The Road to Success

Malawi’s Investment in RH/FP

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Deputy Minister of Finance and Development Planning
30th November 2011
International Conference on Family Planning, Dakar
Mangochi District Hospital

20-30 babies born in a day
700 babies delivered in a month
8,400 babies delivered in a year
Mangochi District Hospital
The Success Story

CPR results—Wake up call to stay on track

Percent of currently married women

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Year</th>
<th>Rate</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1992</td>
<td>7</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2000</td>
<td>26</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2004</td>
<td>28</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2010</td>
<td>42</td>
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Modern Contraceptive Use
Malawian Investments in FP

The State is *obliged* to provide adequate health care.

FP repositioned as key development strategy in:

- MGDS II: Improving health requires *multifaceted approach*
  - Key strategies will:
    - Increase qualified health personnel
    - Increase drug availability & supply
    - Improve health facilities & equipment
    - Improve management & monitoring of services
Investments in FP (2)

FP repositioned as key development strategy in:

- Malawi Health Sector Strategic Plan
  - Promotion, provision of FP methods
- Sexual Reproductive Health Policy 2009 – 2013
  - Promote through informed choice
  - Safer RH practices
  - Use of high quality, accessible RH services
Ministries and Parliament
Dialogue & Collaboration

- Parliamentary Health Committee
- Health Sector SW Aps Steering Committee
- Health Sector Rvw Grp
- Senior Management Committee
- Technical Working Groups
- Health Sub Group
- SWAp Secretariat
- Departmental Meetings and Committees
- Zonal Offices

Consultations or advisory relationship
Consultations or advisory relationship (stronger, frequent)
Managerial Responsibilities
Innovations

• Launch of First Lady’s Callista Mutharika Safe Motherhood Foundation in 2010
  o Focus on girls and women empowerment
    • Sexual and reproductive rights
    • Community midwives training
• Task shifting:
  • Community Depo-Provera initiative
  • Provision of long term and permanent methods by nurses

• RESULT: Improved access to and uptake of FP
Investment Strategies
Implementing Policy and Programs

• Alignment of partners
• Functioning governance structures
• Strong partnerships (Health Development Partners & stakeholders)
• Decentralization of health system to District assemblies
Investment Strategies
Implementing Policy and Programs

- Application of uniform standards among health facilities
- Commitment to human resources
- Commitment to financial resources
Challenges Remain

Stubbornly high TFR

- Urban TFR 4.0
- 80% of Malawians live in rural areas

Overall TFR is still high at 5.7
Challenges
Implementing Policy and Programs

• Rapid population growth
  o 2.8 per annum

• Heavily subsidised health system through donor aid
  o Explore alternative health financing mechanisms

• Shortage of human resources, inequitable distribution
Challenges (2)
Implementing Policy and Programs

- Demand creation
- Health systems strengthening
  - Commodity security
  - Integration of FP with RH, HIV
- No ring fencing funds for FP
Partnerships
Donor and Government

• SWAp II – Health Sector Strategic Plan (2011 – 2016)
• Health Donor Group
• Global fund
Immediate Challenges

• The need for a National Population Policy Strategy;
• Expanding education for the girl child;
• Scaling up the programme on building girls hostels;
• The need to work towards changes in certain traditional and cultural values and practices;
• The need for substantial improvement in maternal health services.
Zikomo
Mercis
Thank you

Photo: Martin Lopatka