

THE UNITED REPUBLIC OF TANZANIA



Tanzania Health Data Collaborative

Note for the Record: Tanzania HDC Deep Dive (17 January 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 more efficient support of country M&E/HIS needs. They are to occur quarterly.

Participants:

Tanzania: Claude Kumalija (Head, M&E Unit, Tanzania MoH); Irene Mwoga (WHO Tanzania Country Office); Henry Mwanyika (PATH)

Global Partners: Gustavo Correa (Gavi); Jeff Tanner (GFF); Binod Mahanty (GIZ); Davis Adieno (GPSDD); Miriam Sabin (PMNCH); Michelle Monroe (The Global Fund); Hillary Kipruto (WHO Kenya Country Office); Olive Cocoman and Maki Kitamura (WHO HQ)

Update on progress toward the 6 priorities identified at the Tanzania HDC launch in September 2017:

Please see the [meeting report](#) from the Tanzania HDC launch for further details.

1. **Addressing fragmentation of M&E and data systems:** MoH is finalizing the MESI II (M&E Strengthening Initiative) document which will serve as the national document on M&E that provides overall guidance and coordination among all health data stakeholders in Tanzania. This will aim to strengthen governance of data and address fragmentation of efforts to solve data collection problems. MoH is seeking technical support to finalize the document.

➤ *Action: Request for TA to be discussed at the M&E TWG meeting in early February 2018.*

2. **Alignment of indicators and data collection processes:** There are a total of 400 indicators for programmatic areas and MoH is currently trying to ensure they are aligned with the Health Sector Strategic Plan (HSSP IV).

3. **Alignment of health facility assessments and surveys:** MoH has collaborated with partners (including PEPFAR, WHO, and WBG) to review HIV indicators in preparation for a national health facility survey. They are now working with the NSO to conduct the survey. With support from PEPAR, an HIV Impact Survey has been completed and disseminated.

4. **Joint and aligned investment in digital health information systems:** Following a directive from the Government to digitize all health facility data, the Digital Health Investment Roadmap was prepared and launched under the support of BMGF and PATH. BMGF has committed funds to support some of the recommendations. There remain gaps which require support from partners to implement all of them.

5. **Strengthening capacity for analysis and use of data:** MoH has developed a draft document on strengthening capacity around data analysis and use.

6. **Dissemination and access:** MoH is developing a National Health Observatory with support from WHO Regional Office and HQ to ensure all data is routinely available and more easily accessible. This involves upgrading the national HMIS portal. This is a major priority for the next 6 months, and a request will be made to other partners for support. Tanzania will also participate in a multi-country workshop next month (26 February) on HMIS/DHIS 2 standards capacity building supported by The Global Fund, WHO and University of Oslo.

Strengthening governance and coordination mechanisms:

The M&E Technical Working Group is the main forum for all M&E-related initiatives, led by MoH, which invites all stakeholders in health including PORALG and development partners. The TWG is now aiming to meet on a monthly basis to have a common understanding of M&E activities and issues and to make joint plans. The next meeting of the M&E TWG is in early February. The M&E TWG is part of the sector-wide approach to health, including ministries of health, finance, water, education and other contributors to health. The [draft communique](#) from the launch has been sent to the Permanent Secretary, and a signing ceremony is anticipated in February 2018.

Updates from partners:

Gavi is supporting many data initiatives in Tanzania, including digitization of health facility registers, DHIS2 roll-out and standardization of indicators. Gavi is starting a new planning cycle for country engagement. The Tanzania HDC and its M&E agenda provides a valuable opportunity for guiding any change in direction and aligning Gavi's planning process with Tanzania's M&E priorities.

The Global Fund is working with WHO and the University of Oslo on the multi-country workshop next month (mentioned above) on HMIS/DHIS 2 standards capacity building in Athens, where Tanzania will also participate.

PATH is working to help implement the Data Use Partnership funded by BMGF to improve data use in the health sector. In the next few weeks the team in-country will meet with MoH to prepare the workplan. Two focus areas will be 1) improving governance and 2) improving data use through training of staff at facilities and universities. PATH is looking forward to collaborating with other partners from the HDC and is very much behind the HDC approach. Claud has been working to ensure this collaboration.

GFF continues to work with the World Bank on CRVS and has brought in a data expert to work with partners on DHIS 2. GFF is also looking forward to further collaboration with partners in Tanzania.