

UNFPA response in Zika affected countries Brazil

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Brazil: a challenging environment for SRHR



Latest official information: 2006 (PNDS)

- Unmet need for Family Planning: **6%**
 - Approximately 3.5 million women, mostly in vulnerable conditions
- Contraceptive Prevalence Rate: **67.8%**
- Condom use: **53.3%** women aged 15-19 and **63.3%** women aged 14-20 did not use condom at last intercourse
- Adolescent Fertility Rate (15-19; 2014): **60.5** per 1000
- Maternal Mortality Ratio – **64.8** per 100,000 live births (2011)



Brazil: a challenging environment for SRHR



Mixed scenario:

Social programs = reductions in poverty and income inequality

- Gini Index drop from **0.555** (2004) to **0.497** (2014)
- **36 million** people removed from extreme poverty

However...

- Ideological and political controversy on key SRH and gender issues / increasing conservatism
- Persistent structural inequalities

E.g. Proportion of young people who neither work nor study: 20% (youngsters aged 15-29), of which:

- 69.2% are **women**
- 62.9% are **black youth**



Arboviruses in Brazil

- Transmitted by insects
- 210 varieties catalogued in Brazil
- 37 can affect humans

Dengue fever (since 19th century) – 1,649,008 suspected cases, 843 confirmed deaths (2015)

Yellow fever (since 17th century) – 7 confirmed cases, 4 deaths (2015)

Most commonly transmitted by the ***Aedes aegypti*** mosquito:

Chikungunya virus (since 2014) – 20,661 suspected cases, 3 confirmed deaths (2015)

Zika virus (since 2015) – N/A (last estimate, January 2015: 1.5 million cases)



Zika virus in Brazil

- February 2015: first case detected
- May 2015: first case confirmed
- October 2015: MoH started investigating all notified cases;
 - Brazilian experts were the first to associate the Zika epidemic with microcephaly and other nervous system disorders
- November 2015: National Public Health Emergency declared by MoH
- February 2016: Public Health Emergency of International Concern declared by WHO/PAHO



Zika virus in Brazil

6,906 notifications registered by MoH (Oct. 2015 – Apr. 2nd, 2016) in 1,307 municipalities:

- 4,046 suspected cases of microcephaly are currently under investigation,
- 1,814 have been discarded,
- **1,046 were confirmed to microcephaly and other nervous system disorders (congenital infection)**
- 227 suspected deaths (fetal or neonatal)
- 1,708 cases of Guillain-Barré Syndrome (GBS) registered between January and November 2015



UN Response to Zika

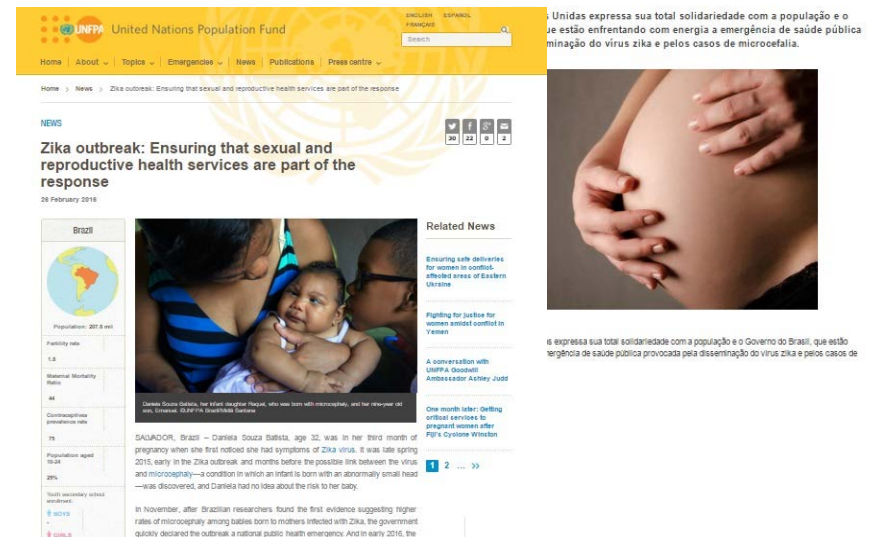


Global Strategic Response Framework and Joint Operations Plan

- WHO/PAHO (leadership); UNFPA, UNICEF, UNDP
- 23 partners
- US\$ 56 million

6 pillars:

- Surveillance
- Community engagement & risk communication
- Vector control & personal protection
- Care for those affected
- Research
- Coordination



UN Response to Zika



Global Strategic Response Framework and Joint Operations Plan

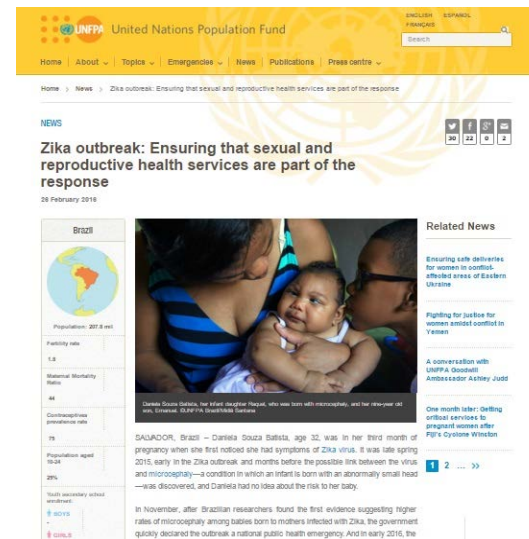
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UNFPA response to Zika

Focus on health and status of the most affected (and least supported) – women and youth

Criteria:

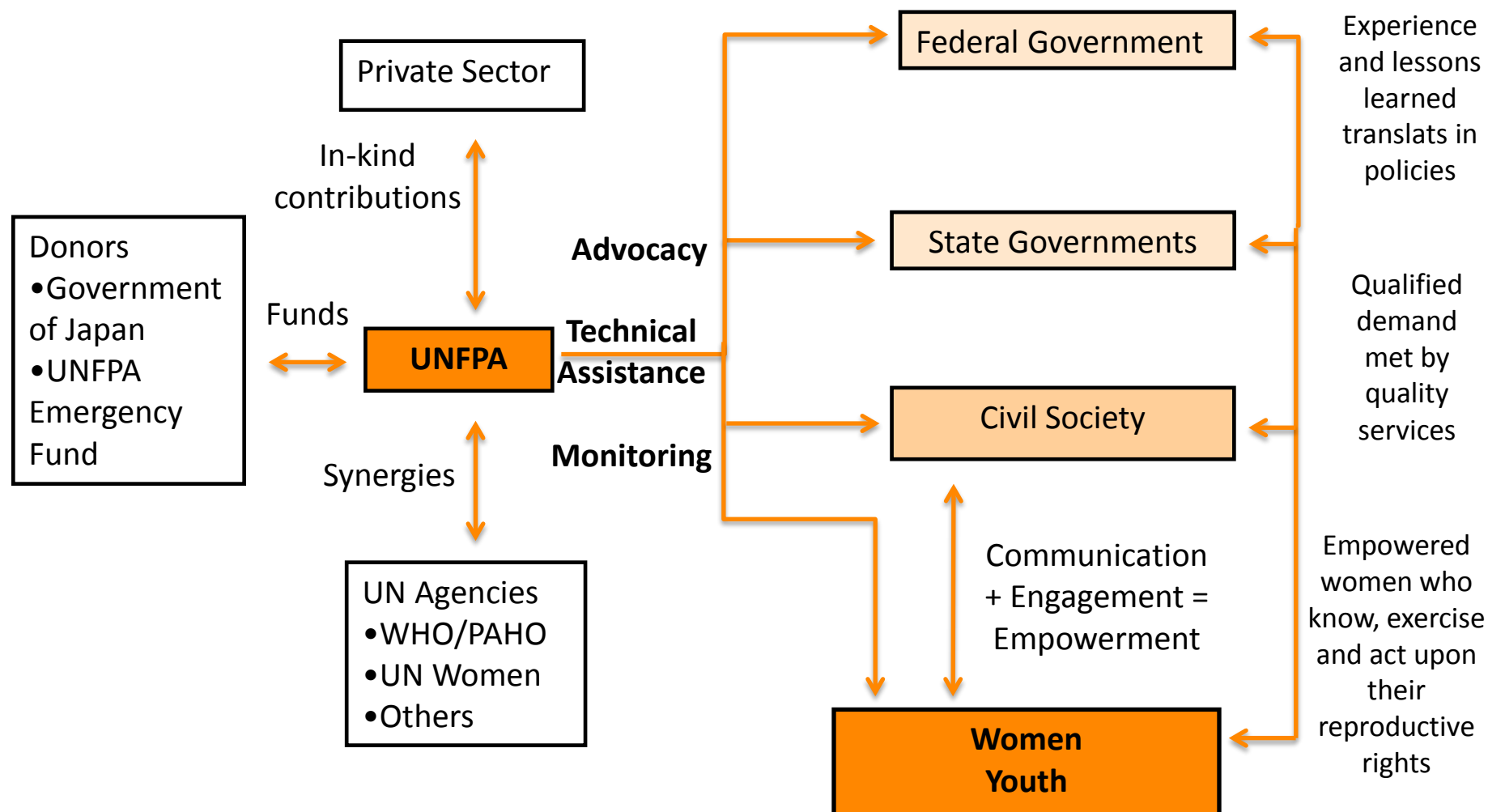
- Geographical location/most affected areas = States of Pernambuco (#1) and Bahia (#2)
- Age
- Ethnicity / race
- Social condition (aggravated vulnerability)

Strategy

- Community level – information and engagement/women empowerment
- State/local health services – improved capacities for better delivery
- Federal government – improved public policies



UNFPA response to Zika



"The Zika health emergency is illustrating a different set of vulnerabilities linked to inadequate health development. That is: poor access to reproductive and sexual health services, lack of piped water and sanitation in urban slums, and the worldwide collapse of programmes for mosquito control."

Margareth Chang, WHO Director-General

"UNFPA, the United Nations Population Fund, strongly urges governments and all other partners to provide information and access to voluntary family planning, including condoms. These services enable women to make informed decisions about their reproductive health, and all individuals to protect themselves from infection."

Dr. Babatunde Osotimehin, UNFPA Executive Director

UNFPA response to Zika



- ✓ Risk of sexual transmission – who is the vector? Avoiding reinforcing unequal gender relations and women stigmatization
- ✓ Microcephaly – how to deal with it? Promoting men co-responsibility and advocating for improved, comprehensive user-friendly SRH services
- ✓ Turning the Zika challenge into the opportunity to reposition sexual and reproductive health as a human right and women as subjects of rights; building resilience and strengthening the social fabric in a healthier community

UNFPA: Delivering a world where every pregnancy is wanted, every childbirth is safe and every young person's potential is fulfilled

THANK YOU!

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