Innovative approaches to improving community-level data reporting and utilization for improved community-level health outcomes in Uganda: Community Health Dashboard and Community Scorecard

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Context
- Uganda has historically low rate (50%) of reporting community data through the national reporting system (DHIS2) compared to the facility-level reporting rate (<90%).
- The use of data for decision making on community health services and performance management was virtually nonexistent due to low reporting rates and lack of data analysis and data visualization tools.

Activity Description
- To increase community-level reporting and improve the use of data for decision making, UHSS in collaboration with MoH developed a Community Health Dashboard and Community Scorecard in DHIS2.
- The open access dashboard captures national community reporting rates across the different thematic areas including ICCM, WASH, Nutrition, HIV/TB, Maternal, and stock status.
- The community score card contains the performance of selected community indicators at the different levels of care.
- UHSS disseminated these innovations to multiple stakeholders and USAID implementing partners.

Evidence

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<thead>
<tr>
<th>Activity Impact</th>
<th>Activity Description</th>
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<tbody>
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<td>1</td>
<td>The overall national reporting rates in the 77 USAID-supported districts increased from 35% in Oct-Dec 2021 to 71% in April-June 2022.</td>
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<td>2</td>
<td>Data from the Community Health Dashboard has been used by the MoH to advocate for critical community-level services and guide discussions around performance improvement.</td>
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<td>The Community Health Dashboard has been incorporated in the national reporting system (DHIS2) which further strengthened and increased visibility of community-level reporting.</td>
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<td>The dashboard catalyzed discussions in the different MOH TWGs like the Community Health department and ICCM TWG which enabled targeted interventions based on the data.</td>
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Challenges
- Maintaining the quality of data and cascading to local users
- Stockout of reporting tools
- CHWs not supported

Lessons Learned
- The involvement of end users in the creation of the tool/system ensures that the innovation solves the right problem, integrates other existing solutions, can easily be institutionalized, and improves sustainability.
- An open access dashboard that is easy to use, visible, and provides data analytics can aid routine monitoring and reporting and inform performance review discussions at all levels.