

factory workers in Egypt

Maryam Essam, Nesrine Salama¹

¹Evidence Project/Population Council Egypt

BACKGROUND

The recent increase in Egypt's fertility rate highlights the need for renewed attention to the country's family planning (FP) program. Research indicates that peer educators (PEs) can be effective sources of FP information. The factory environment offers a good venue for communicating health messages to young factory workers.



METHODS

A select group of young factory workers of both sexes from Port Said were trained in basic FP information, other health topics, and communication skills using innovative edutainment techniques to act as PEs. Each of the trained PEs was required to spread messages to 50 of their peers and, if needed, refer them to factory clinics for counselling. Those who need FP services are referred by the factory nurse to trained providers.

FINDINGS

181 young male and female factory workers were trained to transfer health messages to their peers. Peer educators were not only approached by their peers in factories regarding health matters but also their friends, relatives and neighbors.



PEs managed to reach approximately 13, 200 workers through individual messages and SBCC materials.

مبروك المولود الأول

لصحتك وصحة المولود ... استشيري الطبيب عن وسيلة تنظيم الأسرة المناسبة بعد الولادة

USAID Evidence

أقراص تنظيم الأسرة المركبة

- حبوب تنظيم الأسرة آمنة وفعالة ولا تؤثر على صحة الأم.
- في أول مرة تستعملي الحبوب خذيها أول يوم في الدورة الشهرية.
- تناولتي قرصاً واحداً كل يوم لمدة 21 يوماً حتى ينتهي الشريط، مع اتباع السهم خلف الشريط. (حسب نوع الأقراص المتواجدة في الأسواق)
- هاتفتي ٧ أيام ومعتدين لتبدي الشريط الجديد سواء للدورة زالت أو ما زالت.

الكشف الطبي ضروري قبل استخدام أي وسيلة لتنظيم الأسرة.

مبروك

صحة الأسرة وسعادتها

CONCLUSION

Despite the workload of factory workers, this model proved feasible with a potential for scale-up. Transforming the learning process into an interactive one developed a sense of ownership amongst factory workers. Their commitment suggests that they will likely continue to raise awareness and correct misconceptions after the project ends. The integration of factory management in the planning steps ensured smooth implementation of activities, hence ensuring the sustainability of the project.



FOR MORE INFORMATION

Maryam Essam – Health Communication Coordinator – Population Council Egypt
Email: messam@popcouncil.org.

The Evidence Project is made possible by the generous support of the American people through the United States Agency for International Development (USAID) under the terms of cooperative agreement no. AID-OAA-A-13-00087. The contents of this document are the sole responsibility of the Evidence Project and Population Council and do not necessarily reflect the views of USAID or the United States Government.

