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Innovative Approach of I-WISH

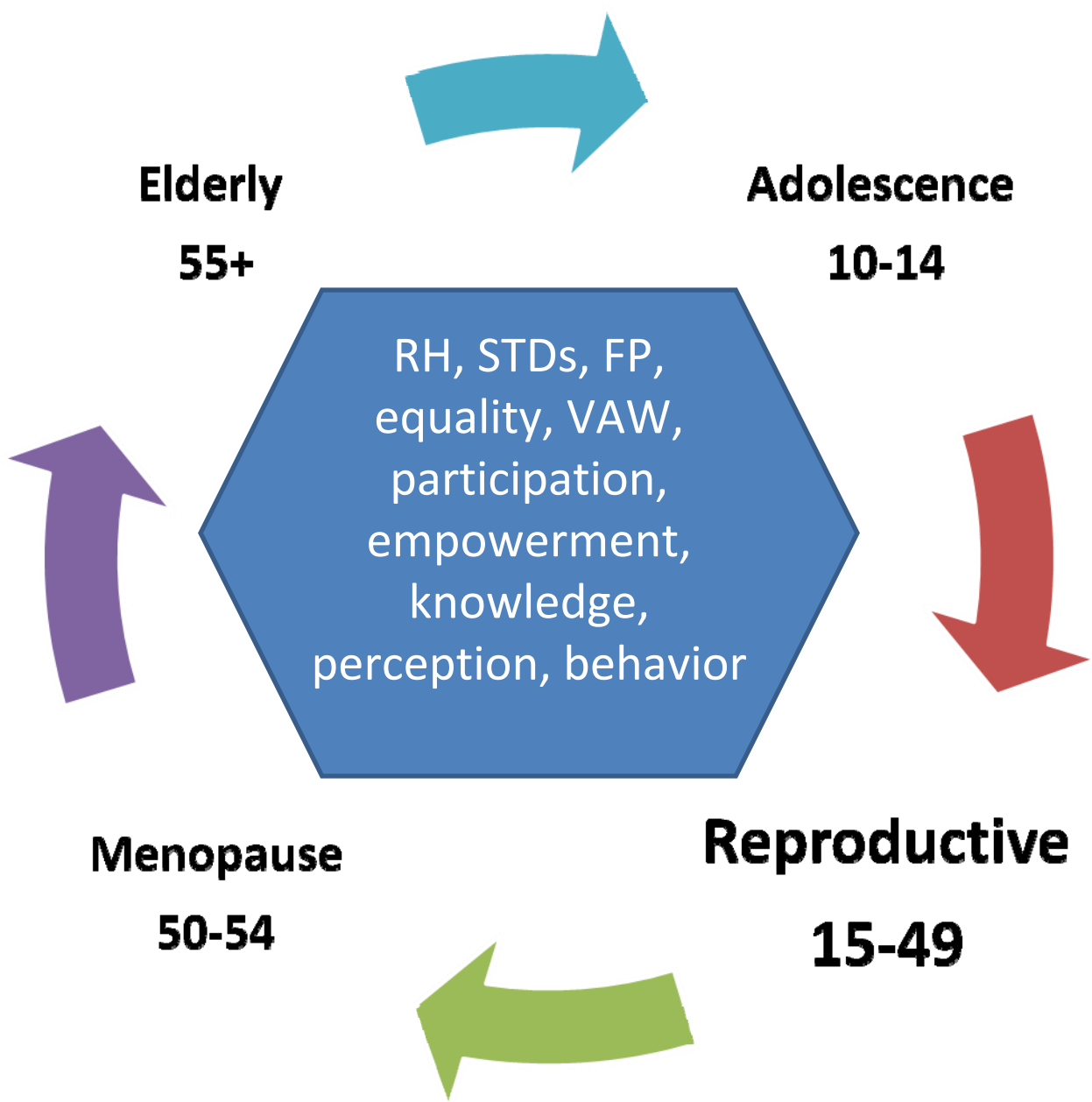
Adolescent girls

Iraq Country Experience

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Introduction

- Iraq conducted Iraq Women Integrated Social and Health Survey (I-WISH) in July 2011 with support from UNFPA & PAFAM
- It is first survey that addresses women issues on the basis of life cycle approach (adolescence, reproductive, after productive and elderly stages)
- It covered women empowerment, health, RH, FP, VAW, and other relevant social and health dimensions
- The survey is based on a cluster multi-stage sample of 10,620 households



- **I-WISH was composed of six modules as follows:**
 - 1. Household questionnaire:** household roster & information to identify eligible persons for other modules
 - 2. Adolescent girl 10-14 years:** knowledge perception and behavior on RH, gender equality, child protection, and exposure to domestic violence.
 - 3. Ever married women 15-49 years:** RH, reproductive morbidity, SDTs, FP, childbearing, ANC, PNC, VAW, etc
 - 4. Never married women 15-54 years, and women 50-54** Complementary for life cycle contained VAW, participation and gender equality
 - 5. Elderly women 55 years and above:** Health and social welfare and VAW
 - 6. Man 18 years and above:** knowledge, perception and in regard to women issues and social and health status.

Innovative approach

- Beyond classical thinking in women research: we used a woman-centered approach on lifecycle basis which has never been addressed in similar surveys like DHS, MICS, PAPFAM, etc
- Mixed perception and factual data indicators
- Life cycle approach to link life stages interactions
- Multidimensional thematic design
- Multi-source of survey data
- Customized to Iraq situation
- Cross validation in different modules

Intellectual base

Right based- women are right holders and the state and society are duty barriers

Survey development approach

Accumulation on other initiatives, flexibility to customize nationally while maintaining comparability, partnership with user to identify content, indicators, and measurement tool

1. Rights in each stage
2. Different needs per stage
3. Interaction across stages
4. Create national context (VAW, empowerment, etc)

Adolescence reproductive menopause elderly



Why lifecycle Approach

Example: Adolescent girls 10-14 years

Research Question?

1. Is there gender inequality in the household environment?
2. Do adolescent girls have access to information, and enjoy their rights during adolescence age?
3. How does the household behavior during adolescence age affect women's health and social status in the RH age?

Methodology

- Selected one adolescent girl from each sampled household randomly using KISH tables
- 10-14 years was selected due to:
 1. Include RH questions therefore, lower age limit is 10 years
 2. Unmarried adolescent and 15+ are covered by RH questionnaire therefore upper limit is 14 years.
- Separate questionnaire module for adolescent girls 10-14 years
- Personal interview for selected girls: *no proxy interview*

CONTENT

HEALTH STATUS

- Knowledge
- Behavior
- Attitudes
- Unmet needs

SOCIAL STATUS

- Education
- Gender equality
- Empowerment
- Domestic violence
- Future aspirations

Knowledge, perception of adolescent girl 10-14

Policy oriented finding

1. Legislation to protect children inside HH
2. Provide enabling environment to empower adolescent girls to achieve inspirations
3. Provide information to enable adolescent girl to enjoy her rights



- policies
- protection
- information
- skills
- awareness

Value added of I-WISH

- MDG5a: maternal death (morbidity)
- MDG5: access to RH
- Comprehensive national context of :
VAW/empowerment/ RH/SH/health services/quality of
HS/future concerns/gender equality
- Analysis of data over life cycle
- Interaction across life cycles
- Linkage with MICS IV and impact of women situation on
child's health

Reproductive health for ever married women

Conclusions

1. % of ANC general is high
2. ANC is provided by qualified personnel for most of women
3. Cesarean section rate is high
4. % of PNC is low
5. Need intervention to address a 22% unmet needs for family planning
6. There is general knowledge on SDTs but still more awareness is needed
7. ANC/PNC services need more development particularly in the rural areas



**Services
Information
awareness**

Women empowerment, participation and gender equality

- Support female headed HHs
- Provide economic support in the form of project
- Training courses and awareness on women rights
- More involvement of women in the leadership positions in all sectors
- Supportive legal frameworks
- Publicity campaigns on women rights

VAW

1. Awareness on women's rights in life cycle
1. Start from the house in addressing VAW
2. Legal system to protects women from VAW
3. Community based campaigns
4. Utilize media to combat VAW
5. Awareness campaigns , schools and centers
6. Protect VAW survivors



Policies
Legislation
Protection
Awareness

Women's issues from Man's perspective

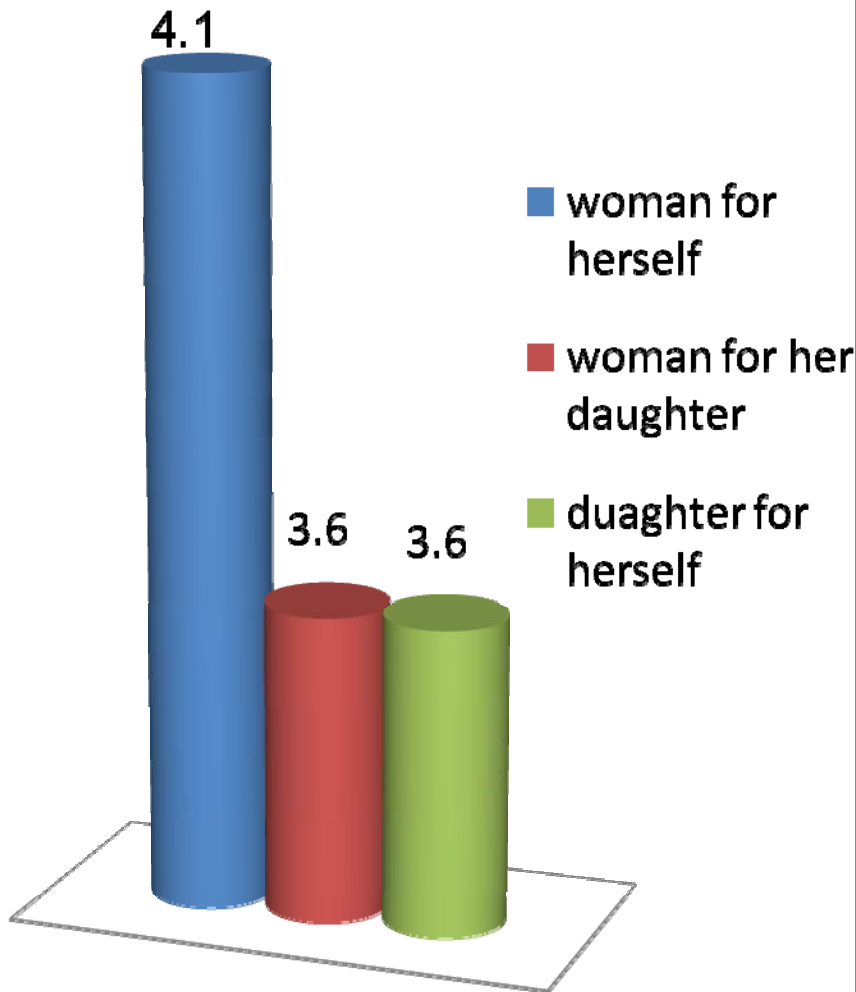
- Involve men in combating VAW
- Change Men's perception on VAW
- Change starting in men's perspective
- Start awareness from early ages



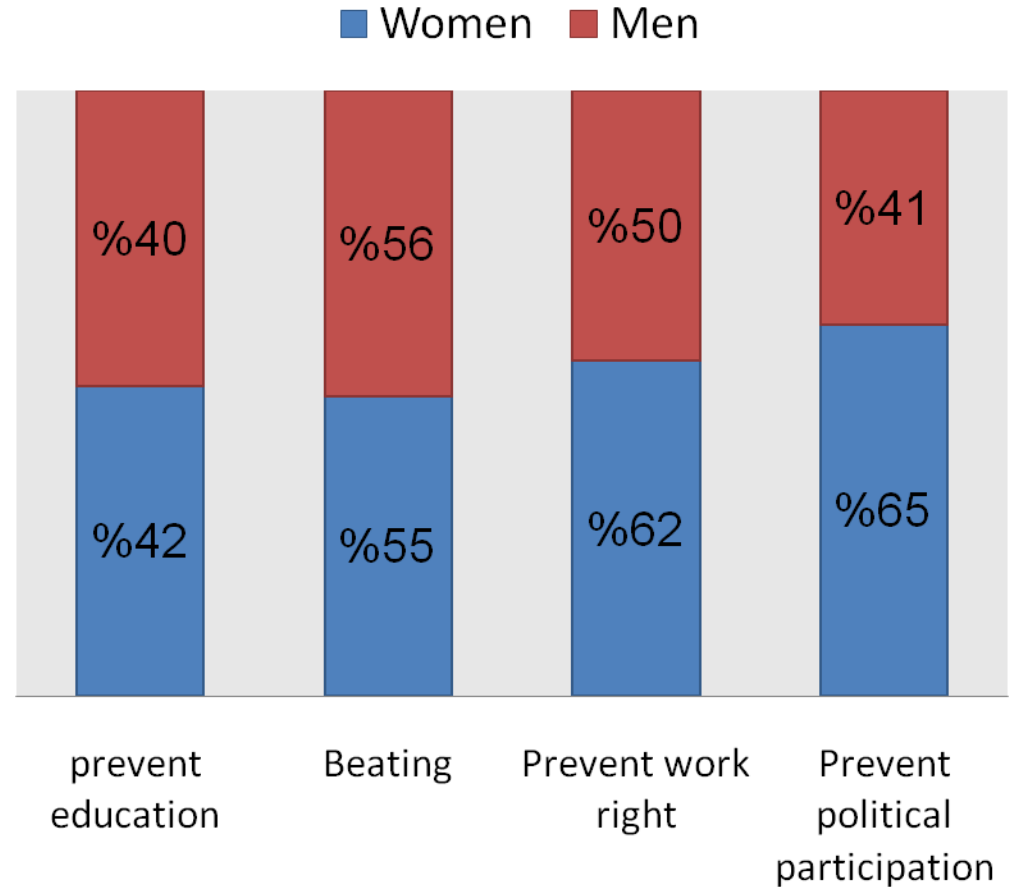
Awareness
Partnership

I-WISH provide an opportunity to understand the dynamics of conceptual structure of demographic and social indicators

Average number of desired children



Percentage of those who do not consider certain acts from husband as VAW



Conclusions

- Adolescent girls do not enjoy their rights at the HH level
- There is gender inequality
- There is information un-met needs
- Adolescence is an important stage that should be rigorously addressed
- There is lack of standard modules to address adolescent girls issues