Systems Strengthening: What’s new and what can be done?

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Overview

- Where are we with HSS?
- Achievements
- Challenges
- Next steps
Fact Sheet: The Global Fund’s approach to health systems strengthening

A. What is health systems strengthening in the context of the Global Fund’s mandate?

A health system consists of all organizations, people, and actions whose primary intent is to promote, restore or maintain health. It involves the broad range of individuals, institutions, and actions that help to ensure the efficient and effective delivery of an use of the spectrum of products and information for prevention, treatment, and care and support to people in need of these services.
Health systems strengthening

- Global Health Initiative
- PEPFAR – Renewed emphasis on HSS in reauthorization language
- Global Fund - $1.1 billion for HSS since Round 5
- USAID GH/HIDN – New HSS strategy tied to contexts
- World Bank - $739 million in 2007
Building Blocks of HSS and impact on health outcomes

Tools and Resources

- HS 20/20
  - Health Systems Database
  - Health Systems Assessment Manual
- Global Fund-Support for HSS
- World Bank HSS Workshop, June 2009
Health System Strengthening Workshop

A discussion on definitions, frameworks, measurement and moving towards improved donor coordination.

Location: MC13-121
Begins: Jun 25, 2009 08:30
Ends: Jun 27, 2009 14:00

The World Bank (Health Nutrition, and Population (HNP), World Bank Institute (WBI), Health Systems Global Expert Team (HSGET), along with The GAVI Alliance and The Global Fund to Fight AIDS, Tuberculosis, and Malaria (Global Fund), hosted a Technical Workshop on Health System Strengthening in Washington D.C. from June 25 to June 27. The meeting was called in response to the High Level Task Force on Innovative International Financing for Health Systems recommendation that the three organizations create a platform for more effective Health System Strengthening. This workshop was the first joint action by the World Bank, GAVI and the Global Fund to meet the Task Force's call.

Workshop organizations wrote five papers and put forth the following four questions for consideration:

- What constitutes health systems strengthening?
- What elements are needed to contribute to progress and success in health systems strengthening?
- What are the roles of capacity building and leadership development for health system strengthening? What constitutes a solid capacity building strategy for HSS?
- How can health system strengthening actions and results be better measured?

These questions were not posed with the intention of finding definitive answers, but with the idea of soliciting input on the importance and weight that should be given to these issues and how to move...
TB/HIV Update

- Linking needed interventions to HSS
- Improved case management as HSS
  - Building on solid DOTS programs and incremental success in management of TB/HIV co-infection
- Opportunities through intersection with advocacy, new technologies
AFRICA: TEXT MESSAGES HIGHLIGHT DRUG STOCK-OUTS

By IRIN

JOHANNESBURG - A multi-country campaign in Africa is using cell phone technology to expose stock-outs of essential medicines at public health facilities and put pressure on governments to address the issue.

"Stop the Stock-outs" was launched earlier this year in Kenya, Uganda, Malawi and Zambia by Health Action International (HAI) Africa, a regional network of NGOs, healthcare providers and civil society organizations, in partnership with Oxfam, the UK-based aid and developmental charity, and civil society organizations in several countries.

A key component of the campaign has been the use of text messages by activists and members of the public to report stock-outs of essential drugs at their local clinic or hospital pharmacy.

During a "pill check week" in June, information from text messages relayed from the four countries was compiled on an online map that displayed red dots in areas where medicines were out of stock. Internet users could click on the dot to read which drugs were unavailable.

Research by HAI Africa revealed that many government health facilities in Africa were routinely running out of, or simply not stocking, essential medicines to treat common ailments such as tuberculosis, malaria and HIV/AIDS.

What has gone well?

- Introduction of provider initiated counseling and testing for TB patients
  - Flexibility in roles among health care workers
  - Consolidation of HIV data into routine reporting for TB
  - Stronger referral systems
Where are the challenges?

- Full implementation of 3 I’s
  - “Living with HIV, dying of TB”
- Defining our approaches
  - Beyond building blocks
  - What is and isn’t HSS?
- Monitoring and Evaluation of HSS activities
  - Need more quantitative, outcome oriented measurement
What can we do?

● Advocate for the community as a critical element of health systems

● Improve health systems assessment as we design and implement our projects

● Document successes
  - Share best practices
  - Ask for resources to conduct rigorous impact evaluation of HSS approaches to our work

● Engage with our donors
  - “Ground truthing”
Thank you

- Questions and Discussion