Achievements of the MDGs: Reflections on the performance of African countries and implications for SDGs

From the MDGs to SDGs: Challenges and Opportunities for RH/FP

UNFPA
Background

• Pop globally is 7.4 billion

• In SSA, the pop is 949 million

• In SSA, there are 211 million women in reproductive age

• Youth (10-24 yrs) pop is 303 millions

SOURCE: POP Reference Bureau
Background

- Maternal survival significantly improved since adoption of MDGs
- MMR dropped by 45% between 1990 – 2015
- Women in developing countries continue to die in big numbers (over 14 times higher than developed regions) due to pregnancy related complications
- Maternal deaths in sub-Saharan Africa (SSA) and Asia account for 86% of all deaths globally.
Mortality due to Preventable Causes

Causes of maternal mortality

- **Indirect causes** 27%
- **Abortion** 8%
- **Embolism** 3%
- **Haemorrhage** 27%
- **Other direct causes** 10%
- **Sepsis** 11%
- **Hypertension** 14%

Indirect causes include pre-existing conditions in pregnancy like diabetes, HIV, malaria, cardiovascular conditions, and obesity.
Achievements in last 15 years on MH/FP

Goal 5: Improve maternal health

Target 5.A: Reduce by three quarters, between 1990 and 2015, the maternal mortality ratio
  5.1 Maternal mortality ratio
  5.2 Proportion of births attended by skilled health personnel

Target 5.B: Achieve, by 2015, universal access to reproductive health
  5.3 Contraceptive prevalence rate
  5.4 Adolescent birth rate
  5.5 Antenatal care coverage (at least one visit and at least four visits)
  5.6 Unmet need for family planning
# Achievements in last 15 years on MH/FP

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Achievements</th>
<th>Global</th>
<th>Sub-Saharan Africa</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>MMR fell</td>
<td>from 380 to 210 per 100,000 live births</td>
<td>• 990 to 510 per 100,000 live births</td>
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<tr>
<td>Skilled attendance increased</td>
<td>from 59% to 71%</td>
<td>• 43% to 52%</td>
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<tr>
<td>Contraceptive use increased</td>
<td>from 55 to 64%</td>
<td>• 13% to 28% (still low)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Unmet need for FP reduced</td>
<td>from 15% to 12%</td>
<td>• 24%</td>
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<tr>
<td>• 64% of women receive the recommended 4 ANC care visits</td>
<td></td>
<td>• 49% of women receive the recommended 4 ANC care visits</td>
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<tr>
<td>Adolescent birth rate reduced</td>
<td>from 59/1,000 to 51/1,000 births</td>
<td>• 123/1,000 to 116/1,000 births</td>
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Progress on MH has been slow for most SSA countries

Source: MDG Country Progress reports
Contraceptive use is still low with high unmet need for specific countries.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Country</th>
<th>CPR</th>
<th>Unmet Need</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Zimbabwe</td>
<td>66.9</td>
<td>12.8</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Swaziland</td>
<td>65.2</td>
<td>13</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Malawi</td>
<td>56.8</td>
<td>19.4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Namibia</td>
<td>56.1</td>
<td>17.5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Uganda</td>
<td>26</td>
<td>34</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Kenya</td>
<td>58</td>
<td>18.6</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Burundi</td>
<td>21.9</td>
<td>32.4</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Source: MDG Country progress reports
Adolescent birth rate is still high in Sub-Saharan Africa

Unfinished agenda – MH/FP

- MMR fell short of the global goal and targets
- Inequality in access to SRH information and services (high unmet need and low CPR)

Adolescent childbearing is still high in SSA:
- Pregnancy complications is the leading cause of death among women aged 15-19 years.
- High in sub-Saharan Africa at 116 per 1,000 adolescent girls in 2015 down from 123 per 1,000 in 1990
- has harmful consequences for health of girls and baby
- Denies girl child opportunity of fulfilling her potentiall e.g. school drop has implications on socio-economic outcomes of women.
Tasks ahead for countries

- Improve financing of the health sector, health insurance (15% of Gvt of which 25% should go to RH)

- Innovations to reduce MMR and improve CPR

- Strengthen health systems

- Strengthen health information systems for improved monitoring of the SDGs

- Increased involvement of MPs in planning & prioritizing game changers

- Reduce proportion of girls getting married by age 18 yrs & teenage pregnancy which lead to school drop outs
Tasks ahead…

• Follow up & ensure implementation of commitments at all levels
• Ensure increased HRH particularly Midwives because of their crucial role in MH/FP in most SSA.
• Countries to contribute for RHCS especially FP commodities as it is unfunded priority in most African countries
• Support policies like task sharing for MH/FP
• Invest in young people to harness DD
UNFPA is committed to ensuring that every pregnancy is wanted, every child birth is safe and every young persons potential is full filled.
Thank You

for listening to me