

SAVING MOTHERS FROM DYING GIVING LIFE

The Philippine Experience

A tragic reality...

- 11 Filipino mothers are dying everyday due to pregnancy and childbirth
- Filipino women continue to experience high unmet need due to unmet need for family planning

A tragic reality...

- Of the 3.4 million pregnancies in 2008, 1.9 million are unwanted and 560,000 end in abortion
- Teenagers who have begun childbearing increased from 18% to 26% in 2003

Family planning...the weakest link...

- 50.7% contraceptive prevalence rate
- 22% of Filipino women has unmet need for family planning and particularly high among poor, uneducated, and those in rural and geographically isolated areas

Responding to the challenge...

“No woman should die giving life”

- Maternal, Newborn, and Child Health Program (MNCHN)
 - A national policy that works under the principles that all pregnancies must be wanted, planned and supported and that the mother-baby pair receive quality continuum of care throughout their life cycle

Responding to the challenge...

- MNCHN Strategies
 - shift from home-based to facility-based delivery attended by skilled health professionals
 - establishment of 166 Comprehensive Emergency Obstetric and Newborn Care (EmONC) and 1197 Basic EmONC facilities
 - deployment of midwives to priority communities and doctors to municipalities in need of skilled attendants

Responding to the challenge...

- Continuous advocacy for establishing national population and reproductive health policy
 - Implementation of Responsible Parenthood program
 - Enactment of local RH ordinances
- Enactment of Magna Carta of Women

Responding to the challenge...

- Poverty reduction strategies
 - Health insurance coverage of indigents
 - KALAHI and Conditional Cash Transfer for the poor households
- The Philippine Population Management Program (PPMP)
 - Assisting couples to achieve their fertility goals

While the road toward full development is difficult...with the support of all stakeholders in the country and international cooperation most especially among the members of the Partners in Population and Development (PPD)...we believe that the Philippines can have healthy, progressive and empowered Filipinos today and in the future!