

## **MINI-UNIVERSITY-EGYPT**

Towards Improving Systems, Changing Lives: Public Health in Egypt,  
in collaboration and coordination with USAID-Cairo & Global Health Tech

**HCI** in collaboration with **GH Tech** were selected by USAID-Cairo to design and operate the unique activity, **MINI-UNIVERSITY** for the first time in Egypt.

Planning and design of the **MINI-UNIVERSITY** took place during November and December 2010 while the event itself was conducted on 6<sup>th</sup> of December 2010

### **Summary**

The Mini-University was an interactive event designed for Egyptian professionals and students who are leaders in improving the country's health. During 16 interactive sessions, participants learned from experts and each other. Topics ranged from using mobile technology in health care to workforce planning and business partnerships in markets for health services. All resources were available on Mini U web site prior to the event and distributed to the participants on flash drives. Simultaneous interpretation was available in all sessions to foster communication.

For additional MINI-UNIVERSITY materials, final report and documentary photos: Please visit [http://www.usaidegypt-healthierplannedfamilies.org/USAIDEgypt-HealthierPlannedFamilies.org/Mini\\_University.html](http://www.usaidegypt-healthierplannedfamilies.org/USAIDEgypt-HealthierPlannedFamilies.org/Mini_University.html)

Each session explained techniques that have been tested and refined by experts and provides tools for participants to use. Everyone attending was asked to play an active role in creating a rich, dynamic learning environment where all could benefit. All were expected to come prepared to participate, share ideas, ask questions, and be part of the future of high quality public health services in Egypt.

The Mini-University also served as a celebration of more than three decades of partnership between Egyptians and Americans for healthier planned families. It marked the successful completion of several USAID health projects led by the Johns Hopkins School of Public Health and Pathfinder International and ongoing work in partnership with Health Systems 20/20 and the Egyptian government.

During the closing plenary session, Holly Fluty Dempsey, Director of USAID's Office of Health and Population wove through the tables discussing these "pearls of wisdom" and inviting additional feedback from the audience.

Jim Bever, Mission Director USAID/Egypt handed awarded certificates and gave them the opportunity to say a few words. He then gave short remarks saying that USAID is a results-oriented organization. Their upcoming work in Egypt will be focused mainly on health, education,

and economic growth and he invited the audience to provide any suggestions on priorities for those resources.

Approximately 200 people were expected to participate in the Mini-University. The total number exceeded that by almost 25 percent, reaching 247. The organizers estimate that this was due to several factors: personal invitations by USAID and the project staff, diligent follow-up by Health Care International, and the novelty of the event set-up.

