



Guatemala



Nicaragua



Belize



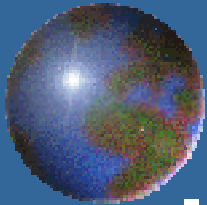
Honduras



El Salvador

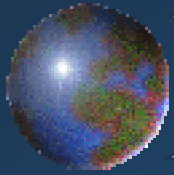


Mexico



**Advancing Reproductive Health
Through Policy Advocacy:
Increasing EC Access in Latin America
Lessons Learned From
The Emergency Contraception
Leadership Initiative**

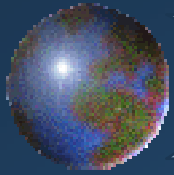
American Public Health Association – November, 2007
Denise Raquel Dunning



EC Leadership Initiative

- ❁ International Health Programs (IHP) of the Public Health Institute (PHI)
- ❁ Compton & WestWind Foundations
- ❁ Focus Countries: Belize, El Salvador, Guatemala, Honduras, Mexico, Nicaragua

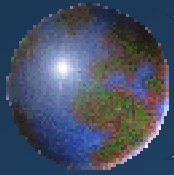




Regional Context

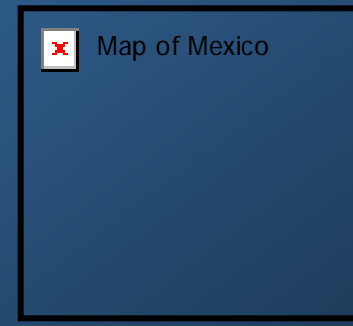
- Limited EC knowledge & access
- Conservative policy frameworks
- Gender-based violence & inequality
- Strong religious influence
- Unwanted pregnancy
- Unsafe abortion
- Maternal mortality

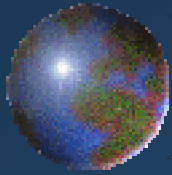




National Contexts

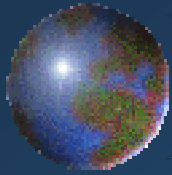
- Belize – Women not using contraception: 53%
- El Salvador – Abortion status: total ban & penalization
- Guatemala – Total fertility rate: 4.4
- Honduras – Teen pregnancy rate: 49%
- Mexico – Abortion rate: 20% reported
- Nicaragua – Unmet need for family planning: 15%





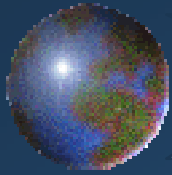
National EC Status

Country	Legalized	Availability
México	2004	Widely Available – FP clinics, pharmacies
Honduras	1999	Available – FP clinics, pharmacies
El Salvador	1999	Available – Providers, pharmacies
Guatemala	2007	Limited – Few FP clinics, some hospitals
Nicaragua	1997	Limited – Few providers, some pharmacies
Belize	–	Very Limited – Few pharmacies & FP clinics



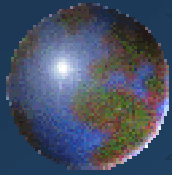
EC Leadership Initiative

- 70 participants / 3 years
- IHP Leadership Network - International Family Planning Leadership Program & Youth Leadership in SRH Program
- Annual Regional Training
- Country Plans & TA
- EC Outreach Process



Regional Training

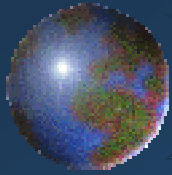
- Evidence-based scientific approach
- Policy advocacy strategies
- Responses to religious opposition
- Media communications strategies
- Indigenous & youth populations
- Program design & proposal development



Country Plan Development

- Country-level analysis
- Country-based plans & proposals
- Ongoing technical assistance
 - Proposal development
 - Program implementation

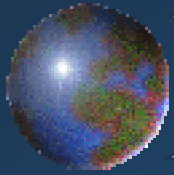




Outreach Process

- Institutional trainings
- Local & national dissemination efforts
 - Policymakers
 - Journalists
 - Service providers & educators
 - Religious leaders
 - Youth & indigenous groups
 - Police & military

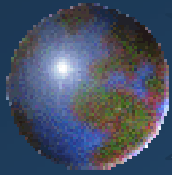




Program Impacts

- ❁ Individual & institutional capacity
- ❁ Creation & implementation of EC programs:
 - ❖ Belize – Belize EC Advocates
 - ❖ Honduras – ENMUNEH (Network of Black Women)
 - ❖ Guatemala – CDH (Center for Human Development)

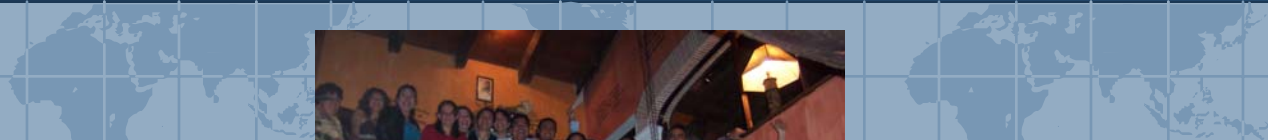
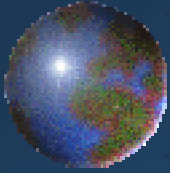




Lessons Learned

- Depth – Country plans
- Breadth – Outreach process
- Diversity – Gender, ethnicity, age, profession
- Participatory training methodology
- Cross-cultural learning
- Technical assistance
- Policy challenges ongoing





Thank You!

