Progress, Successes, Challenges in Implementing HDC Approach in Malawi

Geneva. June 6, 2018
HDC Steering Group meeting
Malawi HDC: Background and priorities

Malawi HDC was launched in Nov 2015 with the following priorities:

1. HIS & M&E Strategy in line with HSSP, operationalized through SOPs
2. Common investment framework to align investments in HIS & M&E
3. HIS & M&E institutional capacities strengthened
4. Shift focus to data demand and use – National Health Indicators
5. Strengthen the single country platform – DHIS2 and interoperability using open standards – OpenHIE, OpenMRS
6. CRVS – Birth registration country wide at facility level
7. Increase accountability through improved data access

Led by CMED over 20 development partners are supporting HDC.
Achievements, successes and good practices

Governance and Alignment

• At *strategic level*, partnership coordination through regular National HDCs;
• At *technical level*, M&E TWG/Sub TWG on HIS functional with engagement of civil society and academia;
• Costed HIS and M&E strategy in place.

Standards and Efficiencies

• 13 Standard operating procedures (SOPs) on data standards being developed;
• Handbook of National Health Indicators in place, taking into account global guidelines;
• Key programmes are being configured with dashboards in DHIS2;
• Interoperability initiatives underway to reduce fragmentation— Master Health Facility List, Client Registry (DDE, National ID), OpenLMIS, Standard Product list for commodities.
Challenges and lessons learnt

• M&E HIS with an Investment Framework in place - are partners willing to fully support it?

• Gaps in data analysis, interpretation and use – need to introduce the culture of data use for decision support at all levels;

• Numerous data collection tools in place, efforts to integrate in DHIS2 ongoing;

• Adapt governance structure and increase institutional capacity to respond to changing needs – HIS and M&E plays a cross-cutting role for planning and monitoring in the health sector;

• More exposure to global public goods and practices – what is going on out there?
How to maximize impact at country level
Priorities and way forward

• Address institutional capacities and governance;
• Rally partners behind M&E/HIS strategy to implement the common investment framework;
• Draw from global experiences and maximize the use of global public goods to inform and drive local action;
• Reduce the volume of data collected, at least from routine reporting forms upwards;
• Shift focus on data analysis, interpretation and use across all levels;
• Continue with the interoperability initiative, step-wise.