

Views and Experiences sharing between Bangladesh and Indonesia in Managing Family Planning and Reproductive Health Services

There were seventeen participants from Ministry of Health and Family Welfare of Bangladesh who visited BKKBN on 25 May 2009 to share views and experiences on Family Planning and Reproductive Health. In the half day meeting, participants were hosted by Drs. Eddy Hasmi, M.Sc, Director of International Training and Collaboration of BKKBN. On the welcome remark and introducing staffs to participants, the Director explained the history of family planning program of Indonesia by showing a nine minutes movie titled Vision & Mission. The movie tells, although the Family Planning Program's success has accelerated the demographical transition, but several problems are still faced by Indonesians. Today, the government of Indonesia faces two big challenges in carrying out the National Family Planning Program, that is the human rights' demand and the implementation of decentralization or handling autonomy to local governments, which has affected the organization of the National Family Planning Program. In order to bring progress in all aspects, BKKBN has gone through changes vision, mission, strategy and management in order to reinforce the National Family Planning Program. As an introduction, Dra. Theodora Pandjaitan, M.Sc, Head of International Training and Collaboration Division, informed participants about The National Family Planning Coordinating Board (BKKBN): Policies, Programs, Activities, Management, Partnerships, and Coordination with relevant institutions. She explained that in most countries, the Family Planning Program is conducted under Ministry of Health, while in Indonesia its coordinated by The National Family Planning Coordinating Board (BKKBN). However, in running the program, it does have role of each. The role of Ministry of Health (MOH), as supply side, is medical service, while BKKBN has as demand side, is to create community participation. The question was whether the MOH and BKKBN can work together instead of separated. The unique of Family Planning Program in Indonesia is, its not only about contraceptive usage but also its directed to materialize a small, happy, and prosperous family. Furthermore, participants discussed on the Development of Family Planning and Reproductive Health with Director of International Training and Collaboration of BKKBN. Eddy Hasmi explained that there are three major policies of the family planning program that drove the evolution of the Indonesian social revolution in reproductive health, namely: the population control policy, self reliance policy, and expanding access and improving quality. Then, he asked participants attention to look at the impacts of those policies and how they contributed to the success of the program. At the end of morning sessions, based on facts that CPR need to be increased, unmet need is still high, need private sector contribution, and method mix issue, participants got opportunity discussed on Maximizing Access and Quality of Services with Eddy Hasmi and Dr. Fabiola. During the discussion, important issues emerged such as what the strengths and weaknesses of FP and RH services during those period, whether came from supply side or demand side, how BKKBN manages the failure and side effect of contraceptives, whether induce abortion or supporting free delivery. At the end, participants asked to have more discussion about male participation.

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