



MALAWI HEALTH DATA COLLABORATIVE

Malawi HDC Deep Dive: Note for the Record (3 May 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:

Malawi: Isaac Dambula (Deputy Director, CMED); Jacob Kawonga (CMED/Health Policy Plus); Tyler Smith (CMED consultant/ CooperSmith); Maganizo Monawe (Kuunika project); Masauso Nzima (USAID)

Global partners: Marty Gross (BMGF); Ben Dahl and Ray Ransom (CDC); Emily Cercone (D4H); Binod Mahanty and Verena Kohlbrenner (GiZ); Kimberly Rachel Boer (GFF); Laurence Natacha Ahoua and Suwathana Decha-Umphai (The Global Fund); Lauren Wall (PATH); Chika Hayashi (UNICEF); Laure Mercereau and Manuela Villar Uribe (WB); and Eduardo Celades (WHO)

The agenda included two main items for discussion:

- Updates from the Malawi HDC
- Updates from partners

Updates from the Malawi HDC

The Central Monitoring and Evaluation Division provided updates on Q1 progress:

Outputs:

- M&E/HIS strategy. A consultant (Tyler Smith) provided support to address some gaps (governance, results framework) of the previous strategy document, and completed a preliminary costing. CMED is finalizing the costing of the strategy.
- List of national core health indicators finalized (to be printed and disseminated).
- The Data Quality Review was completed, including the analysis.
- 15 SoPs for HIS implementation have been developed.

Current activities also include:

- Expansion of DHIS2 to hospital level and high-burden facilities: a roadmap and expansion plan has been drafted.
- The Master Facility Registry is almost completed and will be operational in June.
- Development of the e-health strategy.

Reflections on lessons learned/best practice

The MoH Malawi has been invited to the fifth Health Data Collaborative Steering Group meeting, Wednesday, June 6, in Geneva. Countries will present good practices and lessons learned in the context of the HDC. Some suggestions discussed include:

- Identify country perspectives on how partners can better support country priorities
- Governance structure of the Malawi HDC can be presented as a best practice (two levels of decision making: strategic, at the Malawi HDC meetings; and technical, at the M&E TWG meetings)

Next steps/actions:

- **M&E/HIS strategy:** CMED is finalizing the costing. When finished, the M&E/HIS strategy will be presented at a M&E TWG meeting before going to senior management for validation/endorsement.
- **List of national core health indicators:** next steps is to expand the list with harmonized program-level indicators

Updates from partners

- **The Global Fund** informed that the last round of grants has been signed and disbursed. They include USD6m to support CMED capacities and use of data. Global Fund is committed to supporting CMED-identified priorities.
- **Data for Health** activities at country level include: supporting the development of a harmonized list of program-level indicators; development of a curriculum and core competencies training for HIS/DHIS; and discussions on a training tracker for MoH staff.
- **BMGF** has supported a training needs assessment, which hopefully will inform the training needs curriculum. Also, Marty is planning a mission to Malawi at the end of May to launch a co-investment with GIZ focused on RMNCH data needs.
- **The World Bank** is planning to conduct a SDI in Malawi. They highlighted the need to coordinate/harmonize with other health facility surveys planned at country level (i.e., SARA)
- **The Global Financing Facility (GFF)** is working with MoH to develop the investment case for Malawi. Need to identify the gaps in monitoring the RMNCAH-N outcomes and impact.
- **UNICEF** has been working at global level developing standard DHIS-2 modules for MCAH, nutrition, and community systems. Malawi can take advantage of these developments and integrate the modules into the national DHIS-2: to be discussed.

Next steps/actions:

- **Curriculum:** BMGF and D4H will coordinate to ensure the findings of the training needs assessment are taken into consideration for the curriculum development. WHO will share latest international guidance on RHIS curriculum.
- **Health Facility Assessment:** Manuela from the World Bank will be in Malawi to explore how to ensure potential HFAs (SDI, SARA) are harmonized/avoid duplications. WB to liaise with TGF on this.
- **GFF investment case:** to explore if the current M&E/HIS strategy outline potential data gaps to monitor RMNCAH-N outcomes and impact.