Globally, many women and girls face challenges when managing their menstruation. Failure to address the menstrual hygiene needs of women and girls can have far-reaching consequences for basic hygiene, sanitation and reproductive health, ultimately affecting progress towards the SDG goal of gender equality.

Menstrual Hygiene Management (MHM) refers to the practice of using clean materials to absorb menstrual blood that can be changed privately, safely, hygienically, and as often as needed for the duration of the menstrual cycle. PMA2020 is the first survey platform to provide data on MHM indicators on a large scale. The data presented here from the fourth round of national data collection in Burkina Faso, is from 2,184 females ages 15–49.

Only 26% OF WOMEN in Burkina Faso report having everything they need to manage their menstruation. This does not vary by age, indicating that across their reproductive years, the majority of women are unable to adequately meet their MHM needs.

65% OF WOMEN REPORT USING CLOTHS AS THEIR MAIN MHM MATERIAL.

67% of women report that they wash and reuse their MHM materials. Of those who wash and reuse, 99% reported that their materials were completely dry before reuse.

PMA2020 uses innovative mobile technology to support low-cost, rapid-turnaround surveys to monitor key indicators for family planning and water, sanitation and hygiene (WASH). The project is implemented by local university and research organizations in 11 countries, deploying a cadre of female resident enumerators trained in mobile-assisted data collection. PMA2020/Burkina Faso is led by l’Institut Supérieur des Sciences de la Population (ISSP) de Université Ouaga I Pr Joseph Ki-Zerbo. Overall direction and support is provided by the Bill & Melinda Gates Institute for Population and Reproductive Health and the Johns Hopkins University Water Institute through a grant from the Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation.