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Emerging Social Issues Division

Social Policy and Population Section

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Article **A Strategy for Advancing Reproductive Health in Myanmar**

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Abstract Myanmar has used a strategic approach to contraceptive introduction for the systematic development of its reproductive health programmes. A contraceptive method mix assessment was conducted in 1995. The assessment led to policy and programme recommendations for enhancing community capacity for birth spacing, improving access and availability of birth-spacing services, ensuring the quality of contraceptive services and commodities, abortion and the management of its complications, and broadening the scope of reproductive health services. Recognizing the need for more information, a reproductive morbidities study was carried out. Currently, a pilot project for the development of a township model for improving the quality of care in reproductive health services is being implemented in two townships. To further develop reproductive health programmes, a more comprehensive reproductive health needs assessment was carried out in 1998. The assessment process has not only helped in programme development but also enhanced national capacity and strengthened linkages between key institutions and stakeholders.

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