



CAMEROON HEALTH DATA COLLABORATIVE

Cameroon HDC Deep Dive: Notes for the Record (7 March 2018)

The Country Deep Dives are led by Ministries of Health and aim to provide a space for communication and discussion with in-country and global partners towards a more efficient support of country M&E/HIS needs. They are to occur quarterly.

Participants:

Cameroon : Gnigninanjouena Oumarou (Cameroon MoH and lead of the Cameroon HDC) ; Fezeu Maurice (MoH- Cameroon) ; Serge Marcial Bataliack (WHO- Cameroon); Alina Berendsen (GiZ-Cameroon)

Global partners: Ray Ransom, Anne Griggs, and Jean Baptiste Kamgang (CDC); Nicola Wardrop (DFID); Verena Kohlbrenner and Binod Mahanty (GiZ); Alfredo Fort (UNFPA); Eduardo Celades, Maki Kitamura and Olive Cocoman (WHO)

The agenda included two main issues for discussion:

- Cameroon HDC: progress to date and next steps (Cameroon HDC/MoH)
- Round of partners' updates

Cameroon HDC: progress to date and next steps

Dr Oumarou, from the Cameroon HDC, provided an update of progress to date:

- The official launch of the Cameroon Health Data Collaborative (CHDC) was in 2016.
- The CHDC developed a work plan 2016-2017. Main objectives were:
 - Objective 1: Enhance country capacity to monitor & review progress towards the health SDGs through better availability, analysis & use of data
 - Objective 2: Improve efficiency and alignment of investments in health data systems
 - Objective 3: Increase impact of global public goods on country health data systems through increased sharing, learning and country engagement
- Significant progress has been made since the launch. Key deliverables produced are:
 - Referent list of health indicators in Cameroon
 - A national harmonized data quality review guideline (and training)
 - Mapping of health partners and investments (draft)
 - Health population denominators
 - Health facility survey

- Main challenges identified by MoH during this time: expanding DHIS2 to facility level; need for further technical and financial support; and full engagement of the CHDC working groups.
- **Current priorities of the Cameroon HDC:**
 - **Improve data collection at facility and district levels and expand DHIS2**
 - **Strengthen the National Health Observatory**
 - **Develop the national Health Information System strategy/plan**

Next steps/actions:

- Conduct a retreat to define the next Cameroon HDC plan 2018-2019. Concept note to be shared by the CHDC for inputs
- Finalize the mapping of partners' investments. Further information from MoH and partners about the process needed
- Organize a "National Health Data Conference" to update on progress of the CHDC; present and discuss the HIS plan; and discuss and agree partners' alignment with CHDC priorities. Concept note to be shared by the CHDC for inputs. Potential participation of global partners (?)
- Key issues such as health data governance and data architecture should be addressed. How?

Updates from partners

- **CDC** has been involved in the Cameroon HDC since the launch. Current activities include: strengthening data systems for outbreak detection and response (e.g., developing and rolling out in DHIS2 a case-based surveillance system for suspected cholera patients); strengthening national and sub-national capacities to respond to HIV (e.g., data quality, human resources) and working with University of Oslo to bring expertise to improve DHIS2. CDC is already discussing with The Global Fund, PMI and PEPFAR on how to coordinate their investments in data systems; and with GAVI on interoperability.
- **GiZ** has been very active in the Cameroon HDC since the inception. Current focus is to reduce the fragmentation of data systems; and improve data quality (reviewing the DQR guidelines and piloting data quality review).
- **UNFPA** supports mainly the National Statistics Office, and has been engaged in the last national household surveys (MICS 2014 and DHS 2011). UNFPA is keen to engage further with the CHDC.
- **WHO** has been very active in the Cameroon HDC since its launch. WHO is supporting the NHO (National Health Observatory) and has supported the development of the reference list of health indicators in Cameroon. Currently WHO is working with the NHO, preparing a publication on "Tracking 100 health Core Indicators in Cameroon".