

The logo for the MacArthur Foundation, consisting of a blue rectangular bar at the top and a green rectangular bar at the bottom. The word "MacArthur" is written in white serif font on the blue bar, and the word "Foundation" is written in white serif font on the green bar.

MacArthur Foundation

Strengthening Midwifery in Mexico

Global Maternal and Neonatal Health Conference

Mexico City

October 20, 2015

Outline

- MacArthur History
- Current Initiative
- Process



MacArthur in Mexico

- Population and Reproductive Health: 30 years
- Cairo, Beijing
- Youth reproductive and sexual health: 2000 - 2015
- Maternal Health: 2000 to date
- Capstone Phase: 2015-2018/2020



Achievements

Recognition – Policy – Improved Indicators

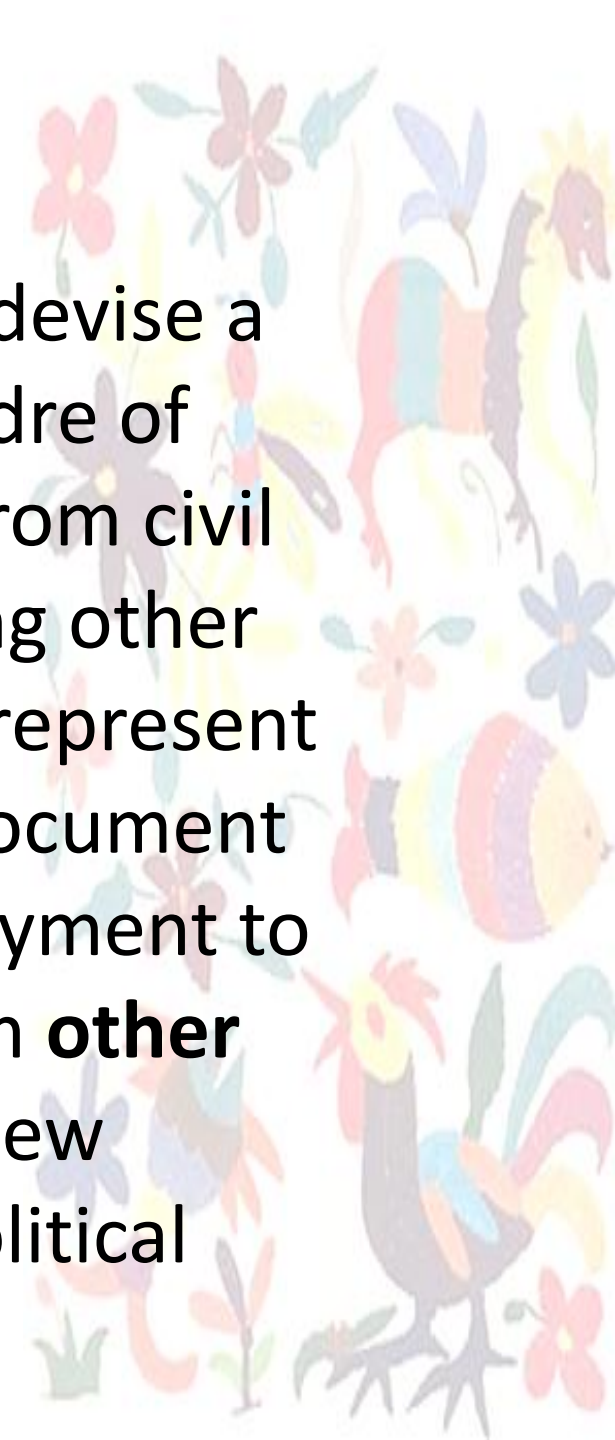
- Maternal mortality = national health priority (2000-2012)
- Public policy
- Decline in MMR
- Adolescent unwanted pregnancy prevention = national priority (current president)
- Public policy



Capstone Phase: Professional Midwifery in Mexico

- Commitment
- Rights and equality
- Opportunity
- Challenge





Despite its stated interest, Mexico has yet to devise a clear pathway toward developing a new cadre of professional midwives and requires support from civil society. **Civil society organizations** can, among other things, help **generate positive public opinion**; represent the **needs and demands of women**; create, document and evaluate **new models** for training or deployment to generate best practices; bring in lessons from **other countries**; diversify **leadership**; engage new **stakeholders**; and provide technical and political **support.**

Midwifery in Mexico

Goal: improve maternal health outcomes and quality of care by institutionalizing midwifery

Objectives

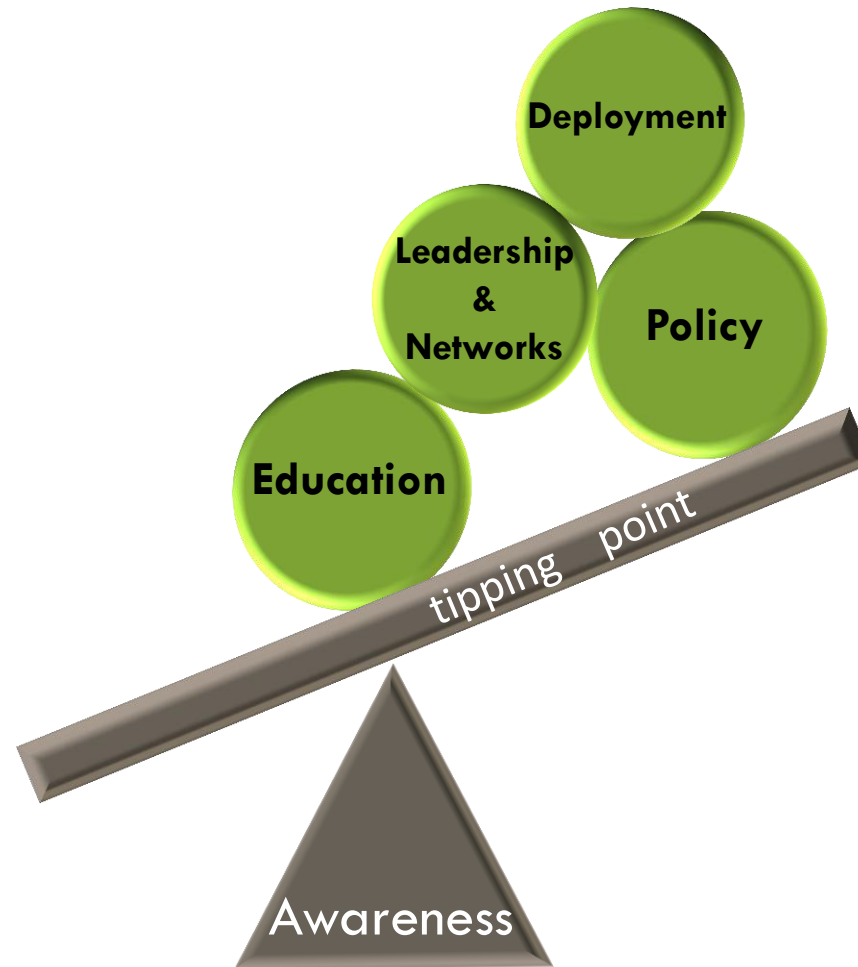
Strengthen policy and regulatory environment

Increase recognition and demand

Expand and build on education options

Integrate models into health care systems

Outcomes



Impacts

Recognition of midwifery as a legitimate maternal health option



Beyond the Tipping Point:

Improved access to quality maternal and reproductive health care

Improved maternal health

Reduced health care costs

Participatory Process

- Civil Society: Strategy Meetings
- Government, Multilaterals: Working Group to Promote Midwifery in Mexico
- Developmental Evaluation



Education

- ↑ New regulatory framework for programs & certification
- ↑ Education models
- ↑ Educators
- ↑ Applicants
- ↑ Matriculation & retention
- ↑ Graduates, certifications, placements

Deployment

- ↑ Deployment to hospitals & primary care centers
- ↑ Support among health authorities
- ↑ Demand among women
- ↑ Continuum of care services
- ↑ Births attended

Leadership & Communications

- ↑ Strength & diversity of leadership
- ↑ Coverage by journalists and media
- ↑ Messaging by supporters
- ↑ Networking opportunities among midwives & stakeholders

Policy

- Supportive changes in attitudes & behaviors among stakeholders
- ↑ Stakeholders' knowledge
- ↑ Evidence-based policy decisions
- ↑ Recognition of health systems' cost benefits
- ↑ Policies supporting integration
- ↑ Health systems incentives

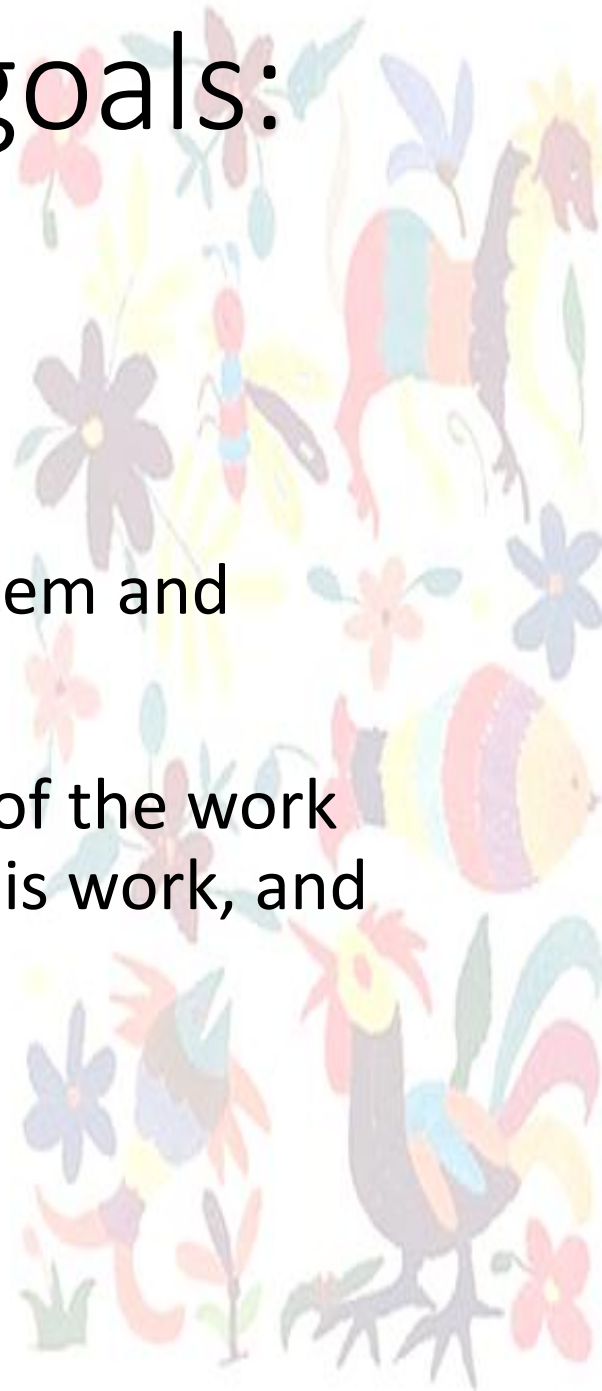
Joint priority setting & 3-year goals: Education

- Expand training opportunities/increase licensed midwives
- Increase recognition of midwifery as a profession, and understanding of what professional midwifery entails
- Establish core curriculum for Mexico



Joint priority setting & 3-year goals: Deployment

- Increase and diversify work opportunities
- Develop strategies for integrating midwives into the system and linking autonomous midwives to system
- Clinics and hospitals should have a clear understanding of the work midwives should be doing, and both allow them to do this work, and monitor that they are doing it.



Joint priority setting & 3-year goals: Policy

- National Strategy
- Legal and normative proposals
- National and state level public reports
- Earmarked funding for educating and hiring midwives



Joint priority setting & 3-year goals: Leadership and Communications

- Visible, coherent and unifying messages
- Increased media coverage
- Midwives are more empowered and knowledgeable about advocacy and strategy
- Improved networking within and across sector
- Information available to women and communities



2018 vision

- Momentum
- Recognition
- Students and qualified teachers
- Midwives in work force
- Enabling policy environment



...gracias...



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