HEALTH DATA COLLABORATIVE

DATA FOR HEALTH AND SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT

Monthly Update – Aug. 5, 2016

Welcome to the seventh issue of the Health Data Collaborative Monthly Update. We are pleased to bring you the latest news from the Collaborative's partners, who are adopting a more harmonized approach, aligned with country priorities, to strengthening national health information systems, improving the quality of health data and tracking progress toward the health-related Sustainable Development Goals. Please join the conversation on Twitter.

Country Activities

Kenya Health Data Collaborative Tackles Data Analytics
Following the launch of the Kenya Health Data Collaborative in May, a data analytics workshop was held in Nairobi, July 26–29, to support a mid-term review of the Health Sector Strategic Plan 2014-2018. About 60 participants represented the Ministry of Health, 15 county governments, two local universities and development partners including CDC, GIZ, Global Fund, MEASURE Evaluation, UNAIDS, UNICEF, USAID, World Bank, and WHO. The Ministry of Health presented analyses of trends on programmes, mostly based on health facility data generated by the health information software program DHIS 2, which sparked lively discussions about data quality, analysis methods, and data gaps. In the coming weeks the programmes and core team will continue the analysis and produce a draft report, and the final results will be presented at the National Health Congress in November. The broad stakeholder participation in this process also aims to enable partners to better identify gaps and areas for targeted investments and technical support. For more details, please contact Dr Isabella Maina at the Kenya Ministry of Health at drmainaisabel@gmail.com.

Malawi Finalizes Costing of M&E Priority Actions
UNICEF and WHO in July worked with the Ministry of Health to finalize costing of monitoring and evaluation (M&E) priority actions. This will be followed by mapping of partner activities to identify gaps and duplication and to inform a common M&E investment framework that will be endorsed by Collaborative partners. These activities follow a Collaborative mission in November and a WHO technical support mission in April to develop the M&E component of a new Health Sector Strategic Plan (HSSP II). For more details, please contact Isaac Dambula at the Malawi Ministry of Health at idambua@yahoo.com.

Working Group Activities

- **Civil Registration and Vital Statistics (CRVS)**: The HDC is linking up with the [Global CRVS Group](#), which will contribute its work to the HDC's technical package of tools and guidance. The Seventh Meeting of the Global CRVS Group was held in Ottawa, Canada, on July 15. The terms of reference of the group were updated and activities for July 2016–June 2018 were agreed upon. These include development of a CRVS e-learning course and development of international tools and standards such as a legal framework for CRVS and identity management systems.

- **Data Analytics and Use working group:** This group held its first meeting by teleconference on July 13 to introduce and review the terms of reference and the workplan. Existing initiatives and tools around data analytics and use undertaken by MEASURE Evaluation, CDC and the Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation were also discussed. As much of the work of this group touches that of other HDC working groups, communication between the groups will be key. A face-to-face meeting is expected to take place in the fourth quarter of this year.

- **Health Financing working group:** This group held its first meeting by teleconference on July 27 to introduce and review the terms of reference and the workplan, which is aimed at harmonizing efforts in countries to strengthen data for tracking health-related resources and expenditures.

- **New working group on Logistics Management Information Systems (LMIS)**: This working group will complement the [Interagency Supply Chain Group (ISG)](#), a donor coordinating group, by including participation of implementing partners and other non-donor stakeholders. This working group, to be led by UNICEF, will hold its first meeting by teleconference in mid-August.

Please visit the [SharePoint](#) to access documents on Health Data Collaborative work by country and by working group. To obtain login access to this internal documents portal, please contact Florence Rusciano at ruscianof@who.int.

Other Global Activities

- **Universal Health Coverage 2030:** [Online consultation](#) for the International Health Partnership for UHC2030 began July 18. Stakeholders are invited to share thoughts on how best to operationalize the objectives, which include improving coordination of health systems strengthening efforts and facilitating accountability for progress. The Health Data Collaborative's role within the initiative is recognized as a mechanism to strengthen country health information systems that will track progress toward the Sustainable Development Goals, which include Universal Health Coverage.

Communications Tools

- **The Health Data Collaborative website**: please contact communications officer Maki Kitamura at kitamuram@who.int for any content suggestions and blog entry proposals.

Calendar of Events

Aug. 15–16	Global Partnership for Sustainable Development Data Workshop on SDG Roadmaps and Data Ecosystems -- Dr Maina to present on Kenya HDC (Nairobi, Kenya)
Mid-August	HDC LMIS WG meeting (dial-in)
Aug. 24–25	HDC Health Facility Surveys WG meeting (Washington, DC)
Aug. 27–28	6th Tokyo International Conference on African Development (TICAD-VI), with side event on Universal Health Coverage in Africa (Nairobi, Kenya)
Aug. 29–30	HDC Community Data WG meeting (Geneva, Switzerland)
1st week of Sept	HDC Health Workforce WG meeting (dial-in)
Sept. 15	HDC Steering Group meeting (Washington, DC)
Week of Sept. 19	Global Health Agency Leaders meeting (New York)
Sept. 22	Side Event on Universal Health Coverage at 71st session of UN General Assembly (New York)
Postponed	African Regional Health and Accountability Dialogue (Lagos, Nigeria)

Best wishes,
The Health Data Collaborative communications team