Crisis-affected settings and the need for SRH supplies: An overview

Sarah Rich

Senior Advisor–SRH, Women’s Refugee Commission

Co-Chair, SRH Supplies Working Group, Inter-agency Working Group on RH in Crises
Webinar Objectives

• **Provide background** to RHSC members interested in crisis-affected settings

• **Discuss critical SRH supply needs** before, during, and after crises

• **Longer-term:** Develop linkages and leverage expertise between RHSC & IAWG
Quick overview of crisis settings

• Types of crises:
  – Disasters
  – Conflict

• 65.6 million people forcibly displaced (end of 2016)
  – Refugees (22.5 million)
  – Internally Displaced Persons (IDPs) (40.3 million)

• Average conflict-induced displacement: 17 years
  – Long-term development issue
New displacements associated with conflicts and disasters in 2016

SRH needs increase during crises

• Women/girls affected by crises face increased risk of:
  – Unintended pregnancy
  – Maternal morbidity & mortality, including unsafe abortion
  – Sexual violence

• Many women want to space or limit pregnancies following displacement
  – 3 contexts in Africa: 12-35% wanted no more children; and 30-40% did not want to become pregnant in next 2 yrs
  – This proportion can be even higher in some settings

• Demand for the full range of contraceptive options is present in humanitarian settings
Supplies are a major gap

• IAWG global evaluation found gaps in commodity management and security
  – Stock outs
  – Challenges transitioning from minimum to comprehensive SRH services and supplies

• Gaps in:
  – Policies
  – Guidance
  – Capacity
  – Coordination
  – Funding

Youth/adolescents need access to SRH services and supplies in crises
What can we do about it?
Entry points to improve SRH Supplies

Emergency Management Cycle

Prevention-Mitigation
Preparedness
Response
Recovery

2nd presentation
3rd presentation
4th presentation

Disaster
Strengthen linkages, leverage expertise

Build on existing guidance

Stay tuned!

• Panel at RHSC meeting in Brussels (Thur, 8:30 am)
  – Key challenges and opportunities
• More webinars targeting AAWG (and SSWG?) members
  – What can we do together?
Thank you!

Learn more:

womensrefugeecommission.org       iawg.net

Contact:  Sarah Rich, sarahr@wrcommission.org