Informing Policy - Building Partnerships

The Asia Pacific Observatory on Health Systems and Policies in Myanmar
What is the APO?

• Collaborative partnership
  • Governments: Australia, Hong Kong, Philippines, Singapore, Thailand
  • Co-Opted Members 2013: Bangladesh, Myanmar
  • International Agencies: Asian Development Bank, AusAid, World Bank, WHO (SEARO, WPRO)
  • Research Community: Universities and institutes throughout Asia and the Pacific region

• Knowledge Broker between researchers, development agencies and governments

• Producing high quality evidence on health systems to inform policy makers

• Building capacity for health policy analyses and evidence based policy formation
How is the APO Structured?

**Steering Committee**
provides strategic guidance and direction; monitors the performance of the Secretariat

**Research Advisory Group**
group of recognized experts responsible for advice on quality of products

**Observatory Secretariat**
seated within WHO / WPRO
annual work plan and budget finances, HR, supplier contracts, audit, etc.

**WHO**
responsibility and liability for sound administrative and financial practice

**IHP** **IHPP** **UQ**
responsible for analytic work

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Asia Pacific Observatory on Health Systems and Policies
Research Hubs

- Institute for Health Policy (IHP) 
  Sri Lanka: 
  Fiji School of Medicine; 
  Universities in Hong Kong, Indonesia, China, India, Bangladesh, Singapore, Mongolia, Nepal, Philippines

- International Health Policy Programme (IHPP) Thailand: 
  Universities in China, Japan, Bangladesh, Korea, Thailand)

- School of Population Health, University of Queensland (UQ): 
  Nossal Institute, Australia
What does the APO do?

Products:

- **Health in Transitions – HiTs**
  - Flagship product

- Policy Briefs
  - Comparative analyses on key policy topics

- Multi-country Studies
  - Original country case studies on reforms

Practices

- **Policy Dialogue Events**
- Seminars
- Conference Presentations
Health in Transitions Series

What is a HiT?

- Comprehensive and detailed description and analysis of entire health system and on-going reforms
- Standard template allows comparisons between countries and within country over time
- Assessment of progress towards stated objectives based upon best available evidence

What use is a HiT?

- Common review for use by government and development partners (objective, independent, high quality)
- Monitoring trends over time, comparative analyses
- Capacity building in-country on producing high quality sector reviews
Myanmar HiT: Critical Events

- June: First complete draft
- July - August: Editors work with authors to produce 2nd draft
- September: External Peer Review
- October: Revisions - 3rd Draft
- November: WHO style editing (4th draft), Layout design. Unbound copy available
- December: Printing, Release
- January 2014: Launch
Beyond Products to Practices: Policy Dialogues

Launching the Myanmar HiT is a starting point for engaging in policy discussions:

APO will produce 2 Policy Dialogue Events during first semester 2014

- Synergies with partners
- Responding to country policy windows
- Comparative experiences