



Sexual and Reproductive Health Policy framework and developments

*Global Health Policy Forum
Brussels, 16 February 2011*

Annemarie Schuller

UNFPA Brussels Office

Policy framework: International Conference on Population and Development



❖ 1994 ICPD in Cairo

- Link population and development
- Women's empowerment and reproductive health necessary for sustainable development
- New population paradigm: from focus on numbers to focus on human rights
- 20 year Programme of Action (PoA): universal access to RH care by 2015

❖ ICPD beyond 2014

- 2010: GA resolution to extend ICPD PoA (open-ended)
- UNFPA: operational review of implementation of PoA
- 2014: UNGASS to assess status of implementation of PoA and renew political support at highest level

ICPD goals and principles incorporated into MDGs

Policy framework: MDGs



- ❖ 2000: Adoption of MDGs / MDG 5: improve maternal health
- ❖ 2005: Inclusion of universal access to RH by 2015 as target 5b
- ❖ 2010: Summit to assess progress
 - Health & education (esp. for women and girls) central to all MDGs
 - MDG 5 lags behind: least progress in reducing deaths related to pregnancy and childbirth
 - Increased investments needed to reduce maternal, newborn and child mortality and achieve universal access to RH by 2015 → pledges made by several EU countries and the EC

While solid policy framework exists, large gap remains between commitments and reality...

Global Strategy for Women's and Children's Health



Global Strategy for Women's and Children's Health

Launched by UNSG at recent MDG Summit

Outlines what needs to be done to accelerate progress on the MDGs:

- Focus on most vulnerable: women, children, adolescents
- Integrated package of affordable and essential health services (incl. FP, maternal health care and HIV prevention and treatment)
- Support country-led health plans
- Strengthen health systems

SRH: UNFPA's focus



Access

- Essential package of SRH (life cycle approach)
- Minimum Initial Service Package in crisis situations
- Sexuality education for young people

Quality

- Capacity development to enhance the provision of quality SRH
- Address systemic issues through health systems strengthening

Utilization

- Reduce barriers to use of SRH (economic, cultural, gender)
- Promote demand
- Address vulnerability (marginalized young girls, adolescents and young couples)

Challenges



❖ Global level

- Continued political mobilization for achieving ICPD goals
- Adequate funding: financial commitments must be honored despite financial crisis
- Adhere to aid effectiveness principles while ensuring accountability for results

❖ Regional / country level

- Financial crisis threatens health, wellbeing, livelihoods, education of millions
- Difficulty of making strategic decisions with limited financial, human and infrastructural resources
- Coordination and collaboration for effective delivery of services (e.g. integration of services currently delivered by separate programmes)
- Ensuring reliable availability of SRH commodities at service delivery level

Opportunities



- ❖ Large generation of young people: more than 3 billion people under 25 – asset if investments are made in their health, skills & education
- ❖ We know what works and what needs to be done: girls' education and SRH (incl. family planning) are “best buys” for development. Satisfying the unmet need for modern contraception has enormous payoffs
- ❖ World population of 7 billion : major milestone in history → golden opportunity to increase awareness of population issues and ICPD PoA

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