

FHI 360 SOUTH AFRICA

MOBILE SERVICE UNIT (MSU) SUBPROJECT DISSEMINATION

REPORT AND TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE REQUIRED TO DOH

DISTRICTS

FHI 360 Team Members

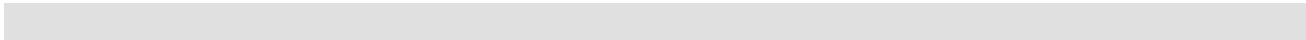
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September 16th -20th 2013



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1) INTRODUCTION

The MSU project is being transitioned from FHI 360 South Africa to the Department of Health as per original agreement effective June 30th 2012. This report describes the MSU Subproject project's final dissemination activities, with an outline of its history, implementation, outcomes, achievements, challenges, lessons learned and recommendations. The MSU project was implemented in four provinces, namely: Eastern Cape (O.R Tambo District); Kwa-Zulu Natal (Amajuba District); Limpopo (Greater Sekhukhune District) and Mpumalanga (Gert Sibande & Ehlanzeni Districts) in partnership with the South African Government in particularly the National Department of health. The MSU final dissemination activity was conducted in each district in an effort to understand different needs from these different districts bearing in mind that their needs are not the same in terms of technical assistance that might be required post the MSU transition.

2) MSU SUBPROJECT ACTIVITIES - SEPTEMBER 16-20, 2013

Orientation and Briefing

A meeting was held in September 16th – 20th, 2013 where the FHI 360 team conducted MSU subproject final dissemination in each of the districts mentioned above. The purpose of these meetings was to provide an in-depth final dissemination report of FHI 360 Mobile Services Unit (MSU) sub-project as per recommendation by the National Department of Health. In attendance were: FHI 360 team comprised of Hector, Osiah and Julia and department of health officials from different districts.

Summary of Key Issues Emerging from Dissemination Briefings

Below is a summary of key issues highlighted from the meetings and interaction with Department of Health staff during the dissemination briefings.

Eastern Cape, O. R Tambo District (September 16, 2013)

The first dissemination meeting was held in Eastern Cape in Mthatha under the O.R Tambo District and was hosted by the Local Service Area offices. The FHI 360 team was welcomed by Mrs. Ntshanga who is the Sub-District Manager. Mrs. Ntshanga had invited all managers of the different program areas that include the Primary health Care (PHC) ward based team, HIV Care and support, MCWH, District health specialist team and school health team.

The meeting was opened with introductions and thereafter Mrs. Ntshanga took the opportunity to thank FHI 360 for the support provided to the O. R Tambo District department of health. In her speech the following came out clearly:

- The Sub-district manager outlined the key objective of the MSU subproject (FP/HIV integration) and elaborated how this was expanded to include the whole package of the PHC services
- She emphasized the manner in which the MSU strived to meet the needs of people who had no health services before and how it penetrated out of Mvezo to reach out to other communities. In this she stressed that “the presence of FHI 360 benefited a lot of people who could have not received health care services”
- Subsequent to Mrs. Ntshanga’ s welcome speech FHI 360 was given the opportunity to announce their presence and explain the purpose of the visit. FHI 360 team took to an opportunity and thanked the Department of Health for working in partnership with FHI 360 to provide the kind of essential service to the people of Eastern Cape, particularly of Mvezo and other surrounding areas. FHI 360 commended O.R Tambo District, in particular KSD Sub-district for their support in ensuring that the project had access to medical supplies to render comprehensive Primary Health Care services to all the clients who had to travel 10-15 km’s to access a fixed facility.
- FHI360 went on to explain the purpose of the meeting was to discuss the achievements, challenges and lessons learned and share some recommendations and wedge a way forward as the government

adopt the MSU model. Also have an understanding of the department's needs in terms of support from FHI360

FHI360 team presented the MSU report to the Department of Health officials and the PPT presentation was accepted by all delegates from the Sub District Department of Health. The presentation was followed by an open discussion. In the discussion KSD Sub-district officials indicated that they will appreciate technical support from FHI 360 in the area of retention. FHI 360 should ensure that the Card Retention System used in Mvezo MSU subproject is replicated in all the clinics. The team at the sub-district also requested FHI 360 to assist with technical support in the area of National Core Norms and Standards. The Manager highlighted that all facilities in the district all not doing well in terms of compliance.

Requested MSU Technical Assistance

- Technical support from FHI 360 in ensuring that the Card Retention System used in Mvezo MSU project is replicated in all the clinics.
- Technical support in the area of National Core Health Standards. The Manager highlighted that all facilities in the district are not doing well in terms of compliance.
- Integration of FP/HIV- Need for training on Family Planning
- No vehicle to continue with outreach activities following the accident of the MSU vehicle

Mpumalanga, Gert Sibande District (September 17th, 2013)

The second dissemination meeting was held in Ermelo in Mpumalanga Province and was attended by 5 senior representatives from the Department of Health. The team leader from the department of health apologized on behalf of the Primary Health Care (PHC) manager who was not able to attend due to conflicting office demands. FHI 360 explained the purpose of the visit and conducted a PowerPoint presentation on the MSU report. A discussion followed and the following key points were noted in the next paragraph.

Requested MSU Technical Assistance

- Gert Sibande district requested technical support in the area of training in rolling out PHC re-engineering. The district alluded that they could identify Train of Trainers who can be trained by FHI 360. The trained TOT's will be tasked to train other health care providers in all the sub-districts of Gert Sibande District.
- The district officials highlighted that the other area where FHI 360 can provide support is School Health Program. The district team stated that they are experiencing challenges in providing family planning services in schools because school authorities do not allow this kind of services in the school premises. However, the policy is still in formulation stage.
- The team also mentioned that the district would like to have community care givers trained on community mobilization on family planning services.
- The department also want to have the clinic committees trained on governance issues. A curriculum for this training is in place and the training is for 3 days.
- With regards to the MSU vehicle the team mentioned that the vehicle is fully licensed and is being used to provide health care services by the school health team. Nurses from FHI 360 MSU were absorbed since April 2013.

Kwa-Zulu Natal, Amajuba District (September, 19th, 2013)

On day three, the MSU final dissemination meeting was held in Amajuba District department of health offices in Newcastle. The meeting was opened with a welcome note from the district team leaders and introductions by all who were present. FHI 360 was given the opportunity to conduct the presentation on the MSU report. After the presentation the delegates were engaged in an open discussion.

Requested MSU Technical Assistance

- In Amajuba district, the District Manager expressed a need for technical support in the area of data management, collating and analyzing data and using it effectively to inform management decisions.
- Technical support in advocating for the roll-out training at facility level on the insertion and removal of IUCD. With regards to family planning the district manager acknowledged that there are nurses trained on family planning services but are not skilled to insert and remove IUDs, hence they requested for technical support in the areas of Contraceptive Fertility Policy services
- Amajuba District also requested for material support in the form of medical kit bags for their ward-based teams as they carryout door to door visits in rural areas.

Limpopo, Greater Sekhukhune District (September 20th, 2013)

In Limpopo FHI 360 team was met with a big group representing different directorates in the District Department of Health. The meeting was opened by the team leader from the department of health. Introductions were done and FHI 360 was given the opportunity to explain the purpose of the visit and this was followed by the PPT presentation of the MSU dissemination report. A discussion followed the presentation.

Requested MSU Technical Assistance

- In Sekhukhune district, the team requested technical support in the area of Health promotion. The district team highlighted that they would appreciate training and support in replicating health promotion model that was used in the MSU project that FHI 360 implemented in Greater Tubatse Local Municipality.
- The district requested assistance with regard to monitoring and evaluation. The District officials mentioned that they are struggling with utilization of data to inform management decisions and understanding of indicators at a collection level.
- Efforts were made by FHI 360 team to find out about the status of the vehicle and the District department of health reported that the vehicle has completed the licensing procedure and is ready to provide service in the same areas of Greater Tubatse Local Municipality where it was rendering services.

Conclusion

Although all the districts would like support from FHI 360 there is nothing really specific with regards to the MSU model. All requests were general and always point out to the health care Re-engineering and NHI programs. FHI 360 team also made a follow-up on the registration of all Mobiles into government fleet management. All the districts were happy to inform FHI 360 team that all mobiles donated to the department of health are fully functional and still in great conditions.