Building Districts Capacity to use LQAS for Service Performance Improvement

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MakSPH-CDC HIV/AIDS Fellowship Program Year 1 Dissemination
Hotel Africana - 1st July 2011
Presentation Outline

- Introduction and Background
- Fellow’s TORs
- Progress to date
- Skills Gained
- Lessons Learned
- Challenges Faced / Missed opportunities
- Way Forward
- Acknowledgements
Introduction

- MSH implementing a project to Strengthen TB and AIDS responses in Eastern Uganda (STAR-E)
- STAR-E LQAS is a Component of STAR-E
- Implementing 3 processes- LQAS, HFA, SPAI
- Goal- to institutionalize LQAS at national and district level to strengthen M&E systems
- Ultimately strengthen evidence decision making
Background

- LQAS- Lot Quality Assurance Sampling
- LQAS first used in 1920s in manufacturing ind.
- Adapted to health sector in mid 1980s...
- Identified by WHO in 1991 as useful method
- Has been used in many areas including HIV/AIDS
- Involves use of small sample sizes  E.g. 19 to identify poor and well performing Areas (Lots)
Fellow’s ToRs

- Building capacity for LQAS methodology
- Documenting LQAS processes
- Attending and participating in meetings
- Participating in monitoring and supervision visits for LQAS Processes (LQAS, HFA, SPAI)
- Participating in the activities for the development of the central LQAS database
- Developing LQAS tools and guidelines
Progress To Date

- Trained on community application of LQAS
- Supported districts to apply LQAS (STARs)
- Participated in LQAS management meetings
- Supported deve’t of LQAS training materials
- Documented LQAS activities
- Written abstracts and articles for publication
- Writing a scientific paper in LQAS-20 Journals
  (Using LQAS for Strengthening Districts M&E Systems in Uganda)
- Programmatic activity proposal – SOPs for LQAS
Undergone LQAS Training

Understanding Concepts

Data Collection

Districts Dissemination

Hand Tabulation (Data Analysis)

Report Writing

Data Collection - Community LQAS Surveys
Supported Districts use LQAS

Data Quality Checks – STAR-E (Mbale)

Data Verification Exercise – Luwero
## Districts Supported in LQAS

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<th>Implementing Partner</th>
<th>No of Districts</th>
<th>2009</th>
<th>2010</th>
<th>2011</th>
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<tr>
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Management Meetings

Typical Management Meeting

Quarterly Review & Work Planning
Supported Dev’t LQAS Materials

- Core set of indicators for National LQAS database
- Reviewed the LQAS questionnaire
- Drafted the IP mobilization tool
- Reviewed Strides DVE tool
- Reviewed tool for LQAS experiences

LQAS Questionnaire
Documented LQAS Processes

- STAR-E LQAS baseline report
- Districts LQAS reports
- Quarterly Work Plan reports
- STAR-E LQAS Annual report
- PLWHA baseline report
- Meetings minutes
- Districts DVE reports

District LQAS Survey Report
Abstracts and Articles Written

- Knowledge of HIV/AIDS Transmission, Prevention, Treatment and Sexual Behaviour among PLWHA in Eastern Uganda. Accepted Gulu University 1st Annual HIV/AIDS Conference (31st May - 2nd June 2011)
- Using LQAS for Strengthening District M&E Systems in Uganda. Accepted 3rd Data Use Workshop (14th - 16th June 2011)
- Written 3 newspaper articles and submitted for publication in the media
Programmatic Activity

- Development of SOP for application of LQAS at district level
- Concept note, presented to MakSPH-CDC program (1 Feb 2011)
- Proposal submitted to MakSPH IRB (8th April 11)
- Defended 26th April 2011

Concept Note Presentation
Skills Gained

- Program management skills - Planning, Meetings
- Communication and public speaking - Presenting
- Scientific writing - abstracts, articles written
- Operations research – programmatic activity
- Computer skills - database management, analysis
- Monitoring and evaluation – Indicators setting
- Resource mobilization – Funding for trainings
Lessons Learned

- Team work offers opportunities for learning
- Fitting in HI requires a lot of support & patience
- Experience sharing enables settlement in HI
- Turning challenges into opportunities, helps
- Fellowship program- Fellow driven
- Following HI protocols, very important
- Leadership & Management, full of multi-tasking!
Challenges Faced

- Reconciling competing priorities – trainings
- Inability to influence certain outputs (articles)
- Very busy staff members to share experiences
- Scanty literature on LQAS application
- Uniqueness of some HIs rules & regulations
Way Forward

- Begin implementing programmatic activity
  - Engage districts in initial SOP development process
- Support STAR-SW, round 2 LQAS application
- Draft, pre-test and finalise the LQAS SOPs
- Develop and submit more abstracts, articles
- Finalise the scientific paper on LQAS
- Seek to present at international conferences
Acknowledgments

- MUSPH-CDC HIV/AIDS Fellowship program
- Host, academic & roaming mentors
- STAR-E LQAS staff
- Fellow fellows and friends