Opportunities and Challenges in Development of Single TB and HIV Concept Notes

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The Single TB and HIV concept note was piloted in Zambia in April 2014.

The process has been repeated in several other countries since then.

The application process has gradually evolved as learning experiences from other countries are garnered.

This presentation surmises experience from the CN development process in seven countries.

A SWOT approach is adopted for brevity.
SWOT Analysis

Strengths

Country Dialogue
- encourages stakeholder engagement and inclusiveness

National Strategies
- promotes country ownership

Prioritization Thinking
- impact driven decisions are made

Health System Effect
- HRH Capacity building Infrastructure Stimulates innovation

TB/HIV Integration
- improves funding efficiency and investment impact

Counterpart Financing
- stimulating the sustainability dialogue

Financial Gap Analysis
- a useful advocacy tool for planning and resource mobilization

Funding Allocation
- assures predictability of funding
Weaknesses

National Strategies
- National strategies in varied states of development and strength

Allocation Rationale
- Funding allocation limited for country’s needs

Unclear Multiple Guidance
- Interpretations from varied sources

Changing Tools
- Tools are constantly changing
- Limited prior exposure to the tools

Financial data
- Dearth of reliable financial data limits quality of financial gap analysis

Time! Time! Time!
- Development process time consuming as information needs are substantial

Opportunity Cost
- There is a sizeable opportunity cost incurred in the development process

Health System disruption
- Key health managers are all involved during the process
## SWOT Analysis
### Opportunities

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th><strong>Stakeholder Engagement</strong></th>
<th>Stimulates inclusive decision making for health and replicable for other health initiatives</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>System TA support</strong></td>
<td>Qualitative and timely TA support from technical partners contribute to successful CN development</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>National strategies and program reviews</strong></td>
<td>National strategy and program reviews preceding CN development enhance application quality</td>
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<td><strong>Investment Case</strong></td>
<td>Countries with an investment case done had stronger proposals</td>
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<td><strong>System Strengthening</strong></td>
<td>Creativity stimulated, HR capacity developed</td>
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<td><strong>Financial Gap analysis</strong></td>
<td>Where financial data is of good quality, the financial gap analysis is a good advocacy tool</td>
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<td><strong>Service Integration</strong></td>
<td>Improved efficiencies, Improved service impact on TB/HIV morbidity</td>
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<td><strong>Sustainability</strong></td>
<td>The counterpart financing and WTP requirements stimulate increased domestic funding discussions</td>
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SWOT Analysis

Threats

Funding Envelope
Some countries are constrained by the funding envelop available.

Impact on TB/HIV
With limited allocation amounts in some countries, can a true impact be attained?

Limited training
Country teams are not adequately exposed to the process before CN development.

Data Gaps
The dearth of epidemiological, program and financial data in some countries can limit the quality of applications.

Excel! Excel! Excel! - -
Complex Excel tools challenge non-Excel savvy personnel. The lack of an upload function for the modular template.

Application fatigue
Health personnel in countries experience fatigue after the process. The ROI question is also asked.
Recommendations

- The **Guidance Note** needs to be revised to reflect current context
- The guidance note revision should be guided by the **TRP review tool** to ensure CN content responds to **TRP expectations**
- Each application window should be preceded by a **training window** during which intended applicants are exposed to tools and processes
- Countries should be supported to review and cost **national strategies; conduct program reviews; develop investment case reports** and update **National chart of accounts** before CN development commences
- A user friendly version of the **modular template** should be developed with an upload function on the **GMS**.