



# GOVERNMENT OF PAKISTAN

## HEALTH-RELATED MDGS

### GOAL 4, 5 & 6

# PROGRESS, CHALLENGES & WAY FORWARD

**Dr Samra Mazhar**

Assistant Director General

Ministry of Health

The views expressed in this presentation are the views of the author and do not necessarily reflect the views or policies of the Asian Development Bank Institute (ADBI), the Asian Development Bank (ADB), its Board of Directors, or the governments they represent. ADBI does not guarantee the accuracy of the data included in this presentation and accepts no responsibility for any consequences of their use. Terminology used may not necessarily be consistent with ADB official terms.

# Progress

- Steady but slow progress has been made during last decade
- However the delivery on commitments particularly in MDG 4 & 5 has lagged behind schedule
- Reduced the under-five mortality by 25 during the 1990's but no further reductions in the past decade
- Infant Mortality is reduced slightly. It was maintained at 75 during past decade
- Significantly reduced the Maternal Mortality Ratio to 276
- The proportion of 1 year-old children immunized against measles increased to 80%
- Almost doubled the proportions of birth attended by skilled health personnel to 39%

# Progress

....contd

- Formulation of new National Health Policy 2009
- Vision is to improve the quality of health of all Pakistanis particularly women and children
- Maternal, Neonatal and Child Health Program was launched in 2006
- The objective is to improve maternal and child health care service delivery
- More Community midwives are inducted and trained resulting in more skilled birth attendants
- Health System Strengthening project under GAVI support is launched in 2008
- The objectives are to improve national maternal, neonatal and child health care services at district level

# Progress ....contd

- HIV epidemic is still at low prevalence, however high rates of infection in Injectable Drug Users is evidence of concentrated epidemic
- Safe Blood transfusion project is working in collaboration with GTZ to decrease the risk factor
- Pakistan ranks 6<sup>th</sup> amongst high TB burden countries in the world with incidence of 181/100,000 population
- However 100% DOTS coverage was achieved in 2005 and case detection rate and cure rate is increased
- Malaria Control Program has achieved considerable progress by awareness, operational research and Involvement of NGOs
- Primary Health care program is creating awareness for prevention of communicable diseases through community workers

# Challenges

- Population growth is a major factor impeding achievements regarding MDGs

## Additions to the Population: 1998-2010

- Total Population will be **170 million** by 2010
- 0-14 increase by **7.25 Million**
- 65+ increase by **1.68 million**
- 15-49 increase by **13.56 million** (reproductive Age women)
- Productive age group (15-64) will increase by **32.85 million**

# Challenges ....contd

- Pakistan has a double burden of disease i.e. communicable and non communicable diseases
- Low investment in Health (Health Financing)
- Weak Health Systems
- Absence of social security nets
- Absence of a well-defined policy & plans for human resource development in health sector
- Production of human resources is not based on need assessment
- Private health sector is not regulated

# Challenges .....contd

- Gender biased and limited access to quality health care services
- Illiteracy, unemployment, poverty are other determinants of health of the population
- Rehabilitation of the IDPs (Internally displaced people) and affected population from natural disasters
- Health delivery system is disrupted in conflict areas
- Pakistan also needs to be prepared for emerging global diseases like swine flu and other viral infections.

# The Way forward

- Investing in human resource
- Improving financial allocations
- Strengthening health delivery system with special focus on rural areas
- Role of private sector
- Evidence based policy direction
- Continuous Monitoring and Evaluation System
- Pharmaceuticals should provide quality, affordability and accessibility to the population
- Provision of Health insurance is envisioned in five year plan(2010-2015) aims specifically for poor

***THANK YOU***