



# HOW CHANGE AGENTS

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## MAKE A DIFFERENCE

SHARING MY EXPERIENCE ON INFLUENCING  
CHANGE IN POLICY ACTIONS  
BY

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# Why change.....

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- **Constant phenomenon in our world and key to development**
- **Provide opportunities to incorporate new experiences for better outcomes**
- **Catalyst to meeting specific objectives**

# Setting the stage for CHANGE .....

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- **Adoption of key components of RH**
- **Review institutional frameworks at levels of implementation**
- **Setting vision amongst key stakeholders**
- **Identify key champions and build their capacity**
- **Foster active partnerships (formal and informal)**
- **Mobilizing resources to finance and support change**

# Adoption of key components of RH Health Programme

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- **Input from different stakeholders**
- **Consensus on the areas of focus and approaches for intervention**
- **Generating public discussion about RH issues** (Convene a summit on “Reproductive health and sustainable development”)
- **Set up Technical Working/advisory groups to collate lessons learnt from ongoing interventions and joint workplans**

# Review existing institutional frameworks

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- Identify opportunities and gaps
- Provide functional structure within the relevant departments to support change
- Develop standards of practice and service delivery protocols, guidelines, job aids
- Strengthening supply chain using the SPHARCs tool and introducing cost recovery.
- Review of curricula

# Setting the vision to drive change

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- Understand the issues of RH and build consensus on entry point.
- What is in a name?.....Family planning (FP) versus Child birth spacing (CBS), sexuality education versus family life education.
- “Zero tolerance to women dying from pregnancy related causes”, vision formulated by all stakeholders.

# Identify Champions

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- **Identify champions amongst target groups** (parliamentarians, academics, CBOs, faith based groups, policy makers, young people, women groups etc)
- **Explore opportunities to build capacity of champions and provide resource materials** (leadership training, study tours, etc)
- **Build network of champions and encourage forming coalitions for change.**

# Active Partnerships

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- **Build strategic partnerships-** (Interfaith forum on maternal mortality reduction)
- **Outputs are adaptation of national RH policy by faith based groups, and approval of pilot project on Standard Days Methods (cycle beads)**
- **Partnership with the media- capacity building, mentoring of journalists**
- **Other sectors- Women Affairs, Youth and development, finance etc**
- **Partnership for Maternal, Newborn and child health(2007)**

# Mobilizing resources to finance and support change

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- **Advocacy for a dedicated budget line for RH**
- **Retreat with Finance Ministry officials to understand criteria for allocation of funds**
  - \* **Allocations based on competing demands and perceived contribution of program**
  - \* **Political agenda and priority is important.**
- **RH components covered under Maternal Mortality reduction programme budget (allocation for MOH-service delivery and Women Affairs –advocacy)**
- **Explore opportunities of budget lines created for MDG programme- (Debt relief fund, special fund etc)**

# Summary

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- **Change agents make a difference by exploring innovative ways to pursue the agenda irrespective of challenges that may come their way.**
- **In depth analysis of the environment and stakeholders is a key step to developing an agenda for change**
- **Everybody has a role to play, so involve all stakeholders at different levels.**



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# Thank You