

Regional Story
WHO Eastern Mediterranean Office (WHO/EMRO)
introduce fostering change to scale- up effective practices to
representatives from 18 countries.
2009 - 2011

WHO Eastern Mediterranean Office (WHO/EMRO) works with the IBP Secretariat and IBP partners to introduce the IBP Fostering Change Guide to Scale-up Effective Health services to national reproductive health programme managers from 18 countries in WHO's Eastern Mediterranean region.

Over 50 participants attended this meeting in Amman, Jordan, September 2009. The purpose of the meeting was to first introduce the fostering change framework and to then use this guide as a basis for developing actions to scale-up selected best practices in reproductive health.

The IBP secretariat, in collaboration with IBP partners, supported WHO/EMRO to organize the workshop, with additional support from the regional office of the International Planned Parenthood Federation. .

WHO/EMRO conducted a survey of the participating countries using the **10 Essential Elements of Family Planning Programmes** identified from a virtual discussion forum convened by the IBP partners. This framework was used as baseline data to support the identification of best practices and challenges within the region. A strategic planning process using the fostering change framework was then used by country teams to develop action plans focused on how they will scale-up specific best practices in their countries.



IBP partners conducted a more intensive Fostering Change training programme for representatives from eight high-priority countries in Rabat, Morocco, May 2010. The participating countries were Afghanistan, Djibouti, Iraq, Morocco, Pakistan, Somalia, Sudan and Yemen. This programme was designed to enhance the capacity of these countries to carry out their action plans by apply the Fostering Change process.

WHO/EMRO's have reviewed all country plans and visited each country to follow-up activities. Outcomes will be evaluated in 2011, the mapping of best practices in the region will be continued

and further work to harmonize efforts with USAID's "High Impact Evidence-based practices" is underway. http://www.usaid.gov/our_work/global_health/pop/publications/docs/high_impact_practices.pdf