Kenya’s Health Policy and Financing Agenda

Strengthening Stewardship and Implementation of national, and regional voices, priorities, and contributions into health system strengthening efforts?

Question 2: What are effective and sustainable mechanisms or processes to integrate local, community, sub-national, national, and regional voices, priorities, and contributions into health system strengthening efforts?

Activity Impact

The results from tables, text, sections, and a policy shift (towards increased coverage for maternal healthcare, an increased focus on improving healthcare at the community level, and increased engagement of the community), improved health outcomes and reduced costs.

Activity 1: Health Policy Plus (HP+)’s overall approach was to support the implementation of the devolution agenda, with a focus on strengthening the health system at the county level. This involved working with the Ministry of Health (MOH) and other stakeholders to develop and implement policies that would support the devolution of health services.

Activity 2: HP+ supported the government’s efforts to improve the maternal and child health system by supporting the roll-out of a policy to remove fees for maternity services at all public facilities. HP+ worked with the MOH and the National Hospital Insurance Fund (NHIF) to analyze data on the resources required to implement the policy.

Activity 3: HP+ provided technical assistance and capacity strengthening for county health management teams to develop and implement the budgeting process.

Evidence: Evidence That Policy Shifts Were Successful

Figure 2: Evidence That Policy Shifts Were Successful

- **Access expanded and long-term impact:**
  - **2012-2013**: Expansion of access to services
  - **2014-2015**: Continued expansion
  - **2015-2016**: Further expansion
  - **2017-2018**: Ongoing expansion
  - **2019-2020**: Consolidation of expansion

- **Improved health outcomes and reduced costs:**
  - **2012-2013**: Improved health outcomes
  - **2014-2015**: Continued improvement
  - **2016-2017**: Further improvement
  - **2018-2019**: Ongoing improvement
  - **2020-2021**: Consolidation of improvement

Facilitators

- **Political vision and commitment were essential to policy adoption and implementation. Engagement stakeholders, particularly the MOH, through appropriate consultations and forums is key to ensuring successful policy adoption and implementation.**

- **The Ministry of Health (MOH) engaged the program through regular meetings to discuss progress on the national health strategy and its goals.**

- **Expanding roles to include additional stakeholders and private sector actors, particularly in the context of devolution, is crucial to ensuring successful policy adoption and implementation.**

Challenges

- **Advocacy campaigns need to be sustained and coordinated with other stakeholders to ensure continued support for the policy shifts.**

- **Increasing awareness and support for the policy shifts among the community is essential to ensure successful policy adoption and implementation.**

- **Health systems strengthening efforts need to be integrated with other sectoral policies and strategies to ensure comprehensive and sustainable outcomes.**

Lessons Learned

- **Building capacity in the MOH and county health management teams is crucial to ensuring successful policy adoption and implementation.**

- **Strengthening data collection and reporting systems is essential to ensure accurate and timely information for policy makers.**

- **Engaging with the private sector and other stakeholders is crucial to ensuring successful policy adoption and implementation.**

- **Continuing to monitor and evaluate the impact of the policy shifts is essential to ensuring sustainable and positive outcomes.**