Human Rights and Gender Equality Dimensions in Health Sector Plans:

A Diagnostic Tool

Under development by WHO/Sida

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The Sector Wide Approach

- Government's leadership and governance roles emphasized.
- Supports collaboration between key stakeholders.
- National health sector strategies and/or policies provide shared framework for health development.
- A strategic entry point for cross cutting issues such as human rights and gender equality.
Objectives of the tool

To integrate human rights and gender equality in health sector plans

- Raise awareness, improve knowledge and strengthen capacity.
- Support analysis.
- Enable identification of gaps and facilitate actions.
Target groups for the tool

- Health policy makers
- Planners and managers
- Development partners
- CSOs
- Other relevant stakeholders.
Outline

1. Conceptual background (human rights, gender, health systems framework)

2. Analysis of the specific country context in relation to implementation of international human rights treaties and gender equality commitments, structural framework and capacity

3. Human rights and gender equality analysis of health sector strategic plans using the WHO health systems building blocks.
Field test in Uganda

- One of the first countries globally to introduce SWAp in the health sector
- Well developed health planning system in place
- Different initiatives/actions to support the mainstreaming of human rights and gender equality in the health sector
- Collaboration between Ministry of Health, WHO and OHCHR at country level on capacity building and institutionalisation of health and human rights
- The United Nations Special Rapporteur on the “the right to health”, Prof. Paul Hunt, visited Uganda in 2005 and 2007 at the invitation of the Government of Uganda. The visit resulted in a recommendation to perform a human rights analysis of the HSSPII.
Experiences from the field test in Uganda in relation to the Paris declaration

- County ownership
- Alignment - use of country systems and structures
- Harmonization among SWAp development partners
- Supporting accountability
- Supporting Civil Society Organizations in their efforts
Next steps in the development of the tool

- Revision based on the experiences gained during the Uganda field test and comments made by key stakeholders and peer reviewers
- Field test the revised version in a second country
- Additional revisions based on the second field test and further consultations