AFRICA, MDGs AND THE ICPD: IMPACTS AND IMPRESSIONS

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ICPD AND THE MDGs GOALS

ICPD (1994)

- Watershed moment in global health
- First global recognition of sexual and reproductive health and rights
- First acknowledgement of women and youth as central to development
- Set goal to reduce maternal mortality by half by 2000, and then a further half by 2015
ICPD AND THE MDGs GOALS

MDGs (2000)

- Brought various issues and objectives under one “development tent”
- Set global targets for development by 2015
- Eradicate extreme poverty and hunger
- Achieve universal primary education
- Promote gender equality and empower women
- Reduce child mortality
- Improve maternal health
- Combat HIV/AIDS, malaria and other
- Ensure environmental sustainability
- Create a global partnership for development with targets for aid, trade & debt relief
- MDG 5 - reduction of all maternal mortality by 75%. No mention of family planning
ICPD - IMPACTS AND GAPS

Reviews found progress, but ongoing challenges

1999 ICPD Review:
- Countries increased reproductive health emphasis, and plea for attention to unsafe abortion
- Called for more focus on:
  - HIV/AIDS
  - Sexually transmitted infections (STIs)
  - Involvement of NGOs and the private sector

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<thead>
<tr>
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<th>1990</th>
<th>2008</th>
<th>MDG target</th>
<th>ICPD target</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>MMR (per 100,000 live births)</td>
<td>870</td>
<td>640</td>
<td>218</td>
<td>217</td>
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2004 ICPD Review:
- Progress was made in addressing youth needs and developing partnerships
- Still a strong need for:
  - Youth involvement
  - Culturally-sensitive approaches
  - Improved data collection
THE ROAD TO REACHING ICPD AND MDG GOALS

• MDG 5 is at the heart of all MDGs

• When women and children survive, families and nations thrive

• Key issues to focus on:
  • Population growth and family planning
  • Youth dynamics
  • Access to skilled care
  • Political will
Navigating a Growing World

• Population in Africa will more than double in the next four decades to nearly two billion by 2050

• Sub-Saharan Africa is growing at a faster rate (2.3%) than many other regions of the Global South

• With greater access to family planning, we can decrease maternal deaths, newborn deaths and unsafe abortions
**Engaging and Prioritizing Youth**

- Youth under age 30 constitute about 70% of the total regional population
- Youth under age 15 are 40% of the total regional population
- Health information and services should be youth-friendly, accessible and stigma-free
- Need to involve youth in the policies and programs that affect them
ENSURING ACCESS TO SKILLED CARE

• 48% of global maternal deaths occur in sub-Saharan Africa

• According to ICPD Review, only a small number of babies are delivered in health facilities or with the assistance of skilled health personnel

• Postnatal care is extremely low

• Rural women are most vulnerable
STRENGTHENING OUR SYSTEMS

• Adequate training for health workers

• Focus on emerging, life-saving technologies, including mHealth

• Commodity security

• Accessible information
COMMITTING TO ACTION

• **Maputo Plan of Action (2006)** – Accelerated action towards reaching MDG 5

• **Campaign on Accelerated Reduction of Maternal Mortality (CARRMA) (2009)** – Reinforced and amplified Maputo commitments

• **Every Woman Every Child (2010)** – Developed by the UNSG to address major global health challenges

• **Commission on Information & Accountability for Women’s & Children’s Health (2011)** – Developed by the UNSG to track progress & funding
MOVING FORWARD

• Prioritize women’s education and employment

• Scale up health systems

• Make skilled personnel and resources available

• Address sexual and reproductive health needs of all women and men

• Strengthen partnerships
Thank you!