



Debriefing mission Rwanda

Participation in the
Joint Health Sector Review
24-26 November 2008

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1. ToR of the mission

- To participate in the JHSR and to appraise and analyse the JHSR from a M&E perspective
- To identify the needs for future assistance in M&E in the health sector to the Belgian Embassy and/ or the M&E taskforce of MoH

2. JHSR: objective and outlook

General **objective**:

to assess the health sector performance in 2008 at all levels under the leadership of the Ministry of Health, and to identify priorities for 2009

Outlook

- 2.5 days: plenary sessions, only one session working groups. No field visits
- Around 100 participants: representatives from MoH, districts, (I)NGO's, bilateral donors, UN
- Language: French and English (translation available)
- Minister of Health present during whole JHSR
- No input documents like performance report or financial report

3. Framework of analysis

Broad objectives	Specific issues
Accountability needs	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ substance (inputs, activities, output, outcomes, impact) at aggregate sectoral level ▪ underlying systemic, institutional apparatus
Learning needs	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ substance at aggregate sectoral level ▪ underlying systemic, institutional apparatus
Reform agenda	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ harmonisation (sectoral level + with national processes) ▪ country leadership/ownership ▪ broad participation of inside & outside government actors ▪ alignment ▪ capacity building of M&E supply & demand side ▪ mutual accountability

4. Findings on: a) accountability

<p>Substance</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Little attention to the quality of the new policy • Focus on impact and outcome level (MDGs 4,5 and 6) • More attention to input (financial and human) than to content issues • More attention to access than to quality • Hardly any disaggregation of data • No discussion on the recent external evaluation of HSSP I
<p>Institutional/ Systemic issues</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • New organization chart not discussed • Attention to the need for clarification of roles and responsibilities after decentralisation • Focus of human resources/ capacity building of health professionals, no attention for the need for capacity in M&E • Acknowledgment of need for improvement of M&E coordination and data collection, but not an important subject during the JHSR.

b) learning

<p>Substance</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • A lot of data are presented, but analysis of the data is generally lacking (absence of programme theory is not helpful) • There is attention for bottlenecks • A demand for operational research by the districts (they want to know what is happening) • Within the new organisation chart two positions for research will be created
<p>Institutional/ Systemic issues</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • No focus on learning at the level of the systemic issues

c) reform agenda

<p>Coordination and Harmonisation at sector level</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> •Attention for the need for harmonisation of indicators
<p>Harmonisation with other national review processes</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> •One of the reasons to start with HSSP II one year in advance is a better harmonisation with the EDPRS
<p>Alignment</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> •Focus on alignment of planning and reporting •No attention for alignment of M&E
<p>Leadership/ ownership</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> •JHSR is organised by MoH •Each session is (co) presided by different actors -> inclusion •No close relationship with lead donor (compared to education)

c) reform agenda (cont)

<p>Broad participation of actors</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> •Participation of different actors: (international) NGOs, districts, bilateral donors, UN agencies and other ministries
<p>M&E capacity building of demand & supply side</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> •almost no attention for this issue. •One of the recommendations is to elaborate an M&E plan
<p>Mutual accountability</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> •lack of mutual accountability is questioned during the JHSR •No information on progress on Paris Declaration indicators

d) In summary

- JHSR is more focused on accountability than on learning, but without input documents also accountability is rather weak
- Lack of attention to recent external evaluation is remarkable
- Attention for some of the issues of the Paris reform agenda
- JHSR is more a forward looking event than a review

5. Possible areas of cooperation

- Need for match between supply and demand

Demand side: no identification of needs so far

- Embassy points to ownership -> up to MoH
- Director of M&E unit: no background in M&E and prefers other function

Possible inputs from supply side (IOB) (not yet discussed)

- Diagnosis of existing M&E system (could serve as a base for the writing of the M&E plan).
- To support in the organisation of the next JHSR, including field missions, in order to improve the accountability and learning needs.
- To create a format for the follow-up of the sector by the sector working group hereby harmonising the different indicators.
- To give an M&E training for the Technical Working Groups, in order to improve their functioning.