

PROTEGO

Defending a Nation and its People Through Effective Policy and Decisive Action

What is Protego?

Protego is Latin for "cover, protect, defend."

At times, the values, integrity, and sovereignty of nations are challenged by external actors. While countries often welcome international partnerships to improve health for women, girls, and families, they also want to protect the values of their culture and be respected as a sovereign state.

The Institute for Women's Health (IWH) created Protego, a 4-part model to give countries the greatest opportunity to support flourishing for all.

Vision:

A nation implements diplomatic, legal, health, and education policies that are fully consistent with a nation's commitment to value women, families, life, and sovereignty.

IWH is Guided by These Values:

Respect.

- IWH acknowledges that each nation has the right and responsibility to protect and serve its citizens and seeks to collaborate to promote optimal health for women and girls across their lifespan.
- Adequately addressing the health needs of women, girls, and families requires honoring, supporting, and empowering women while respecting their faith and culture.

True Partnership.

- We are not experts on the cultural, religious, and geopolitical realities that define your country.
YOU ARE.
- We do not fully understand the challenges and opportunities to improve health and thriving in your country. **YOU DO.**
- IWH doesn't come with a prepackaged "solution."
WE WORK ON IT TOGETHER.
- IWH brings decades of combined high-level experience in domestic and international policy and programs relevant to the Protego themes.

- IWH experts have worked in significant roles in U.S. Government (USAID, HHS, State Department), NGOs, medical schools, U.S. State Government, and in direct programs. All this experience aids in the creation of the Model.
- IWH combines science-based concepts with practical applications that can be adapted to any country.

Protego invites countries to identify your critical, specific needs in diplomacy, law, health, and education, and partner with IWH to protect and defend the well-being of women and future of your people and your nation.

The Four Parts of the Protego Model

- **WOMEN'S HEALTH FRAMEWORK.** Implement an innovative, life-affirming, holistic, multigenerational, women's health framework for all life stages, focusing on an integrated low-cost, high-impact approach.
- **EDUCATION.** Apply a culturally and age-appropriate, family-focused, youth-empowering education promoting optimal health. This can be developed for parent-child home communication, implemented at school, and/or in community settings.
- **LAW.** Create legislation and legal precedents that support optimal health, dignity of life, and healthy families through stable, integrated, enduring policies and programs.
- **INTERNATIONAL ENGAGEMENT.** Develop practical tools and training so partnering countries are better able to defend core values and grow the nation's influence in both multilateral and bilateral settings.

Protecting Our Future

IWH offers the Protego Model to countries committed to protecting the future of its people and their nation. We are eager to partner, support, and collaborate to accomplish these shared goals.

Contact IWH.

Begin the Conversation.

Steps to Implementation (next page)

Is Your Country Interested In Partnership With IWH To Implement PROTEGO?

Steps to Partnership

- 1. MEETING** between IWH and the Ambassador to introduce Protego and discuss possible application in-country.
- 2. REMOTE MEETING(S)** to answer questions and discuss terms of partnership. Meeting should be held between IWH and the in-capital Office of the principal leader who can ensure a unified, roll-out and implementation across government and between Ministries - usually the President or Prime Minister.
- 3. OFFICIAL VISIT** to the capital.
 - Jointly craft a plan of action and timeline for completion.
 - Meet with the Principal.
 - Sign Memorandum of Understanding.
 - Meet with Ministers in relevant ministries
 - Meet with faith leaders, business leaders, civil society, academics, parliamentarians, and other influencers.
- 4. PARTNER.** Country drafts, finalizes, and implements nation-specific application of Protego, which is complementary to the nations's current programs. IWH provides sustained collaborative consultation, throughout design and implementation.
- 5. RESEARCH and REPORT.** Develop and implement research instruments to monitor scale, impact, and areas for continuous improvement.



PROTEGO
PROTECTING OUR FUTURE

Frequently Asked Questions (FAQ)

WHAT IS THE ROLE OF IWH IN PROTEGO IMPLEMENTATION?

IWH will work closely with the Government in a consultative role by sharing research, best practices, and practical implementation strategies. We do not engage in lobbying nor do we represent the interests of partner countries to other sovereign states.

IS A COUNTRY REQUIRED TO IMPLEMENT EACH OF THE PROTEGO COMPONENTS?

- No. Governments may choose to implement one or all of the components, however the success of each component is strengthened by the other 3 components.
- Nations may also choose to implement the components in a sequential, rather than simultaneous manner.

WHAT DOES PROTEGO COST THE GOVERNMENT?

There is no monetary cost to the government for the implementation of the Protego model nor for the IWH consultative partnership.

However, there are significant costs to IWH which are defrayed by requesting the government provide the following in kind support:

The government provides:

In-kind support, including

- Leadership and expert national staff for development and implementation.
- In-country graphic design, printing, meeting space, media, and similar ancillary services.

Transportation and security for in-country IWH visits.

Introduction to independent financial partners within the country to offset IWH partnership expenses.

WHAT IS THE BENEFIT OF WORKING WITH BOTH THE GOVERNMENT AND OTHER IN-COUNTRY INFLUENCERS?

- Working together with motivated leaders, policymakers, businesses, organizations, media groups, healthcare professionals, faith-based groups, and governments will accelerate progress and success for broad, engaged, implementation.
- Broad application in every sector across the nation also ensures continuity should the government change.