Health System Strengthening for Developing Countries

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USAID Core Functions

- USAID promotes peace and stability by fostering economic growth, protecting human health, providing emergency humanitarian assistance, and nurturing democracy in over 90 developing countries.
- The United States has always been a leader in humanitarian aid and disaster relief, responding to about 80 major events a year. It is the largest contributor of the food aid that has fed the hungry and combated famine around the world.
- The U.S. has a wide range of interdependent objectives, from national security, to post conflict reconstruction, to poverty reduction and humanitarian aid.
Humanitarian and Disaster Response

As the U.S. government agency charged with providing humanitarian relief on behalf of the American people, USAID works to:

- **Improve Emergency Preparedness and Disaster Mitigation.** Improve the capability of governments and humanitarian providers to engage in disaster reduction and response activities.
- **Provide Emergency Assistance.** Respond to emergencies by offering personnel, commodities, or funding to save lives and alleviate crises.
- **Protect and Increase Food Security of Vulnerable Populations.** Improve availability, access, and utilization of food to reduce risk of future food insecurity in complex humanitarian and transition situations.

Country in Focus: Liberia

Never too early to begin development activity

Transitioning from Disaster Relief to Development

- 250,000 casualties
- 1 million people displaced
- First lasting peace in 2 decades established in 2003
- Humanitarian NGOs began departing as soon as hostilities subsided
- Development efforts began before humanitarian work ceased
Global Health Development Challenges

Each year:

- 10 million children die from preventable causes
- 0.5 million women die in childbirth
- 2.1 million die of HIV/AIDS
- 1.7 million die of tuberculosis, many of these related to HIV/TB co-infection
- 1 million die from malaria
- 415,000 die from the neglected tropical diseases

Global Goals: Meet Millennium Development Goals 4, 5, and 6 by the year 2015 (reduce child mortality; improve maternal health; and combat HIV/AIDS, malaria, TB and other diseases)

Six Building Blocks of a Health System

SYSTEM BUILDING BLOCKS

SERVICE DELIVERY
HUMAN RESOURCES
INFORMATION
MEDICAL PRODUCTS, VACCINES & TECHNOLOGIES
FINANCING
LEADERSHIP / GOVERNANCE

ACCESS / COVERAGE
AFFORDABILITY
QUALITY / SAFETY

OVERALL GOALS AND OUTCOMES
IMPROVED HEALTH (Level and Equity)
RESPONSIVENESS
SOCIAL & FINANCIAL RISK PROTECTION
IMPROVED EFFICIENCY

Medicines : Key Constraints

- Weak public sector pharmaceutical supply and management systems
- Ineffective pharmaceutical sector governance
- Multiple and complex supply systems with diverse sources of supply
- Scarce HR capacity to manage and use medicines appropriately
- Inequitable and ineffective allocation and use of limited financial resources
- Inadequate public sector capacity to provide needed services
- Increased incidence of poor quality and counterfeit medicines
- Inappropriate use of medicines by providers and consumers
- Declining effectiveness of currently available and affordable therapies
- Ineffective integration of new health technologies into health programs and services
Medicines and Technologies: Priority Interventions

- Procure a wide range of pharmaceuticals for USG-supported health programs
- Provide technical assistance to develop policies, systems, and procedures for the design and operation of reliable, efficient, and effective supply chains
- Provide technical assistance and training to develop HR capacity in pharmaceutical/supply chain management
- Develop and implement commodity security strategies at different levels
- Increase use of the private/NGO/FBO sectors to increase access to medicines in underserved areas, including the use of innovative financing schemes
- Develop policies, systems and procedures to promote transparency and accountability and combat corruption
- Strengthen regulatory capacity, national laboratories and pharmacovigilance systems
- Implement institutional interventions to contain the emergence of antimicrobial resistance (AMR) and improve medicines use
- Develop AMR advocacy and containment programs with intervention packages at the global, regional and country levels

Medicines: Planned Outcomes

- Availability of high quality pharmaceutical products for USG programs
- Secure, reliable, and sustainable supply systems providing a wide range of quality essential health commodities to clients
- Local institutions, health personnel and pharmaceutical networks capacitated in pharmaceutical and supply chain management
- Improved pharmaceutical sector governance, including strategic planning capabilities, oversight and health system SOPs
- Access to medicines enhanced through private sector approaches, effective financing mechanisms, and commodity security resource mobilization
- Strengthened local capacity to assure the quality and safety of medicines in the national market place
- Reduction in the use of medicines when not required and more appropriate use when needed

All the above are required for effective expansion of health programs and to achieve desired health outcomes
Thank You

Expanding Access
Improving Health
Increasing Quality
Ensuring Affordability