Update on UN joint assistance to strengthen health systems in Myanmar

3MDG Senior Consultation Group Meeting
Nay Pyi Taw, 11 June 2014
Aim of UN joint assistance

Support the Government of Myanmar to reach its goal of Universal Health Coverage and accelerate efforts to reach the MDGs by:

- Strengthening the health system
- Improving health of the people in Myanmar with emphasis on women and children

The support will be aligned with:

- IHP+ to improve aid effectiveness and deliver national health priorities
- Global movements on Women’s and Children’s Health: Every Women Every Child and A Promise Renewed

Partnership between:

- Government
- Four UN agencies
- Seven 3MDG donors
- Harmonized with M-HSCC and TSGs
Why joint UN work?

Support to Government to strengthen a single, country-led national health strategy by:

- Harmonization and pooling of technical and financial resources
- Strengthening of principles for effective aid and development co-operation
  - *Nay Pyi Taw Accord*
  - *IHP+*
  - *M-HSCC*

UN comparative advantage:

- Convening role
- Capacity to generate globally accepted evidence and knowledge
- Strong normative guidance support
- Support to establish regulatory and legal frameworks and systems
- Coordination of partners’ efforts
Key strategic approaches

Provide joint UN response/technical support to the Government in close collaboration with partner agencies to:

1. Evidence-based planning and decision making
2. Sector policy, strategy and planning
3. Sufficient and efficient skilled health workforce
4. Procurement and supply chain management: cold chain system
5. Partnership and coordination
Budget

Evidenced based planning and decision making: 17%
Sector policy, strategy and planning: 15%
Sufficient and efficient skilled health workforce: 14%
Procurement and supply chain management: cold chain system: 6%
Improved Partnership and Coordination: 15%

Total joint UN budget for mid-2014-2016: US$ 18 million
Developments since 3MDG SCG meeting 5 March 2014

- Further discussions with Ministry of Health, 3MDG donors and technical and financial partners
- Refinement of key strategic approaches to ensure coherence and eliminate overlap
- Discussions with Deputy Minister of Health on 12 May 2014 (heads of UN agencies)
- Discussions with Minister of Health on 12 May 2014 (heads of UN agencies and 3MDG donor)
Proposed Governance
UN joint assistance to strengthen health systems in Myanmar

- The implementation will follow UN Development Group’s guidance for the management of Multi-Donor Trust Funds, which is designed to receive contributions from more than one donor that are held in trust by the appointed Administrative Agent (pass-through fund management mechanism).

- Donor resources are co-mingled to fund project/programmatic allocations implemented by UN country team members in support of the achievement of nationally owned and determined priorities.
Objectives of UN Development Group’s Multi-Donor Trust Fund

- Provide more flexible, coordinated and predictable funding to support the achievement of nationally determined priorities
- Facilitate and streamline donor contributions and align donor reporting
- Improve coordination among all stakeholders by providing a forum for policy dialogue, and programmatic coordination and harmonization

They have become one of the important financing tools available to the UN to help channel funds towards a strategic vision, defined based on an analysis of programmatic realities.
## Key Stakeholders and responsibilities

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<th>Stakeholder Category</th>
<th>Responsibilities</th>
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| **Steering Committee**  
(MoH, UN, 3MDG donors) |  
- Provides strategic direction and oversight  
- Sets allocation criteria  
- Allocates resources  
- Reviews progress reports |
| **Administrative Agent**  
(UNOPS) |  
- Receives donors contributions  
- Disburses funds to Participating Organizations  
- Consolidates periodic reports & final report |
| **Participating Organizations**  
(UNICEF, UNFPA, WHO, UNAIDS) |  
- Operates according to own rules, regulations and procedures  
- Assumes programmatic accountability for funds disbursed to it by the Administrative Agent |
| **Implementing Partners**  
(MoH) |  
- Receives funds through the Participating Organization using the PO’s respective standard arrangements & procedures  
- **Direct contracting with MOH possible** |

**3 MDG Donors**

- MoH, UN, 3MDG donors
Steering Committee

The Steering Committee will be linked to existing sector groups: M-HSCC and TSGs on HSS and RMNCAH

UN Development Group TORs of steering committees already exist

Composition will ensure the principles of:

- National ownership
- Inclusiveness
- Balanced representation
- A manageable size for effective decision-making
Next steps

■ Form Steering Committee and ensure quarterly meetings linked to M-HSCC and TSG meetings

■ Further discuss technical aspects with Ministry of Health counterparts

■ Finalize grant agreement including:
  – Narrative
  – Budget
  – Workplan
  – Logframe

■ Start implementation by mid July 2014
Thank you for your attention!