Community Health Information Systems: Success Stories from Rwanda and Mozambique

Dec 18, 2016
Africa Regional Workshop on Improving routine data for child health

Discussions around Community Health Information Systems

• Challenges that reflect the diversity and complexity of community health programs

• Best approaches need to be adapted to the context and flexible
Challenges in ensuring strong Community Health Information Systems

- **Scale** – Large numbers of CHWs & communities affect scalability and sustainability

- **Complexity & technical diversity** – Wide range of technical programs/services can result in complex data needs and forms & often foster fragmentation

- **Cadres of CHWs** – range of CHW skills, diverse incentive structures & heavy reporting burdens can affect quality & sustainability

- **Stakeholders** – wide group stakeholders leads to more diverse data & analysis needs

- **Infrastructure** – constraints in remote areas (accessibility, electricity, internet, etc) affect reporting, use of digital innovations, etc
Promising approaches to strengthen Community Health Information Systems

- Strong coordination of partners & engagement of political and MOH leadership at all levels
- Engagement of communities
- Emphasis on digitalization and interoperability efforts
- Harmonization of data elements/indicators based on their benefit / use to stakeholders
- Provision of on-going support for CHWs and community actors
- Realignment of incentives for CHWs and communities
- Scale-up of digitalization efforts beyond pilots
Example from Rwanda reflects highlights challenges & promising approaches

Challenges

• Diversity of technical areas with multiple reporting structures (Rapid SMS, SISCOM, Facility HMIS)
• Interoperability of systems
• Volunteer CHWs

Promising approaches

• National, fully functioning CHIS under MOH leadership!
• PBF incentives for CHWs
• Completeness of reporting
Example from Mozambique highlights challenges & promising approaches

Challenges

• Diversity of technical areas
• MOH ownership & investment in system
• Interoperability of CHIS with broader HMIS

Promising approaches

• Scale-up of digital innovation beyond pilot!
  – Decision support & stock management included in innovative application
  – Can link to HMIS and LMIS
• Partner coordination
Thank you!
For more information, please visit www.mcsprogram.org

This presentation was made possible by the generous support of the American people through the United States Agency for International Development (USAID), under the terms of the Cooperative Agreement AID-OAA-A-14-00028. The contents are the responsibility of the authors and do not necessarily reflect the views of USAID or the United States Government.