

Building a Common Agenda: Uganda Commitments Initiative

Progress made towards achieving Uganda RH-related Commitments:

Policy Brief

The Government of Uganda made RH related commitments at Every Woman Every Child- EWEC (2011), London Family Planning Conference –FP 2020 (2012) and the UN Commission on Life Saving Commodities- UNCoLSC (2013). Samasha Medical Foundation working together with Reproductive Health Supplies Coalition (RHSC) developed a Commitments Compendium. The Compendium is a compilation of explicit and implicit statements from the Commitments made. Based on the Compendium, the commitments were deconstructed into implementable activities that can be monitored. The Commitment Compendium and deconstructed commitments were presented at a stakeholder meeting at Imperial Royale Hotel in April 2014 for validation and ownership. The Indicators developed from the deconstructed commitments led to the development of the Motion Tracker. The Motion Tracker was presented at Imperial Royale Hotel in April 2015 for validation and was adapted as the most feasible and practical tool for monitoring progress made towards achievement of these Commitments.

THE MOTION TRACKER

The **MOTION TRACKER** was developed to serve as a framework to highlight Uganda’s progress towards achievement of its RH supplies related commitments made from 2011. The **MOTION TRACKER** graphically illustrates commitments that have been achieved, commitments that are being implemented and commitments that are not being implemented.

COMMITMENTS INDICATORS

The commitments were deconstructed from policy statements into actionable points (Indicators) at implementation level and were classified into five (5) thematic areas: finance, policy, service delivery, supply chain and technology. The themes were adapted from the WHO health systems building blocks as shown below.

WHO health systems building block	Thematic area
Health service delivery	Service delivery
Health systems financing	Finance
Leadership and governance	Policy
Access to essential medicines	Supply chain, Technology

Objectives of the motion tracker;

1. To generate consensus amongst different stakeholders on what needs to be done to achieve the commitments
2. To serve as a framework to guide implementation activities among different stake holders
3. To showcase and celebrate progress in Uganda’s achievement of the indicators and ultimately the commitments

PROGRESS MADE

FINANCE

\$5 million allocated for Family Planning (ACHIEVED):

The Government of Uganda (GoU) allocated \$7.6m above the FP2020 commitment of \$5M. With support from MoH, MoFPED, NMS, PPD ARO, NDA, Popsec, AFP, RHU, UNFPA, PPDA, DSW, UFPC

Additional \$5 million mobilized from donors (ACHIEVED):

The development partners mobilized approximately \$25.5m exceeding the expected commitment by \$20.5m. With support from UNFPA, USAID, DFID, IPPF

Annual review of country’s needs conducted and funding gaps identified (ACHIEVED):

A national forecasting and quantification exercise was carried out (2010-2015) and is reviewed quarterly by the FP/RHCS technical working group. With support from MoH, USAID SURE Project, UNFPA

Funding gaps addressed by donors (ACHIEVED):

Contributions were mobilized from the development partners; UNFPA contributed \$7.5m for contraceptives, USAID contributed \$8m for contraceptives including condoms, DFID contributed \$10m for RH Commodities while IPPF expended \$0.04 worth of contraceptives.

RH sub account operational (ACHIEVED):

The RH subaccount was incorporated into the National Health Accounts. With support from MoH, UNFPA, WHO

Quarterly funds released from MoFPED (ACHIEVED):

RH Commodity suppliers paid on time, after delivery. With support from MoFPED, Bank of Uganda, NMS.

RH Supplies procured, stored and distributed (ACHIEVED):

NMS warehoused RH commodities and distributed to public health facilities and the alternative distribution system. With support from MoH, NMS, UHMG, USAID, UNFPA, IPPF, DFID

POLICY

Tax exemption for FP commodities (ACHIEVED):

This tax act was amended to provide exemption for RH supplies through efforts by the MoH pharmacy division.

Declassification of contraceptives including injectables (ON TRACK):

Declassification of contraceptives is being addressed in tandem with the task sharing efforts on going in the country. With support from FHI360, PATH

Service delivery standard amended (ON TRACK):

This is on track as the MoH pharmacy division held a workshop to revise the Essential Medicines List and Uganda Clinical Guidelines.

Policy on task shifting and task sharing in place (ON TRACK):

A task sharing advisory committee co-chaired by MoH and PPD ARO has been established. PPD ARO has also engaged parliamentarians through advocacy ensuring visibility of task sharing at the highest level. MoH (RH Division) incorporated task sharing within the FP guidelines.

Research conducted and findings disseminated (ON TRACK):

UPMB carried out baseline surveys on barriers to access to FP supplies both from community and provider perspective. MoH (Pharmacy division) carried out numerous quantification studies.

CME Guidelines updated and health workers mentored (ON TRACK):

The MoH with support from UNFPA, Amref and WHO held meetings to assess gaps in the CME service guidelines and align them to WHO standards.

Current Pre-service training curriculum updated (NOT ACHIEVED):

No information yet

SERVICE DELIVERY

Health workers in hard to reach areas (ON TRACK):

UHMG is providing FP services in hard to reach communities through the UHMG Good Life Clinics (GLC). MoH (RH Division) with support from UNFPA have trained and bonded 376 midwives to their health facilities in seven districts.

Skilled health workers recruited (ON TRACK):

Different partners are advocating for recruitment of more health workers and holding training sessions for health workers at different health centers. With support from MoH, Cuamm, UNHCO, UPMB, UCMB, USAID-SDS Program

All hospitals offer comprehensive EmONC (ON TRACK):

White Ribbon Alliance (WRA) held an advocacy campaign "Act now to save mothers" holding government accountable for its commitments to ensure women have access to life saving care.

All HCs offer basic EmONC (ON TRACK):

Different partners have procured and supplied facilities with basic EmONC equipment, and trained health workers. With support from MoH, Cuamm, UPMB

Increase comprehensive EmONC services in health centers to 50% (NOT ACHIEVED):

No information yet

Increased demand for FP Services (ON TRACK):

Ongoing demand generation activities by different implementing partners. With support from PATH, Pathfinder, Wellshare International, DSW, HEPS Uganda, UPMB, UFPC, UNHCO, UHMG.

RH Voucher for public and private sector that includes EC, ACS for management of premature labour (ON TRACK):

The RH Voucher system is being implemented in selected districts. With support from MSU, PACE, UHMG, Baylor-Uganda

SUPPLY CHAIN

Qualified health workers in HC IIs /IIIs (ON TRACK):

MoH is conducting training of health workers on inventory management. UHSC is strengthening supply chain systems in public health facilities.

More Organizations in alternative distribution system (ON TRACK):

UNFPA supported MoH to develop guidelines for the alternative distribution strategy. UHMG as an alternative distribution strategy is currently managing inventory of more than 76 organisations.

Existence of the pull system at HCIIIs/ IIIs (ON TRACK):

There is ongoing capacity building by MoH for health workers at HC IIs & IIIs countrywide.

TECHNOLOGY

Increased demand for female condoms and ECs (ON TRACK):

Health Child Uganda is promoting use of mobile phones as a communication platform for inducing BCC towards LSC using the Community Health Management System (CHMS).