Summary of Key Achievements of H4+ Sida and Canada Collaboration

July 2014

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I. Global Level:
The global level activities of the H4+ joint programme aim to build and use knowledge for promoting evidence based practices at policy and programme levels. This is contributing towards effective planning and delivery of RMNCH services through the continuum of care from household to health facility in the countries with high burden of morbidity and mortality for women and children.

In 2013, the programme supported the development of 20 distinct knowledge products, including reports, results frameworks, policy compendiums, tools, technical guidelines, recommendations, handbooks, analyses, action plans, fact sheets, communication guides, best practices, lessons learned, key messages, brochures, web pages, talking points, photo reportage, use of social media and lists of medical devices.

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<th>Areas of Work</th>
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| 1) Technical review (expert review and advice to countries), assessments (State of the World Midwifery report, etc.), guidelines and toolkits | A) For strategic planning, programme management, implementation and M&E:  
- RMNCH Policy Compendium  
- Technical guidelines for Maternal Death Surveillance and Response  
- Handbook to support countries in introducing and scaling up community-based interventions for newborn and child health.  
B) For accelerating actions in countries:  
- Commodities, equipment, supply chain: Tool for Rapid Assessment of RMNCH Interventions and Commodities (RAIC); Final list of essential medical devices for Maternal and Newborn Health; DIVA Procurement and Supply tool  
- Human Resources: State of the World’s Midwifery Report 2014 (SoWMY)  
- CHWs: RMNH training guidelines for CHWs developed  
- NewBorn: Every Newborn Action plan (ENAP) |
| 2) Global advocacy and communications | A) Advocacy:  
- Compendium of case studies on innovative approaches in maternal/newborn care  
- Best practices in scaling up maternal/newborn care, and lessons learned, shared among H4+ countries stakeholders, including MoH  
- Launch events of SoWMY at global and country levels  
- Active partnerships established to support the development and implementation of national policies and plans on midwifery workforces  
- High Burden Country Initiative: Support provided to policy dialogue and national midwifery policy and plans developed were developed in four countries (Afghanistan, Bangladesh, Ethiopia and Tanzania)  
B) Communication:  
- H4+ key messages, brochures, webpage, social media presence  
- Increased partnership activities carried out through multiple events, including UNGA  
- Photo reportage in DRC and Sierra Leone generated media placements in The Guardian and Huffington Post. |
| 3) M&E and management of H4+ work plans implementation | - Review of H4+ country work plans and regular follow-up of implementation  
- Weekly global technical team meetings, bi-annual steering Committee  
- Annual Inter-Country meetings for both H4+ Sida and H4+ Canada  
- Development and use of Programme Implementation Management tool at both global and country levels (“di Monitoring”) |
II. Country Level:¹

The flexibility of H4+ programme and involvement of national-level partners, including MoH, in programme planning and implementation, mean that each country is able to focus on the areas of SRMNCH that are the most in need.

Key achievements at country level include work at both policy and programme levels:

(A) Policy level:

In all countries, the H4+ programme is aligned with national health plans, and supports the creation of an enabling policy environment to strengthen national health systems, through:

1. Advocacy and facilitation processes to enhance resource allocation for the SRMNCH sector;
2. Capacity-building and promotion of the use of evidence-based protocols and standards to improve the quality of SRMNCH care;
3. Support to the development of strategic and policy documents (such as Human Resources for Health plans and MNCH road maps) and to the removal of financial barriers;
4. Strengthening systems and processes to improve the effectiveness and accountability of health systems, including the rollout of MDSR.

(B) Programme Level:

In the geographical areas identified in each country, the H4+ programme focuses on strengthening the quality of SRMNCH care and enhancing community engagement to demand and use services. The activities at sub-national level aim to feed into policy level activities for upscaling desired interventions at national level to strengthen health system.

This includes:

1. Strengthening institutional capacities to build the capacities of health care providers and managers through skills-enhancement and training for the provision of SRMNCH care;
2. Expanding and improving the quality of SRMNCH and HIV services in health facilities;
3. Improving the service environment of health facilities through the provision of essential equipment, medicines and supplies for quality SRMNCH services;
4. Infrastructure, including ambulances, motorcycles, electricity and the rehabilitation of delivery rooms and maternity shelters.

¹ Sources: H4+ Canada Annual Report 2013, H4+ Sida Intermediary Report 2013-May 2014