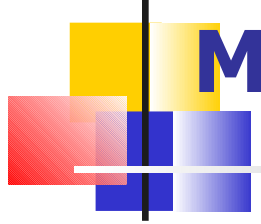


Increasing access to Essential Medicines through Collaboration with CSOs, government and WHO



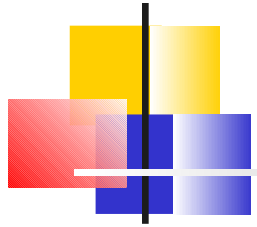
Patrick Mubangizi
Coordinator HAI Africa

WHO/EDM-HAI Africa Regional Collaboration for Action on Essential Medicines in Africa



- Increased access to essential medicines through improved policies and practices - joint priority areas of work: pricing and IPR issues, NDP, EML
- Increased capacity & participation of NGOs and consumers in medicines policy development and implementation
- Expanded participation in and strengthened coordination of the HAI Africa Network
- Project countries: Ghana, Kenya and Uganda

Rationale for WHO-CSO collaboration in countries



- Learn from our differences: mandates & approaches
- Synergy of expertise and know-how for greater impact
- Enhance CSO participation in policy development and implementation
- Empower CSO and build capacity in the medicines field
- Forge dialogue and links between MOH and CSOs
- Improve co-ordination and efficient use of resources

Country working Group: Uganda



THE REPUBLIC OF UGANDA

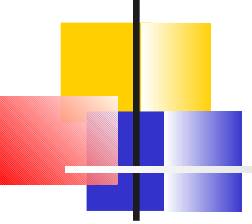


WORLD HEALTH ORGANIZATION

HAI

HEALTH ACTION INTERNATIONAL

Collaboration activities

- 
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- Joint activities: based on
 - ✓ Country priorities
 - ✓ Likelihood of sustainable impact
 - ✓ Added value in joint activity implementation
 - Country Pharmaceutical Sector Baseline Surveys 2002-2003
 - Medicine Prices Surveys 2004-2005
 - Intellectual Property Rights (IPR) issues continuous



Progress activities

- National RUM guidelines in Kenya
- Knowledge Attitudes and Belief Studies-Ghana
- Participation in essential Medicines lists updates in the three countries
- advocacy on medicine prices in Kenya
- Rational use of medicines in community -Uganda
- Advocacy on incorporation and utilization of TRIPS flexibilities at national and regional levels
- Monitoring of medicine Prices in 4 countries



Achievements of the collaboration

- CSO participation in policy reviews enhanced
 - ✓ Increased awareness of IP issues and activities
 - ✓ Involvement of HAI Africa partners in medicines policy formulation (Health Sector Strategic Plan Medicines Working Group),IPHAG Kenya
 - ✓ Involvement of discussions at sub regional and regional levels-IGWG



Contribution to health systems

- Improved access to essential medicines through
 - ✓ Increased funding for essential medicines
 - ✓ Improved drug management
 - ✓ Increased availability of some essential medicines in the public sector
 - ✓ Removal of taxes on raw materials in Ghana



Challenges

- Institutionalization of the Collaboration
 - Subcommittees of other policy committees
- Sustainability of the Collaboration - CSO partners at country level independent
- Different mandates and constituencies of partners
- Marketing the collaboration beyond the pharmacy divisions/departments



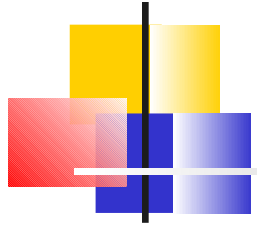
Future plans

- Expand the collaboration way of working to the SADC region
- Increased engagements at sub-regional and regional level - Regional Committees
- Rational Use and medicines promotion work in the region
- Pricing policy, regulation, procurement issues



About HAI Africa

- Network of individuals, academics, NGOs in Africa
- Important Objective - Increasing capacity of local CSOs in health policy formulation and implementation
- Philosophy - Right to health and access to essential medicines is basic human right of every individual irrespective of age, gender, social status.



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- Asante Sana
 - Merci
 - Thank you