Reproductive Health Supplies
Country Level Study
Purpose and objectives

- Improving donor understanding of RH commodity security at country level through:
  - analysing the agents, structures and institutions
  - examining the impact of new aid mechanisms
Working toward a consensus with bilateral and multilateral donors for a long term approach to the RH supply crisis

- strengthen ongoing dialogue within the Reproductive Health Supplies Coalition
- complement the recent study by Gates and concurrent work being undertaken by the EC
- supporting selected country offices by undertaking detailed country studies
The Issues

- Improving procurement
  - What efforts to strengthen procurement systems, financing, and supply systems have succeeded and/or been less effective and why?
  - How has the wider reform environment had an impact on these systems developments?

- Impact of international support
  - How well is country level interface with global procurement and financing organisations working? i.e. How is it impacting on security and supply?
  - What are country level perceptions of how well international bodies support supply security?
New opportunities for improving commodity security
  • What further influences are there on commodity security?
  • What opportunities do these present for new entry points and partnerships

Improving the country level situation
  • How might the key recommendations put forward in the Mercer report improve the country level situation
  • What further recommendations can the DFID supported international study make to improve the country level situation.
And also …

- An initial assessment of what roles and functions are best delivered by actors at national versus international levels, in promoting a healthy global market environment for RH supplies.
- Policy implications for DFID and others (Supplies Coalition and EU member states).
Process

- **Phase I**
  - Literature review
  - Country selection
  - Consultation on in-country methodology and framing of issues

- **Phase II**
  - Country based case studies
Phase III
- Synthesis of country study findings
- Dissemination strategy
- Contribute to development of a proposal for a long-term program of support that can be financed by the RH Supplies Coalition

Phase IV
- Wider dissemination
Country selection

Choice depended on a mix of different:
- Aid environments
- Procurement arrangements
- Major donor role
- Public private contributions

And also on:
- Interest of approached countries
Countries selected

- Cambodia (completed)
- Uganda (completed)
- Nigeria
- Zambia
Uganda and Cambodia - commonalities

- RH features in key national strategies, plus specific RH strategies.
- Persistent high maternal mortality despite commitments in ESPs.
- Challenges to translate policy into action.
- Real unmet need or lack of demand?
- Nascent focus on commodity security.

- High dependence on external procurement and also fragmentation of procurement systems.

- Strong global fund programmes on HIV/AIDS.

- Social marketing has enabled access to affordable quality products through the private sector.
## Differences

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<tr>
<th>UGANDA…</th>
<th>CAMBODIA …</th>
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<tr>
<td>- Has an established SWAp</td>
<td>- Has yet to achieve this</td>
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<td>- Has a ringfenced national budget line for RH and commodities supported by HIPC funds</td>
<td>- Has no specific budget line</td>
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<td>- Has some contraceptive procurement done by government</td>
<td>- Has no contraceptive procurement by government</td>
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<tr>
<td>UGANDA</td>
<td>CAMBODIA</td>
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<td>- Less market penetration by social marketing</td>
<td>- Effective harnessing of social marketing to supply via private sector for OCs and condoms</td>
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<td>- Demand for FP is more constrained by social and cultural issues</td>
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Initial findings

- Funding
- Procurement
- Delivery
- Demand

Cambodia

Uganda
Funding

- The amount of funding for commodities is not necessarily the issue
- RH programmes are losing out to both government owned programme funded by global finance and more flexible aid instruments such as budget support.
Procurement

- Development Partner procurement and funding in parallel tend to undermine government efforts to develop capacity and ownership.
- Development Partner efforts should be focussed on building capacity to steer the process – having the ability to forecast accurately and then to chose to procure or contract out (e.g. to UNFPA).
- The lack of pre-qualification arrangements, plus tied aid is leading to less value for money.
Delivery

- While RH is prioritised in policies and strategies there is not enough accountability to ensure service delivery
- The private sector could play a greater role in providing a wider range of affordable commodities. Implications for government stewardship functions (TMA mindset)
Demand

- There is little substantial knowledge of real demand and need for choice, hence very difficult to estimate funding requirements
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