



Repositioning  
Family Planning  
in West Africa

*Repositionnement  
de la Planification  
Familiale en  
Afrique de l'Ouest*

## Overview of Conference

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Grant of the POLICY  
Project

**Sponsored by:** U.S. Agency for International Development (USAID), World Health Organization (WHO),  
Action for West Africa Region Project - Reproductive Health (AWARE-RH), Advance Africa, the POLICY Project

- Background
- Conference Program and Organization
- Follow Up Plans



# Background

- Decline in Attention to Family Planning
- Results
  - Low rate of contraceptive use
  - High fertility
  - High unmet need



# Changing Environment



- UN International Conference on Population and Development



# Present Environment

- Failure to See Linkages
  - Unwanted fertility w/ health
  - Unwanted fertility w/ nation's development
- Shifting/Competing Priorities
  - HIV/AIDS



# In Response.....

- USAID supporting initiative to reinvigorate family planning
- Repositioning FP as critical component of
  - Reproductive health
  - National and international development agendas



# In Response.....(cont.)

- WHO/AFRO developed “Framework for Accelerated Action for Repositioning Family Planning in Reproductive Health Services”



# In Response.....(cont.)

- Repositioning Family Planning Conference in West Africa
  - Co-sponsors USAID, WHO/AFRO, Advance Africa, AWARE-RH, and the POLICY Project along with the Ghana Ministry of Health



# Purpose of Conference

To provide a forum for key stakeholders in the West Africa sub-region to focus on repositioning family planning to combat the impact of unmet need



# Focus of the Conference

- Addressing high unmet need in West Africa
- What Do We Know About It?
- Why Is There This Gap?
- What Are the Health, Development and Economic Consequences of this Gap?



# Focus of the Conference..(cont.)

- What are Some of the Solutions to Addressing this Gap?
  - Management and Supervision
  - Access & Quality
  - Integration of FP & health/non-health
  - Commodity Logistics Management
  - Socio-Cultural
  - Leadership



# CONFERENCE OBJECTIVES

- Provide comprehensive data on expressed need for family planning in the West Africa Region
- Identify key factors underlying the gap between *expressed* need for FP and *use* of FP
- Discuss the health and development consequences of this gap
- Explore solutions for addressing the gap
- Demonstrate how advocacy can be used to implement solutions
- Develop strategies that participants will undertake after the conference to advance repositioning FP efforts in their respective countries.



# What Can Participants Do Following the Conference?

- Participants will identify the barriers to effective FP policies and programs
- Develop country-specific actions to increase commitment to FP
- Personally committing to carrying out activities to reposition FP

