**Advancing Our Analysis of Health Systems:**

**The Health Systems Assessment Approach NEW Version 3.0**

**Tuesday, February 5, 2019 | 9:30 AM – 11:00 AM EST | Online**

*There were a few questions towards the end of the webinar that we missed to answer. Please find Catherine Connor’s answers to them below:*

1. **Joshua Andi Emmanuel:** Who owns the process and the product of the assessment? I mean who sits in the driving seat? These considerations ultimately determine the use of the end product.

**Catherine Connor:** Ultimately, your client for the HSAA owns the product and has a significant influence on the process. The client has typically been the donor, usually USAID. But USAID sincerely wants the process and product benefit and be used by local country stakeholders (MoH, health sector leaders, NGOs, etc.). So usually USAID goes to great lengths to involve MOH in shaping the scope of the HSAA, being available for interviews, meetings, workshop; and wants the MOH to review and have final approval authority.

1. **Bistra Zheleva:** What are practical recommendations for getting access to people until those different bodies that you potential he may need to meet with?

**Catherine Connor:** Hire a well-connected local consultant who has the cell phone numbers of those people, USAID will often assist with introductions and ensuring senior MOH officials approve of the HSAA and tell their department heads to make themselves and staff available. Another method I have seen teams use is a Launch Workshop at the beginning of the HSAA process so local stakeholders can:

* Provide input on their priorities for inclusion in the assessment
* Discuss and agree on the HSA process
* Identify and discuss health system strengths, weaknesses and barriers within each HSA function/module
* Identify additional source documents
* Identify how stakeholder will or can be involved in data collection process, how to move forward, or how to provide feedback and recommendations on major options presented by the team

1. **Oros Adia:** What recommendations are available using this tool to improve community structures functionality to improve health outcomes?

**Catherine Connor:** The tool itself recommends how to assess local institutions including civil society organizations in terms of their role in the health system. As I said during the webinar, I personally think the HSAA could have more attention on community health and structures, and explain how they can contribute to health system performance and ultimately health outcomes.

*Review webinar resources here:* [*https://coregroup.org/resources/webinars/*](https://coregroup.org/resources/webinars/)