Where have we come from?
IAWG 2007

Susan Purdin
Senior Technical Advisor, Reproductive Health, IRC
Associate in Clinical Population and Family Health, MSPH
Crises

✧ Conflicts
  ✧ Afghanistan
  ✧ DR Congo
  ✧ Ethiopia / Eritrea
  ✧ Myanmar/Burma
  ✧ Nepal
  ✧ North Caucasus
  ✧ Somalia
  ✧ Sudan

✧ Natural Disasters
  ✧ Tsunami
  ✧ South Asia earthquake
Refugee Women and Reproductive Health Care: Reassessing Priorities

Women’s Commission for Refugee Women and Children, 1994

- Few reproductive health services
1994

- Rwanda Genocide
- International Conference on Population and Development, Cairo
Definition of RH

“RH is a state of complete physical, mental and social well-being, and not merely the absence of disease or infirmity, in all matters relating to the reproductive system and its functions and processes. RH therefore implies that people are able to have a satisfying and safe sex life and that they have the capability to reproduce and the freedom to decide if, when and how often to do so.”

Refugees’ right to reproductive health

“All migrants, refugees, asylum seekers and displaced persons should receive basic education and health services”

Chapter 10, ICPD Programme of Action, 1994
The IAWG

- Preparatory Meetings
  - Geneva 14-15 December 1994
  - Geneva 5-6 April 1995
  - Nairobi 10-11 May 1995

INTER-AGENCY SYMPOSIUM ON REPRODUCTIVE HEALTH IN REFUGEE SITUATIONS, Geneva, June 1995

Nafis Sadik – Sadako Ogata

- Making reproductive health activities a reality in refugee situations
- Legal, ethical and human rights issues on reproductive health in refugee situations
- Integration of reproductive health into existing programs for refugees
- Community participation
- Minimum Initial Service Package
- Information, education and communication
- Human resources for reproductive health
IAWG Field Manual, 1999

♦ The MISP

♦ Comprehensive RH
  - Safe Motherhood
  - Family Planning
  - Gender-based Violence
  - STI/HIV/AIDS
IASC RH Kits
Control of non-communicable diseases standard 2: reproductive health

People have access to the Minimum Initial Service Package (MISP) to respond to their reproductive health needs.
IASC Guidelines

GUIDELINES
for HIV/AIDS Interventions in emergency settings

Guidelines
for Gender-based Violence Interventions in Humanitarian Settings
Focusing on Prevention of and Response to Sexual Violence in Emergencies
Training Materials www.rhrc.org
Progress, Gaps and Challenges Ahead:

Inter-agency global evaluation of reproductive health for refugees and internally displaced persons.

In the early 2000s, a few steps were taken to address the complex reproductive health (RH) needs of refugees and internally displaced persons (IDPs). Findings from the Women’s World for Refugees report, “Refugee Women and Reproductive Health: A Sectoral Policy Development Report,” in 2001, influenced the 2004 IAWG Evaluation. The report identified the need for a comprehensive approach to reproductive health for refugees and IDPs.

The 2004 IAWG Evaluation was conducted to assess the progress made in addressing the reproductive health needs of refugees and IDPs since the 2001 report. The evaluation aimed to identify gaps and challenges in the provision of reproductive health services for refugees and IDPs.

Key recommendations included:
- Increased awareness and understanding about the reproductive health needs of refugees and IDPs.
- Improved coordination and support for reproductive health programming.
- Enhanced access to reproductive health services for refugees and IDPs.

The evaluation findings highlighted the need for a comprehensive approach to reproductive health for refugees and IDPs, with a particular focus on improving access to services and addressing the specific needs of different populations.

In summary, the 2004 IAWG Evaluation provided valuable insights into the progress made and the gaps that remained in reproductive health programming for refugees and IDPs. It emphasized the need for continued efforts to improve access to services and address the specific needs of different populations.
Oct 2006 - Sydney Meeting

- Southeast Asia Pacific Regional IAWG
- Training partnership
- Initiation of the revision of the IAFM
- AusAID as partner & donor
- IAWG Website
2007
Where do we go from here?

- Updating IAWG TOR
- Revising Field Manual
- IAWG Declaration advocating for ongoing inclusion of RH in humanitarian action