

Sexual and reproductive health and human rights priorities post-2015

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UNDP · UNFPA · UNICEF · WHO · World Bank
Special Programme of Research, Development
and Research Training in Human Reproduction

ICPD: A paradigm shift

- Adopted by consensus by **179 states**;
- Recognises gender equality and equity, and the **empowerment of women and reproductive rights**, as cornerstones of population and development ; and
- Recognizes the basic rights of all couples and individuals to decide freely and responsibly the number, spacing and timing of their children, to have the information and means to do so, and to **enjoy the highest attainable standard of sexual and reproductive health, free of coercion, discrimination and violence.**

20 years later

- Many countries globally and in the European region have devised innovative strategies and programmes to advance the sexual and reproductive health agenda;
- Progress made in several areas:
 - an overall 45% reduction in maternal mortality
 - increases in the use of contraception
 - reduction in the rates of new infection for HIV
- Inequities and gaps remain in ensuring universal access to reproductive health



Ismail Ferdous/Photoshare

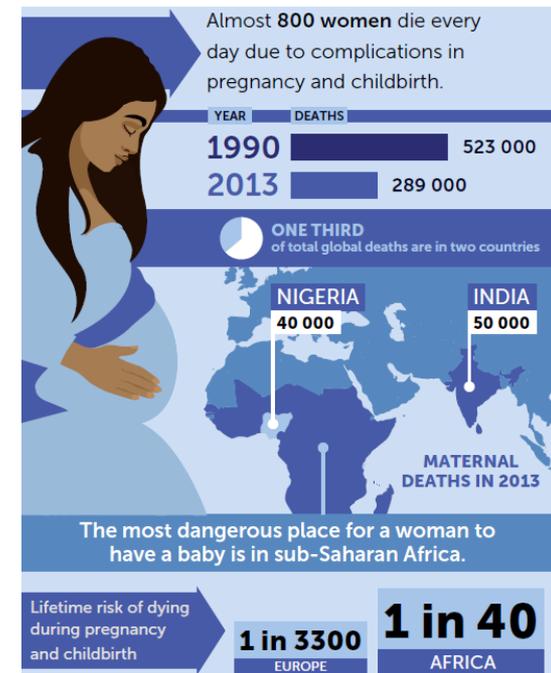
An Unfinished Agenda

Sexual and reproductive health of adolescents

- Globally an estimated 16 million births occur to young women aged 15–19 years, representing 11% of all births
- In Europe, the proportion of teenage mothers decreased and is relatively low on average in the region: Less than 5% of all children are born to teenage mothers. However, there are significant differences within the region, with the highest proportion in Georgia (13%) and the lowest in Switzerland (2%).
- About 12% of adolescent girls in low- and middle-income countries are married by the age of 15 years, and 30% by the age of 18 years
- Every day 39 000 girls are married before the age of 18

Maternal mortality and morbidity

- 45% global reduction in maternal deaths since 1990.
- An estimated 289,000 women died in 2013 due to complications in pregnancy and childbirth, down from 523,000 in 1990.
- According to the MM estimates published by the inter-agency group in May 2014, MMR average annual % change between 1990 and 2013 in Europe is -3.8%

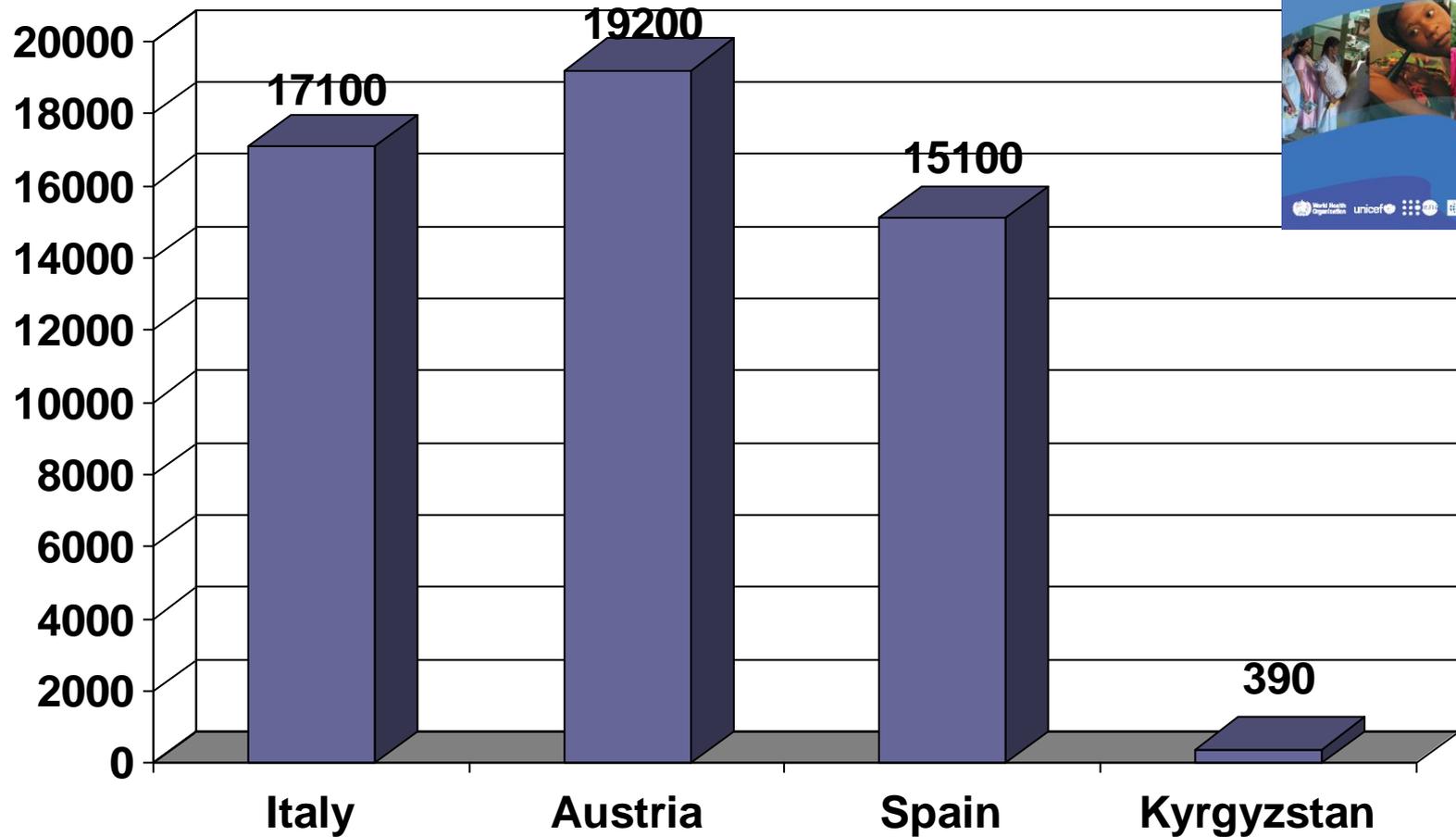
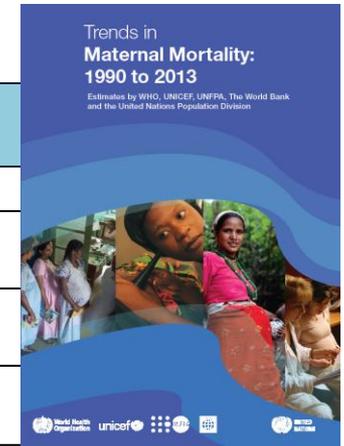


Causes of maternal deaths worldwide. The analysis of 60,000 maternal deaths in 115 countries showed:

- Pre-existing medical conditions exacerbated by pregnancy (e.g. diabetes, malaria, HIV, obesity) were found to be a leading causes of maternal deaths (28%).
- Other causes included: hemorrhage (27%), hypertension (14%), sepsis (11%) obstructed labour and other direct causes (9%), complications of abortion (8%), embolism (3%).

Lifetime risk of maternal death 1 in ...

Source:



Violence against women and girls

- One in three women aged 15–49 years have experienced physical and/or sexual violence by an intimate partner, or non-partner sexual violence
- According to estimates in Europe, one in 10 women has experienced some form of sexual violence since the age of 15 and one in 20 has been raped D'Hanlon /UNAIDS
- Considering the results at the country level, the rates of partner violence range from 30 %–32 % in Finland, Denmark and Latvia to 13 % in Austria, Croatia, Poland, Slovenia and Spain.

Contraceptive information and services

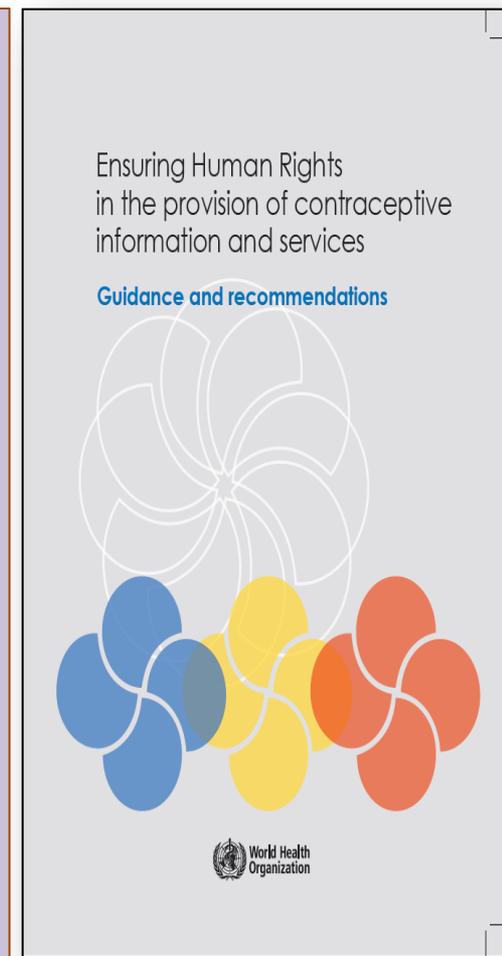
- Worldwide, 222 million women and girls have an unmet need for modern contraception
- Providing access to contraception to all women in low- and middle-income countries with unmet contraceptive needs could prevent **54 million unintended pregnancies, 26 million abortions and 7 million miscarriages; as well as 79 000 maternal deaths and 1.1 million infant deaths**
- In Europe, 25 governments provide direct support to family planning; 19 provide indirect support and 8 no support. The latter are situated in the western part of the region or are new EU Member States

Contraception and human rights

WHO Guidelines – Ensuring human rights in the provision of contraceptive information and services *(Just published)*

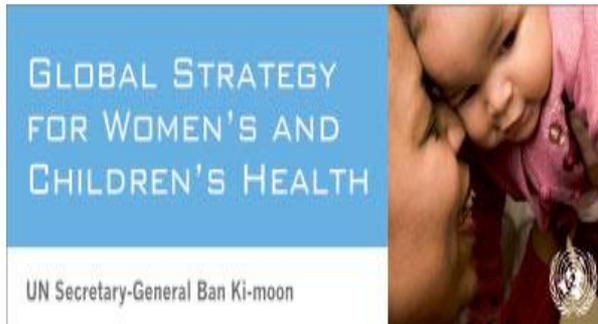
- Experts in human rights, gender, family planning, programme management and evaluation methods
- Guidance to programmes on effective interventions to improve availability, accessibility, acceptability and quality of contraceptive services
- 24 recommendations in the areas of: non-discrimination (2), AAAQ (16), informed decision-making (2), privacy (1) and confidentiality, participation(1), accountability (2)

- Non-discrimination
- Availability
- Accessibility
- Acceptability
- Quality
- Informed decision making
- Privacy and confidentiality
- Participation
- Accountability



Emerging priorities for sexual and reproductive health: ICPD beyond 2014

- Address inequalities
- Ensure Quality of Care
- Enhance Accountability



Address inequalities



Patricia Esteve/UNICEF



Anita Khemkas/UNICEF

- Inequalities and inequities in accessibility and quality of health systems across and within countries continue to persist
- Weak and poor health-system coverage or low-quality services abound for vulnerable populations, such as the poor, adolescents, older persons, rural and urban slums, and uninsured or undocumented persons
- Many of these inequalities overlap, and people face a multitude of barriers to sexual and reproductive health services

HEALTH 2020

Policy framework and strategy



Regional Committee
Sixty-second

Malta, 10–13 September 2016



Health 2020:
a European policy framework
supporting action across government
and society for health and well-being



The equity action spectrum: taking a comprehensive approach

Guidance for addressing inequities in health



Ensure quality of care

- Significant role of quality of care in improving health outcomes
- Upgrading of first- and second-level facilities with appropriate infrastructure and equipment, and providing adequate numbers of skilled and motivated human resources are necessary to increase coverage and facilitate access



Christopher Black/WHO



Role of parliamentarians

Representatives of the people -

- reflect the voices and concerns of all
- Role models who can help the communities to overcome prejudices and misconceptions
- Opinion-leaders and decision-makers - promote respect among their constituents for all people
- Lawmakers who design, adopt and oversee implementation of laws -gender sensitive and rights based
- Overseers of government and national budgets:
 - Ensure that government commitments to gender equality are respected
 - Ensure adequate and cost-effective funding which is steered towards interventions informed by best available evidence of effectiveness and based on fundamental human rights principles

The way forward

- Advance the comprehensive sexual and reproductive health agenda enshrined in the Programme of Action
- Ensure sexual and reproductive health and human rights, in the post-ICPD, post-2015 development agendas
- Attention must be paid to addressing inequalities, ensuring quality of care and enhancing accountability