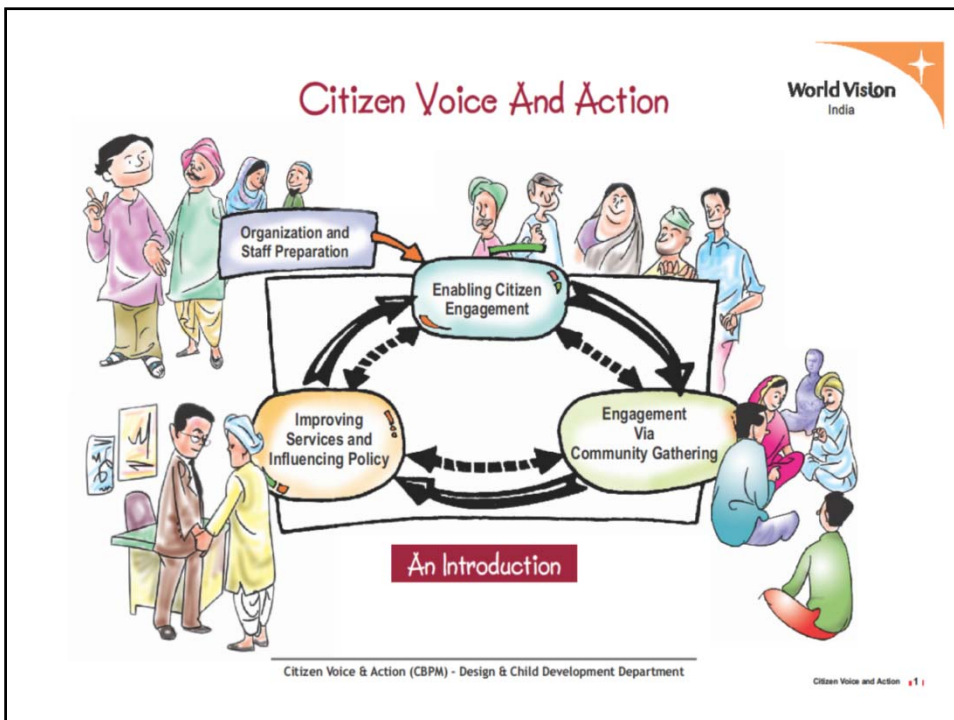
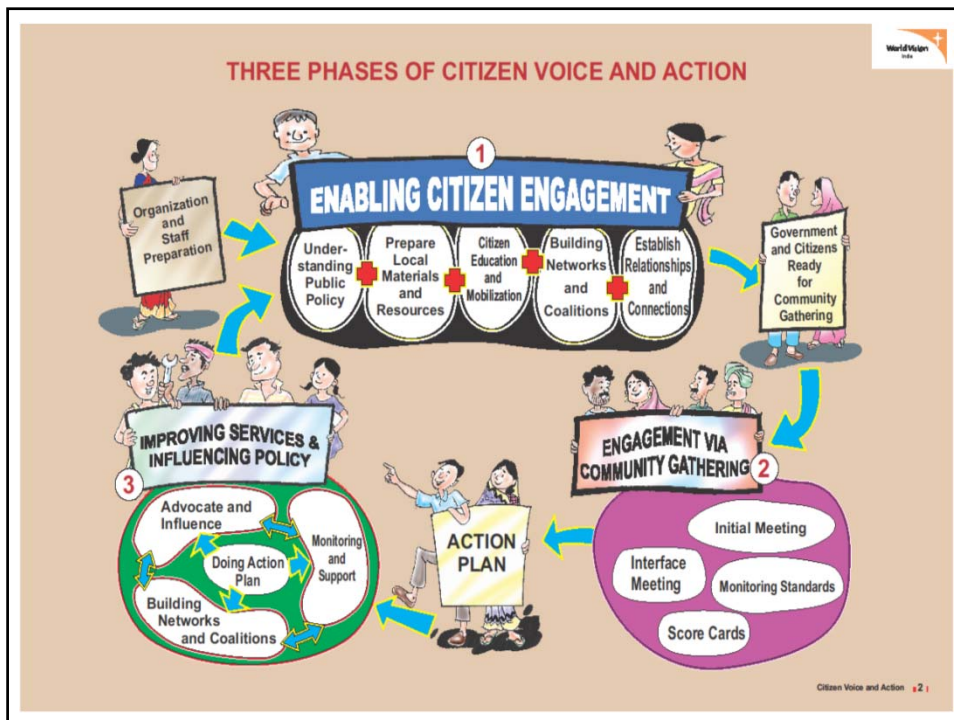
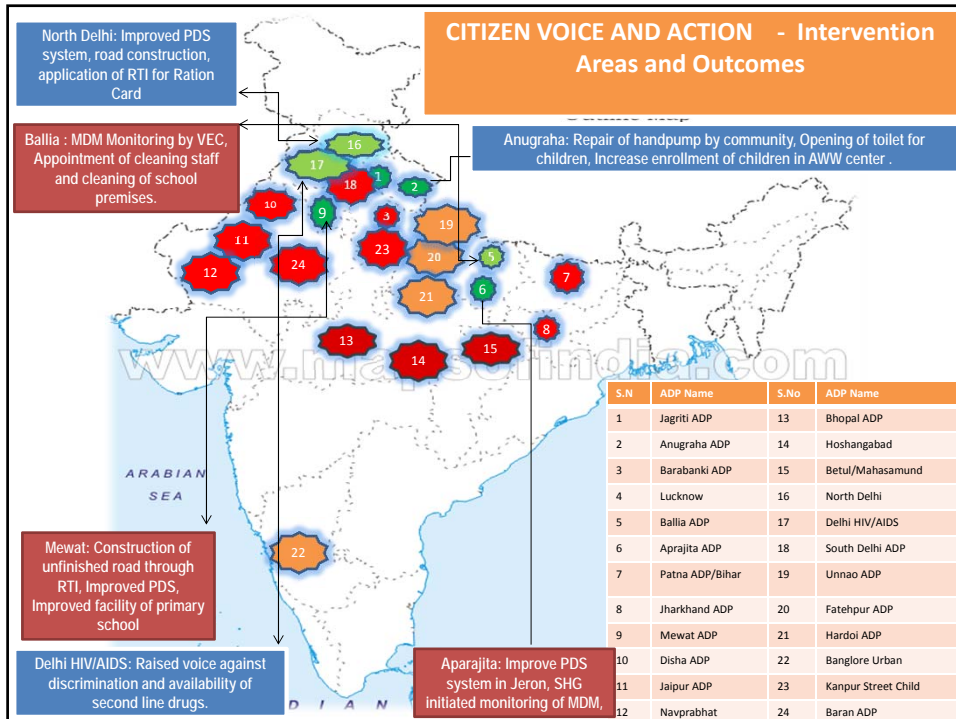


Welcome
to Presentation on
Citizen Voice and Action

Aidsfocus conference, Bern
April 17,2012







Local level Advocacy: Story of Suman and Areef



Advocacy and Influence Story of Shahnaz...Delhi

A collage of images related to Shahnaz's advocacy work. It features a circular inset showing a man in a police uniform and a woman sitting together. Below this is a photograph of an elderly woman in a yellow sari addressing a group of children. To the right, there are several newspaper clippings in Hindi, including one from 'जागरण सिटी' (Jaagaran City) dated 13 October 2009, with the headline 'महिलाओं को देख अधिकारी कमरे में बंद' (Women locked in officers' rooms).

Public Hearing..



Graft cloud over child, maternal care scheme

CONCERN Not even 1% of what the govt had promised is available at ground zero

Ruchir Kumar
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PATNA: The much-touted health initiatives launched by the government for maternal and child care sounded hollow on Monday, when around 150 marginalised women from different parts of the state cited specific cases, pointing not only to gaps in implementation of health schemes, but also reeking of corruption.

The public hearing organised by World Vision India, an international NGO, as part of its Child Health Now campaign, was an eye-opener when women, mostly Dalits and from minority community said, that not even one per cent of what the government had promised was available at ground zero.

Kamni Devi, who had come from Begusarai, said that she had not got ₹1400 for institutional delivery under the Janani Bai Suraksha Yojana as officials at the health centre where she delivered a baby last year said the hospital did not have a cheque book. She also alleged, that she had to pay ₹300 for the



Participants at a public hearing organised by World Vision India, in Patna on Monday.

ambulance service, which was meant to be free, to ferry her from home to the hospital for delivery.

Anita Kumar of Nalanda alleged, that the PHC she visited did not have a blood pressure-measuring instrument and even the weighing machine was faulty. She also alleged, that she had to pay the auxiliary nursing midwife (ANM) as well as the government hospital nurses before the delivery.

Govki Devi of Gounpura village, Phulwarsharif, said that

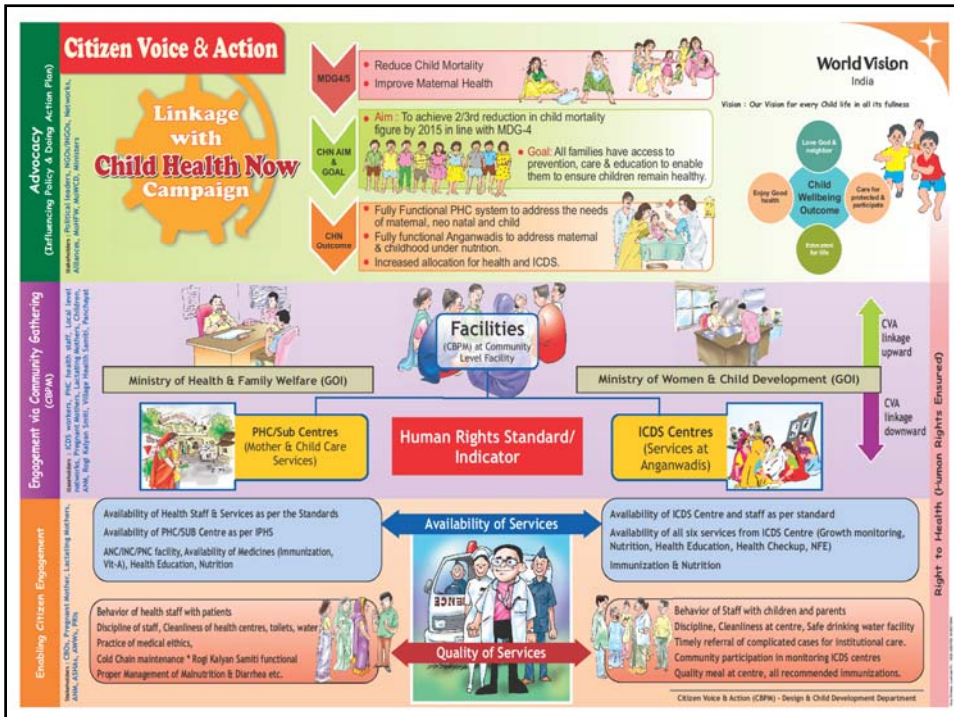
she had to pay ₹200 for her child's vaccination, which was meant to be free at a government health centre in her village. She said the health worker who came after the delivery to provide iron supplements and multi-vitamins had also demanded money.

Even the ₹1400 she had got for institutional delivery was spent on medicines and the remaining shared among the accredited social health activist (ASHA), the ANM, nurse and even doctors.

There were many other complaints, including those of Gauti Devi, Rinki Devi, Sakumari Devi (all from Khaspur panchayat, Maner) and Vidya Devi (Vidyapati Nagar Simri block, Samastipur) where medicines were not provided at government hospitals and had to be bought from outside at the time of delivery. These medicines were then shared among different patients. Many also alleged, that the patients were discriminated on caste lines; the ASHA would demand money for home visits; money for institutional delivery had not been paid; besides cases of government doctors encouraging patients with complicated cases to go to private practitioners.

Campaign manager Rulu Sareen said that she was shocked to know that 40 children of 60 women had died in the last three years in Anup village of Bikanr, just about 25 kms to the west of Patna.

She said the problem was that the government policies were good but their implementation poor and encouraged corrupt practices.



Challenges

- Pressure from within
- Temptations
- Political pressure
- Difficult to motivate people around pressing issues

