

How Investments in Women and Family Planning Can Transform the Future of Developing Nations

25 March 2010, 17:00 - 18:00

Centre for Health and Society (CSS), Room 1.1.18, Øster Farimagsgade 5, Copenhagen

Why is it important that 215 million women with an unmet need for family planning get access to contraception?

How do we save the lives of 400,000 women dying of pregnancy and childbirth each year? – and of 1.6 million infants?

How is new research translated into action in the field?

In December 2009, the Guttmacher Institute and UNFPA published a new research report "Adding It Up". The report provides new numbers on the need for family planning and maternal and newborn health services and it analyses the costs and benefits of investing in these services.

In addition to saving women's and children's lives, investing in family planning and maternal health would also have other profound benefits: Increased use of condoms for pregnancy prevention would simultaneously curb transmission of HIV and other STIs; preventing unwanted pregnancies would increase women's educational and employment opportunities; enhance their social and economic status and family savings, and spur economic growth and reducing poverty.

UNFPA is the world's largest supporter of sexual and reproductive health programmes and Guttmacher Institute is the leading policy research organization in the field of sexual and reproductive health.

Programme:

- Sharon L. Camp, President and CEO of the Guttmacher Institute, will present the findings of the report.
- Thoraya A. Obaid, Executive Director, United Nations Population Fund (UNFPA), will discuss the implications for implementation in the field.

