

Lesson 3: Global Partnerships

Suggested Class Time: 1 hour

Objectives

In this lesson students will:

- Examine some of the global partnerships that are working hard to improve maternal and newborn health.
- Explore ways to strengthen and maintain these important partnerships.

Session Plan

Opening Activity: What is a Partnership? (10 minutes)

Small Group Activity: Learning about Maternal and Newborn Partnerships (35 minutes)

Class Discussion: Keeping Them Strong (15 minutes)

Extension Activity: International Health Partnerships

Vocabulary

Global health partnerships

Partnership

Materials Needed

- Copies of Handout 6, "Global Partnerships," sufficient for members of 4 or 8 groups of students
- Poster paper, markers

Background

The increase in global health partnerships for maternal, newborn, and child health is not without challenges. Depending on the definition used, global health partnerships number over 100, and developing countries have sometimes reported difficulties in interacting with the large number of initiatives. Many partnerships focus on a specific target, such as malaria, measles, and HIV and AIDS. The challenge is to complement the flow of assistance to disease-specific interventions, while strengthening the continuum of care for mothers, newborns, and young children.

The International Health Partnership (IHP), launched in September 2007, is a coordinating partnership that brings together governments, donors, and international agencies in their efforts to support national health development plans. Country and global compacts are the key mechanisms by which the IHP aims to support this process. In August 2008, Ethiopia became the first nation to sign a country compact with the IHP. Mozambique endorsed a country compact in September 2008, and other countries in Africa and Asia are expected to sign agreements.

Opening Activity: What is a Partnership?

Directions

1. Write "partnership" on the board. Generate a list of word associations that students might connect with the word "partnership." These could include: cooperation, friendship, companionship, mutual interest, common goals, sharing.
2. Now write the word "global" before "partnership" to introduce a discussion of the role of partnerships in international development. Pose the following questions to stimulate the discussion:
 - What is a global health partnership?
 - What are some of the functions of global partnerships?
 - What are some of the characteristics of successful global partnerships?

Small Group Activity

Directions

Maternal and newborn health issues have drawn specific attention from global health partnerships and initiatives in recent years. This has led to the formation of several new collaborations.

1. Create four or eight groups of students. Assign each group one of the four global health partnerships.
 - The Partnership for Maternal, Newborn, and Child Health
 - The Deliver Now for Women + Children Campaign
 - The Initiative for Maternal Mortality Programmed Assessment (Immpact)
 - Countdown to 2015
2. Distribute the appropriate Handout to each group (Handouts 6-9). Ask students to review goals and functions of the partnership assigned to their group and address the questions listed on the handout.
3. Ask each group to create a poster informing the general public of the activities and progress of the partnership.
4. Place the posters around the room. Invite students to walk around the classroom to view them.

Class Discussion: Partnerships — Keeping Them Strong

After students have had a chance to look at each of the posters, facilitate a group discussion. The questions below should help you and your students draw some conclusions about the role and function of the emerging global partnerships for maternal and newborn health.

- What do these partnerships have in common?
- What impressed you most about the efforts of these partnerships?
- What are some of the characteristics of successful global partnerships?
- What are some of the ways in which partnerships can evaluate how well they are doing?

Extension Activity: Reporting on the International Health Partnership (IHP)

Directions

- 1.** Present the following information to students: The International Health Partnership (IHP) brings together governments, donors, and international agencies to synchronize their efforts and support national health development plans. Country and global compacts are the key mechanisms used to support this process. Ethiopia was the first country whose government and partners signed a compact with the IHP.
- 2.** Invite a small group of students to learn more about the IHP and to report their answers to the following questions:
 - What are the objectives of Ethiopia's compact with the IHP?
 - How will the compact help the government, donors, and international agencies work more efficiently?
 - What other countries have compacts with IHP?

Students can find information on the IHP website at www.internationalhealthpartnership.net

Global Partnerships: The Partnership for Maternal, Newborn, and Child Health

The Partnership for Maternal, Newborn, and Child Health is a global health partnership launched in September 2005 that brings together concerned organizations into an alliance of some 240 member groups. The partnership, hosted and administered from Geneva by the World Health Organization, advocates for greater investment and commitment to saving the lives of mothers and children. In July 2008, it issued a Global Call asking G8 leaders to fund basic health services for women, newborns, and children and urging organizations and individuals to commit to its demands for political leadership and investment.

Directions

Answer the following questions using information found on the website:

<http://www.who.int/pmnch/en>. Then follow your teacher's instructions for presenting this information to the class.

Questions

1. What is The Partnership for Maternal, Newborn, and Child Health?
2. Who are the members of the partnership?
3. What does the partnership offer?
4. How is the partnership carrying out its key objectives for 2009-2011? Give examples of current activities in different countries.

Global Partnerships: The Deliver Now for Women + Children Campaign

The Deliver Now for Women + Children Campaign, coordinated by The Partnership for Maternal, Newborn, and Child Health, is a new advocacy drive to eliminate maternal and child deaths and improve the health of women and children around the world. It is a response to the concern that the world is lagging far behind in reaching the Millennium Development Goals (MDGs for reducing maternal and child deaths).

Directions

Answer the questions below using information on this page and at the website: <http://www.who.int/pmnch/activities>. Then follow your teacher's instructions for presenting this information to the class.

Questions

1. What is The Deliver Now for Women + Children Campaign?
2. Who are the members of the partnership?
3. What does the partnership offer?
4. How is the partnership carrying out its key objectives? Give examples of current activities in different countries.

Global Partnerships: The Initiative for Maternal Mortality Programme Assessment (Immpact)

The Initiative for Maternal Mortality Programme Assessment (Immpact) is a global research initiative whose aim is to promote better health for mothers-to-be in developing countries by carrying out studies of different strategies. Immpact also judges their effectiveness and the value-for-money they represent. Immpact aims to improve measurement techniques and the supporting evidence that will help in the assessment of each strategy's potential.

Directions

Answer the following questions through information found on the website: www.immpact-international.org. Then follow your teacher's instructions for presenting this information to the class.

Questions

1. What is the Initiative for Maternal Mortality Programme Assessment (Immpact)?
2. Who are the members of the partnership?
3. What does the partnership offer?
4. How is the partnership carrying out its key objectives? Give examples of current activities in different countries.

Global Partnership: Countdown to 2015

Countdown to 2015 was formed in 2005 by a group of scientists, policy makers, activists, and institutions to track progress towards Millennium Development Goal 4: Reduce Child Mortality. Coverage reports were made available at a conference for 60 priority countries for child survival initiatives. The second conference, held in April 2008, expanded the mandate of the Countdown to include maternal and neonatal survival, and the number of countries tracked in reports increased to 68.

Directions

Answer the following questions through information found on the website:

<http://www.countdown2015mnch.org>. Then follow your teacher's instructions for presenting this information to the class.

Questions

1. What is Countdown to 2015?
2. Who are the members of the partnership?
3. What does the partnership offer?
4. How is the partnership carrying out its key objectives? Give examples of current activities in different countries.