Lesotho has developed a 5-year National Development Strategic Plan (NDSP) for the period 2013-2017. The plan is a successor to the Poverty Reduction Strategy Paper and the Interim National Development Framework. It is an implementation strategy for the National Vision 2020. The United Nations in Lesotho has completed the United Nations Development Framework and Plan (LUNDAP) which is fully aligned with the NDSP 2013-2017. The first annual review of the LUNDAP was jointly conducted with Government in February 2014. The National Health Policy and Strategic Plan are both harmonized and aligned with the NDSP and the Ouagadougou Declaration on Primary Health Care and Health Systems in Africa. The National Health Sector Policy 2011 has been finalized and disseminated. The National Health Strategic Plan 2013-2017 has been finalized and is awaiting printing.

The Primary Health Care (PHC) Revitalization was officially launched by Prime Minister in November 2013. The process has been guided by the PHC Revitalization Plan of 2013. The Ministry of Health (MoH) has embarked on the process of decentralizing health services to the Ministry of Local Government and Chieftainship Affairs following the launch of the decentralization process in December 2011.

**HEALTH POLICIES AND SYSTEMS**

**COOPERATION FOR HEALTH**

Many development partners and donors are supporting the Government of Lesotho in the health sector. Assistance from the development partners, including WHO’s technical and financial support, over the last decade has consistently been a significant part of the health sector expenditure. The private sector is diverse, ranging from modern facility-based state-of-the-art services to indigenous medical practitioners, pharmacists and non-qualified practitioners. The development partners and donors support various areas of the sector’s programme and activities. The Health Development Partners Forum, co-chaired by the WHO and PEPFAR, facilitates coordination of health sector support in the country from the partners side.

Harmonization of donor support and alignment with national plans and strategies is essential for aid effectiveness. As a mechanism to strengthen the alignment and harmonization of technical and financial support as well as fostering mutual accountability of Government and the partner organizations, a sector-wide approach (SWAp) mechanism is being worked on. The LUNDAP implementation is operated through the Delivering as One initiative.

While the development community and donors remain committed to supporting the MoH and the Ministry of Social Development in its health development programmes, there is need for improvements in the coordination and follow-up. The MoH needs to be assisted to playing a leading role in the coordination of partners including targeting financial support.
# WHO Country Cooperation Strategy at a Glance

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Strategic Priorities</th>
<th>Main Focus Areas for WHO Cooperation</th>
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| **STRATEGIC PRIORITY 1:** Strengthen the control of HIV/AIDS and tuberculosis | - Strengthen HIV/AIDS prevention and control  
- Strengthen tuberculosis and MDR-TB prevention and control |
| **STRATEGIC PRIORITY 2:** Strengthen family and community health, including sexual and reproductive health | - Support for increased access to maternal, newborn, child and adolescent health services ensuring continuum of care throughout the life course and across different levels of the health system, including the community  
- Promote diversification of health services for adolescent and adults, including reproductive health services  
- Support the comprehensive integration of nutrition throughout the lifecycle into the health sector framework |
| **STRATEGIC PRIORITY 3:** Enhance capacity for the prevention and control of major communicable and noncommunicable diseases | - Enhance capacity of the national immunization programme for effective prevention and control of vaccine preventable diseases  
- Support for effective integrated disease surveillance system for communicable and noncommunicable diseases  
- Enhance emergency preparedness and response and implementation of International Health Regulations (2005)  
- Promote healthy lifestyle and cost-effective interventions for prevention and control of major NCDs and injuries and for mental health promotion  
- Enhance equitable and sustainable access to safe water and sanitation, reduce environmental and occupational health risks and promote food safety  
- Enhance food safety from production through to consumption |
| **STRATEGIC PRIORITY 4:** Strengthen health systems capacities and performance | - Support the planning, development and utilization of an effective and responsive health workforce  
- Enhance national capacity to ensure access to quality essential medicines, vaccines and medical technologies  
- Strengthen country health information systems, knowledge management, health research and evidence for better decision making  
- Support alternative healthcare financing for equitable access to healthcare  
- Strengthen the organizational and managerial capacity of the national and local health systems for delivering accessible, quality and safe care to the communities with special focus on vulnerable groups |
| **STRATEGIC PRIORITY 5:** Foster health sector partnerships advocacy and equity | - Assist the Ministry of Health to coordinate donor support for national health development  
- Work closely with health development partners in Lesotho to improve communication among partners and with the Ministry of Health  
- Provide technical support to health development partnerships including the global funds and regional initiatives  
- Strengthen country office presence |