Family Planning, Population Dynamics, and Sustainable Development

From Laundry Lists to Bottom Lines

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From Laundry lists to Bottom Lines

• Past advocacy built on rich laundry lists of arguments

• Without a clear synthetic bottom line, laundry lists can be problematic

• Four bottom lines & Four strategic audiences
  • Financial ........ Finance ministers/planners
  • Equity ........ Social justice activists
  • Durability ........ Visionary leaders
  • Demand ........ Youth and Youth advocates
Rich Laundry Lists

- Comprehensive
- Multiple mechanisms
- Multiple domains of impact
- Key beneficiaries
- ~ Well-researched

Box 1: The Health Benefits of Family Planning

Family planning has numerous health benefits for women, their sexual partners, and their children. Family planning helps to:

- Prevent unintended pregnancies and the number of unsafely performed abortions, thereby reducing:
  - Maternal deaths and disabilities.
  - Infertility.
- Prevent high-risk pregnancies among:
  - Adolescents under age 18.
  - Women over age 35.
  - Women who have had many births or births spaced too closely together.

- Women with HIV/AIDS and other health conditions such as malaria and tuberculosis.

Space births, resulting in:

- Lower rates of newborn, infant, and child mortality.
- More time to breastfeed, improving infant health.
- More time for women to recover physically and nutritionally between births.


[Source: Smith et al. 2009]
Four Bottom Lines, Four Strategic Audiences

- Financial  →  Finance ministers
- Equity  →  Social justice activists
- Durability  →  Visionary leaders
- Demand  →  Youth & Youth Advocates
**Bottom Line 1: Financial**

"Investments in Family Planning greatly reduce health costs (direct and time) and they foster economic growth."

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>Cost to meet need for family planning (in US$ millions)</th>
<th>Savings incurred by category (in US$ millions)</th>
<th>Savings per $ invested in family planning</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Education</td>
<td>Immunization</td>
<td>Water &amp; sanitation</td>
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</table>

[Source: Smith et al. 2009]
Bottom Line #2: Equity

“Family Planning as an investment in reducing global inequality within and between countries”

- Fertility inequalities
- Income inequalities
- Family structure inequalities

Source:

Huge resource inequality among children

Inequalities in adulthood
Bottom Line 3: History (Duration)

“The payoffs from investing in Family Planning unfold over a long period of time”
Bottom Line 4: Demand

“The demand for FPP among young adults is even larger if one embraces a broader, literal, definition of family planning.”

Huge Demand for ‘Family Planning’

Planning births

Planning Families

- Maintain skills
- Build additional skills
- Job search
- Professional dvpt
- Personal dvpt
- Community service
- Family life
High School Seniors queuing for a spot in a summer internship on life planning (Cameroon, July 6, 2018)