The Present, Past and Future: Malawi’s Quest to reach its MDG Family Planning Goal

Jane Wickstrom, MA, John Yanulis, MS, Roy Jacobstein, MD, MPH

Managing Partner: EngenderHealth; Associated Partners: FHI 360; Futures Institute; Johns Hopkins Bloomberg School of Public Health Center for Communication Programs; Meridian Group International, Inc.; Population Council
The remarkable road from Past to Present

3 Future Scenarios:

– What will it take for Malawi to reach the family planning MDG?
– What will it cost?
– What are the health benefits for women and families?
% Modern Method Use (CPR) is Impressive and Climbing (married women)

Source: Multiple MEASURE DHS Surveys, MWRA
National Family Planning Goal is to make family planning

“…accessible, acceptable, and affordable to all women, men, and young people of Malawi”.

(MOH National SRH Rights and Policy, 2009).
Family planning is considered a “norm” among married women – 72% Total Demand for FP (current users and those who want to space or limit births)

Many married women want to limit births (38%) as well as space the next birth (35%)

Unmet Need for FP is still high (26%)

Fertility high at 5.7: means 1.2 more children than wanted fertility

The bottom line: Malawians professionals and partners agree that programs must address fertility for health and development reasons.

To meet the demand for family planning now - and in the future....

what will the Malawi program need to do?

Let’s look at 3 scenarios...
Scenario 1: **No Change** from 2010 CPR levels through 2015 (no annual increase)

Scenario 2: **Continue current increase** rate of 1.6% (increase at same rate)

Scenario 3: Meet MDG target (annual **increase** of 3.7%)

*Note: MDG target is more than double the current annual increase of 1.6% (all women)*
**Provides** informed estimates of need
- Tests multiple scenarios in minutes → “What if…”
- Flexible level of analyses: national, regional, district, site

**User-friendly**
- Excel-based worksheets, graphs
- User’s Guide (English and French)
- Minimal data requirements
  - *CPR Data*
  - *Population Data*
Results - 3 Possible future scenarios to meet family planning needs by 2015

% All women of reproductive age

Scenarios:
- No Change
- Continue Current Increase (1.6%)
- MDG Goal

MDG: CPR 54%
CPR 44%
CPR 35%

Source: DHS and Reality Check projections
Ramifications: Number of FP users by scenario in 2015

- **2010 Baseline**
  - Other Methods: 943,000
  - Long-Acting and Permanent Methods: 311,000

- **Scenario 1**
  - Other Methods: 1,110,000
  - Long-Acting and Permanent Methods: 366,000

- **Scenario 2**
  - Other Methods: 1,329,000
  - Long-Acting and Permanent Methods: 487,000

- **Scenario 3**
  - Other Methods: 1,686,000
  - Long-Acting and Permanent Methods: 556,000

Source: Demographic and Health Surveys and Reality Check
## Service Site Caseload: Average number of clients per month in 1 District (Blantyre)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>Baseline</th>
<th>Scenario 1</th>
<th>Scenario 2</th>
<th>Scenario 3</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Pill</strong></td>
<td>1,104</td>
<td>1,272</td>
<td>1,488</td>
<td>1,920</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Injectable</strong></td>
<td>11,232</td>
<td>12,792</td>
<td>15,744</td>
<td><strong>19,440</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Male Condom</strong></td>
<td>1,584</td>
<td>1,800</td>
<td>2,352</td>
<td>2,736</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Female Condom</strong></td>
<td>48</td>
<td>72</td>
<td>120</td>
<td>96</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Implant</strong></td>
<td>28</td>
<td>42</td>
<td>70</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>IUD</strong></td>
<td>14</td>
<td>14</td>
<td>14</td>
<td>14</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Female Sterilization</strong></td>
<td>27</td>
<td>33</td>
<td>54</td>
<td>69</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Source: Demographic and Health Surveys, and Reality Check and Malawi Ministry of Health
What will the scenarios cost?
Annual contraceptive, equipment and supply costs

Source: Reality Check
Impact of meeting family planning goals

Unintended pregnancies averted

- No Change
- Continue Current Increase (1.6%)
- MDG Goal
Family Planning Saves Lives

Maternal deaths averted

Source: Demographic and Health Surveys and Reality Check
No matter what scenario is chosen, solid planning and programming are essential for success.

Meeting Client Reproductive Intentions is the central and driving force in successful family planning programs.
Zikomo kwambiri!

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