10,000 shillings to cater for your data for the virtual interviews.

Who is sponsoring this study?
This study is funded by the USAID (United Stated Agency for International Development).

What if you have questions about this study?
You have the right to ask, and have answered, any questions you may have about this study. If you have questions, complaints, or concerns, you should contact the researchers listed on the first page of this form.

What if you have questions about your rights as a study participant?
This study has been reviewed and approved by Higher Degrees Research and Ethics Committee of Makerere University School of Public Health (HDREC), a committee that works to protect rights and welfare of research participants. If you have questions or concerns about your rights as a study participant, you may contact, anonymously if you wish, the Vice Chairperson HDREC, [Contact information removed].

You may also contact the FHI 360 Protection of Human Subjects Committee. If you have questions or concerns about your rights as a study participant, you may contact, [contact information removed].

_____	_____	_____
Participant Name	Participants Signature	Date
_____	_____	_____
Study Staff	Study Staff Signature	Date

Consent by virtual means

Please indicate by ticking on the line to show the final decision by the participant

_____ The participant has consented to take part in the study

_____ The participant has not consented to take part in the study

_____	_____	_____
Study Staff	Study Staff Signature	Date