Solomon Islands Country Statements

“IDENTIFICATION OF GAPS AND ISSUES”

UNFPA and ICOMP Asia and the Pacific Regional Consultation Family Planning In Asia and Pacific- Addressing the Challenges

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Population of 515,870 (2009)

- No Increase of 26% from 1999 census
- Annual Growth of 2.3%
Overview of Family Planning and Population Control

- Government involvement in Family Planning programs - early 1970s
- Stress for active family planning came about in the 1980s-1990s
  - National Population Policy was introduced in 1987
  - Signatory to the ICPD Cairo 1994
  - MDG-1995
  - National Population Council 1998
Cont’

- Technical Advisory Committee to National Population Council -2000
- Support to the Millennium Summit 2005
- Endorsement and reaffirmation of “Pacific Policy Frame work for Universal Access to Reproductive Health” [2008/2009]
- Reproductive health commodity security committee 2005
Family planning services

• Available in all government health centers
  ◦ Injectable
  ◦ IUCD
  ◦ Pills
  ◦ Condoms (male & female)
  ◦ ECP (available only in some Health centers)
  ◦ NSV
  ◦ BTL (referral)

• Implants yet to be included in our method mix
Other partners in Family Planning Services Provision

- Solomon Islands Planned Parenthood Association [SIPPA]
- SAVE the children
- Faith based organisations
- Private Health clinic
- Other NGOs
### Progress of Reproductive Health Services

<table>
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<tr>
<th>RH INDICATORS</th>
<th>1990</th>
<th>2009</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Birth attended by skilled professional (%)</td>
<td>85%</td>
<td>85 %</td>
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<tr>
<td>CPR (%)</td>
<td>11%</td>
<td>27.3%</td>
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<tr>
<td>TFR (%)</td>
<td>5.7%</td>
<td>4.6%</td>
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<tr>
<td>MMR (Death per 100,000)</td>
<td>345</td>
<td>145</td>
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- Total population under 15 years of age **40%**
- Adolescent fertility rate **57 per 1000 women 15-19 yrs**
- Total unmet need family planning **11.1%**
- Literacy rate **17%** for female
CURRENT ISSUES

1. Socio-cultural, socio-economic and political issues
   - Gender inequity
   - Illiteracy

2. A significant variation in contraceptive uses and unmet needs among age groups, provinces, ethnic groups and church groups.
   - Recent DHS show 48% of female age 15yrs-19yrs did not intend to use any modern method of contraception.
Strategies in addressing the issues

- Updating of family planning manual based on WHO medical eligibility criteria and standard recommended practice.
  - Training of health workers on family planning manual and wheel
  - Motivation and counseling
- Family Health Card Strategies
  - Outreach visit to homes
  - Family planning issues were discussed in privacy at home
Cont'

- Reproductive health commodity and security issues.
  - Contraceptive
  - Equipment and supply
    Frequent out of stock usually experienced thus forecasting has been incorporated during training

- Securing political will and support.

- Advocacy
  - BCC for the target groups
MIRH

- NSV training for male nurses
- South to south collaboration involving Fiji and Vanuatu - UNFPA
Adolescent Health

- Youth Friendly centers (for in-school and Out-school youths and MARYP)
  - Information on sexual reproductive health
  - Services including Family planning/STI/HIV
Governments commitment

- Solomon Islands National Health Strategic Plan [NHSP]2010-2015 reflects on achieving ICPD and MDGs
  - Reproductive Health being rank high on the National Development Agenda.
  - Increase funding allocation at around 16% since 2005.
- Drafting of the country’s first National Reproductive Health Policy and Strategies 2011-2013 includes FP as key thematic area
In summary

- Solomon islands over the last decade has achieved a slow but steady progress in its Reproductive Health Services towards achieving the ICPD and MDGs goals related to FP
- Solomon Islands is already on its way to revitalising its FP programme
- Solomon Islands needs to reposition FP in the national development agenda through a renewed national & highest political commitment and support is the way forward in achieving ICPD/MDG goals.