



Saving Lives and Fulfilling Destinies through Family Planning

Video Transcript

There is a large unmet need for contraception in Nigeria. That's more the reason why action is more active than it used to be before, because we need to improve the status quo.

The private sector is often left out of programs, whether they're government programs or donor programs, and it's really critical to bring them back into the fold. They are everywhere, there's such a wide range of private providers that offer family planning services and we want to ensure that they have correct information and current skills so that they can provide the best quality care possible.

We know that in sub-Saharan Africa and Asia, close to 40 percent of women go to the private sector for their family planning. This includes poor and rich women from both urban and rural areas.

SHOPS Nigeria has been working actively improving the capacity of the providers, particularly the private sector in the country, to ensure that the supply side is where it should be and also working on the community catchment areas around these facilities to ensure that we have enough demand for services.

Another example of where Abt is working with private providers and improving their skills is in Bangladesh. From 2001 to 2010 deliveries at private facilities increased four-fold.

In Bangladesh we're working with large facilities to integrate family planning into the services they provide. We want to ensure that a doctor that's seeing a woman for maternal health care is talking to her about family planning both pre-delivery and post-delivery.

Jordan is an interesting example of increasing access to family planning for hard-to-reach women through the private sector. We're conducting an outreach program where female outreach workers visit a woman's home, discuss her family planning options and connect her to where she can receive those services. Through the life of the program we've made more than 200,000 of these visits.

Increasing the knowledge of women and men and everyone in the community about family planning goes a long way to save lives. It is about saving lives and it's about giving the children that are already alive fulfilling their destinies in life.