

2009 Annual Report

Global Programme to Enhance Reproductive Health Commodity Security



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We thank you all and look forward to further collaboration and active participation in the future.

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List of acronyms

CCM Country commodity manager

CCP Comprehensive Condom Programming

CPR Contraceptive Prevalence Rate
DHS Demographic and Health Survey

EC Emergency contraception

EmONC Emergency Obstetric and Newborn Care

FGM Female genital mutilation

GPRHCS Global Programme to Enhance Reproductive Health Commodity Security
HIV/AIDS Human immunodeficiency virus/acquired immunodeficiency syndrome

HRB Humanitarian Response Branch

IUD Intra-uterine device

LMIS Logistics Management Information System

MDGs Millennium Development Goals
MHTF Maternal Health Thematic Fund

MoH Ministry of Health

MOU Memorandum of Understanding NGOs Non-governmental organization

OC Oral contraceptive

PMNCH Partnership for Maternal, Child and Newborn Health

PRSPs Poverty Reduction Strategy Papers
PSI Population Services International

RH Reproductive Health

RHCS Reproductive Health Commodity Security
RHSC Reproductive Health Supplies Coalition
SADC Southern African Development Community

SDP service delivery point

SRH Sexual and Reproductive Health
STD Sexually transmitted disease
STI Sexually Transmitted Infection

UNAIDS Joint United Nations Programme on HIV/AIDS
UNHCR United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees

UNICEF United Nations Children's Fund UNFPA United Nations Population Fund

USAID United States Agency for International Development

WAHO West African Health Organisation

WHO World Health Organization

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Executive Summary

Introduction

Each year, more countries are establishing reproductive health commodity security (RHCS) as an integral and permanent component of the overall health sector plan and a key strategy in reducing maternal and newborn death and preventing the spread of HIV.

In 2009, countries supported by UNFPA's Global Programme to Enhance Reproductive Health Commodity Security (GPRHCS) reported significant progress and measurable impact.

The overall political and financial commitment to RHCS continued to rise in 2009 despite the challenges of the financial crisis, reflecting the growing momentum around reproductive health (RH) and rights. The Global Programme contributed to this momentum by supporting government efforts to integrate RHCS into health sector plans and establishing RHCS as a national priority. Awareness-raising and advocacy events were held at various levels for parliamentarians and other policy makers, to increase the visibility of RHCS within the health sector and at the community level to generate demand for RH services, particularly among vulnerable populations. At the same time significant progress has been made in supporting countries to build capacity for the management of reproductive health commodities and reduce the frequency of stock-outs within many facilities in the various countries.

Overview

The GPRHCS was active in 73 countries in 2009, up from 54 in 2008. In this three-tiered funding structure, Stream 1 countries receive multi-year funding for rights-based RHCS and national capacity building, while additional streams receive targeted or emergency funding. A total of 11 countries received funding through Stream 1 including Mali and Sierra Leone, which were added in 2009. Support was provided to 30 Stream 2 countries and 32 Stream 3 countries. Approximately \$70 million was used to purchase RH commodities such as contraceptives, life-saving maternal health drugs, RH equipment, and RH kits. This expenditure doubled from \$34 million in 2008 as a result of both increased capacity and commodity support to various countries in need. Approximately \$17 million was allocated to countries for essential capacity development and advocacy activities for RHCS and family planning.

Stream 1 countries that have received multi-year funding such as Ethiopia, Madagascar and Niger, are now starting to see improvements in high-level outcomes such as contraceptive prevalence rate (CPR). Many countries are reporting that they are now able to regularly forecast for contraceptives and priority RH commodities. Stock-outs, particularly at the central level, declined in 2009 for several countries in Stream 1 and 2. Functional logistics management and information systems (LMIS) are now present in almost all of the Stream 1 countries.

Many countries that received funding in 2008 on an ad-hoc basis for the prevention of stock-outs are now developing national strategies to implement more sustainable approaches to RHCS. Despite this progress, countries continued to face emergency situations in 2009 due to weak infrastructure and humanitarian disaster. The GPRHCS purchased commodities in these countries to avert major stock-outs and to expand access to more isolated and vulnerable populations. As part of this effort, UNFPA procured and delivered emergency reproductive health kits to Benin, Chad, Guinea, Haiti, Pakistan, Rwanda, Sri Lanka, Sudan and

Togo to meet the needs of displaced persons and refugees. This work was carried out in close collaboration with UNFPA's Humanitarian Response Branch (HRB) and the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR).

Regionalization at UNFPA has created more opportunities for South-South collaboration between countries with similar profiles in the same region. In every region, countries gathered together for advocacy events, knowledge sharing and programme planning in 2009. A major emphasis was placed on the strengthening of local institutions to build national capacity and ensure sustainability, particularly around commodity procurement and management.

As part of an internal integration process at UNFPA, the GPRHCS is working very closely with the Maternal Health Thematic Fund (MHTF) and the Campaign to End Fistula. The integration of several operational procedures has allowed for a more comprehensive approach to sexual and reproductive health (SRH) and a decrease in the potential for the duplication of efforts at the regional and country levels. Success would also not have been possible without help from key partners and country programmes.

Specific results and country highlights in Stream 1 countries

- As of 2009, eight of the 11 Stream 1 countries have a contraceptive prevalence rate greater than 10 percent and five countries have CPR of 25 percent or higher. CPR has more than doubled in Ethiopia, which received the most support for commodities and capacity development. CPR also increased in Madagascar and Niger, where support also increased. Along with higher CPR, many of these countries documented a decrease in the level of unmet need for family planning.
- In seven of the 11 Stream 1 countries, three types of modern methods of contraception are being offered in at least 80 percent of all service delivery points (SDPs). This is a strong indication that many of these countries are on track for achieving their set targets in this area.
- Many countries are still experiencing high levels of stock-outs, particularly at the district level.
 Most Stream 1 countries are moving in the right direction, aiming for no stock-outs of
 commodities within the last six months. Six of the 11 Stream 1 countries have a no stock-out rate
 of over 74 percent; Mongolia and Niger had a 100 percent no stock-out rate at the central and
 district levels.
- Five of the 11 Stream 1 countries report that the five priority maternal health medicines are available in over 80 percent of facilities.
- Nine of the 11 Stream 1 countries finalized and started to implement their national RHCS strategy

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