



Health Financing TWG UPDATE March, 2019

Last HFTWG met 20th March 2019 in Dodoma

1. Changes within DPP & Introduction of new Health Financing Unit Team/ MOHCDGEC

- Interim Health Financing TWG Chair: Tumaini Macha/ acting for Assistant DPP. He is therefore a focal point for health financing issues at this moment.
- Policy and Budget section of the MOHCDGEC have been merged under DPP. In future the budget team will also be part of the HF TWG
- Janeth Kibambo (HF Unit/ ICHF) has now taken up her post within NHIF, no longer part of DPP
- HF Unit has now newly appointed staff consisting of two Health Economists: Alex Rutakubana (Coordinator for NHA, PER, DRF) and Sebaldi Mondo (Health Insurance, ICHF and Policy); One Health Systems expert: Happy Kisanga
2 more economists and one health secretary will join that team.
- This new HF team will need capacity development on the job (through targeted TA, for example on developing NHA analysis and narrative reports, resources tracking, budget analysis, general use of data for building a budget “case” for health etc.) as well as targeted training (HF unit to identify needs and communicate to DPs via P4H)

2. TWGs Priority Area 5: Health Care Financing

- During the TWG, members reviewed the HF Focus areas and progress on actions to date:
 - HF Strategy can only be endorsed once SNHI Bill approved – once this happens HF Strategy will have to be finalised and adapted. Currently the main delay around the Bill originates from the cabinet’s question on whether or not the Workers Compensation Fund should be integrated into the SNHI or not. MOHCDGEC has to re-submit the cabinet paper including proposals around the WCF – likely proposal will be to start with SNHI and conduct necessary valuations around the WCF later.
 - ICHF implementation as intermediary step is ongoing. ICHF operators, especially hospitals need to be trained/ sensitized on new payment mechanisms.
 - DPs to help MOHCDGEC make the “case” for matching funds/ subsidies to ICHF
 - ICHF implementation plan and guideline/ manual (Reference guide for ICHF management) will be developed. MOHCDGEC together with NHIF will draft TORs for needed activities in this respect and share with the TWG
 - Advocacy around SNHI should be an ongoing activity. Focus should now be placed on advocacy targeted at regional administration, LGAs and the community
 - DHFF monitoring framework: being developed with support from PS3
 - Drug Revolving Fund guidelines are currently being revised (with support of USAID/ Global Health Supply Chain Project)

3. NHA

- NHA reports (analytic narrative) for 3 years (13/14, 14/15. 15/16) developed and approved by the Ministry. Once also approved by the NBS those reports will be shared with the TWG.



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- New data collection is ongoing, but challenging due to not all partners reporting their data timely or adequately
 - Resources tracking this year very high on government's agenda in health. The President's Office Regional Administration and Local Government has developed Wadau Portal to track resources.

4. RBF

- "Project" funding for RBF ends June 2020 with 8 regions covered. No sustainability plan developed yet but thinking around how to integrate RBF into ongoing health insurance system development should be task of the HF TWG. Reporting on RBF progress was very limited and promised to provide more detail during the next TWG. Ifakara Process Evaluation is ending 2019 June.