

**ADDRESSING THE RELATIONSHIP BETWEEN POVERTY AND
REPRODUCTIVE HEALTH IN THE URBAN SETTING: OPPORTUNITY
FOR SOUTH - SOUTH COOPERATION AND INTERVENTION NEED:
PRESENTED AT THE 14TH INTERNATIONAL INTER-MINISTERIAL
CONFERENCE ON POPULATION AND DEVELOPMENT IN
INDONESIA FROM 26TH – 30TH NOVEMBER, 2017**

By

**Faniran, Sanjo O. Ph. D
MINISTRY OF BUDGET AND NATIONAL PLANNING,
ABUJA, NIGERIA**

Presentation Outline

- Introduction
- Socio-Demographic Profile of Nigeria
- Urban Growth - Nigeria's Experience
- Policy Interventions & Programmes
- Shared Vision for SSC & PPD by the Government of Nigeria

Introduction

- This presentation is to examine the relationship between poverty and reproductive health in the urban setting in Nigeria; and
- to present opportunity for South-South Cooperation (SSC) and intervention needs.

Intro. Contd.

- For us in Nigeria, we believe that this is the time for the professionals in the field of population and development as well as reproductive health; and
- to recognize poverty as an endemic disease that impairs human livelihood and development across the globe with higher case (s) in developing countries.

Intro Contd.

- World Poverty Statistics conducted by Brain Research in March 2017 reported that the total number of people that live on less than \$2.50 a day are estimated at 3 Billion while total percentage of people that live on less than \$10 a day are estimated at 80%;
- In the recent time, the menace of poverty in developing countries particularly in sub-sahara Africa including Nigeria can be linked to paying little or no attention to population as the key segment in economic growth and development by our Governments.

Intro Contd.

- Most problems that are currently associated with urban setting constitute a big **BUT** that eventually result in socio tragedies and development challenge that put pressure on human survival particularly in urban cities globally;
- Sexual Reproductive Health in urban cities in developing countries is being hampered by poverty since high population in urban areas in country like Nigeria has put more pressure on the infrastructure and basic amenities;

Introduction Contd.

- Naturally, efforts and attentions are mostly diverted to urban cities by various governments but less attention are put at the rate at which people move from rural to urban areas especially the youth population;
- Incessant movement of our youth from rural to urban areas is resulting in social chaos with negative influence that poses threat to reproductive health arising from unemployment among the youth population

Introduction Contd.

- These includes:
 - teenage pregnancies and
 - adolescent irresponsibility
- caused by unemployment and lack of means of survival and livelihood by this category of population particularly when it comes to caring for both wanted and unwanted pregnancies;
- We should note that access to contraception and family planning programmes is one of the most cost-effective ways to break the cycle of poverty and contribute to prosperity agenda of any nation;
- This need to be addressed within the opportunities created by the South - South Alliance.

Socio-Demographic Profile of Nigeria

- Nigeria is the largest and most populous country in Africa and is recognized to be in the 7th position globally that contributes 2.5 percent to world population;
- Nigeria is estimated to have a population of 198 million people with 3.2% growth rate (NPoPC – 2018);
- In Nigeria, the population composition is almost 50/50 for males and females;

Profile of Nigeria Contd.

- Nigeria's population is still youthful with a broad-based pyramid:
 - 63% are young people age 0-24;
 - 42 % are age 0-14 years;
 - 23 % are adolescents (age 15-19 years);
 - over 50 %of the total females are in their reproductive ages;
 - 54.8 percent constitute the working age population.

Profile Contd.

- Statistics from the National Demographic Household Survey (NDHS:2003 - 2013) put married women that currently uses modern contraception for birth spacing at 10 % with 16% still experiencing unmet need for family planning;
- Fertility decline is slow and insignificant with a Total Fertility Rate of 5.7% in 1990 to 5.5% (NDHS 2013);
- On the average are 6 children per Nigerian Woman;
- Similarly, 23% of adolescent girls have commenced child-bearing but Maternal Mortality Ratio is unacceptably high at 576/100,000 live births which makes it to be the second highest in the world;

Profile Contd.

- Currently, only 36 % of birth deliveries occur in health facilities and 38 percent have health professional assistant during deliveries.
- It is encouraging to also report on improved status of child mortalities between 2003 & 2013 whereby:
 - Infant mortality dropped from 100 to 69 per 1,000 live births;
 - Child mortality declined to 64 per 1,000 live births while under 5 from 201 to 128 respectively.

Urban Growth – Nigeria's Experience

- Nigeria is experiencing a rapid urban population growth which constitutes several social and health challenges with negative effect on reproductive health including:
 - Family Planning (FP);
 - Safe Motherhood;
 - Adolescent sexual and reproductive health;
 - HIV/AIDS and other STIs etc.

which are escalated by high rate of poverty among the urban poor.

Urban Growth Contd.

- Average TFR is still 6 children per woman at national and urban level, while the rural woman is likely to have 8 children;
- Low Cardio pulmonary resuscitation (CPR) among currently married women, high unmet need for FP and high adolescents' fertility constitute major determinants of high fertility and rapid population growth experience;
- Without government intervention, high poverty prevalence among most urban households can inhibit their access to reproductive health care services.

Policy Interventions & Programmes

- Considering the recent experience of the Government of Nigeria, a medium term development plan tagged “Economic Recovery and Growth Plan (ERGP: 2017-2020) was developed;
- Economic Recovery and Growth Plan is leveraging any opportunity and strategy available at its disposal to achieve the objective of the Plan;

Policy Intervention Contd.

- The ERGP has a vision to drive a structural economic transformation with emphasis on improving both public and private sector efficiency including focusing on the nexus between population and economic development;
- ERGP places priority on the health sector particularly for human capital development with emphasis on Sexual Reproductive Health, Family Planning, Population and Development;

Policy Interventions

- The ERGP is formulated to take Nigeria out of recession and eradicate poverty as well as facilitating achieving the UN 2030 Agenda;
- It has a broad objective of:
 - ❖ restoring growth;
 - ❖ investing in our people through social inclusion;
 - ❖ job creation and youth empowerment including improved human capital;
 - ❖ building a globally competitive economy through investment in infrastructure;
 - ❖ improving the business environment, as well as promoting digital-led growth.

Policy Interventions Contd.

- Currently in Nigeria, there are some on-going programmes in the health sector that addresses reproductive health and family planning challenges arising from the youth population explosion and movement from rural to urban area in search of green pastures. Some of the on-going programmes include:
 - Prevention and Management of Reproductive System Cancers;
 - Elimination of Harmful Practices and Reproductive Rights violation in terms of child marriage & Female Genital Mutilation;

Policy Intervention Contd.

- Obstetric Fistula Prevention & Control;
- Post Abortion Care Services;
- Reproductive Health Needs in Humanitarian Setting;
- Prevention of HIV/AIDS and other STIs.

Policy Interventions Contd

- Major government interventions include:
- Annual investment of \$3 million for Reproductive Health Commodity Security from 2011 and pledged during the 2017 London Summit to increase to \$4 million from 2018;
- In 2014, the GoN developed and implements a National Family Planning Blue Print Scale-up Plan to holistically address gaps in providing high-quality FP services as well as strengthen the health systems;
- Provision of Free Family Planning services in all public health facilities since 2011;

Policy Intervention Contd.

- Nigeria leverages the belief that Family Planning is one of the strangest anti-poverty strategies and low hanging fruit for reducing maternal mortality and compliment ante-natal services, and immunization routine;
-

Policy Intervention Contd.

- Plan to increase the number of health facilities providing family planning services in each of its states and Federal Capital Territory (FCT) to 20,000 and leverage its 10,000 functional primary health care facilities to raise awareness about family planning;
- 2014 National Health Act that provides the legal framework for the implementation of the 2016 National Health Policy;
- The 2017 Revised National Reproductive Health Policy;

Shared Vision for SSC & PPD by the Government of Nigeria

- In Nigeria, the youthful population presents an opportunity for reaping demographic dividend;
- Addressing extreme poverty and RH/FP needs among the urban poor remains a huge challenge for realizing this national aspiration as urbanization is frequent, uncontrollable and continuous;
- Nigeria launched a comprehensive Roadmap to facilitate strategies for investing in youth to accelerate economic growth for harnessing demographic dividend in July, 2017;

Shared Vision for SSC & PPD Contd.

- Since 2016, the GoN also introduced a Social Intervention Programme (SIP) that provides job opportunity for millions of youth “**N Power**” Social Intervention Programme (**SIP**);
- Nigeria therefore welcome an elaborate/fostered partnership, cooperation, collaboration and collective support of the SSC and the PPD in addressing issues of extreme poverty and needs of RH/FP among adolescents and women in its cities to facilitate efforts at realizing the objective of the ERGP – 2017 -2022.

*Shared Vision for SSC & PPD
Contd.*

**Thank ! You!! For!!! Your!!!!
Attention!!!!!!**