UNFPA Supplies: Humanitarian Support

Reproductive health issues often become acute and are overlooked during emergencies. The support provided by UNFPA Supplies focuses on strengthening systems for delivery of reproductive health commodities and services in countries experiencing humanitarian crisis and emergency situations.

Provision of Reproductive Health Kits

Reproductive health kits include equipment for safe deliveries, essential newborn care, HIV prevention, post-rape services and contraception; as well as dignity kits with items for personal hygiene.

In 2014, UNFPA Supplies provided 9,996 reproductive health kits to support key partners – governments, NGOs and other UN agencies – to deliver services in humanitarian contexts. Kits were shipped to 46 countries, including 27 UNFPA Supplies focus countries.

The kits supplied reached around 2.2 million women and girls with reproductive health commodities and services. Adolescents aged 10 to 19 years accounted for about 22 per cent of beneficiaries.

Meeting reproductive health needs of 50,000 refugees, Niger

Although Boko Haram’s campaign of violence began in Nigeria, their assaults know no borders. In Niger, some 50,000 refugees have fled to camps at Abalak, Ayorou, Mangaizé and Tchiro-zérine. UNFPA and partners continued to deliver information and services.

In the refugee camps, awareness-raising reached nearly 60,000 women on maternal health, family planning and gender-based violence, 66 youth educators reached peers; and some 1,300 dignity kits for personal hygiene were distributed. Boko Haram attacks in the Diffa region of Niger have also caused major disruptions.

With its partner, Red Cross Diffa, UNFPA is providing reproductive health care, including family planning and psychosocial services for survivors of gender-based violence.
Increasing capacity to implement MISP

The Minimum Initial Service Package (MISP) for reproductive health is a core set of priority interventions to be carried out by trained staff especially during the onset of an emergency situation. UNFPA Supplies supports training on MISP for staff of governments, UNFPA, other UN agencies, NGOs and civil society organizations.

In 2014, UNFPA Supplies supported the training in MISP for 2,880 persons, up by 12 per cent from the previous year. UNFPA Supplies also contributed to strengthening the capacity of six academic and training institutions to deliver the MISP, as well as courses in clinical management of rape and humanitarian preparedness.

Mobile reproductive health camps, Nepal

About 32 per cent of facilities providing specialized maternal and neonatal services were destroyed by the disaster, according to a report by UNOCHA.

UNFPA, in collaboration with local authorities and NGOs, initiated the mobile reproductive health camps on 30 April. The camps bring doctors, nurses and midwives to provide health services, including antenatal care, safe delivery services and post-partum check-ups. The camps also supply reproductive health information and care for the wider community, including adolescents. More than 80 such camps that have been organized in remote areas since the earthquake struck.

In addition to providing support through the camps, UNFPA provides local health facilities with reproductive health supplies.

Supplies & services support crippled health system, Guinea

UNFPA has provided hygiene kits, safe birth kits, soap, disinfectant, gloves, and other supplies for the Ebola response. UNFPA has distributed 10,000 hygiene kits to pregnant and vulnerable women and girls. Over 8,000 hygienic birth kits were also delivered.

Thousands of condoms, to prevent the spread of Ebola during recovery, were distributed. Reproductive Health kits have helped address 52,500 cases of STIs, 7,740 assisted deliveries in health facilities in addition to 825 C-sections. With many health facilities closed, two mobile clinics were deployed. Some 435,340 people were covered. In addition, 1,309 community-based distribution agents received SRH training.

For more information on humanitarian response by UNFPA visit:  
http://www.unfpa.org/unfpa-supplies and http://www.unfpa.org/emergencies