

Provincial Dissemination Event for Sindh

October 22, 2008 at National Research Institute of Fertility Care, Karachi

The second launch of PDHS took place successfully in Karachi at the National Research Institute of Fertility Care (NRIFC) to discuss the survey's findings. High level officials from Sindh government attended the event including Director General Population Welfare, Executive District Officers (EDO) Health and representatives of national and international NGOs and civil society.

The Director General, Department of Population Welfare Government of Sindh, Ghulam Akbar Bhutto said revisiting history of family planning in the country since 1950s, lack of uniformity has hindered efforts for family planning. However he appreciated the survey report launch and termed it an eye-opener. He acknowledged that rapid increase in population is adversely affecting health indicators and vast funding is required to maintain the present ratio of population per health facility.

Ms. Humera Hameed Alwani, member of the Sindh Provincial Assembly and chairperson spoke on the occasion. She said the much needed information is now updated for policy makers. They can now focus resources to address the issues highlighted in the survey. She emphasized the need to 'own' the system and responsibility to improve it. Appreciating the efforts of TACMIL Health Project for its support to improve health systems in Pakistan, she affirmed the need to equip existing basic health units and rural health centers with basic obstetrics care, ensuring availability of health professionals trained and experienced in obstetric complications may significantly reduce maternal mortality.