



Use of the Care Group Model

Care Group TAG Meeting

December 8, 2010



Information Collection

- Survey Monkey on CS Listserve
- Phone interviews with GOAL and SAWSO
- Written response from International Aid
- Final Evaluation for ARC

Who is Using Care Groups?

- American Red Cross
- Catholic Relief Services
- Concern Worldwide
- Curamericas
- Food for the Hungry
- GOAL
- International Aid
- Intl' Medical Corps
- Medical Teams Intl'
- Plan
- SAWSO
- World Vision
- World Relief

Effectiveness

- Care Groups are seen as effective
- They **empower women** while **canvassing communities** in a **low-cost** manner with **life-saving health education** and **data collection**
- Ease of management for NGO
- Accepted by the community
- Cost effective

General Lessons Learned

- Requires resources to get started
- Importance of selection from and by the community
- Integration with government for sustainability
- Importance of intensive training and close follow-up
- Teaching aids combined with skills-based training
- Need sufficient time for groups to form

Barriers to Consider

- Cost estimates for scale up needed
- Measure additional development benefits
- More systematic ways to link CGs and other activities
- Consider male participation
- MOH skepticism about using volunteers
- Cutting corners on the model
- Perception: too simple, not innovative now
- No standardized, generic curricula

Operations Research

- CWI Burundi – less resource intensive model; integration with MOH; nutrition
- CWI Niger – provision of CCM by Mother Leaders
- Food for the Hungry – identify key components to the effective use of the methodology