Leadership at International Conferences on Family Planning, 2009-2016

Unique Role of IBP at the International Conferences
Organizes and coordinates series of interactive sessions designed to:
- Promote evidence-based tools and experiences
- Promote and expand partnerships among organizations and stakeholders
- Foster change through sharing successful approaches to scale up

**2009: Uganda**
**Synthesized Key Issues, Linked Family Planning (FP) with Development, and Made Call to Action**
- Promote FP investments in national plans/policies
- Engage stakeholders to expand access and demand for broader mix of contraceptives
- Support multiple financing systems for FP and collaboration among contraceptive suppliers
- Integrate FP within and beyond health sector
- Engage men and address needs of unmarried youth

*For the report, go to: www.ibpinitiative.org/images/ICFPReport2009.pdf*

**2011: Senegal**
**Emphasized Tools to Use, Built on Key Issues**
- Promote investments in FP in national policies and development plans
- Expand access and demand for mix of contraception: focus on long-acting methods
- Support contraceptive security: data visibility and coordination
- Integrate FP services within and beyond the health system
- Engage men in family planning
- Promote identified High Impact Practices in FP

*For the report, go to: www.ibpinitiative.org/images/ICFPReport2011.pdf*

**2013: Ethiopia**
**Expanded Issues, Emphasized Interaction, Participant Input/Sharing**
Expanded issues covered, refined issues from earlier conferences, emphasized participant sharing of experiences, and added 18 workshops on specific topics. For a short report, turn over.

**Ways to Expand Access and Use of Services**
- Overcome socio-cultural barriers, myths, and misconceptions to scale up FP
- Address multi-level policy barriers to FP
- Increase donor commitment and coordinate scale up
- Facilitate private sector engagement

**Key Issues Refined**
- Scale up integrated services
- Emphasize task shifting/sharing to support FP
- Foster change to scale up access to long acting and permanent methods (LAPMs)
- Avoid stock-outs, get contraceptives to people

**2016: Indonesia**
**Reinforce Key Issues, Expand Worldwide Engagement**
- Myths and misconceptions: overcoming cultural barriers
- Addressing access for most vulnerable & hard to reach
- No missed opportunity: the beauty of integration
- Private sector role: reaching 120 million new users by 2020
- Reaching young people with contraceptive information and services

*Also, capacity building workshops on 10 key areas*

"The Implementing Best Practices Initiative has played a unique role at the International Conferences on Family Planning. The IBP-organized sessions at the 2016 conference will focus on issues that are key to accelerating progress towards the FP2020 goals and positioning FP/RH as critical to the achievement of multiple SDGs."

Ellen Starbird, Director of USAID’s Office of Population and Reproductive Health

"IBP through ICFP has, since 2009, done an excellent job promoting evidence-based implementation of WHO evidence-based family planning tools and guidelines, such as the Medical Eligibility Criteria for Contraceptive Use. Evidence-based guidelines are key to achieving FP2020 goals and will play an important role in attaining many of the SDGs."

Dr. James Kiarie, Coordinator, Human Reproduction Team
Department of Reproductive Health and Research, World Health Organization

IBP Initiative
Scaling up what works in family planning/reproductive health

IBP is a partnership of 44 international agencies, including the World Health Organization, U.S. Agency for International Development, and United Nations Population Fund. For more information, go to www.ibpinitiative.org
Overcoming Socio-Cultural Barriers

Socio-cultural barriers, myths, and misconceptions keep millions from using family planning and hinder the scale up of these services. Many barriers and myths cut across cultures, such as widespread provider biases against unmarried youth using contraception or exaggerated fears among clients about side effects. The session focused on four promising approaches:

- Social network analysis to reduce gender and social barriers. A project in Benin showed how to utilize social groups and influential leaders to spread effective innovations.
- Mobile text messaging (“mhealth”) to reach youth. A project in Rwanda provides information on healthy aspects of contraception to youth through text messages, framed as part of a life journey.
- Radio programs that address religious barriers. Inter-religious councils have used radio in African countries to influence church leaders to be more open to contraceptive use.
- Community health workers in postpartum situations. Local level workers can provide information and initial approaches to basic family planning in the postpartum period. (http://www.ghspjournal.org/content/1/2/262).

Recommendations from the session included:

- Leverage existing community mechanisms to foster dialogue, with an emphasis on male involvement.
- Use information technology communication to empower youth to develop messages and share knowledge, using the social-ecological model framework.
- Target religious leaders with radio more and emphasize the benefits of family planning.
- Many countries need to revise pre-service training curricula, update national guidelines, and provide job training for expanded use of community health workers.

At the 2013 meeting, IBP also sponsored 18 small interactive workshops. Many of these sessions involved areas of the IBP strategy, co-sponsored conferences, or tools that the IBP supports and promotes. Some of the topics covered were:

- Introduction to IBP: what it’s about and what it has to offer
- ICP Zambias: country update
- IBP Latin America and the Caribbean (in Spanish)
- Working with regional IBP Members, ECSA and WAHO
- Introduction to HIPs
- Fostering Change – valuable resources available
- Accelerating scale up of high quality and accessible implants services
- Components for scaling up postpartum FP/PIUD services
- Tanzania FP conference: local solutions to local problems
- Social networks: engaging communities to address unmet need for FP
- Engaging civil society to support RH commodity security
- Sustainable scale up of best practices in FP/RH
- Training Resource Package for Family Planning (TRP)

Integration of Services

Integrated services refer to approaches where clients receive family planning information or services as well as some other type of service from the same provider, linked providers, intra-facility referral, and other links. Integration models encounter common issues related to operating systems, costing, staff approaches and training, measurements including HMIS questions, and others – all necessary to achieve scale up of services. The session addressed the common challenges through five case studies illustrating different approaches:

- Family planning integration with immunization services
- Bi-directional FP-HIV integration
- Provide FP at the workplace to engage more men
- Postpartum family planning in large maternity hospitals
- Postpartum family planning particularly on day of birth

In-depth discussions of projects in each of these five areas led to three cross-cutting recommendations:

- Scaling up a model within weak health systems may require additional inputs to address provider turnover, supervision, monitoring, and training.
- New indicators are needed to track performance as integrated services models scale up.
- While case studies are helpful, many unknowns and uncertainties remain inherent in scale up.

Tools highlighted in the session:

- Using behavior change theory: www.fphighimpactpractices.org/resources/health-communication-enabling-voluntary-and-informed-decision-making

Statement for Collective Action for PPFP

http://www.mcsprogram.org/actionppfp/

Toolkits:
1) Postpartum family planning; 2) FP and immunization; 3) FP and HIV integration; 4) MHYN and family planning
See listing at http://www.kfhealth.org/toolkits/topics/851

FP and HIV integration
http://www.fhi360.org/resource/select-family-planning-and-hiv-integration-resources

Assessing Integration Methodology

Creating Markets for Long-Acting Methods of Family Planning in Bangladesh

Information/tools on Healthy Images of Manhood (HIM) approach
http://mendian-group.com/?page_id=901