SIDS Network for Collaborative Work and Knowledge Sharing

5th Meeting of African Ministers of Health of SIDS
Mauritius, 24th – 26th June 2015

World Health Organization
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Presentation Outline

• Background and Context
  • SIDS Declarations & Results
• SIDS Virtual Community Network
  • Objectives and Collaborative Tools
  • Next Steps and Expected Outcomes
• Regional and National Platforms for Collaborative Work
  • African Health Observatory
  • National Health Observatories
  • Cabo Verde NHO Prototype

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SIDS MoHs:

- Being cognizant of the need for collaboration between the SIDS with special reference to best public health practices including health information systems.

Requested WHO to:

- Disseminate reliable evidence of health situation and health risks facing SIDS.
- Facilitate technical cooperation among SIDS.
The Seychelles Declaration
Mahé, 24th of October 2006

Actions taken:

- African Health Observatory: AFRO Data & Statistics, the Analytical Country Profiles and Network platform.
SIDS MoHS Commitments:

- To designate in each of our countries a focal person to coordinate monitoring of the implementation of activities identified.

- To set up mechanisms for documenting and sharing best practices by using modern communication technologies including the creation of a website and drawing upon the specific expertise existing in each country.
Actions taken:

- Establishment of the SIDS Network Web community for collaborative work supported by the African Health Observatory Portal (www.aho.afro.who.int/networks/group/sids-network).
Cabo Verde Declaration
Praia, 19th of March 2009

Actions taken:

- Development of Statistical Overviews and Detailed Statistical Factsheets for Cabo Verde, Comoros, Mauritius, São Tomé e Príncipe and Seychelles available on the AHO Portal.

- Development of Analytical Health profiles for Cabo Verde (in Portuguese) and Comoros (in French) available on the AHO Portal.
Comoros Communique
Moroni, 10th of March 2011

SIDS MoHS Commitments:

- Aware of the need for collaboration among the Small Island Developing States, the Ministers of Health of the SIDS or their representatives made a commitment to develop networks of collaboration and coordination, namely: a network for coordination of Member States.

- Regarding the health observatories, a commitment was made to organize monthly teleconferences on specific topics to be identified subsequently by the focal points.

And requested WHO for:

- Technical support in the establishment of their networks of national health observatories [...].
Actions taken:

- Launch of the first version of SIDS Network Website.
- Development of the National Health Observatory (NHO) Template/Prototype.
- Development of the Cabo Verde National Health Observatory (NHO) Prototype to strengthen National Health Information Systems, M&E and Policy development process.
São Tomé Communique
São Tomé, 18th of April 2013

SIDS MoHS Commitments:

• Mindful also of the need for collaboration among Small Island Developing States in order to operationalize their network, the Ministers of Health: made a commitment to empower focal points to start effective operation of the SIDS website.

And requested WHO for:

• Technical support to help invigorate the SIDS network; support the countries to develop their national health observatories[...].
Actions taken:

- Launch of the improved SIDS Network Website: [www.aho.afro.who.int/networks/group/sids-network](http://www.aho.afro.who.int/networks/group/sids-network)

- Regular communication with Cabo Verde WCO to establish and launch the Cabo Verde National Health Observatory.
Objectives:

- To establish networking capabilities by using online tools and conferencing facilities to assist the creation and support Communities of Practice, Virtual Networks and the development of a specific set of Social Tools with the intention to:
  - Generate and share information, evidence & knowledge;
  - Promote and facilitate the use of evidence for policy and decision making.
Collaborative Networks

Specific Objectives:

- Provide a coordination mechanism to bridge the time gaps between the SIDS meetings.
- Shorten geographical distance between SIDS Members and also to WHO-AFRO.
- Be available 24 hour a day.
- Provide access to SIDS Countries experts.
Collaborative Networks

At All Levels
- Regional Office & IST level (e.g. Working groups)
- WCO level (e.g. 46 AHO focal points)
- Sub-regional (SIDS Network)
- Country (e.g. National observatories)

Working Groups established at the Regional Office
- Health systems
- HIV/AIDS, TB, malaria
- Family & reproductive health
- Communicable diseases, chronic diseases, mental disorders & injuries
- Key determinants (Risk factors, food & nutrition, physical environment, social determinants)
- More as needed
Collaborative Networks

Examples in Nature:
SIDS Community Network

Advantages of using a network approach:

- Weaving Community;
- Enabling Diverse Perspectives;
- Building and Sharing Knowledge (best practices);
- Improve the coordination of Resources and Actions.
SIDS Community Network

Policy and Strategy Issues for Addressing the Key Determinants of Health in the Small Island Developing African Region

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SIDS Community Network Tools

- Publish/Search Documents (all formats) by Meeting and by Country
- Create and Participate in Discussions
- Plan Events
- Launch Polls
- Post Questions for group discussion
- Create Blogs and entries
- Create Wiki and develop Wiki pages
- Create and manage photo Galleries
- Create Sub-groups

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SIDS Next Steps

- SIDS Network Website
  - Designate a focal person (per country)
  - Interact with the other focal persons
  - Identify members of (larger) national working group
  - Develop activities for the SIDS Community Network
  - Update the website: Disseminate data and knowledge sharing

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SIDS Next Steps

- SIDS Network Website
  - Be active and participate/contribute
  - Promote collaborative work
  - Develop and agenda and schedule regular events (conference calls)
  - Monitor and Evaluate the implementation of the SIDS Meeting’s recommendations
  - Better prepare the next SIDS Meetings
From Astronomical to Health Observatories

- Observing the heavens (Astrology, Astronomy...)
- 1st Health Observatory in France - 1974
- Numerous now, but mostly in Europe & USA
- One-stop shop for high quality information and evidence
- Some also strive to improve the use of information, evidence, knowledge
AHO is an Instrument for Strengthening National Health Systems

- Bridging the Knowledge Gap
  - Relevant, timely, valid & reliable IEK
  - Shared & used for policy & decision
- Multitude of Clients
  - Public & private; multi-disciplinary; Multi-sectoral;
- Broader Scope
  - Systems in addition to outcomes;
  - social goals plus health goals;
  - quantitative plus qualitative sources
- Better Information Architecture
  - Transparent; Collaborative; Communities of practice

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## AHO Seven Major Components

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<th>1. Collaborative Web Portal</th>
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<td>3. Data and Statistics</td>
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<td>4. Regional and Country Profiles</td>
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<td>5. Publications</td>
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<td><strong>4. Comprehensive and Analytical Regional and Country Profiles</strong></td>
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<td><strong>5. Thematic &amp; country-specific publications</strong></td>
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<td><strong>6. Support the development of national observatories</strong></td>
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Objective: Support all countries to establish national observatories - Regional model adapted to country settings
Currently: On going work with 3 countries to establish national observatories (1 English, 1 French, 1 Portuguese speaking)
NHO’s Stakeholders

- Ministry of Health
- WHO-AFRO
- Government Institutions
- Health Care Providers
- Universities & Research Institutions
- Private sector & NGOs
- African Regional Organizations
- Other Organizations & Institutions
NHO Functions

- A descriptive function that provides for an easily accessible database;
- An analytical function that draws lessons from successes and failures that can assist policy makers in the formulation of strategies;
- A prediction function to forecast potential outcomes;
- A prescriptive function that brings forward recommendations for action;
- A monitoring and evaluation function that focuses on aspects that can be improved;
- A capacity strengthening function that aims to develop partnerships and share knowledge both within the country.
Cabo Verde NHO Experience

- OMS CV and CV MoH initiative in collaboration with, NOSI, INE and MCA to set 9 District Health Observatories.
- Complete the Cabo Verde Country Analytical Profile.
- Country ownership and motivation.
- Try to replicate the good practices/experience acquired in CV in other African countries.

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Cabo Verde NHO Experience

Pilot

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Obrigado
Thank you
Merci