



Social Network Study – The Democratic Republic of the Congo (DRC)

Country Action Process Evaluation

June 2018





FP CAPE evaluation objectives

The purpose of FP CAPE is to generate evidence on <u>how</u> and <u>why</u> each portfolio of investments is/is not driving change in key reproductive health outcomes in the DRC and Nigeria.



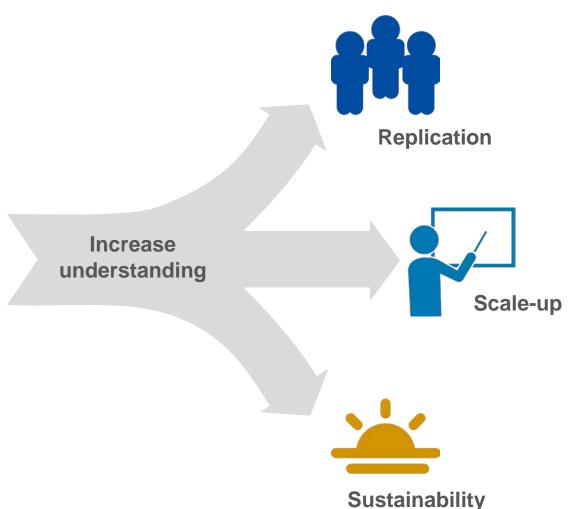
Inform investment strategy

 Generate evidence to develop the Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation's (BMGF) family planning (FP) portfolio of investment strategies in the DRC and Nigeria



Learn across the portfolio

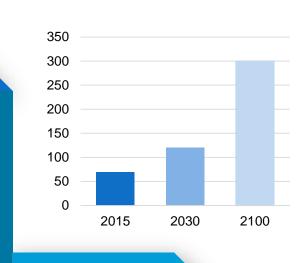
 Improve cross-grantee coordination and learning to maximize the efficiency and effectiveness of program activities across the portfolios





Family planning in DRC

The DRC, as one of the lowest ranked countries in the Human Development Index (176th of 188 in 2016), faces significant challenges in providing reproductive health services. Intense projected population growth and low mCPR create pressure on government & stakeholders to better address family planning needs.



The current population is expected to almost double in size to 120 million in 2030, and to reach at least 300 million in 2100



Since 2012, the DRC Government has prioritized FP in policy, regulations, and budget



The mCPR was just under 8% among married women nationally in 2014, up slightly from just under 6% in 2007



DRC's government pledged to increase mCPR to 19% by 2020

Sources: UN HDI



Why conduct a social networks study for FP stakeholders in DRC?

Meeting the FP2020 national goals in the DRC requires collaboration and implication from various stakeholders groups

BMGF is funding a variety of organizations in DRC.

They care immensely about building gov't capacity to lead the FP agenda.

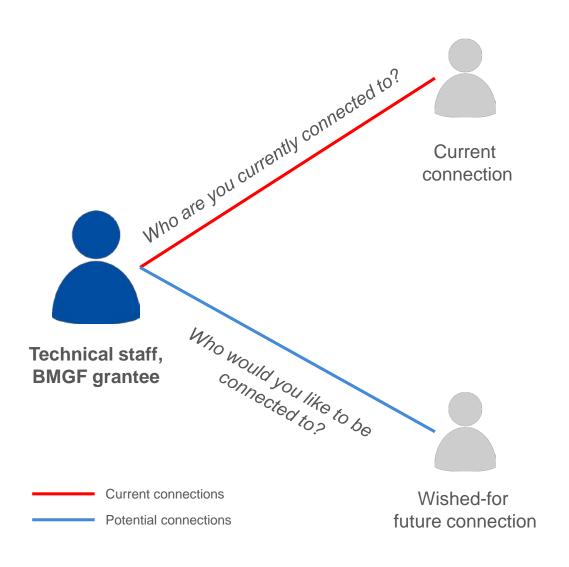
Questions:

- Who are the key players in the FP stakeholder network?
- ► Are BMGF grantees working together? With other groups? The "right" individuals/groups/ key players?
- ► Is there too much scope overlap/inefficiencies or too few/ too many gaps?
- What makes connections between those stakeholders (resources vs data)?
- ► How can we better encourage collaboration within the network?



Our methods and data

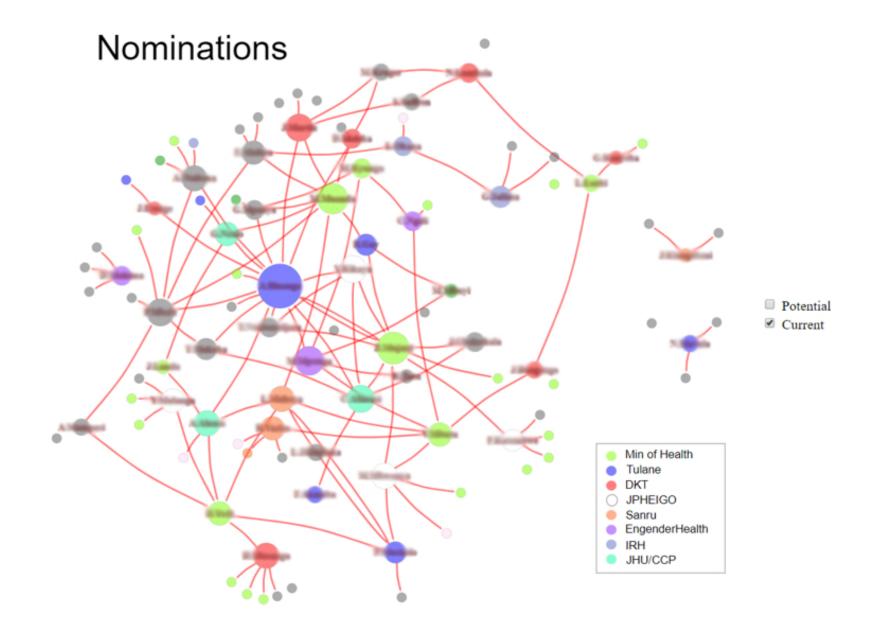
FP CAPE collected network data to better understand FP stakeholder collaboration.



Question	Outcome	
Research frame	Bounded to BMGF-supported technical staff (primary interview)	
N	32	
Collection format	Individually-administered surveys	
Tie(s) measured	FP stakeholder networks (current networks and wished-for connections)	
Additional data identified in connections	Resource sharing: Data (Findings, technical knowledge/assistance, policy information)	
	 Resources (Funding, equipment, space, access to staff) 	
Analyses	 Survey responses were transformed into an adjacency matrix, and connections plotted 	
	 Key current and future connections were identified 	



Current connections





Who do staff most frequently list as connections?

When looking at technical staff's current connections, five individuals were nominated five or more times by other staff members.

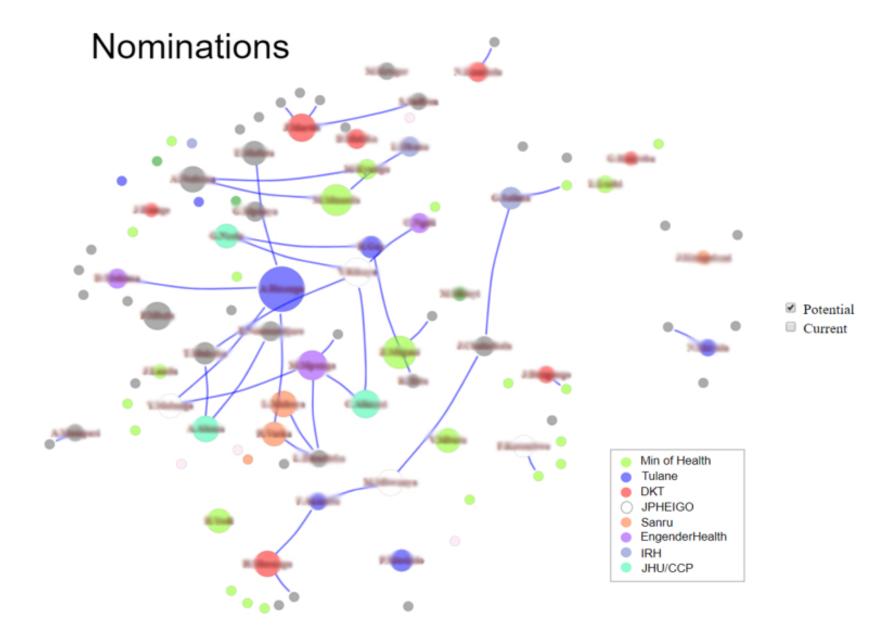
Individual	# Nominations	Organization
АВ	12	► Tulane
ММ	6	Ministry of Health
RY	6	Ministry of Health
VM	5	Ministry of Health
ZM	5	► Ministry of Health/Track20
		This statistic is also known a in-degree centrality

7

as



Potential connections





Who are the most wished-for connections for BMGF grantees to achieve their program objectives?

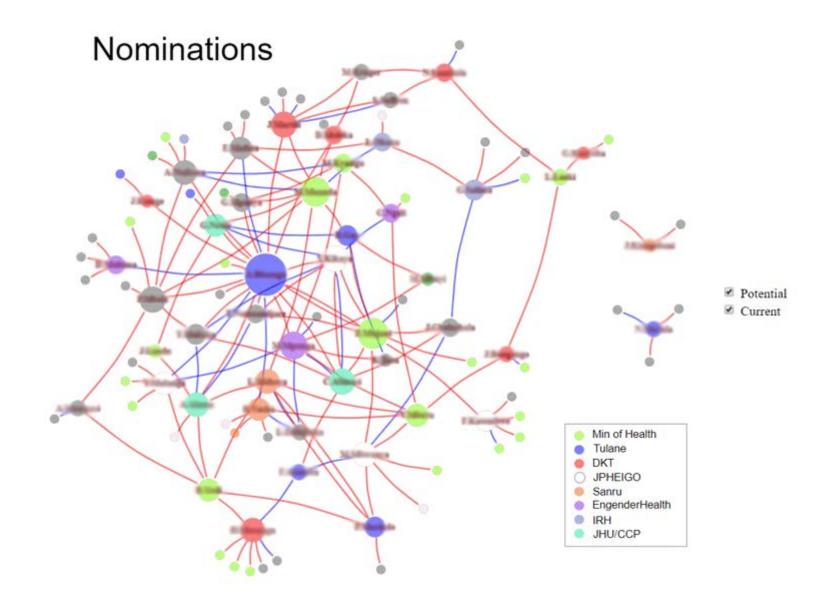
Technical staff nominated fewer connections for the future; the "top five wished-for" list does not mirror the current connection list. These represent opportunities for further connection/exchange.

Individual	# Nominations	Organization	
АВ	4	► Tulane	AB is the only individual on
VK	3	► JHPEIGO	both the current and potential future connection
FA	2	► Tulane	lists
JLC	2	► FP CAPE	
LZ	2	► JHPIEGO/MCSP	

Discussion: Why are these individuals viewed as key future connections?



All connections, current and potential





Future analysis on FP stakeholder network in the DRC

There are many opportunities for increasing our understanding of the stakeholder network; further analysis is ongoing and future data products may include the following.

Topic	Future analysis	Data
Resource flow	 Examine the kinds of resources (data, technical, financial) that flow between BMGF grantees and other stakeholders in the network (ongoing) 	► Current SN data
Strengthening opportunities	 Continued review of the FP network for specific strengthening opportunities 	► Current SN data
Network connectivity	 Model shocks on the connectivity of the network Example: the impact to the network connectivity/ sustainability given withdrawal of central stakeholders 	► Current SN data
External stakeholders	 Expanding further surveys to named external stakeholders Mapping full universe of current stakeholders to better understand wider context of FP in the DRC 	 Snowball method, ongoing interviews to conduct
Dynamic changes	► Time-series network analysis to assess changes over time, perhaps in relation to a particular intervention	 Additional future round(s) of SN data collection



Did we answer the key questions?

Questions:

Who are the key players in the FP stakeholder network?

Yes – in a sense but from the BMGF grantee perspective. Future interviews possible

► Are BMGF grantees working together? With other groups? The "right" individuals/groups/ key players?

Yes – but room for improvement.

Is there too much scope overlap/inefficiencies or too few/ too many gaps?

Not answered here. Undertaking a Who is Doing What Where Mapping now.

What makes connections between those stakeholders (resources vs data)?

Hopefully! - see next slide on planned analyses

► How can we better encourage collaboration within the network?

Yes - Specific ideas generated through the aspirational contacts data



Discussion Questions

- What are your thoughts on how network analysis can be used to inform programs and/or policy decisions?
- Does anyone have any experience with aspirational networks?
- ► Any other thoughts on methods or additional analyses?