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Driving Actionfor RMNCAH at Country Level

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The Partnership for Maternal, Newborn & Child Health

Outline of the Presentation

- Background
- Key ingredients for Success at Country Level
 - Political Will
 - Clear strategies
 - Financing
 - Coordination and Alignment
- PMNCH Country Engagemet



Background

- Tanzania is a country in East Africa with over 900,000 sqmt and a population of about 50M
- Significant progress made in reduction of underfive mortality rate (U5MR).
- According to UN reports in 2013 reached MDG even before 2015 with 54/1000 live births
- Progress in reduction of newborn mortality much slower therefore increasingly it is a more significant proportion of the U5MR the rate is 21/1000 (UN report 2013)

Background

- Maternal Mortality rate by by 50% between 1990 and 2015 but did not reach MDG target. 398/100000 live births (UN report 2015)
- High fertility Rate of 5 children per woman with 27% Contraceptive prevalence rate for modern methods in 2010 (DHS)
- Adolescent fertility rate of 116/1000 girls aged 15-19yrs (DHS 2010)
- Therefore progress has been made but still this is an unfinished agenda therefore a priority for my Government
- What drives action at country level?





Political Will

- In order to succeed political will is very important
- This should begin from the highest political level in order to have influence at every level
- Tanzania was privileged to have HE Jakaya Mrisho Kikwete –former President as a great Adocate.
- This is also a priority of the current President and our Vice President (First woman)
- I will work together with the VP as women this is our flagship agenda for the Women, girls and children in Tanzania

Clear Strategies

- Countries need to ensure they have strategic plans for RMNCAH that translate and global regional plans and commitments into country context
- Tanzania has the Country development plan
- The Health sector Strategic Plan IV which has RMNCAH as a strategy
- The second One RMNCAH plan 2016-2020 is in its final stages
- And the Big Results Now which is a very focused 3year plan addressing selected health sector challenges





Financing

- Financing for health is very important for progress in RMNCAH
- Particularly now as the SDGs calls for universal health coverage we need to ensure we go beyond policies on free maternal and child health services to actually ensuring they are free
- My Ministry has finalised the health financing strategy and later this year will be tabling a bill for universal health insurance
- While these steps are important for domestic financing we also realise development financing needs to be well coordinated

Coordination and Alignment of Partners

- In order to ensure efficient and effective use of the limited resources Governments need to be in the driving seat , guiding what investments and where they should be made.
- In Tanzania we have the Joint Reporting Platform for Donors led by the Ministry of Finance.
- Sector Wide Approach by the Ministry of Health including signing of a code of conduct
- Technical working groups which include implementing partners



Coordination and Alignment of Partners

- Also MOUs are signed with implementing NGO's
- While Tanzania may be much more organized than others still there are challenges in the level of Transparency on financial resources and some grants that are awarded to implementing partners without consultation with government
- It is not always easy for government to respond and integrate multiple initiatives



Coordination and Alignment of Partners

- Example following the UN global strategy other initiative FP 2020, A Promise Renewed, ENAP, UN Commission on Life saving commodities, Global Financing Facility
- While countries already had integrated plans many initiatives require countries to develop and launch plans /action.
- For Tanzania for the GFF the investment case has been built around existing country plans that were developed though extensive consultations



PMNCH Country Engagement

- Having the broad base of partners through its constituencies PMNCH can work with countries to strengthen multi-stakeholder engagement for RMNCAH
- Second wave of GFF Countries is an opportunity
- Also through the engagement of members at global level whose organizations have presence in countries push for greater transparency and **mutual accountability** at country level
- The UN Global strategy calls for multisectoral action which is easier said than done.



PMNCH Country Engagement

- Countries will need support on application of Multisectoral action and in the steps outlined in the Operational framework for the Global strategy
- Many countries will be finalising their next five year plans this year therefore a window of opportunity
- The Partnership can work with Partners at global level to strengthen their engagement at country level and to bridge the disconnect in some areas between what is agreed upon at global levels and practised at country levels



PMNCH Country Engagement

- Support governments' capacity to engage with private sector for RMNCAH
- Also since PMNCH has an important role to play in accountability for RMNCAH at a global level
- Through its various constituencies at country level support strengthening country level accountability and dissemination of best practices
- Regional fora are opportunities for PMNCH to engage with countries for advocacy, evidence and sharing best practices





Thank you