



Addressing the challenges and barriers to accessing FP services in emergency situations

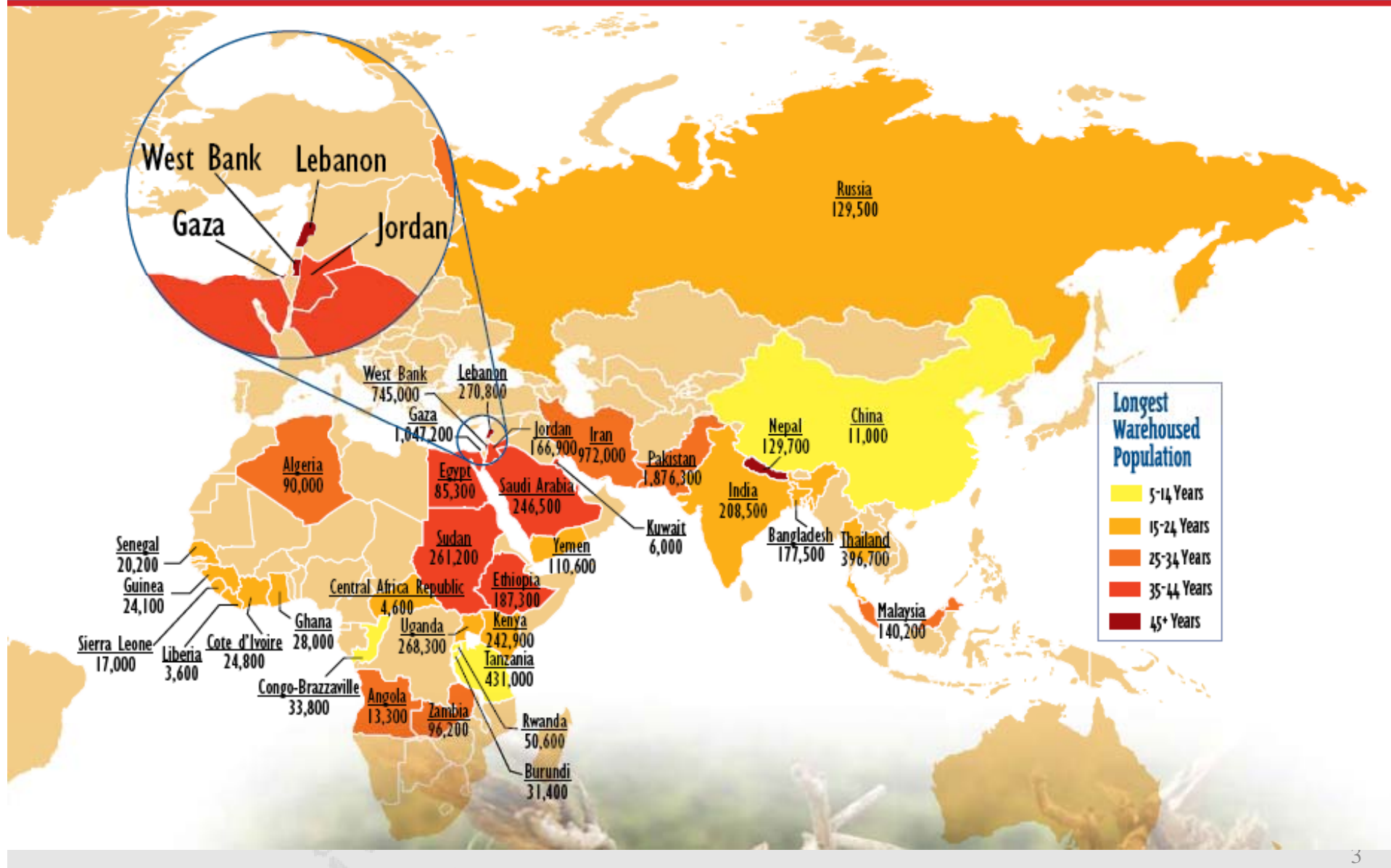
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People affected by humanitarian emergencies experience extraordinary obstacles in accessing family planning services.

Warehoused Refugee Populations

(as of December 31, 2007)





Barriers

- ◆ Structure and history of the humanitarian field
- ◆ Limited availability and quality of services
- ◆ Variable demand
- ◆ Policy and funding constraints





Structure and history of the humanitarian field

'RH in conflict' is a young field

- ◆ **Prior to mid-1990s: very little**
- ◆ **ICPD recognized RH needs & rights of refugees**
 - ◆ **Inter-agency Working Group**
 - ◆ **Manuals, guidelines, policies**
 - ◆ **RH services delivered**
- ◆ **2004 global evaluation**
 - ◆ **FP more available**
 - ◆ **Limited range, distribution, quality**



Organizational barriers

- ◆ Delivery of FP is new to humanitarian agencies
- ◆ FP is political, in humanitarian settings politics plays out in unpredictable ways
- ◆ Humanitarian settings are new to development agencies, the usual family planning programmers





Limited availability and quality of services

- ◆ Poor infrastructure
- ◆ Inadequate number of trained staff
- ◆ Weak logistics systems
- ◆ Insecurity





Barriers to demand for FP in humanitarian emergencies

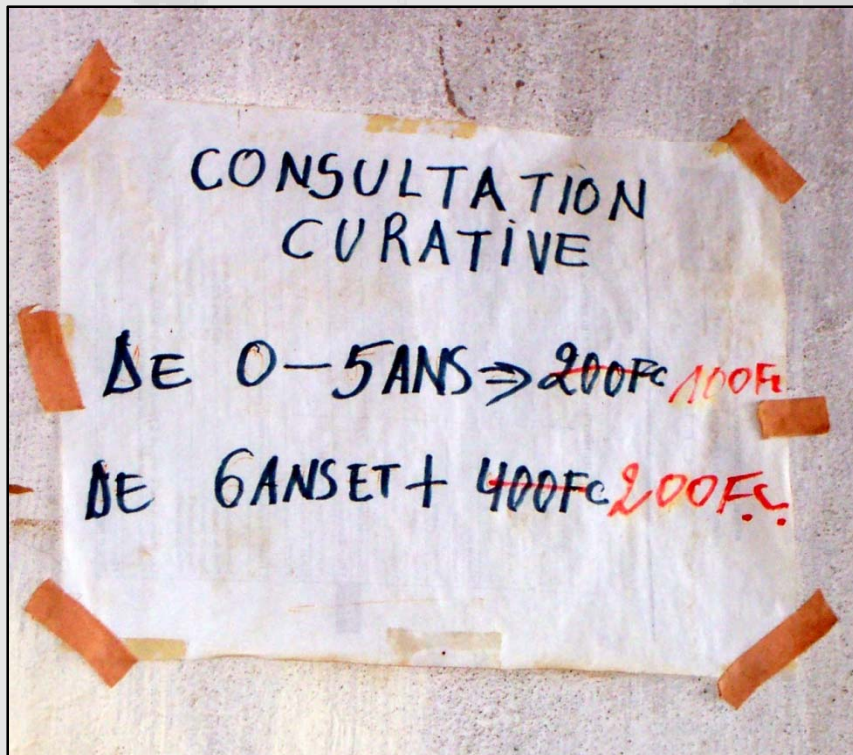
- ◆ Low pre-existing awareness and use of FP
- ◆ Societal interest in replacing those who were lost in the crisis
- ◆ Low autonomy for women





Policy barriers to FP in humanitarian emergencies

- ◆ Health policies may restrict care, e.g.,
 - ◆ only doctors may insert IUDs
 - ◆ all clients required to undergo pelvic exam



- ◆ husband's or parent's consent required
- ◆ age, marital status or parity criteria
- ◆ fees



Funding structures

- ◆ Relief donors may not view FP as core to the humanitarian response
- ◆ Development donors and country planners may not include displaced persons among targeted beneficiary population
- ◆ Humanitarian relief funding is often short-term (12 months) and effective FP programming requires a multi-year funding commitment



Important progress had been made in the 15 years since Cairo

