

8th International Dialogue on Population and Sustainable Development

**Making Sexual and Reproductive
Rights a Reality: What does it take?**

Programme

5 – 6 October 2010, Berlin, Germany
GTZ-House, Reichpietschufer 20, 10785 Berlin



Making Sexual and Reproductive Rights a Reality: What does it take?

Objective

In addition to fostering information exchange between participants, this year's dialogue aims to collectively produce an action guide to support policy makers and advocates in their efforts to strengthen rights based approaches to sexual and reproductive health¹.

Background

The promotion of human rights, including the right to health (RtH), is an important issue on international development cooperation agenda. The German Federal Minister for Economic Cooperation and Development, Dirk Niebel, has clearly declared the promotion of human rights as one of his main political priorities.

Human rights and health are interrelated. The underlying causes of morbidity and mortality in developing countries – malnutrition, inadequate access to clean drinking water, living and working conditions which are hazardous to health, lack of education and the exclusion of many poor and disadvantaged people from essential health services – arise out of the failure to meet human rights commitments. Human rights-based policies that empower women and address unmet

¹ A rights-based approach recognises every human being as a person with rights and strives to respect, protect and guarantee the rights of all people without exclusion based on age, sex, race, gender, sexual orientation, marital status, religion, physical or mental disability or health status including HIV. Non-discrimination underlies all human rights protection and promotion.

Sexual and reproductive health and rights (SRHR) can be understood as the right for all, whether young or old, women, men or transgender, straight, gay, lesbian or bisexual, HIV positive or negative, to make choices regarding their own sexuality and reproduction, providing these respect the rights of others to bodily integrity. This definition also includes the right to access information and services needed to support these choices and optimise health (Swedish Association for Sexuality Education).

In relation to health, a rights-based approach means integrating human rights norms and principles in the design, implementation, monitoring, and evaluation of health-related policies and programmes. These include human dignity, attention to the needs and rights of vulnerable groups, and an emphasis on ensuring that health is made accessible to all. The principle of equality and freedom from discrimination is central, including discrimination on the basis of sex and gender roles. Integrating human rights into development also means empowering poor people, ensuring their participation in decision-making processes which concern them and incorporating accountability mechanisms which they can access (WHO).

needs for sexual and reproductive health services – whether in developed, developing or least developed countries – would have an important impact on population dynamics. While giving people, especially women, more control over their lives, this would also have critical longer-term impacts on new emerging issues such as climate change. In this light, everything possible should be done to provide women with the means to achieve their desired family size.

Within the last years, a growing number of bi- and multilateral agencies as well as civil society organisations – and to a lesser extent partner governments – have declared their interest or committed themselves to a human-rights based approach to promote sexual and reproductive health. There is also growing practical experience in the promotion of the Right to Health and/or human rights based approach to sexual and reproductive health in the context of development cooperation programmes. Looking ahead, discussions around strategies going beyond the Cairo ICPD Programme of Action (in 2014) and the Millennium Development Goal target date of 2015 might be enriched by a clear focus on human rights. The objective of this International Dialogue is three-fold:

- provide a forum to present and discuss strategies and good practices to promote a rights-based approach to sexual and reproductive health and population dynamics;
- address current and potentially controversial issues around the RtH and a human rights-based approach to sexual and reproductive health, including e.g. family planning, abortion, protection against discrimination on the basis of sexual orientation, or the financial viability and financial implications of the approach;
- focus on defining (joint) ways ahead to further promote a rights-based approach to sexual and reproductive health within donor, civil society organization, private sector and partner government strategies, development cooperation programmes as well as within various international development cooperation and human rights fora.

Programme | Day 1 (5 October)

Learning from good practices: setting the scene

- 12.30 p.m. Registration and informal lunch
- 1.00 p.m. **Opening**
Brief words of welcome
Joachim Schmitt, Federal Ministry for Economic Cooperation and Development, Division 315 Health, Population Policy, Bonn

Welcome address
Klaus Brückner, Director GTZ Office Berlin, Deutsche Gesellschaft für Technische Zusammenarbeit (GTZ) GmbH, Berlin

Welcome address
Klaus Brill, Vice President Corporate Commercial Relations, Bayer Schering Pharma AG, Berlin

Moderator: **Franklin Apfel**, Managing director, World Health Communication Associate (WHC)
- 1.30 p.m. **Keynote Speech**
Thoraya Ahmed Obaid, Executive Director, United Nations Population Fund (UNFPA), New York
- 2.30 p.m. **Working Groups on good practices from four countries**

Working Groups – Day 1- Introduction

Key stakeholders including donors, government officials, and NGO advocates, will share perspectives and practical experiences based on their experience with country-specific rights-based approach to sexual and reproductive health. This will include sharing of perspectives, and practical experience on how actions were developed and implemented; how obstacles were addressed; what impact on health has been achieved; and, what lessons learned could be useful to others in different contexts. Recommendations from case studies and best practices will provide a practical framework of principles and approaches that will inform Day 2 discussions related to developing strategic action guidance related to advocating, implementing, sustaining and strengthening human rights approaches to sexual and reproductive health.

- 3.45 p.m. **Wrap up of the outputs of the discussions**
- 4.30 p.m. Transfer to BMZ building (11th floor)
Coffee at BMZ

Country group Nepal

Input 1 – Government Representative

Yasho V. Pradhan

Director, Child Health Division, Department of Health and Population, Ministry of Health and Population, Nepal

Input 2 – Donor

Ian McFarlane

Representative, United Nations Population Fund (UNFPA), Nepal

Input 3 – Non State Actor

Bharat Devkota

Former Team Leader Equity and Access Program Action Aid International, Nepal

Rapporteur – lessons learnt, concrete recommendations

Ilse Worm

Consultant, Germany

Country group Tanzania

Input 1 – Government Representative

Neema Rusibmayila,

Director RCH Division, Ministry of Health and Social Welfare (TGPSH), Tanzania

Input 2 - Donor

Inge Baumgarten

Principle Technical Advisor Health, Programme Manager, Tanzanian German Programme to Support Health (TGPSH), Tanzania

Input 3 – Non State Actor

Peter Munene

Country Director, German Foundation for World Population (DSW), Dar es salam, Tanzania

Rapporteur – lessons learnt, concrete recommendations

Joseph Matimbwi

Tanzanian German Programme to Support Health (TGPSH), Tanzania

Country group Burkina Faso

Input 1 – Government Representative

Marie Rose Sawadogo Ouédraogo

Permant Secretary of the National Committee of Fight against the Prattice of Excision, Burkina Faso

Input 2 - Donor

Marion Kneesch

Sector Economist, Chief Sector Division Health, Education, Social Protection Sub Saharan Africa, KfW Entwicklungsbank, Frankfurt

Input 3 – Non State Actor

Angél Sourabié

Association Burkina Bé pour le Bien-Être Familiale, Ougadougou, Burkina Faso

Rapporteur – lessons learnt, concrete recommendations

Guy Zougrana

Programme Santé Sexuelle et Droits Humains (PROSAD), Deutsche Gesellschaft für Technische Zusammenarbeit (GTZ) GmbH, Burkina Faso

Country group Colombia

Input 1 – Government Representative

Lenis Urquijo

Director de Salud Pública, Ministerio de la Protección Social, Colombia

Input 2 - Donor

Lucy Wartenberg

Assistant Representative, United Nations Population Fund (UNFPA), Colombia

Input 3 – Non State Actor

Liliana Schmitz

Public Relation Manager, Pro Familia, Colombia

Rapporteur – lessons learnt, concrete recommendations

Seri Wendoh

Rights and Gender Advisor, International Planned Parenthood Federation (IPPF), UK

Panel discussion

Stronger Rights – Better Health?

Venue: Federal Ministry for Economic Cooperation and Development (BMZ)
Stresemannstraße 94, 10936 Berlin

5.30 p.m.

Welcome address

Klaus Müller, KfW Entwicklungsbank, Frankfurt

Panel

Moderator: **Melinda Crane**, Deutsche Welle-TV

John Cleland, Professor of Medical Demography, London School of Hygiene & Tropical Medicine, University of London, UK

Gill Greer, Director General, International Planned Parenthood Federation (IPPF), United Kingdom

Helena Nygren-Krug, Health and Human Rights Adviser, Department of Ethics, Equity, Trade and Human Rights, Information, Evidence and Research (IER/ETH), World Health Organization (WHO)

Yasho V. Pradhan, Director, Child Health Division Department of Health and Population, Ministry of Health and Population, Nepal

7.00 p.m.

Public opening of the 'Health – it's my right' exhibition

Dirk Niebel, Federal Minister for Economic Cooperation and Development (BMZ), Germany

Reception

9.00 p.m.

End of Day 1

Day 2 (6 October)

Looking ahead: Strategic recommendations on the way forward?

9.00 a.m.

Summary of key findings and recommendations from Day 1

Moderator: **Franklin Apfel**, Managing director, World Health Communication Associates (WHC)

Rapporteur: **Sabrina Cecconi** and **Viv Taylor Gee**, World Health Communication Associates (WHC)

9.30 a.m.

World Café

Participants are asked to share stories pertaining to brief human rights-related action related to one of the section action tracks listed below. 'Storytellers' will be asked to identify key factors related to the success or failure of the described actions. After twenty minutes of conversation, participants will be invited to move to another table and repeat the process for a second action area.

7 Tables/ 7 Tracks

Table 1/track 1: Advocating – Initiating a rights based approach/campaign for sexual and reproductive health, raising awareness, using evidence, engaging stakeholders, proposing policy change, countering opposing forces.

Host table 1A **Jon O'Brien**, President, Catholics for Choice, Washington, USA

Host table 1B **Nancy Northup**, President, Center for Reproductive Rights, New York, USA

Table 2/track 2: Claiming – Using human rights institutions and the courts to support people in claiming their rights to health.

Host table 2A **Roselyn Karugonjo-Segawa**, Director Division 'Monitoring & Inspections', Uganda Human Rights Commission, Uganda

Host table 2B **Paul Hunt**, Former UN Special Rapporteur on the right to health, professor and member of the Human Rights Centre of University of Essex, UK

Table 3/track 3: Measuring – Monitoring and evaluating health impact of human rights related sexual and reproductive actions.

Host table 3A **Sivananthi Thanenthiran**, Programme Manager for Information and Communication, Asian-Pacific Resource and Research Center for Women (ARROW), Malaysia

Host table 3B **Gabriele Gahn**, Senior Project Adviser, Deutsche Gesellschaft für Technische Zusammenarbeit (GTZ) GmbH, Germany

Table 4/track 4: Targeting – Addressing the special need for action to support the sexual and reproductive rights of women and young people.

Host table 4A **Olufunmilayo Balogun-Alexander**, Director, External Relations and Advocacy, International Planned Parenthood Federation (IPPF), Africa Regional Office, Kenya

Host table 4B **Elke Thoß**, Executive Director, pro familia, Germany

Table 5/track 5: Championing – Responding to and addressing the unmet need for family planning as a rights based issue within the framework of population policies

Host table 5A **Beth Fredrick**, Bill and Melinda Gates Institute for Population and Reproductive Health/John Hopkins Bloomberg School of Public Health, Deputy Director, USA

Host table 5B **Gilda Sedgh**, Senior Research Associate, The Guttmacher Institute, New York USA

Table 6/track 6: Strengthening – Health system capacities to address sexual and reproductive health and human rights, especially of poor and/or marginalized people.

Host table 6A **John Skibiak**, Director, Reproductive Health Supplies Coalition, Brussels

Host table 6B **Tania Boler**, Head of Research and Metrics, Marie Stopes International, London, UK

Table 7/track 7: Linking – Rights based approaches to sexual and reproductive health to national and international action to achieve the Millennium Development Goals (MDGs) especially those focused on Maternal and Child health and HIV.

Host table 7A **Sara Seims**, Director of Population Programme, The William and Flora Hewlett Foundation, USA

Host table 7B **Anders Zeijlon**, The Nordic Trust Fund, OPCCS, The World Bank

11.15 a.m.

Working groups

Track 1: Advocating – Initiating a rights based approach/campaign for sexual and reproductive health, raising awareness, using evidence, engaging stakeholders, proposing policy change, countering opposing forces.

Input: **Jon O'Brien**, President, Catholics for Choice, Washington, USA

Rapporteur: **Huzeifa Bodal**, Senior Programme Manager, Health Systems Strengthening Team – German BACKUP Initiative, Deutsche Gesellschaft für Technische Zusammenarbeit (GTZ), Eschborn

- How to bring sexual and reproductive health into the national and International human rights discourse?
- Engaging rights and values: how to deal with controversial issues?
- What examples of good practices show how policies can be influenced via evidence-based data?
- Identifying areas that need strengthening and follow-up.

Track 2: Claiming – Using human rights institutions and the courts to support people in claiming their sexual and reproductive rights.

Input: **Roselyn Karugonjo-Segawa**, Director Division 'Monitoring & Inspections', Uganda Human Rights Commission, Uganda

Rapporteur: **Ruth Charo**, Social Development Specialist, former Coordinator Health NGOs Network, African Development Bank, Kenya

- Which legal and institutional mechanisms need to be put in place to ensure that people can have access to justice and claim their sexual and reproductive rights?
- How can national human rights institutions and the courts contribute to improve governance by holding governments accountable for their obligation to respect, protect and fulfil the right to health, including reproductive and sexual health for all?
- How can we empower people to be aware and act on their sexual and reproductive rights?

Track 3: Measuring – Monitoring and evaluating health impact of human rights-related sexual and reproductive actions.

Input: **Sivananthi Thanenthiran**, Programme Manager for Information and Communication, Asian Pacific Resource and Research Center for Women (ARROW), Malaysia

Rapporteur: **Siegfried Tautz**, Trainer and Consultant, Evaplan GmbH am Uniklinikum Heidelberg, Germany

- What are the consequences of human right to health violations, and what best practices can be used to monitor data to ensure the human right to SRHR for all?
- Consequence of human right to health violations: What are good practice examples on how to use monitoring data to enforce the human right to SRH for all?
- How policies can be influenced by evidence-based data?

Track 4: Targeting – Addressing the urgent need to support women's and young peoples' SRHR. Taking a rights-based approach in SRH, we need to go beyond business as usual and truly understand sexual rights of women and girls and how they are linked to their right to health. Only then can we address barriers to access to effective, stigma free and gender sensitive services and programmes.

Input: **Olufunmilayo Balogun-Alexander**, Director, External Relations and Advocacy, International Planned Parenthood Federation (IPPF), Africa Regional Office, Kenya

Rapporteur: **Hilkka Vuoremaa**, Senior Advocacy Officer, Väestöliitto, the Family Federation of Finland, Helsinki

- What are the root causes in preventing women and girls from achieving their sexual and reproductive health and rights?
- What strategies have proven successful to eliminate these root causes and create supportive and safe environments for women and girls to make informed choices related to sex and pregnancy?
- How can we empower with women and girls to make informed decisions on sex and SRH?

Track 5: Championing – Responding to and addressing the unmet need for family planning as a rights-based issue within the framework of population policies.

Input: **Beth Fredrick**, Bill and Melinda Gates Institute for Population and Reproductive Health/John Hopkins Bloomberg School of Public Health, Deputy Director, USA

Rapporteur: **Sonja Weinreich**, Senior Health Advisor at EED, Church Development Service (Evangelischer Entwicklungsdienst – EED), Germany

- How should population dynamics as a global challenge be approached in the context of human rights?
- With regard to the unmet need for family planning, how can we ensure that the rights of women and families are at the centre of the population debate?
- How can we build and use Public Private Partnerships to ensure the development of new technologies? And what role should these technologies play in implementing a rights based approach to sexual and reproductive health?

Track 6: Strengthening – health system capacities to address sexual and reproductive health and human rights, especially of poor and/or marginalized people.

Input: **John Skibiak**, Reproductive Health Supplies Coalition, Brussels

Rapporteur: **Karen Newman**, Population and Sustainability Network (PSN), UK

- How can health sector reform ensure access to SRH services for the poor and marginalized?
- How can affordable SRH services for underprivileged groups be financed?
- Which approaches (to service delivery) will strengthen the right to health?

Track 7: Linking – rights based approaches to sexual and reproductive health to national and international action to achieve the Millennium Development Goals (MDGs) especially those focused on Maternal and Child Health and HIV.

Input: **Sara Seims**, Director of Population Programme, The William and Flora Hewlett Foundation, USA

Rapporteur: **Laura Reichenbach**, Head, Reproductive Health Programme, ICDDR, B, Bangladesh

- What are experiences in working with a right-based approach in the area of maternal health and safe motherhood?
- ‘My body belongs to me’: How can we better understand the interrelations of women’s rights and the right to health?
- How to link human rights with the Millennium Development Goals (MDGs), maintaining the momentum beyond 2014/2015?

1.00 p.m. Lunch Break

2.00 p.m. **Closing Plenary**
Short presentations of recommendations/outputs coming out of the working groups and final round of Q & A and discussion

3.30 p.m. **Concluding Remarks**
Renate Bähr, Executive Director, German Foundation for World Population (DSW), Hanover, Germany

4.00 p.m. **End of 8th International Dialogue**

The International Dialogue on Population and Development underlines the interdisciplinary importance of sexual and reproductive health and rights (SRHR) and population dynamics as key factors in achieving international development goals such as the Millennium Development Goals (MDGs). The conference series is designed to facilitate the networking of national and international players and encourage the exchange of information and experience.

The International Dialogue is an annual, two-day conference taking place in Berlin, jointly organised by the German Foundation for World Population (DSW), Deutsche Gesellschaft für Technische Zusammenarbeit (GTZ) GmbH, InWEnt – Internationale Weiterbildung und Entwicklung gGmbH, the International Planned Parenthood Federation (IPPF) and KfW Entwicklungsbank, in close cooperation with the Federal Ministry for Economic Cooperation and Development (BMZ) and with Bayer Schering Pharma AG.



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