



**Family Planning Leaders to Call for 'Full Access, Full Choice'  
at Third International Conference on Family Planning**

*Thousands of experts, advocates and leaders will gather in Addis Ababa, Ethiopia, in November to assess global family planning progress and challenges one year out from the historic London Summit*

**Addis Ababa, Ethiopia, 13 August 2013** – Thousands of political leaders, scientists, health care professionals, advocates and young leaders from around the globe will gather in Addis Ababa, Ethiopia, from **12-15 November 2013** for the **Third International Conference on Family Planning (ICFP 2013)**. Organized around the theme **"Full Access, Full Choice,"** ICFP 2013 will call attention to the wide-ranging benefits of helping couples plan and space their births and take stock of progress to ensure that everyone has access to voluntary family planning services and methods that meet their needs.

ICFP 2013 will be held one year after the 2012 London Summit on Family Planning, which generated unprecedented political will and financial support to reduce global unmet need for family planning by giving 120 million more women access to modern contraceptives by 2020. At ICFP 2013, participants will share the latest data, research and program findings to help achieve the Summit's goal. The conference, which is jointly organized by the Ministry of Health of Ethiopia and the Bill and Melinda Gates Institute for Population and Reproductive Health at Johns Hopkins Bloomberg School of Public Health, will be preceded by a High-Level Ministerial Meeting on 12 November, focusing on youth and the Demographic Dividend.

"New political and financial commitments have reinvigorated global family planning. Countries including Ethiopia, Malawi and Rwanda have stepped up, but there is still much work to be done," said Jose "Oying" Rimon, Deputy Director of the Gates Institute. "ICFP 2013 is an opportunity to share strategies for success and continue building momentum to achieve full contraceptive access and choice for everyone everywhere."

The conference will recognize nations that have made new or expanded commitments to family planning and have seen the benefits of doing so. Among them is the conference's host country, Ethiopia. Thanks to new commitments from its government, Ethiopia doubled the number of women with access to contraceptives between 2005 and 2011, and reduced unintended pregnancies, unsafe abortions and maternal and child mortality. Expanding family planning also leads to better child nutrition, improved educational attainment and stronger national economies.

"Ethiopia has seen firsthand how giving a woman the resources she needs to plan her pregnancies improves not only the woman's life, but also the health and well-being of her family and community," said Dr. Kesetebirhan Admasu, Ethiopia's Minister of Health. "We look forward to sharing Ethiopia's successes with the international community, and are eager to learn from the experiences of others who are expanding access to family planning."

**WHAT:** International Conference on Family Planning (ICFP) 2013

**WHEN:** 12-15 November 2013

**WHERE:** African Union Conference Center, Addis Ababa, Ethiopia

**REGISTRATION:** Conference registration is now open, and members of the media are invited to apply for accreditation to attend the conference at no cost. To register for ICFP 2013, please visit [www.fpconference2013.org/register](http://www.fpconference2013.org/register).

**MORE INFORMATION:** For more information, please visit [www.fpconference2013.org](http://www.fpconference2013.org) and follow us on [Facebook](#) and [Twitter](#).

**MEDIA CONTACT:**

Leah Sandals, Global Health Strategies

[lsandals@globalhealthstrategies.com](mailto:lsandals@globalhealthstrategies.com)

646-867-2877