

Health Systems 20/20 Namibia

PROGRESS REPORT FOR

FY13

QUARTERLY PROGRESS REPORT

QUARTER 3

(APRIL 2013 – JUNE 2013)

[3-MONTH PERIOD](#)

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LIST OF ACRONYMS

KIH	Katutura Intermediate Hospital
M&E	Monitoring and evaluation
MoHSS	Ministry of Health and Social Services
NGO	Non-governmental organization
OGAC	Office of the Global AIDS Coordinator
PEPFAR	President's Emergency Plan for AIDS Relief
PPHRD	Directorate for Policy, Planning and Human Resource Development
PS	Permanent Secretary
SI	Strategic Information
SSC	Social Security Commission
USAID	United States Agency for International Development
WCH	Windhoek Central Hospital
WISN	Workload Indicators of Staffing Need

1. PROGRAM RESULTS (required)

The overarching focus of the Health Systems 20/20 Namibia project is to ensure sustainability and country ownership through strengthened local capacity in health financing and governance. Building on the activities conducted under the HS 20/20 leader, the project focuses on the following areas:

- Improving the capacity of the government of Namibia (GRN) to allocate and use health resources equitably and efficiently to maximize health impact;
- Increasing GRN awareness of sustainable approaches to financing health care in Namibia;
- Strengthening the capacity of the GRN to institutionalize budgeting and planning tools; and
- Strengthening the capacity of the Ministry of Health and Social Services (MoHSS) to make informed decisions and navigate changes associated with the its restructuring process.

Our program of activities will contribute to the following results:

- ER1. Improved financing for health care in Namibia and
- ER2. Effective health governance

During Quarter 3, HS 20/20 Namibia has worked collaboratively with the MoHSS, Social Security Commission (SSC) and Implementing Partners to ensure that effective technical assistance is provided in line with GRN needs. The following is a brief summary of the quarterly activities and results.

2. PROGRAM-AREA NARRATIVES FOR THE PAST 3 MONTHS (Apr 2013-Jun 2013) (required)

2.1 Program Area 1: Improved capacity of the GRN to allocate and use health resources equitably and efficiently to maximize health impact

Activity 1.1.1: Evaluate cost implications of proposed revisions to the establishment for health workers based on the national level WISN activity conducted by the IntraHealth Namibia HIV Prevention, Care and Support Project

- **Accomplishments**

Health Systems 20/20 Namibia is evaluating the cost implications of proposed changes to the national staffing norms for health workers based on the Workload Indicators of Staffing Need (WISN) assessment conducted by the IntraHealth Namibia HIV Prevention, Care and Support Project. During this quarter, HS 20/20 Namibia finalized the costing methodology for the relevant policy scenarios in consultation with the Human Resources Management Directorate at MoHSS. The final data requirements and sources were also defined.

- **Challenges**

HS 20/20 Namibia targeted August 2013 for completion of this activity to ensure that the results of the costing are incorporated into the budgeting for the next fiscal year, but delays in receiving the finalized data from IntraHealth have pushed the likely completion to the end of September 2013.

- **Planned events for next quarter**

HS 20/20 Namibia will travel to Namibia in July 2013 for meetings with IntraHealth and the MoHSS to gather supplemental data. Completion of this activity is anticipated in the next quarter.

Activity 1.1.2: Evaluate the impact of implementing a revised health resource allocation methodology

- **Accomplishments**

There were no significant accomplishments on this activity during the quarter.

- **Challenges**

This activity was initially defined as a priority for PPHRD in close consultation with their senior staff. However, staffing limitations (loss of two staff within the last 6 months and delays in hiring replacements) have limited their ability to support this activity. At PPHRDs direction, this activity will not be pursued in this contract year.

- **Planned events for next quarter**

HS 20/20 Namibia will submit a request to the USAID (Pretoria) Contracting Officer to request removal of this activity from the contract scope and to use the activity funds to support the SSC-DF sustainability analysis.

2.2 Program Area 2: Increased GRN awareness of sustainable approaches to financing health care in Namibia

Activity 1.2.1: Draft National Health Insurance Road Map Proposal document on behalf of the Social Security Commission

- **Accomplishments**

Health Systems 20/20 Namibia has been working with the Namibian Social Security Commission (SSC) to explore options to improve access to health insurance programs. During this quarter the MoHSS Permanent Secretary endorsed the SSC moving forward as the lead agency with exploring implementation of a national health insurance program. In June 2013, at the request of the SSC, HS 20/20 Namibia reviewed the SSC's proposed budget in the draft Road Map for Exploring National Health Insurance and compared it for consistency to the specifications of an African Development Bank grant received by the SSC. This summary review will be used by the SSC during its grant initiation meeting with the African Development Bank in July 2013.

- **Challenges**

Delays in the MoHSS Permanent Secretary's endorsement of the SSC's role in reviewing national health insurance slowed SSC's progress toward reaching agreement with the African Development Bank on grant support. This has now been resolved.

- **Planned events for next quarter**

The Health Systems 20/20 Namibia team will prepare an advocacy brief on national health insurance for use by the SSC in discussion with key stakeholders.

Activity 1.2.2: Plan and supervise a study tour to support SSC's efforts to strengthen the Development Fund's programs to move the unemployed and uninsured into the labor market.

- **Accomplishments**

Health Systems 20/20 Namibia developed a study tour plan to support SSC's efforts to strengthen the Development Fund's programs which aim to move the unemployed and uninsured into the labor market. In April 2013, HS 20/20 Namibia led a delegation from the SSC on a two week study tour to Atlanta, Georgia in the United States and to Brasilia and Rio de Janeiro in Brazil to explore initiatives implemented for the purpose of reducing unemployment. These visits served to inform the design and implementation of similar initiatives by the SSC's Development Fund. The SSC delegation included the Acting Executive Director and the Manager of the Development Fund. The study tour delegation met with government agencies and education institutions in both countries to understand best practices in job creation and workforce development. In addition, the study tour examined the

financing mechanisms and the monitoring and evaluation strategies utilized by the State of Georgia and Government of Brazil.

HS 20/20 Namibia is preparing to examine the sustainability of the SSC Development Fund's financing model and propose recommendations for improving its sustainability over time. In March 2013, HS 20/20 Namibia's Finance Technical Advisor met with the manager of the Development Fund to discuss the activity. The current business plan for the Development Fund predicts a funding shortfall in Year 4 (2015/16). HS 20/20 Namibia's activity team will focus its analysis on the financial sustainability, but this will be done in the context of the Development Fund's overall organizational sustainability, such as its capacity to fulfill its obligations in the selection of grantees and monitoring and evaluation of grants.

- **Challenges**

Several scheduling delays moved the original dates from January/February 2013 to April 2013.

- **Planned events for next quarter**

With the study tour complete, a final report detailing the lessons learned and next steps for the SSC will be prepared by Health Systems 20/20 Namibia and the SSC. In addition, Health Systems 20/20 Namibia will examine the sustainability of the SSC Development Fund's financing model and propose recommendations for improving its sustainability over time. SSC's current business plan for the Development Fund predicts a funding shortfall in Year 4 (2015/16). HS 20/20 Namibia's activity team will focus its analysis on the financial sustainability, but this will be done in the context of the Development Fund's overall organizational sustainability, such as its capacity to fulfill its obligations in the selection of grantees and monitoring and evaluation of grants. Health Systems 20/20 technical staff will travel to Namibia in July 2013 to conduct key informant interviews and collect the financial and organizational data to analyze the sustainability of the SSC's Development Fund.

2.3 Program Area 3: Strengthened capacity of the MoHSS to make informed decisions and navigate change associated with its restructuring efforts to ensure greater responsiveness to Namibia's evolving health care needs

Activity 2.1.2: Conduct a feasibility study for the Katutura-Windhoek Teaching and Referral Hospital Complex

- **Accomplishments**

HS 20/20 Namibia received approval for the feasibility study June 4 from the MoHSS Permanent Secretary with a request that results be provided by the beginning of August 2013. The scope of the feasibility assessment was narrowly focused considering three scenarios: Scenario I) Maintaining the Status Quo, Scenario II - Realignment of Clinical Services without Merger and Scenario III - A Full Asset Merger between Katutura Intermediate Hospital (KIH) and Windhoek Central Hospital (WCH). Health Systems 20/20 Namibia quickly mobilized a team and during June 2013, the assessment team began collecting data, compiling and reviewing existing literature, arranging key stakeholder interviews, conducting key stakeholder interviews and initiating on-site visits to KIH and WCH all the while extending and building upon the existing foundation of work recently accomplished by USAID. The Health Systems 20/20 feasibility study team began field work on June 25, 2013 in collaboration with PPHRD and the MoHSS.

- **Challenges**

The delay in approval of this activity (from submission of the concept note in late November 2012 to formal approval in early June 2013) created significant time and logistical constraints. The Health Systems 20/20 feasibility study team was also only allotted eight weeks by the MoHSS from start to

finish to collect data, perform analysis, compile results, form initial proposals, triangulate proposals through interviews, conduct on-site visits, analyze available financial and service utilization data, and form complete recommendations.

- **Planned events for next quarter**

The feasibility study field work, analysis and submission of the final recommendations are anticipated to be completed within the next quarter.

2.6 Other information we want to share with USAID (optional)

None

ENVIRONMENTAL ISSUES (required)

There were no environmental issues to report for FY13 Q3.

ISSUES WITH DATA QUALITY (required)

- **What we are doing on a routine basis to ensure that our data is high quality?**

Data source cross-checking, triangulating preliminary results, multiple source data collection.

- **Specific concerns we have with the quality of the data reported in this report and how we will fix it**

There were no specific concerns with quality of the data reported in this report for FY13 Q3.

FEEDBACK ON COMPLETING THIS REPORT (optional)

No feedback.