Africa Regional Workshop on Improving Routine Data for Child Health in National Health Information Systems

Summary 1st day
Johannesburg South Africa
September 19 2017
Great country examples

• Score cards
• Dashboards
• Data for decision making
Key points from questions

• Data quality
• Data security
• Use of data for quality assurance
• Denominators
• Reporting burden
• Involvement of health worker staff in developing indicators
Child health programming in the SDG era

• Start the SDG era with a defined but unfinished agenda
• Emerging priorities (injuries, congenital anomalies, NCDs)
• Approach is now: Universal, Life course, Equity, Multi-sectoral approach
  • Child health program links with other sectors: education, agriculture etc
• Identify issues of inefficiencies in the health sector: coverage increased but mortality did not decrease
• Countries need to focus on their change in epidemiology.
Issues

• **Reporting burden on health workers**: balancing the need for data and health workers’ ability to provide clinical services (need for data managers at lower levels was mentioned as an approach)

• **Human resource issues** (some linked to above), but also linked to training and supporting health workers on data capture,

• **Data quality** (this will be addressed more today)

• Balancing the need for harmonization and standardization and guidelines with need for more data

• **Denominators** – different questions for different indicators/scenarios

• **Harmonization** – Several of the global tracking indicators could be collected through routine systems – more work on harmonization is needed
Work in progress

• RMNCH score cards – effective way to promote high level of accountability – promotes healthy spirit of cooperation
  • Need more guidance in terms of interpretation and implementation, next steps.
  • Uganda/Ethiopia good examples but more work is needed.

• Health data collaborative
  • Creating traction in countries in terms of indicators prioritization, M&E/HIS frameworks, DHIS2 reconfiguration, HIS policy, SoP (eg. Malawi, others)
Work in progress

• Guidelines for nutrition indicators from HIS - developed by UNICEF
• Quality of care: indicators are not harmonized, outdated guidance
• Training package for analysis HMIS – developed by WHO/HDC
• RMNCAH HMIS module under development - need your inputs
• Need for child health expert group to harmonize indicators and provide tools and guidance for data collection and analysis