



IMPLEMENTING BEST PRACTICES IN REPRODUCTIVE HEALTH

HIGHLIGHTS

**IBP
Consortium
and
Knowledge
Gateway**

**Annual Report
2010**

Highlights

IBP Initiative Annual Report 2010

Summary of global activities

- Organized the third day of the International Conference on Family Planning: Research and Best Practices, focusing on taking research to practice, November 2009, Kampala, Uganda.
- Disseminated the WHO/UNFPA Guidance Note: "Promoting Sexual and Reproductive Health for Persons with Disabilities".
- Celebrated the 10th anniversary of the Implementing Best Practice (IBP) Initiative in June 2010 at the Global Health Council Conference in Washington, DC and published a report summarizing activities covering the first 10 years of the partnership.
- Participated in a technical consultation on High Impact Evidence-based practice, Washington, DC, August, 2010. IBP Consortium activities will be used to carry forward the results of this meeting,
- Continued to manage and expand the use of the IBP Knowledge Gateway by supporting partners and other international organizations to establish, launch and manage their own customized and branded virtual knowledge networks.
- Supported partners to launch 5 global discussion forums, with some discussions reaching between 1,000 to 3,500 participants from 124 countries. A daily dialogue of the discussion and a paper summarizing the evaluation and key issues discussed during the discussion has been prepared for each discussion forum.
- Undertook activities to improve the user interface of the Knowledge Gateway, expand language facilities
- As a follow-up to the *Global Consultation of Health Professions to identify their contribution to the global health agenda*, launched the Health Professions Global Network (www.hpgn.org) that now reaches over 3000 participants from 124 countries.
- Worked with K4H, MSH, PHI and FHI to re-launch the IBP Knowledge Management Working Group convened a meeting with partners involving over 55 participants, October 2010. 4 task Teams were formed as an outcome of this meeting to a) review the evidence to develop an elevator speech on KM; b) Techniques for Monitoring and Evaluating KM; c) Preparation of a KM Tool Kit; and, d) Management of KM Working Group.
- to develop a collaborative strategy focused on identifying and documenting effective practice .
- Worked with partners to improve access to reproductive health quality essential medicines and commodities for sexual and reproductive health
- Collaborated with partners on USAID technical priorities (such as post abortion care, postpartum family planning, community-based distribution of DMPA, long-term and

permanent methods and Healthy Timing and Spacing of Pregnancy, Male and Female condoms, and TCU380A IUDs)

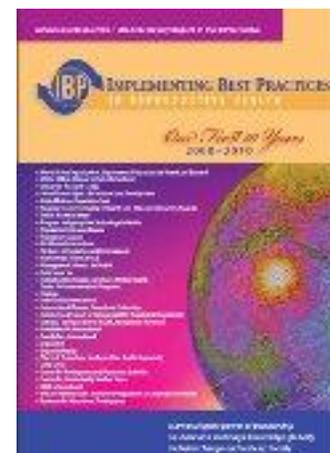
Summary of selected regional activities

- Supported East, Central and Southern African Health Community (ECSA-HC) to develop and Launch their "Money Well Spent" grant during the ECSA Health Ministers' Conference, Kampala, Uganda, February, 2010.
- Participated in the "Reconvening Bangkok" meeting lead by USAID/ESD as country facilitators and resource people for fostering change methodology. Bangkok, Thailand, March 2010.
- Prepared and presented protocol for the evaluation of the PAC fostering change work in West Africa for WHO approval. Proposal was approved with minor changes. Geneva, Switzerland, May 2010.
- Planned and conducted, along with IBP partners, a follow-up to the WHO/EMRO IBP FP meeting which took place in September, 2009, for 8 priority WHO/EMRO countries in developing skills to carry out the process of "fostering change". Rabat, Morocco, May 2010.
- Planned and co-facilitated a second ECSA Fostering Change meeting for 5 ECSA countries. Lilongwe, Malawi, July 2010.
- In collaboration with WHO/AFRO facilitated a workshop for 11 Central and Indian Ocean African countries in developing advocacy strategies for family planning. Douala, Cameroun, September, 2010.
- At the request of the Ministry of Health, Ethiopia and in collaboration with WHO/HRH, Global Health Workforce Alliance (GHWA) and WHO/Country Office established 2 electronic Knowledge Centres for district level health care providers in two district hospitals in Ethiopia.
- Collaborated with partners to strengthen improved access at country level to sexual and reproductive health essential medicines and commodities by introducing and discussing this issue at all meetings and country workshops attended by the IBP Secretariat.

Key outcomes

- **IBP Partners celebrate a decade of achievements**

The partnership celebrated 10 years of activities at the Global Health Council Conference, Washington, DC 2010. A report summarizing our achievements, challenges and lessons learnt over this decade was launched during this well attended event in which partners spontaneously shared their perspective and experience of the partnership. The report is attached as Annex



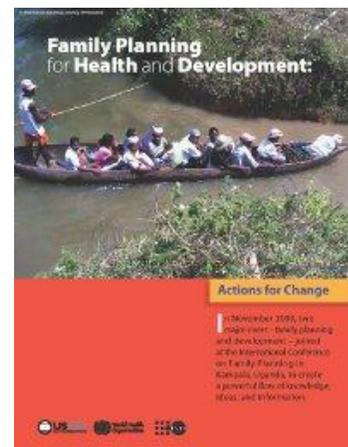
1, *Implementing Best Practice Initiative in Reproductive Health - Our first 10 years, 2000 - 2010,*

➤ **3 new partners join the IBP Consortium**

East., Central, Southern African (ESCA) Health Community, Family Care International (FCI), International Federation of Gynecology and Obstetrics, (FIGO) and Population Services International (PSI) joined the IBP Consortium. The IBP partnership now has 34 partners and continues to grow.

➤ **Kampala FP meeting challenges and actions captured in new IBP document: Family Planning for Health and Development: Actions for Change.**

IBP Partners supported the Bill and Melinda Gates Institute to plan and organize this three-day conference attended by over 1,300 leading policy-makers, researchers and health professionals from 61 countries. IBP partners sponsored the third day of the conference, focusing on strategies for transferring the large body of existing knowledge into actions for improved access to family planning. Partners committed to support and follow-up countries. IBP partners led by FHI, in collaboration with the IBP secretariat, prepared a report synthesizing key messages, challenges and actions for change that emerged from the conference. At the same time, K4H in collaboration with the IBP secretariat and partners, launched a virtual discussion forum on these issues called "Kampala conversations". All partners support the dissemination of the report, which has also been introduced at key meetings including Women Deliver, the Global Health Council Conference, IBP meetings, regional workshops and training activities. The document is currently being translated into French.



➤ **Advancing universal access and addressing social determinants of health by recognizing the sexual and reproductive health needs of people with disabilities.**

In support of the Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities, the IBP secretariat, in collaboration with UNFPA, has developed, published, and, beginning in January 2010, disseminated guidance for UN agencies, IBP members and other reproductive health organizations to consider in order to ensure access of services and programmes for people with disabilities. Presentations are being developed and discussions with the WHO Disability team and selected countries are underway to identify specific demonstration projects that could highlight effective ways to ensure access to people with disabilities. An official launch which would take place in conjunction with the launch of the World Report on Disability is being discussed with the WHO Disability team.

- **Family Planning Advocacy toolkit disseminated and participants trained in its use from 11 additional Central and Indian Ocean African nations. 27 countries have been trained in total.**

IBP is supporting the WHO/AFRO/USAID-led initiative to *Reposition Family Planning in Africa* through the dissemination, training and follow-up of an advocacy toolkit. The most recent workshop was held in September 2010 in Douala, Cameroun for 11 West and Indian Ocean African countries, with financial and technical support from USAID, WHO/AFRO, and the IBP secretariat. Technical and financial support to several countries where WHO and IBP partners are already active is planned.

- **Funds received from the Tides Foundation (with Hewlett support) to assist the East Central and Southern Health Community to assist its member countries in fostering change and scaling up evidence based reproductive health practices.**

The IBP secretariat and MSH supported ECSA-HC to organize their second multi-country workshop on Fostering Change. The workshop was held in July 2010 for 6 ECSA-HC member countries. In order to capitalize on other regional initiatives, three of the countries that attended, Malawi, Kenya and Zambia, are developing plans that directly follow from work that was done during the USAID Family Planning meeting held in Kigali in April 2010. All countries are expected to submit finalized plans to begin fostering a specific change in their reproductive health activities. It is anticipated that IBP partners working in these countries would be able to collaborate and support fostering change efforts. In addition, plans are being prepared to support the ESCA Health Ministers Meeting due to be held in Harare, Zimbabwe, October 2010. This meeting will also provide the IBP partnership with an opportunity to support a one-day workshop on documentation and sharing of best practices and convene a local IBP partnership meeting for representatives from the African region.

- **Evaluation protocol for Four Francophone West African countries with continued commitment to improving postabortion care services approved.**

Four of the original seven countries that took part in the 2008 Post Abortion Care meeting in Senegal have continued to work on improving post abortion care services, in particular to strengthen the family planning component of their programmes. All initiated the development of their plans at the conference and then continued to take part in the Virtual Fostering Change programme which ended in mid-2010. Currently programmes are being supported by USAID and partners. An evaluation is planned to assess the impact of these efforts over the next two years.

- **8 high priority WHO/EMRO countries, develop skills to "Fostering Change to scale up best practices".**

IBP partners assisted WHO/EMRO to conduct a workshop to enhance skills for countries to manage the change process. All countries had previously attended the Amman FP IBP meeting in September, 2009. This workshop was organized with IBP partners, in particular USAID, ESD and MSH, and builds on work already being conducted in some of the attending countries such as Afghanistan, Egypt, Pakistan and Yemen. All countries are developing plans that are being reviewed by WHO/EMRO and partners. WHO/EMRO's mapping of best practices in the region was presented and further work to harmonize efforts with USAID's "High Impact Evidence-based practices" is underway.

IBP Knowledge Gateway

- **IBP Knowledge Gateway supports the Health Professions Global Network.**

In 2009 the IBP Secretariat, in collaboration with the WHO Department of Human Resources for Health (WHO/HRH), supported a consultation that convened for the first time ever the leaders of all health professional associations to discuss the contribution that different health professionals can make to reducing health inequities.

In 2010 this was followed up with the launch of the virtual Global Health Professions Network (www.hpgn.org), supported by a steering committee of 18 professional associations of health professionals. The inaugural discussion of the HPGN, held in February 2010, reached over 1000 participants from 124 countries, and focused on how interprofessional education and collaboration can improve the quality of care provided at the primary level, particularly to women and children.

To follow up key issues raised during discussion, the Network convened a 10-country video conference and two additional discussion forums that reached over 3,500 participants. Issues discussed were not exclusively focused on reproductive health, rather they focused more broadly on strengthening the health system, provider performance and levels of collaboration that affect the quality of services at the primary care level, particularly for women and their children.

- **Knowledge Gateway platform used by WHO Departments and other organizations contributes to sustainability and expands the use of the IBP Knowledge Gateway .**

The technology platform that powers the IBP Knowledge Gateway is being shared with other organizations and agencies, enabling them to own, customize, brand, and manage their own global and sub-communities of practice. The platform now reaches over 250,000 users around the world.

System enhancements operate on a shared ownership business model. This type of funding structure is used to finance an annual programme of enhancements, which benefits all users, and supports small nongovernmental agencies outside of WHO that have limited funds to use the system. For example, language enhancements funded by various organizations enable all users the capacity to operate the platform in 6 languages.

➤ **IBP Knowledge Management Working Group, Think Tank and Task Teams**

The IBP Secretariat and senior representatives from K4H, FHI, MSH, PHI and USAID met in August 2009 to explore the feasibility of forming a "Think Tank" of experts, implementers and funders of social networking, knowledge sharing, virtual education and collaborative learning initiatives. The purpose would be to analyse present initiatives, capitalize on current thinking, document effective practice and work together to envision future strategies. The outcome would be a body of knowledge that could be shared with the partnership to inform and expand our activities in this area.

As a first step in the process this group supported a meeting with 56 representatives from partner agencies in October 2010. This meeting was focused on identifying synergies and effective practice in areas of knowledge management so that these can be documented and taken to scale. As a result of this meeting Partners formed four KM Task Teams and committed to meeting regularly through both virtual and real time meetings:

- **Making the Case** Elevator speech, the business case (Convener: Peggy D'Adamo)
- **KM Toolkit** Case studies, approaches, resources, best practices, communities of practice, extending beyond health ((Convener: Laura Raney)
- **KM Working Group** Continuing this group, rules of engagement, Steering Committee, Extending out networks beyond health, events, webinars, topic sub-groups, (Convener: Jude Griffin)
- **Monitoring and Evaluation:** Indicators, approaches, utilization/uptake (Convener: Tara Sullivan)

➤ **IBP Secretariat helps Ministry of Health to establish virtual Knowledge Centres in 2 district hospitals,**

At the request of the Ministry of Health, Ethiopia, the IBP Secretariat has worked in collaboration with the WHO/Human Resources for Health (HRH) and Global Health Workforce Alliance to help establish Knowledge Resource Centres at two district hospitals in Ethiopia for district level health care providers. At a workshop held at Bishoflu Hospital, July 2010, support was provided to establish the Knowledge Centres

and train staff how to use the different types of electronic tools. The Knowledge Centres are designed to help improve access to information either on or off line and to offer opportunities for virtual communication and teaching. Ongoing support is provided both through the Ministry of Health and WHO/ Geneva to train staff in the use of these tools and to convene a regular weekly virtual training programme on health issues using Elluminate and IBP Knowledge Gateway.

A programme of learning focused on maternal and neonatal health and patient safety has been developed in collaboration with staff from both hospitals, this includes medical officers, nurses, laboratory technicians and community health workers. This will be evaluated after 6 months and the Ministry of Health will decide whether or not to scale up similar centres to other districts.

➤ **Collaboration to evaluate the IBP Knowledge Gateway business model**

The Overseas Development Institute (ODI) and the Institute Mario Boella (ISMB) both use the Knowledge Gateway and have offered to undertake a collaborative joint activity with the IBP Secretariat to evaluate, a) the sustainability of the shared ownership business model; and b) qualitative aspects of suitability for knowledge and capacity diffusion in public health sector. Discussions continue on the approach that will be adopted.

➤ **IBP Knowledge Gateway - Global Discussion Forums and the formation of Knowledge Networks.**

This year the focus of attention has been on supporting and training our partners to establish their own knowledge networks. For example, FCI has established virtual networks for the International Consortium for Emergency Contraception and the Post Abortion Care Consortium. The University Hospital of Geneva is using it to support both the preparation and follow-up of the International Research Forum held June 2010 that reached over 1000 participants from 136 countries, see figure 1.

The number of departments within WHO and across the UN that are using the Knowledge Gateway to support their activities and partnerships is also growing. For example, assistance and training was provided to:

- establish the E-Portuguese communities
- establish the Patient Safety Knowledge Network

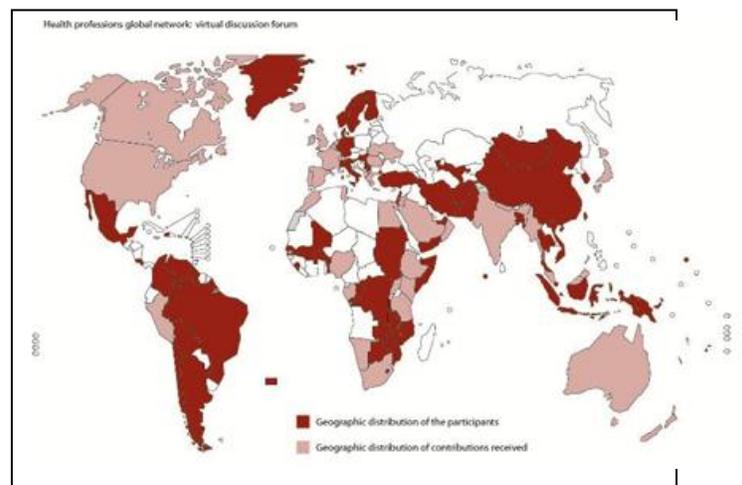


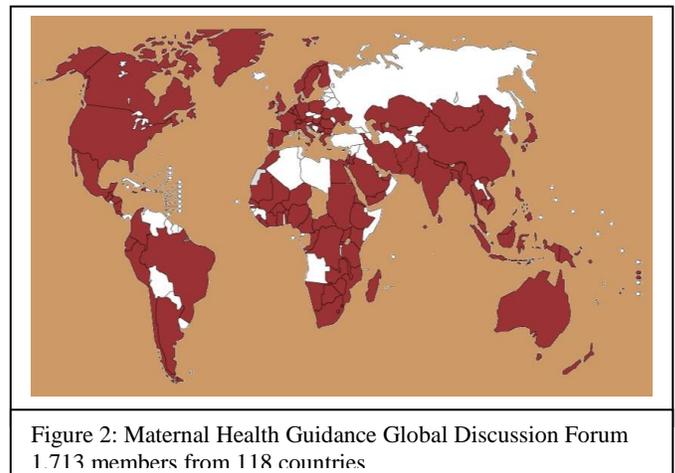
Figure 1 Health Professions Global Network

- re-launch the Global Alliance for Nurses and Midwives
- expand the Afro European Medical Research Network
- create virtual communities for the United Nations Programme on Nutrition.

Virtual discussion forums inform WHO on Maternal Health Guidance

In addition, a series of discussion forums were held to inform WHO Guidance on the type of materials that are need to reduce maternal and perinatal mortality. The first discussion was undertaken in collaboration with HIFA2015, which engaged 44 discussants from 18 countries and a summary of key issues discussed has been provided to WHO/RHR.

The second and third forum was managed by the IBP Secretariat in collaboration with a small team of experts between July and September 2010 and reached over **1,713 participants from over 118 countries, figure 2**. The first discussion focused on exploring with HO/RHR what type of maternal health guidance is needed. The second discussion forum focused on issues around the success and challenges of task shifting to improve maternal health. Daily dialogues were produced for each discussion and each discussion was evaluated. The knowledge



shared throughout the discussion forums was synthesized into two discussion papers and used to inform policy and practice technical meetings in WHO/RHR. The outcome of the technical meetings is being fed back to the community in order to sustain and catalyze further dialogue with the growing virtual community.

IBP Secretariat supports the training of WHO Staff on managing virtual networks

The IBP secretariat has worked with the Department of Knowledge Management Strategies (WHO/KMS) to develop a training manual on *Knowledge Networking and Virtual Collaboration*. This has been used for developing and implementing a one-day training programme for WHO Staff. This material will be adapted for use by IBP partners and turned into an e-learning module.