



The meeting of the Governments officials and Donors will be held in Dar-es-Salaam/Tanzania from 5-7 March 2012, Concept paper

Performance Based Financing (PBF) has gained ground over the last years as one cost-effective strategy for health system strengthening. Whereas international NGOs and local partner Civil Society Organizations have been on the forefront of pioneering PBF, the methodology is embraced increasingly by Government officials and donors. The number of countries that are on the brink of introducing and bringing PBF from pilot to scale is increasing rapidly. In some countries, PBF has become part of the national health policy (Rwanda and Burundi).

Despite a number of known universal principles, in its application PBF is adopted to locally different situations. This stems largely from a different mix of interests and capacities of Governments, donors and CSO. This mixture will determine what the best way is to materialize the implementation of PBF, what policies will work and what are their implications.

Because of this lack of a blueprint approach, there is a continuous need to share experiences.

For this purpose, The Multi-country PBF Network was established. It is a network of Civil Society Organizations in seven countries: Burundi, Cameroon, Central African Republic, Democratic Republic of Congo, Rwanda and Tanzania. These countries bring a wide variety of experiences ranging from pilot projects to national scale programmes.

The Multi-country PBF Network will organize a high level conference that provides a platform for Governments, donors and CSO's to meet, exchange with each other and with experts, and discuss on policy issues regarding the implementation of PBF. Experts from inside and outside the 7 Network countries will be giving presentations followed by discussion on a number of relevant topics.

Objectives

At the end of the conference participants:

1. Know some of the state of the art evidence of the impact of PBF on the utilization of health services, quality, human resources, governance, client satisfaction, and some potential risks.
2. are aware what policy decisions are required at what level to implement or expand PBF
3. are able to assess the (political, economic, social) implications of decentralization, transfer of autonomy
4. know and value the role of different stakeholders, notably Civil Society organizations

5. are part of an international network with access to experts in Government, donors and CSO

Participants

From Government side, participants will be high level directors of the ministry of Health or Finance in charge of PBF.

From donor organizations, participants will be representatives from headquarters, senior country- or regional representatives.

From Civil Society: Directors, Chairs of the Executive Board

Participation is upon invitation.

Date and Location

The conference will be held in Dar-es-Salaam on 5-7 March 2012.

Outline of the programme

(Day 1)

Arrival of participants

Opening protocol

Reception

(Day 2)

Welcome; key note address; host country

Explanation of the objectives of the meeting, presentation of the agenda

Session1 Presentations:

- Evidence of impact: (expert)
- Strengths and risks

Session 2

1. Presentations

2. Working session: What are needs/ obstacles for decentralization, how much autonomy to which level. What policy changes are necessary and who is responsible for that

Session 3

1. Presentation

2. Working session: How to harmonize different PBF approaches: role of different actors: international and national NGO's, donors, local and central Government.

Official reception/diner

(Day 3)

Evaluation

Conclusion /recommendations

The way forward (partners)

A detailed agenda will follow shortly.