The Strategic Pathway to Reproductive Health Commodity Security (SPARHCS)

Five years & 50 countries later: What have we learned?
Objectives

• Overview
  – Definition of Reproductive Health Commodity Security (RHSC)
  – Overview of Strategic Pathway to Reproductive Health Commodity Security (SPARHCS)
    • Framework, Tool, and Process

• Lessons learned
  – Successes
  – Challenges
  – Moving forward
Defining Reproductive Health Commodity Security

Reproductive health commodity security exists when every person is able to choose, obtain, and use quality contraceptives and other essential reproductive health products whenever s/he needs them.

Common Assessment Framework Meeting, 8 February 2001 (JSI/DELIVER, WHO, UNFPA, USAID, CDC, MSH, PATH)
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• A **FRAMEWORK** to help you think about it

• A **TOOL** to help you assess it

• A **PROCESS** to help you strengthen it
SPARHCS Framework
SPARHCS Tool and Process
What has SPARHCS ‘sparked’?

Uptake of concept, tool, process
What has SPARHCS ‘sparked’?

• Context: Keeps focus on FP in integrated world
  – “To improve maternal health, we need to scale up and deliver a comprehensive package of sexual and reproductive health information, supplies and services.”
  – UNFPA Executive Director Thoraya Ahmed Obaid

• Coordination: 35 of 36 countries with CS committee

• Capital/Financing:
  – 22 of 35 countries using government financing for contraceptives

• Commitment/Policy:
  – 26 countries with CS strategy
What Allowed SPARHCS to succeed?

SPARHCS helped to change the way countries think about family planning supplies:

- Multisectoral – we all have a role to play
- Holistic – systems approach
- Adaptable
- Client centered
- Designed for short and long term solutions
SPARHCS – Lessons Learned

Strengths can also be limitations

- Holistic
- Long term
- Keeps focus on FP in integrated world
SPARHCS – Lessons Learned

- Commitment
- Client focused but lacks true client perspective
- Attribution and monitoring
- Lack of engagement of key issues
  - Private sector, civil society
  - LAPM and equipment
  - Decentralization
Moving Forward

• Companion “Process Guide”: a practical ‘how-to’
• Guidance for CS in a decentralized setting
• Improving focus on
  – Private sector, civil society
  – LAPM (including equipment and supplies)
• CS Indicators
• A need to continue to adapt and mainstream
Reproductive Health Commodity Security

For more information:

- Strategic Pathway to Reproductive Health Commodity Security