



DISEASE CONTROL
PRIORITIES PROJECT



Overcoming challenges of reproductive health: the case for Family Planning

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INVESTING IN GLOBAL HEALTH "BEST BUYS" AND PRIORITIES FOR ACTION IN DEVELOPING COUNTRIES

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Purpose of presentation

- ❖ Identify issues and challenge
- ❖ Discuss way for overcoming these

Challenges to Overcome - 1

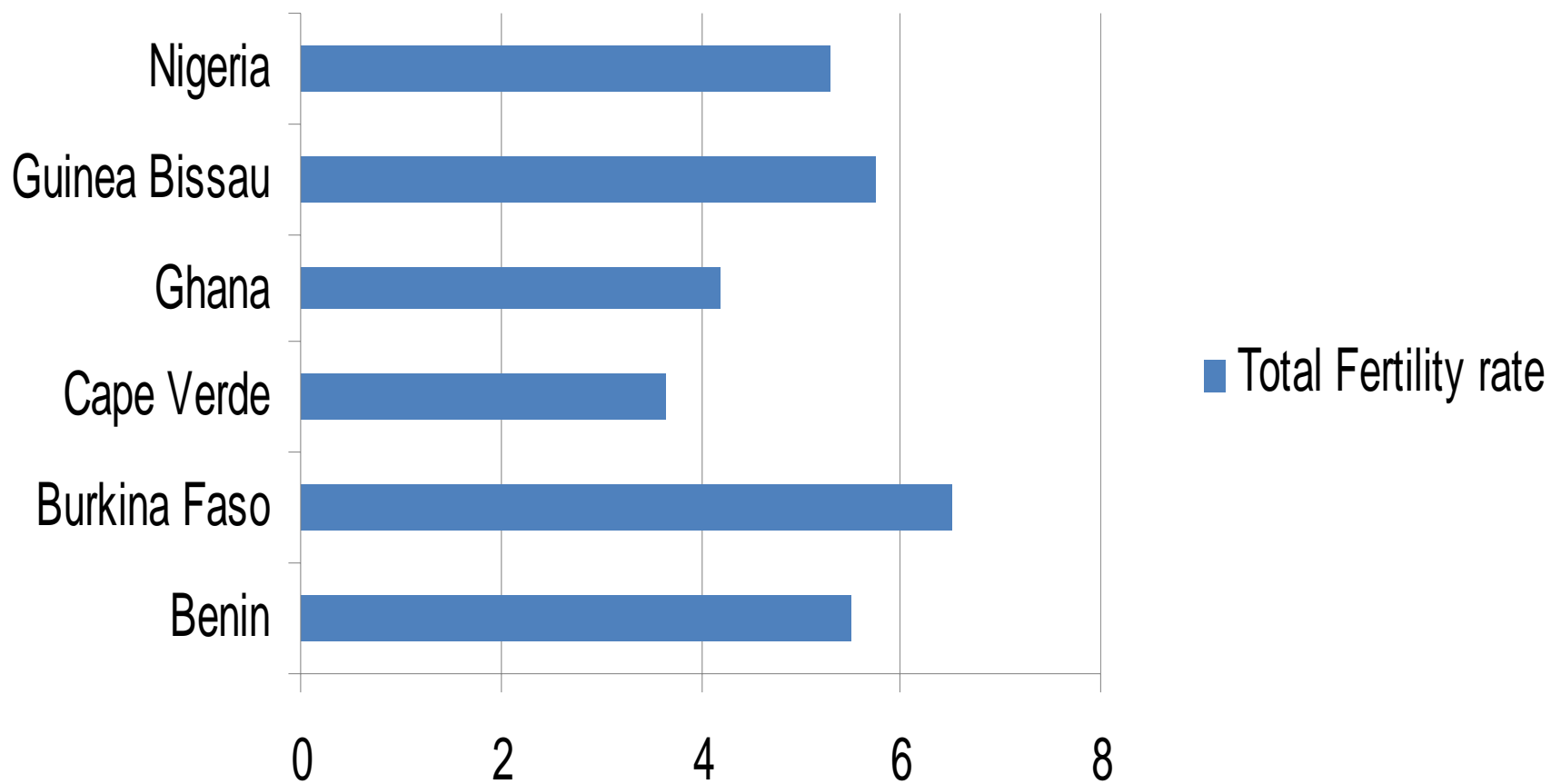
- ❖ Early age at marriage
- ❖ High premium on childbearing
 - High fertility rate leading to high % of Grande Multips
 - Low contraceptive prevalence rate
- ❖ Low status of women
 - High illiteracy rate
 - High % women work force
 - Poor nutrition in childhood
- ❖ Lack of decision making power
 - Women require male authority to access medical treatment
- ❖ Poor health systems
 - Poor citing of health facilities
 - Low staff morale
 - Lack of supplies
 - Poor equipments and supplies



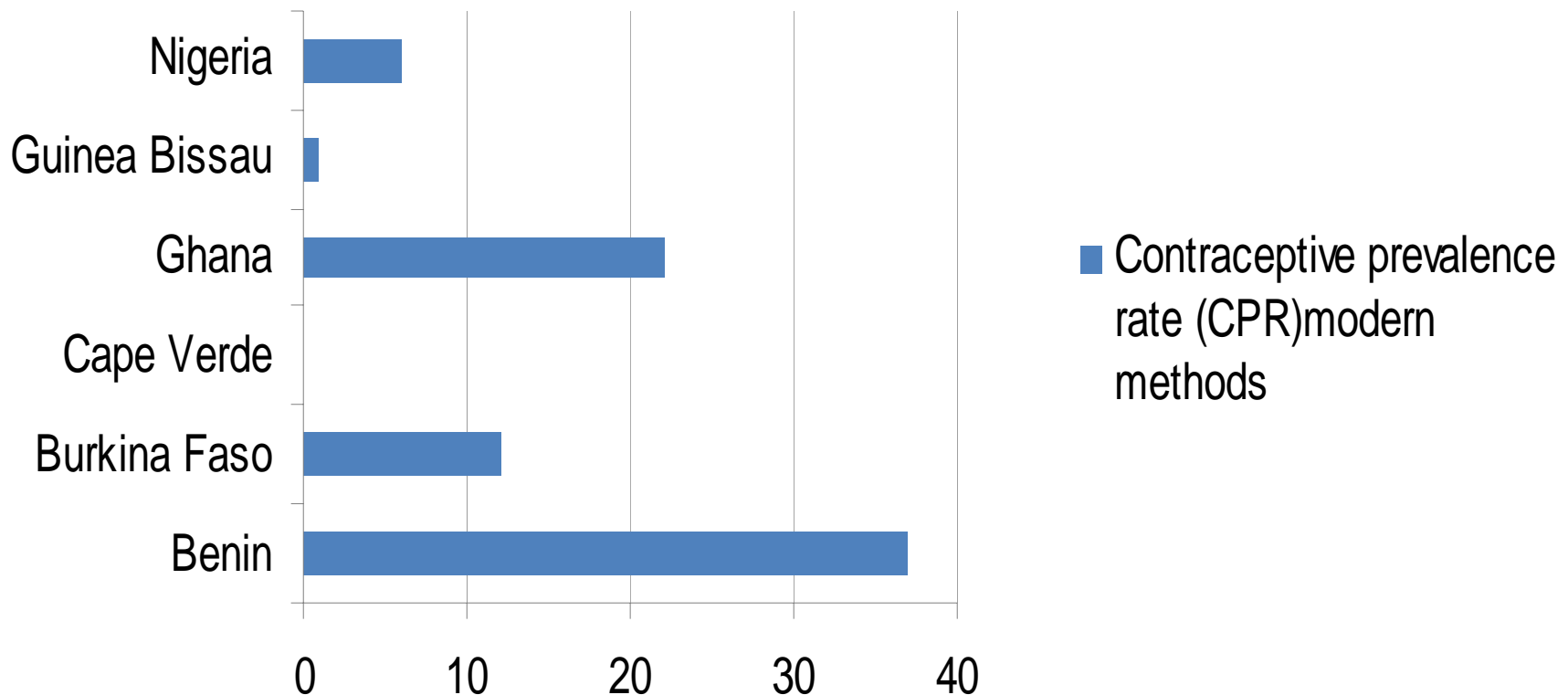
Challenges to Overcome - 2

- ❖ High fertility
- ❖ Low contraceptive prevalence
- ❖ High unmet need
- ❖ High maternal burden of disease
 - Highest number of deaths
 - Highest years of life lost

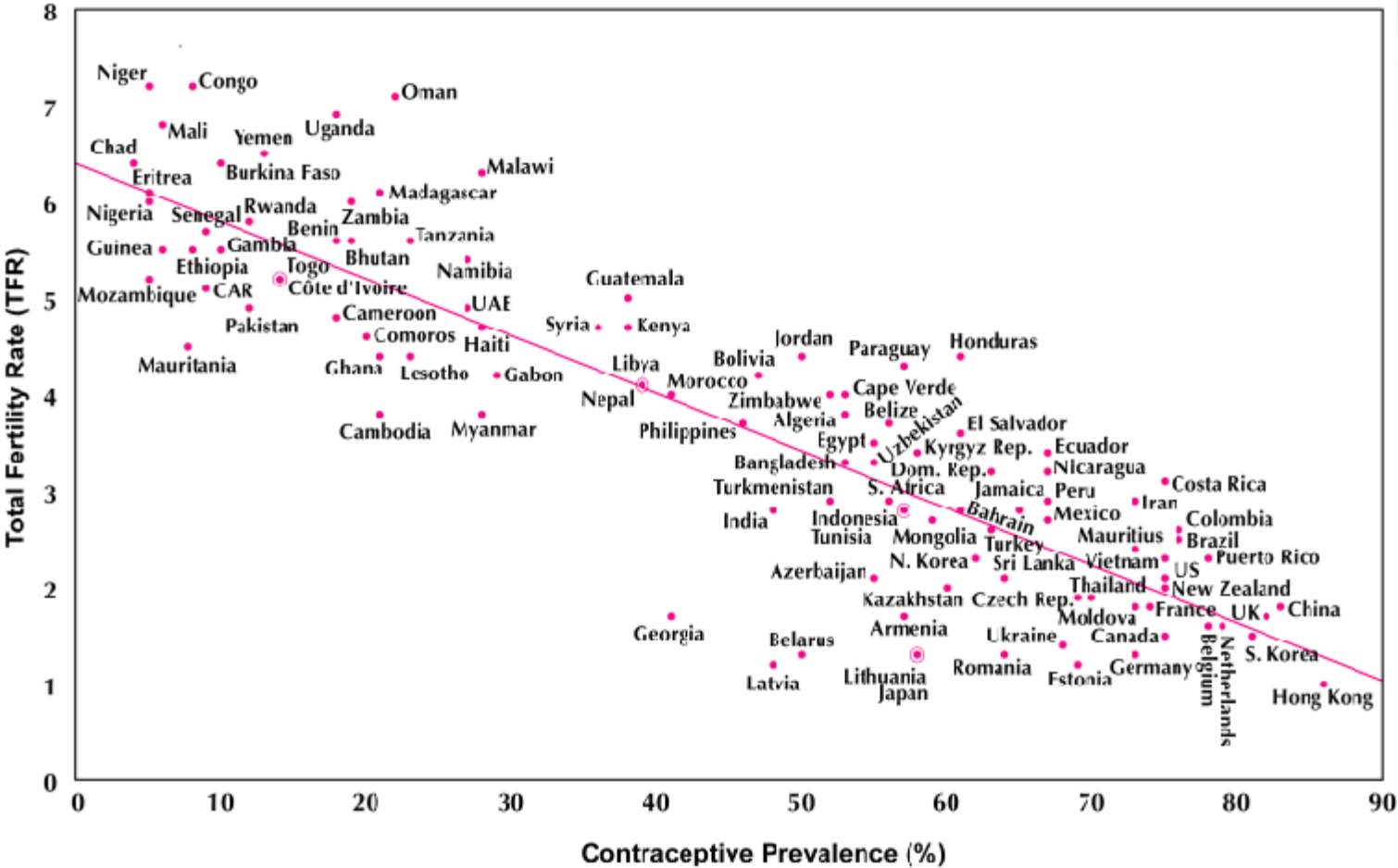
Total Fertility rate



Contraceptive prevalence rate (CPR)modern methods



Fertility Levels Closely Correspond to Levels of Contraceptive Use



Sources: Demographic and Health Surveys, Reproductive Health Surveys, and other comparable surveys



Health Consequences of Excess Fertility

❖ Problems:

- Women are too young, older, or have had many children
- Pregnancies spaced too closely
- Malnutrition
- Lack of access to prenatal and obstetric care
- Infection (including HIV/AIDS)

❖ Leading to:

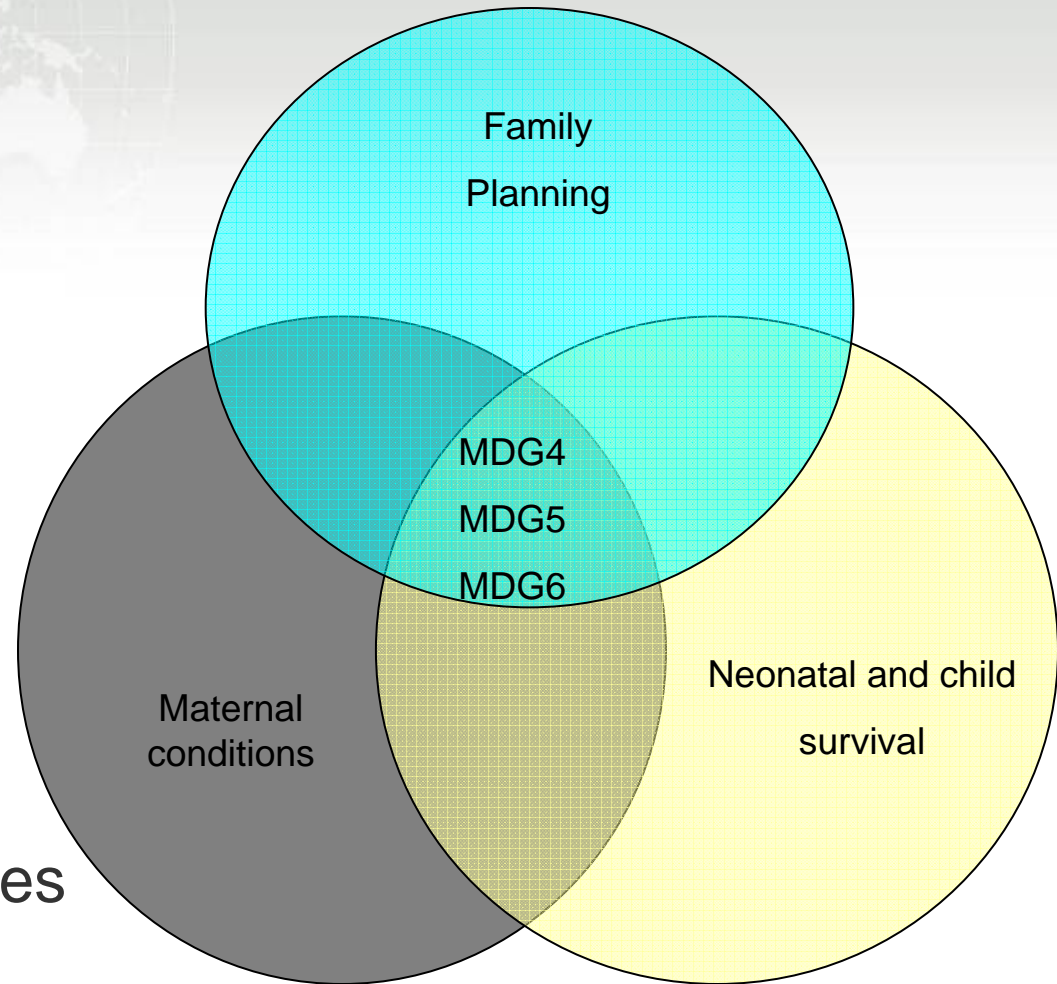
- Unsafe abortion
- Obstetric complications
- Death and disability (both mothers and their children)

Family Planning

Globally:

- ❖ 210 million pregnancies
 - 60 million end with abortions and deaths of mother/baby
- ❖ 54 million women suffer from pregnancy related complications
- ❖ Improved reproductive health makes women live healthier lives

Lessons from What Works



- Integration is key
- Effective family planning
- Child survival programmes
- Maternal health

Role of Family Planning and Reproductive Health in National Development

Individual Benefits:

- Improves a woman's capacity to lead a happier, healthier life by contributing to her knowledge/empowerment
- Allows couples to reduce family size, space births, and time pregnancies, thus promoting proper child development
- Helps reduce household poverty (smaller families with more for each family member)

Role of Family Planning/RH in National Development

Societal Benefits:

- Improves health of women who contribute to socioeconomic development through increased per capita income
- Fewer births slow population growth; relieves pressures on natural resources/overstretched public services
- Reduces transmission of HIV/AIDS and other sexual diseases freeing up public and private resources that would have been allocated to treatment and care



Cost-Effectiveness of Methods

- ❖ In order, most to least cost-effective:
 - IUD and voluntary sterilization
 - Oral contraceptives
 - Condoms and injectables
 - Implants
- ❖ Average cost per CYP in Africa –
US\$14.00

Program Inputs

- ❖ Price subsidies not likely to affect use
- ❖ Most cost-effective inputs address:
 - Lack of knowledge
 - Health concerns
 - Social disapproval
- ❖ IEC and BCC highly cost-effective
- ❖ Integration can be cost-effective

**PILLARS OF
SAFE
MOTHERHOOD**

**Family
Planning**

ANC

PAC

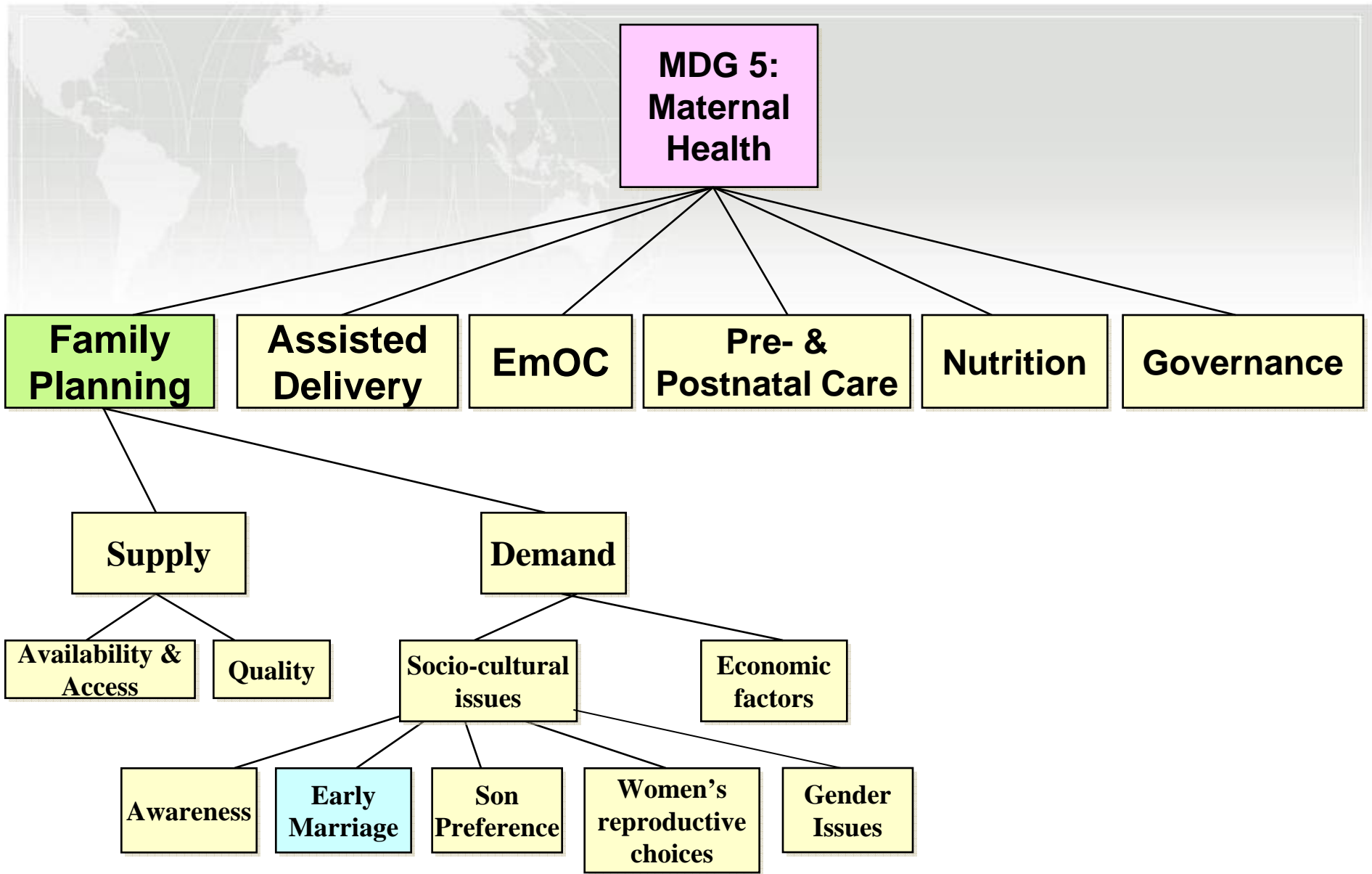
**Safe
Delivery**

**Essential
Obstetric Care**

Basic Maternity Care

PRIMARY HEALTH CARE

EQUITY FOR WOMEN



... down to the lowest meaningful level

None of These Improvements will be Sustainable Unless we Strengthen Health Systems

- ❖ Stewardship and regulation
- ❖ Organizational structures
- ❖ Human resources
- ❖ Target resources
- ❖ Governance (stakeholders participation)
- ❖ Community involvement

Overcoming these challenges

This will require answers to the following:

- ❖ What are the key method acceptable in my country?
- ❖ How are we to deliver them?
- ❖ Who will be delivering them?
- ❖ How are we to pay for the services?
- ❖ How do we deal with negative attitudes
- ❖ How do we know are achieving results?

Putting all together: WAHO strategies-1

❖ Advocacy

- Legislation
- Resource mobilization
- Policy development
- Adolescent health
- Family planning services

❖ Social mobilization

- Community cooperation and governance
- Male involvement
- Empowerment of women

Putting all together: WAHO strategies-2

❖ Capacity development

- Human resources development
- Institutional development
- Management and leadership

❖ Partnership development

- Strengthen partnership
- Partners Forum
- Monitoring and evaluation

Source: WAHO Strategy FY 2004-2008

Putting all together: country level

- ❖ Reduce maternal morbidity and mortality
- ❖ Promote and enhance reproductive health
- ❖ Increase contraceptive prevalence
- ❖ Enhance community and family practices
- ❖ Strengthen health systems

Source: GHS reproductive health strategic plan 2007-2011(modified)

Promote Family Planning

- ❖ Reducing high-risk pregnancies protects women's health
- ❖ Spacing births protects women's and infants health
- ❖ Preventing unwanted pregnancies reduces abortions
- ❖ Using family planning methods can help prevent transmission of HIV
- ❖ Improving maternal health and stabilizing population growth can contribute to meeting development goals

The World Cup: The Ghanaian female supporters





Thank you

