Promoting Family Planning Within The Context of Environment Yields Higher MDG achievement: Evidence from the Philippines

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Country Facts

- 7,100 islands
- 88.6 million people (2007)
- Rapid growth rate (2.04%)
- High population momentum (37%)
- Increasing poverty incidence = 32.9% (2006)
- Majority of Filipinos reside in coastal zone (62%)
- Fishing dependent
Population-Environment Links

Environment Facts
- 1 of 17 mega diverse countries
- Global epicenter- marine biodiversity
- High environmental stress
- < 5% of coral in excellent condition

Marine Hotspot Populations
- Exceptional high growth rate
  (5.6% p.a. in TawiTawi)
- Densely populated
  >500 people/Km2 (Danajon Reef)
IPOPCORM Approach

• Uses a symbiotic strategy to link sectors
• Focuses on food security from the sea
• Targets fishers, women and youth
• High-growth top-priority marine biodiversity conservation areas
Project Strategies and Activities

• Capacity Building
  – Community
  – LGU-NGO partners

• IEC and BCC
  – Community
  – Individual

• Advocacy
  – Local Executives

Community IEC
“3 Critical Results” needed to assure food security from the sea
IPOPCORM Operations Research Component

• Testing the Hypothesis:

“There will be a significant improvement in coastal resources management outcomes and reproductive health/family planning outcomes by delivering these services in an integrated manner as opposed to delivering either intervention in isolation”
IPOPCORM Results – Contributing to MDG 1

MDG1 – Eradicate extreme poverty and hunger

Comparison between Integrated and Non-Integrated Program Sites

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Year</th>
<th>Average Per Capita Income</th>
<th>IPOPCORM</th>
<th>RH-only</th>
<th>CRM-only</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>2003</td>
<td></td>
<td>P28 ($0.56)</td>
<td>P27 ($0.54)</td>
<td>P27 ($0.54)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2004</td>
<td></td>
<td>P30 ($0.60)</td>
<td>P25 ($0.50)</td>
<td>P22 ($0.44)</td>
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Source: Montebon et al. (2004) Behavioral Monitoring Surveys: Consolidated Report for the IPOPCORM project
IPOPCORM Results – Contributing to MDG 3 and 4

MDG 3 – Promote gender equality and empower women
• More women participating fully in livelihood activities and coastal resource management activities

MDG 4 – Reduce child mortality
• Higher level of FP and safer sex practices among adults and youth
IPOPCORM Results – Contributing to MDG 5 and 6

MDG 5 – Combat HIV/AIDS
MDG 6 – Improve Maternal Health

• Generated higher level of family planning and safer sex practices among adults and youth
  • FP access increased by 13-fold during 2001-2006
  • Unmet FP demand among WRA reduced by 30%
  • Delayed first sex among sexually active young males
IPOPCORM Results – Contributing To MDG 7

MDG 7 – Assure Environmental Sustainability

- Integrated approach enhanced the community’s role in CRM while FP/RH component ensures long term sustainability and prevention of over-use of coastal resources
IPOPCORM Results – Contributing To MDG 8

MDG 8 – Develop a global partnership for development

- Improved private–public sector partnership for food security, development and poverty reduction – both nationally and internationally
  - Ecosystems based approach
  - BALANCED Project
Conclusion

• Integrated approach to family planning and environmental management generate higher yields than sectoral approaches and contributes to MDG achievement
Conclusion and Policy Implication

• IPOPCORM’s synergistic approach lends sustainability to CRM interventions, while CRM provides a comprehensible context for coastal residents to recognize the necessity of limiting family size to achieve food security and improve family welfare
Thank you!

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