PATHFINDER

10 Years of Piloting Sexual and Reproductive Health Innovation in the Agneby-Tiassa Region of Côte d'Ivoire



2016–2027

Improving Access to Sexual and Reproductive Health Services in Côte d'Ivoire

The Wiliam and Flora Hewlett Foundation

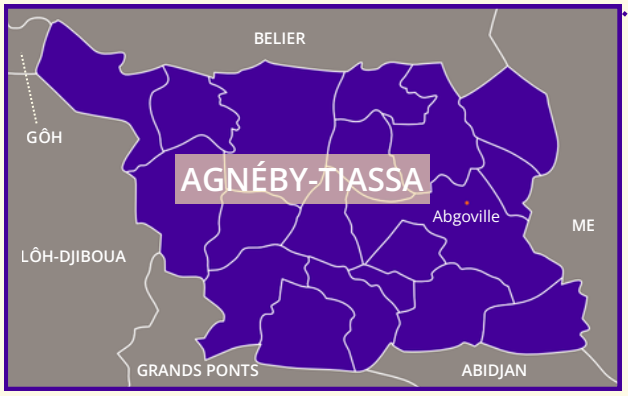
Pathfinder opened its Côte d'Ivoire office in 2016. Since then, we have worked alongside Côte d'Ivoire's Ministry of Health with generous support from the Hewlett Foundation, piloting sexual and reproductive health (SRH) innovations in the Agnéby-Tiassa region.

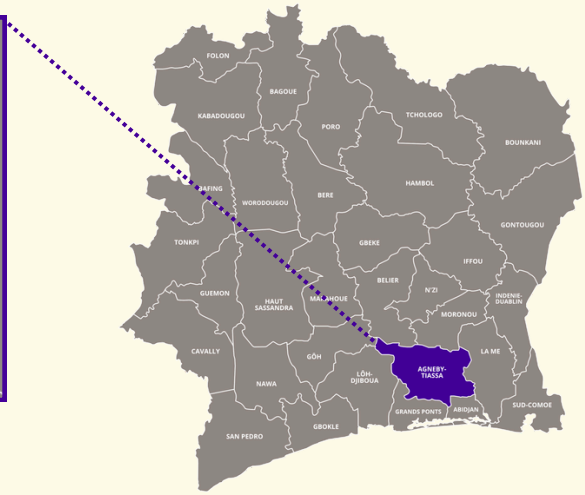
Innovations Piloted

1. Introduction of Immediate Postpartum Family Planning Services (iPPFP)
2. Introduction of post-abortion care (PAC), inclusive of postabortion family planning (PPFA)
3. Introduction of youth responsive SRH and and family planning (FP) services
4. Community Score Cards: social accountability for improved health governance
5. Introduction of free contraceptive services in public facilities
6. Establishment of a cohort of SRH Youth Champions
7. Support to the Agnéby-Tiassa Regional Council to develop and implement its 2020–2022 Regional Health Development Plan

Theory of Change

IF...	communities become more involved in oversight of the public health system, health care governance and service quality will improve.
IF...	Youth Champions raise awareness and disseminate accurate information on SRH among adolescents and young people, they will increasingly use health services.
IF...	contraception is completely free and available at community level, it will be increasingly used by the population, especially among adolescents and youth.
IF...	we document and plan for sustainability, approaches will be sustained and scaled.
THEN	**SRH services at primary and community levels will improve, leading to increased use and satisfaction of SRH services by women and young people to meet their reproductive health needs.**





Spotlight on Three SRH Innovations

COMMUNITY SCORE CARDS

Pathfinder introduced this social accountability approach in health districts throughout Agnéby-Tiassa to improve clinical service quality in public facilities and strengthen local health governance. The intervention consists of five steps:

1. Provider self-assessment of facility performance
2. Service quality evaluation by community members
3. Community dialogues
4. Guided facility tours
5. Corrective action plan development

In addition, Pathfinder builds community advocacy skills to call on local government and public figures to finance recommended service delivery improvements.

YOUTH SRH CHAMPIONS

Pathfinder mentors 20 Youth Champions across Agnéby-Tiassa to promote SRH among in- and out-of-school adolescents and youth. Youth Champions cover a diverse set of topics in SRH and climate resilience, including reproductive autonomy and rights, gender-based violence prevention, climate resilience, and environmental protection. Youth Champions conduct social media campaigns, intergenerational dialogues, extracurricular educational discussions, and in-school talks.

FREE CONTRACEPTIVE SERVICES

Pathfinder supported the Ministry of Health to pilot free FP services for the first time in Côte d'Ivoire in the Agboville Health District in October 2021. This included provider training and mentorship to offer quality contraceptive services free-of-charge, ensuring sufficient contraceptive stock, and subsidizing consumables used for method insertion.

Access to free FP services has led to increased use of modern contraception, particularly among adolescents and young women.

After 18 months of implementation in Agboville, **the number of new FP users increased by 125%**, from 5,033 new users before services were free to 11,321 new users after the free FP pilot began. **Women and girls under the age of 24 accounted for 52% of all new users.**

An evaluation of Côte d'Ivoire's 2021–2025 FP Costed Implementation Plan showed **Agnéby-Tiassa had the greatest increase in number of FP users (+304%) and number of modern contraceptives distributed (+696%).**

Both **Community Scorecard** and **Youth SRH Champion** interventions have been **formally adopted by all health districts in the Agnéby-Tiassa region.** Efforts are underway to evaluate both approaches in the final phase of funding for this project.

For nearly 70 years, Pathfinder International has been a catalyst for systems transformation, inclusive growth, and resilient communities. With a global footprint spanning Africa, South Asia, and the Middle East, we invest in women and girls by expanding access to essential health products and services, unlocking leadership pathways, and strengthening economic participation. By partnering with civil society, governments, and the private sector, we scale women-led innovations that deliver sustainable systems of support, while generating measurable impact with the goal to ensure every woman has the agency to shape her future and lead a healthy, fulfilling life.