Status of Family Planning in Pakistan

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Fertility Levels in Pakistan and neighbouring countries

- Pakistan
- India
- Bangladesh
- Iran

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Shortfalls in Program

- National Population program since 1965, but not a national priority?
- Missing political commitment
- Lack of broader recognition of population issues
- Therefore too few players, too few services, minimal funding
- Frequent administrative changes and lack of decentralization of program a hold back.
Developments post ICPD?

- Wider recognition of population issues
- Reproductive health stretches across sectors - the demand for services increases
- Formulation of Population Policy 2002
- International funding shrinks - Government invested its own funds in family planning
Contraceptive Prevalence Stagnating in the Last Decade, After Sharp Increase in the 90’s

Three-Quarter Users Choose Modern Methods of Family Planning-2007

Method Type
- Modern: 73%
- Traditional: 27%

Type of Modern Method
- Sterilization: 37%
- Condom: 31%
- Injectables: 11%
- IUD: 11%
- Pill: 10%

Source: PDHS 2006-07
Singulate Mean Age at Marriage

Stagnation in Progress
Unmet Need for Family planning is Rising

Source: PDHS 1990-91, RHFPS 2000-01, PDHS 2006-07
Unwanted fertility is rising too

Source: PDHS 1990-91 and 2006-07
The Disconnect between the Demand and Supply of Family planning Services

- 52 percent women want no more children, 20 percent want to space
- Only 30 percent practice family planning
- High unmet need over 25 percent
- Almost two-fifth of pregnancies are unwanted
- Abortion rate of 30 per 1000 women
Increase in Inequalities
Inequalities in Wanted-Unwanted Fertility Rates

Source: PDHS 2006-07
The Poor have a Strong Desire to Regulate Fertility, but Low CPR and thus High Unmet Need

Source: PDHS 2006-07
Private Sector is Taking on Greater Responsibility of Providing FP

Source: PDHS 1990-91 and 2006-07

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Access to Family planning Limited

- Private sector mostly located in Urban areas
- The poor, reside mainly in rural areas, have to travel four times the distance to access FP facilities
- Low women’s low mobility and weak autonomy worsen access especially for young women
Fertility Decline Scenarios—Need to revise course

Projected TFR by Source

- United Nations 2008
- Current Rate
- Planning Commission

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Recommendations

• A High Level body to steer population issues
  – Strong monitoring and oversight
  – Ensure contraceptive commodity availability and distribution
  – Ensure provincial ownership of family planning
  – Ensure coverage by public sector - FP services at all health outlets
  – Ensure service availability to poor and hard to reach women
  – Coordinate and provide standards for private sector
Expanding the role of Stakeholders

- Investing in female education
- Creating jobs for the fast expanding youthful labour force
- Creating off-farm employment opportunities for women
- Role of media and youth to take greater responsibility for burning social issues—bring political and administrative leadership to task
Thank You!