

Key Takeaways, Day 1

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September 1, 2016



Abt Associates Inc.

In collaboration with:

Avenir Health | Broad Branch Associates | Development Alternatives Inc. (DAI) | Johns Hopkins Bloomberg School of Public Health (JHSPH) |
Results for Development Institute (R4D) | RTI International | Training Resources Group, Inc. (TRG)



Takeaways 1

- ▶▶ We reviewed participants' experiences with mobilizing resources for health – and areas of disconnect between MOF and MOH
- ▶▶ Some highlighted challenges included:
 - ❖ Inadequate resources to meet population health needs (consensus)
 - ❖ Difficulties executing health budgets completely by year's end (?)
 - ❖ Some perception of inefficiency (mixed) and weak internal financial controls in the health sector (consensus)
 - ❖ Delays in disbursements of funds (mixed opinions)
 - ❖ Different languages used by “finance people” and “health people”
 - ❖ Special characteristics of health sector make planning challenging – need for greater flexibility, but rigidities in PFM systems
 - ❖ Challenges in demonstrating impact and efficiency of health spending



Takeaways 2

- ▶▶ But there are more shared objectives between MOFs and MOHs than generally recognized:
 - ❖ Efficiency, health impact, poverty reduction and economic growth
- ▶▶ Opportunities to collaborate, and learn from one another, for better health financing processes
- ▶▶ Successes:



Takeaways 3

- ▶▶ There are many tools available to help improve the dialogue and “make the case”:
 - ❖ Assessing PFM systems and assessing alignment between health and finance systems – identifying points where the budget cycle needs to be improved
 - ❖ Developing “key performance indicators” – better demonstrating outputs and impact of health spending (be selective)
 - ❖ Assessing internal financial controls – better demonstrating accountability and compliance
 - ❖ Data for efficiency – better demonstrating value for money



Remarks from Minister of Health, Peru

- ▶▶ Present a sound and feasible program to back your budget negotiations
 - ❖ Evidence base
 - ❖ Performance indicators
- ▶▶ Get support from the highest political level
- ▶▶ Start negotiations with enough time
 - ❖ Consider the long-term
- ▶▶ Attract and “invest” in economists with sound micro and macro background
- ▶▶ Engage popular opinion – get the people behind you

Thank you

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Takeaways 4

- ▶ Differences between MOF and MOH perceptions from group work:
 - ❖ MOF – focus on sources and adequacy of revenues; mentioned historical budgets and budget execution rates as information
 - ❖ MOF – attention to external stakeholders, auditors, Cabinet and Parliament
 - ❖ MOH – focus on current health concerns, unexpected events, policy changes
 - ❖ MOH – attention to civil society and NGO stakeholders
 - ❖ Variation in whether collegial or adversarial relationships