International Federation of Gynecology and Obstetrics
THE FIGO INITIATIVE FOR THE PREVENTION OF UNSAFE ABORTION
Scope of the FIGO initiative

- 47 countries with high abortion/unsafe abortion rate, with a plan of action approved by the Government and the Obstetrics and Gynecology Society
FIGO initiative on prevention of unsafe abortion

SOUTH AMERICA
- Brasil
- Argentina
- Bolivia
- Ecuador
- Peru
- Chile
- Colombia
- El Salvador
- Nicaragua
- Cuba
- Costa Rica
- Venezuela

CENTRAL AMERICA & CARIBBEAN
- Guatemala
- República Dominicana
- Panamá
- Costa Rica

WESTERN CENTRAL AFRICA
- Mali
- Cote d'Ivoire
- Benín
- Nigéria
- Cameroun

EASTERN CENTRAL SOUTHERN AFRICA
- Mozambique
- Tanzania
- Zimbabwe
- South Africa

EASTERN CENTRAL EUROPE & CENTRAL ASIA
- Macedônia
- Moldova
- Georgia
- Kyrgyzstan

SOUTH AND SOUTH EAST ASIA
- India
- Pakistan
- Bangladesh
- Sri Lanka

NORTH AFRICA AND EASTERN MEDITERRANEAN
- Sudan
- Tunisia
- Turkey
- Iran
- Tunisia

AFRICA
- Sudan
- Ethiopia
- Kenya
- Uganda
- Rwanda
- Mozambique
- Tanzania
- Zimbabwe
- South Africa

ASIA
- Índia
- Pakistan
- Bangladesh
- Sri-Lanka
- Kyrgyzstan
- Georgia
- Moldova
- Macedônia
- Turkey
- Iran
- Tunisia

EUROPE
- France
- Italy
- UK
- Germany
- Russia
- Greece
- Spain
- Portugal
- Ireland
- Poland
- Ukraine

MIDDLE EAST
- Jordan
- Lebanon
- Saudi Arabia
- United Arab Emirates
- Iran
- Syria
- Iraq
- Turkey

AMERICAS
- USA
- Canada
- Mexico
- Brazil
- Argentina
- Colombia
- Venezuela

AUSSTRALIA
- Australia
- New Zealand

OCEANIA
- Australia
- New Zealand

ARCTIC
- Norway
- Denmark

OVERVIEW
- World Map
- Countries
- Regions

LEGEND
- SOUTH AMERICA
- CENTRAL AMERICA & CARIBBEAN
- WESTERN CENTRAL AFRICA
- EASTERN CENTRAL SOUTHERN AFRICA
- EASTERN CENTRAL EUROPE & CENTRAL ASIA
- SOUTH AND SOUTH EAST ASIA
- NORTH AFRICA AND EASTERN MEDITERRANEAN

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- Maternal Mortality
- Abortion
- Contraception

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- Meetings

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- WHO
- UNFPA
- UNICEF
- IPU

COORDINATION
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- National Coordination
- Local Coordination

PARTNERS
- Non-Governmental Organizations
- Governmental Agencies
- International Organizations

PROJECTS
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- Maternal Health
- Family Planning

ACHIEVEMENTS
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- Increase in contraceptive use
- Improvement in maternal health

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- Future Opportunities
- Future Actions

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Goals of the initiative

• To contribute to the reduction of maternal mortality and morbidity associated with unsafe abortion
• To contribute to the reduction of the burden of induced abortion for women
Levels of prevention of Unsafe Abortion proposed by FIGO

• Recognizing the great political and cultural differences between countries FIGO proposed to the societies four different levels of prevention, following an epidemiological approach.
Levels of prevention of Unsafe Abortion proposed by FIGO

• Primary Prevention (prevent the “contamination” with the ethiological factor): Preventing unintended pregnancies

• Secondary Prevention: (Prevent that the ethiological factor cause the disease) Non preventable abortions should be safe
Levels of prevention of Unsafe Abortion proposed by FIGO

- Tertiary Prevention: (Prevent that the disease aggravates and lead to death) Unsafe abortions do not complicate and kill the woman

- Quaternary Prevention: (Prevents the repetition of the disease) Post-abortion counseling and services to prevent repeated abortions
How to achieve those Goals?

• FIGO understand that these goals are shared by a number of other stakeholders and that a program to reduce induced abortions will only be successful if it is a national program and not just of the Obstetrics and Gynecology society.
How to achieve those Goals?

With the collaboration of Health and Education Governmental Agencies, IPPF, UNFPA, WHO, Ipas and many other organizations
FIGO contribution to achieve these goals

- Moving obstetricians – gynecologist from being “part of the problem” to become “part of the solution”, by providing evidence of the effect of our actions or lack of action
FIGO contribution to achieve these goals

- Direct influence of national Ob Gyn societies over practices in teaching hospitals set examples, which are reproduced throughout the countries by students and residents.
FIGO contribution to achieve these goals

- Acting as technical advisors of Governments (Ministries of Health), influencing their policies and activities,
FIGO contribution to achieve these goals

• Using their prestige to advocate for policy and legislative changes that contribute to reduce or eliminate unsafe abortion
Levels of prevention in Plans of Action

• Most countries` plans of actions include all or most levels of prevention of unsafe abortion

• Several have shown good examples of success
Primary Prevention (Less unintended pregnancies)

• Chilean experience with sexuality education
Pregnancy among students before and after receiving sexuality education and services, and controls

Source: Molina R.
Secondary Prevention (Safer abortions)

- Nepal experience of application of new abortion law
Secondary Prevention (Safer abortions)

Significant reduction in severe abortion systemic complications

• 01/2001 – 01/2007 37 per 1000

• 04/ 2007 – 12/2010 27 per 1000

(p < .001).
Tertiary Prevention (Prevent unsafe abortions complications)

- Example of Gabon with post-abortion care
Delay in providing care according to cause of maternal death
Libreville, Gabon, 2005 – 2007

Tertiary Prevention (Prevent unsafe abortions complications)

After introduction of MVA, the average delay from admittance to treatment of abortion complications was reduced to

- Less than 1 hour for AMIU
- 6 hours with Curettage
Quaternary Prevention (post-abortion contraception)

- Example of Zambia University Teaching Hospital
Quaternary Prevention (post-abortion contraception)

Increase in Post Abortion Contraception Uptake

• 2009 → 33%
• 2011 → 69.3%
Women seeking pregnancy termination are more likely to seek family planning than those presenting with incomplete abortion. (92% Post Abortion Contraception Uptake rate for Pregnancy Termination compared to 67% for Post Abortion Care (PAC) – 2011).
Implementation of activities in Plans of Action

• Not an easy task
• Government commitment is pre-requisite
• Contribution of partners is required
• Full support of national Ob Gyn society is our part
International Federation of Gynecology and Obstetrics

THANK YOU FOR YOUR ATTENTION