Use of Private Health Facility Census Data to Inform Programs

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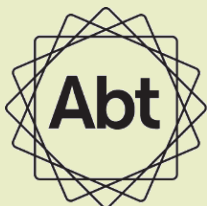
Outline of presentation

- Reasons to conduct private health facility censuses

- Decisions in planning private health facility censuses

- Three examples of census data results

SHOPS private health facility censuses

- Africa
  - Benin
  - Malawi
  - Namibia
  - Nigeria (six states)

- Caribbean
  - Antigua and Barbuda
  - Dominica
  - St. Kitts and Nevis
  - St. Vincent and the Grenadines

Potential users and uses of private health facility census data

Regulators	Gov agencies/ NGOs/donors	Researchers	Professional associations	Providers/ patients
• Increased monitoring capacity	• Identify potential private partners • Identify training and other needs of private facilities	• Explore role of private facilities in health system • Serve as sampling frame	• Identify potential new members	• Find providers for treatment/ referral

Decisions in conducting private health facility censuses

1. Which types of facilities should be targeted?
2. How should surveyors locate facilities?
3. What data should be collected?

# Which types of facilities should be targeted?

How should surveyors locate facilities?

1. Obtain and merge facility lists
2. Use "snowball" sampling to find facilities not included in lists
3. Conduct follow up "intensive search" surveys to estimate census error (in dense urban areas)

Intensive search in Lagos

Second more intensive search conducted in 30 (out of 853) randomly selected localities.

Sample Map Used by Surveyors
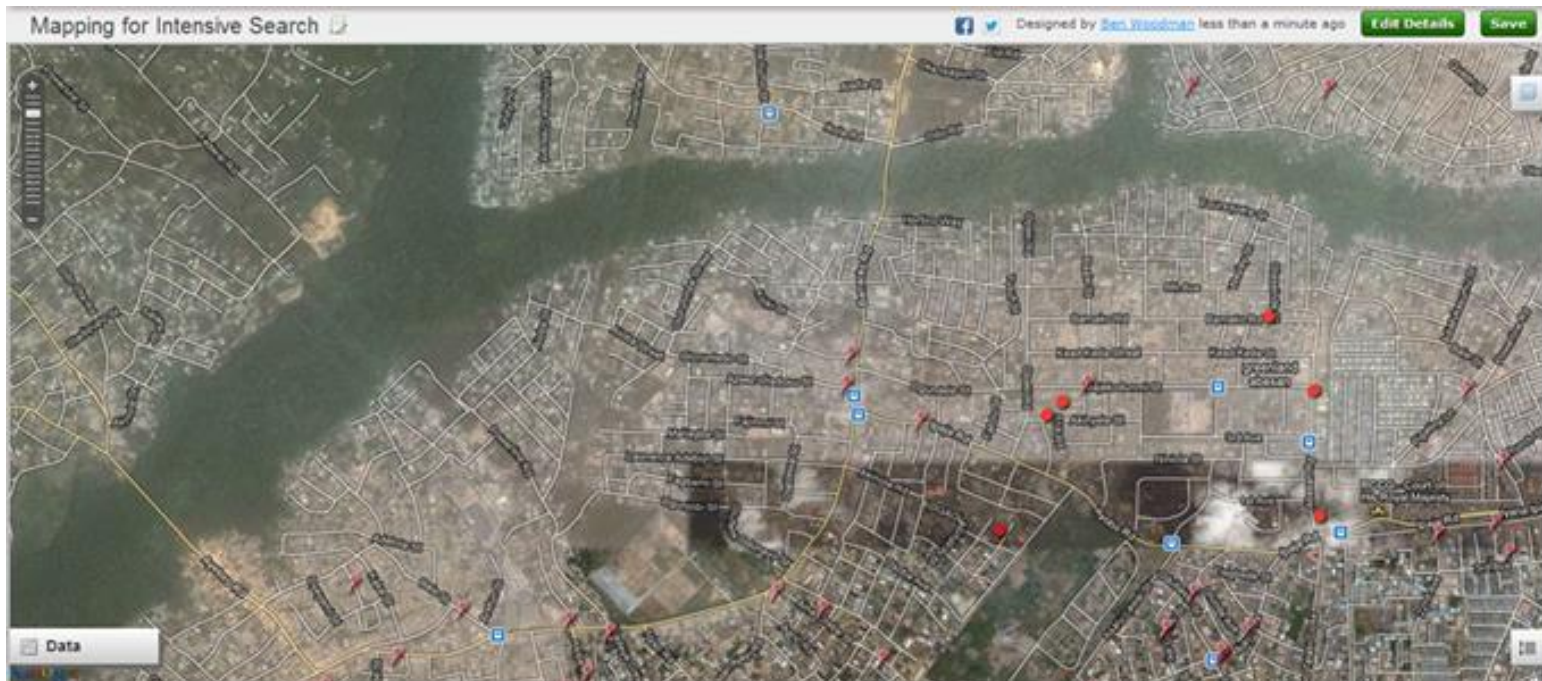
Results from intensive search in Lagos

Facility type	Facilities found during intensive search/total facilities found	Avg # patients at facilities found during normal surveying	Avg # patients at facilities found during intensive search
All facility types	15%	NA	NA
Clinics	12%	10.2	7.5
Hospital	5%	22.1	13.9
Medical Center	15%	17.7	7.4
Nursing Home	23%	9.6	3.8
Community Pharmacy	30%	49.3	44.6

What data should be collected?

Types of data collected	Examples	Challenges in collecting data
Basic	• Location (GPS) • Infrastructure • Number of patients by service • Services offered • Staff by cadre	• Facilities with poorly kept records may not know patient numbers
Operational	• Prices • Revenues • Expenses • Borrowing • Recordkeeping	• Owners often reluctant to discuss expenses
Quality	• Quizzes • Client exit interviews • Direct observation • Vignette • Mystery client	• Expensive; may not reflect actual practice (quizzes and vignettes) or only capture info on one aspect of quality (mystery clients)
Additional Information	• Dual practice • Training needs • Intensive search	• Varied

Zinc in Malawi: Identifying training needs by location

Quick Facts on Malawi Census

Variable	Value
Primary objective(s) of census	Assess the size and functioning of private facilities
Areas in which census conducted	All of Malawi
Types of facilities included	All formal, both for-profit and non-profit
Total # of facilities surveyed	763

Zinc in Malawi: Identifying training needs by location
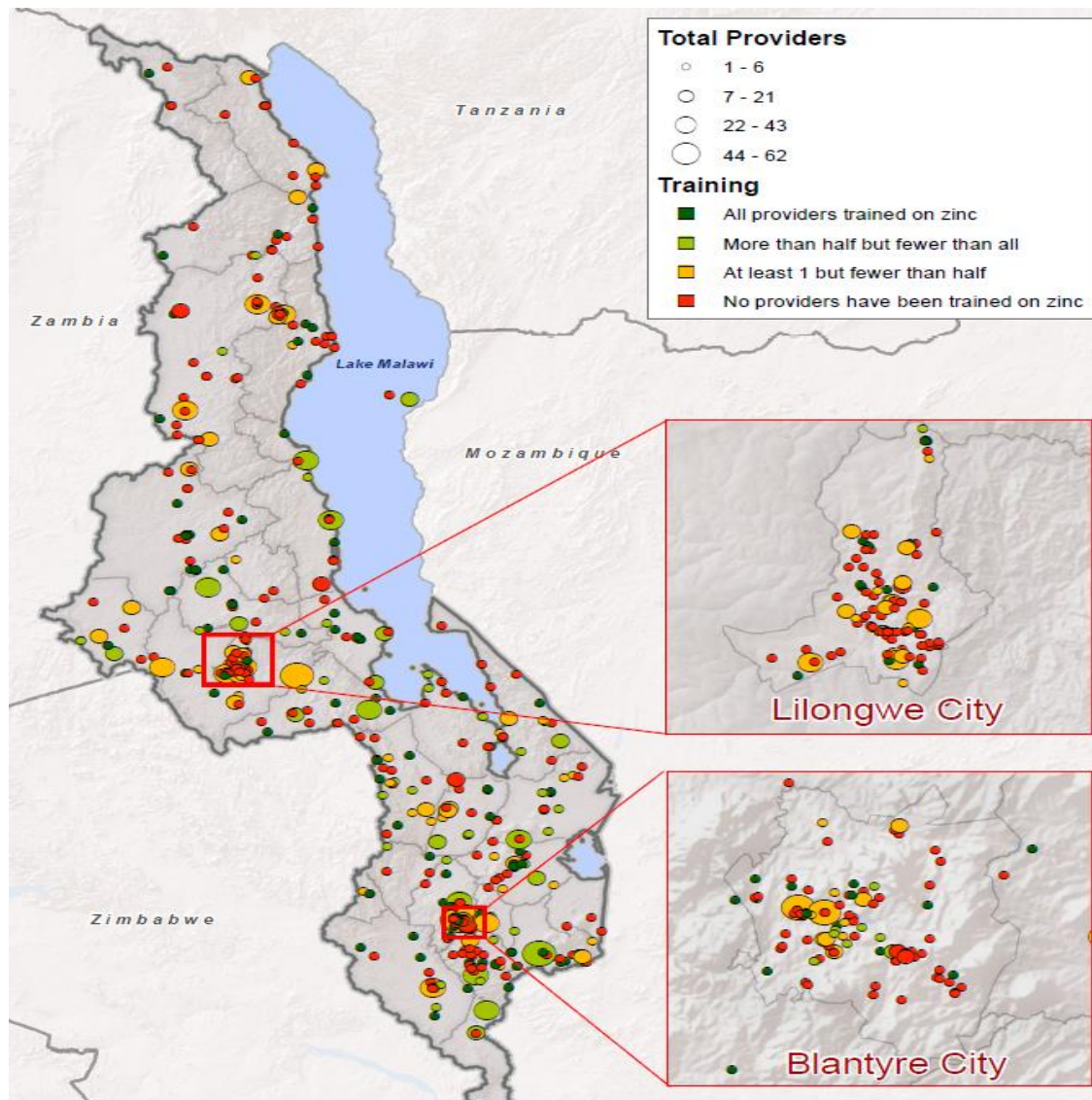
Virtual Caribbean Health Connection: Linking providers to increase efficiency

Quick Facts on Caribbean Census

Variable	Value
Primary objective(s) of census	Assess capacity in private sector
Areas in which census conducted	• Antigua and Barbuda • Dominica • St. Kitts and Nevis • St. Vincent and the Grenadines
Types of facilities included	All private for-profit facilities and NGOs providing HIV services
Total # of facilities surveyed	200

Virtual Caribbean Health Connection: Linking providers to increase efficiency

Virtual **Caribbean Health Connection**

Networking for a Healthy Caribbean

- vCHC allows providers to:
  - Access and update registry of regional practitioners
  - Identify providers to refer patients
  - Consult on case management
  - Engage in discussion groups and live chats on clinical research and best practices
  - Identify e-learning opportunities

# Family planning in Nigeria: Assessing the role of the private sector

Quick Facts on Nigeria Census

Variable	Value
Primary objective(s) of census	• Provide baseline for ongoing impact evaluation • Identify facilities to target for training • Better understand facilities' training needs
Areas in which census conducted	6 states in Nigeria (Abia, Benue, Edo, Kaduna, Lagos, and Nasarawa)
Types of facilities included	Hospitals, medical centers, clinics, nursing homes, and community pharmacies
Total # of facilities surveyed	5,086

Accuracy of private health facility lists in Lagos
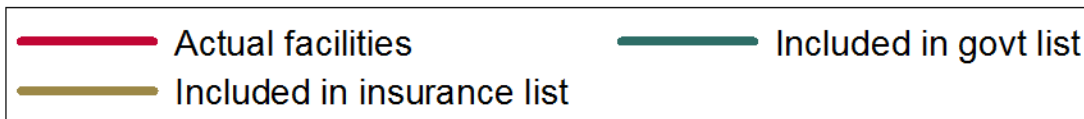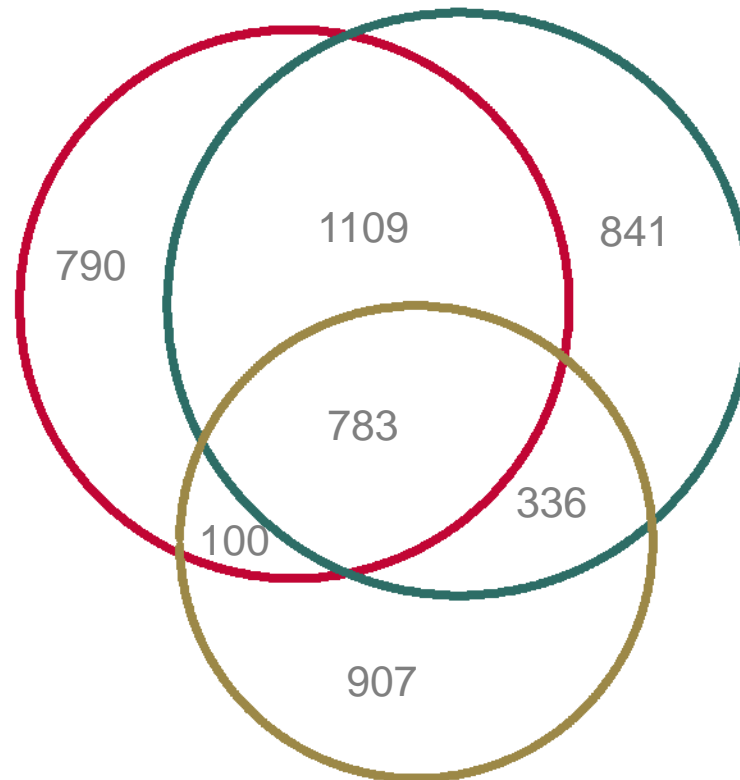
Method availability and patient volume
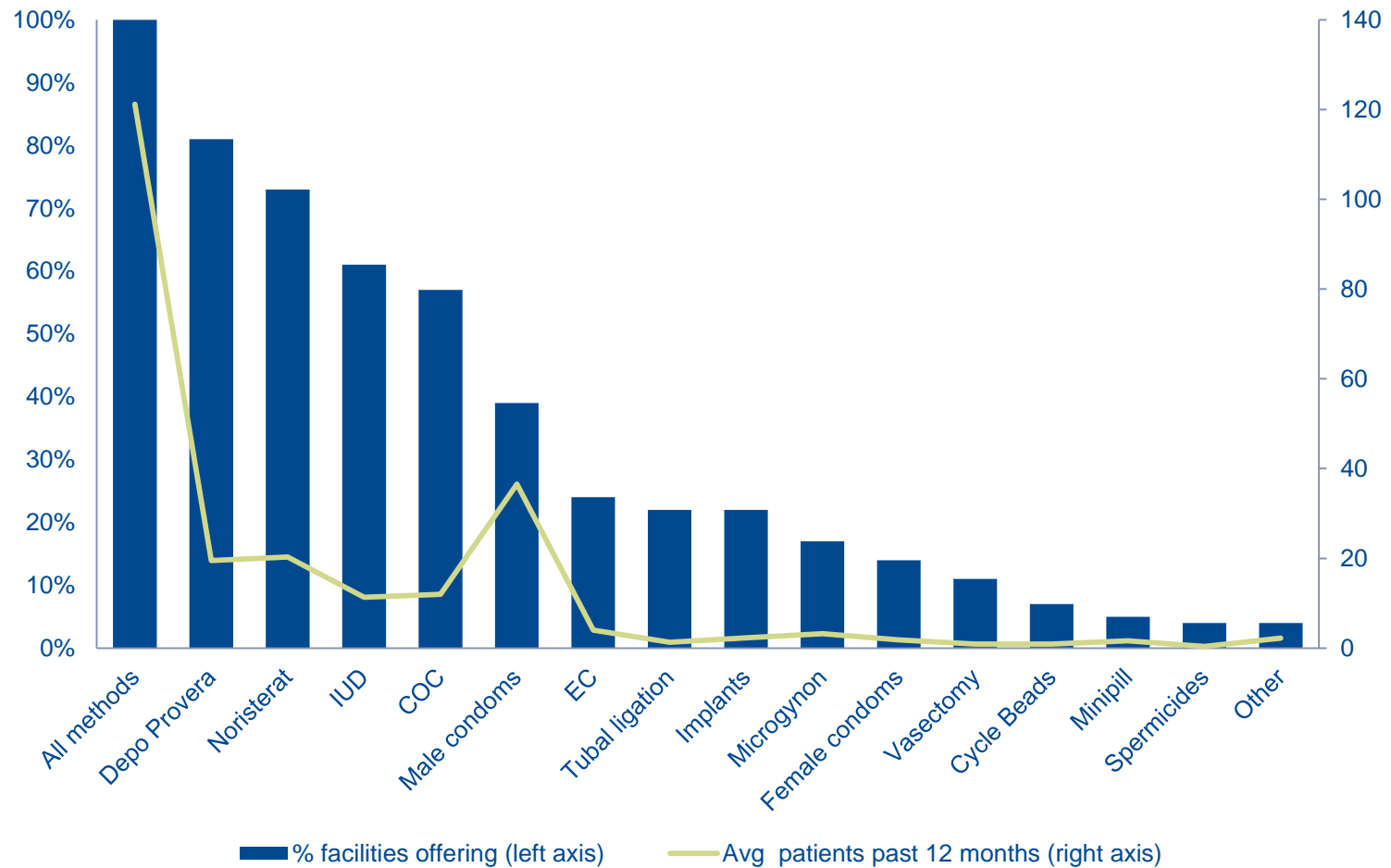
Reasons for not offering family planning (Lagos only)

Facility type	No demand	Not profitable	Inadequate knowledge/skills in family planning	Cannot obtain the money needed	Planning to offer, but not yet	Other
Clinic (n=164)	29%	2%	21%	0%	20%	29%
Hospital/medical center (n=114)	25%	6%	18%	1%	18%	35%
Nursing home (n=92)	34%	2%	24%	0%	17%	23%
All facilities (m=370)	25%	2%	25%	1%	16%	33%

Several mentioned lack of demand or lack of skills

Few mentioned financing constraints

Results from mystery clients in Lagos

Category	Question	% of time question was asked
Background	Your age?	54%
	Are you married?	57%
	How long have you been married?	6%
	Do you have children?	92%
Ask client her preferences	Do you want to have more children in the future?	77%
	Does your partner support you in family planning?	48%
	Are there any family planning methods that you are currently using or have used before?	53%
	Which family planning method would you prefer?	60%
	Are there any family planning methods which you don't wish to use?	10%
	Are there any family planning methods which your husband/partner doesn't wish to use?	13%
Rule out pregnancy	Are you pregnant?	18%
	When was your last menstrual period?	67%
	Have you had unprotected sex since your last menstrual period?	28%
Check for contra-indications	Do you have any major health problems?	25%
	Are you taking any medications currently or periodically?	9%
	Are you allergic to any drugs?	9%
	Do you have heavy periods?	22%

Key takeaways

- Official lists of private facilities/providers often incomplete and inaccurate

- Data from private health facility censuses may be used for a wide variety of purposes

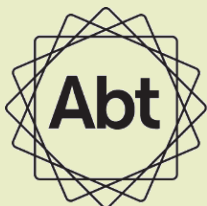- Design of private health facility censuses should be guided by program objectives

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For more information, including public use datasets, visit www.shopsproject.org