

Regional SDG Consultation

Where We Came From

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Kampala.

Health Policy Think Tanks Definition

Policy Research Institutions with a key role to play in fast-tracking the improvement of lives of people by producing high-quality research data required to address health policy challenges.

Health Policy Think Tanks (HPPT)

- The Global Health Program at the Graduate Institute in Geneva, 12 – 13 November, 2015 hosted for the first time ever consultation with leaders from global HPPTs and Academic Institutions,
- Discussed how the transformational approach to global development and the SDGs agenda can be put into practice for global health and greater health equity.
- This consultation resulted in the establishment of a leadership group that includes SGI, IDRC, ACHEST from Africa etc.
- Now working with the IDRC of Canada and the Graduate Institute, Geneva to popularize the role of HPTTs in accelerating the achievement of SDGS with special emphasis on LMICs
- Series of regional consultations are ongoing

WHO DG: Margaret Chan

- “As members of think tanks, you have the liberty to speak your mind. We need a global conversation in which countries welcome and embrace the role of civil society.
- I was asked to challenge you. I can ask for your help with issues that keep me awake at night. Some are politically contentious, as we see every time they are raised during the World Health Assembly”.

Starting Strong with SDGs

- The first days of SDG implementation are critical,
 - The initial actions taken jointly by all stakeholders in society including public agencies, civil society and the private sector
 - Set the foundation for success or failure in the years to come.
 - The first 1,000 days-window of SDG implementation has been identified as the critical window for action for “Starting Strong”.
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- The TTI consortium is therefore working in consultation with some southern think tanks in organizing a series of regional dialogues focused upon identifying priority actions on SDGs during the next few years, with the aim to set out a 1000-day agenda.
 - Brazil, Sri Lanka, Kampala (More from Peter Taylor).

Capacity Gaps

- For policy analysis to generate evidence and data for the policy dialogue discourse,
- For stakeholder strategic engagement, lobby and advocacy for evidence based policy options, as well as best practice models;
- For synergistic relationships with one another to promote synergy of their work, so as to improve performance by sharing learning on strategies for success with capacity development.

The Objectives of the Regional Consultation

- To learn from each other how SDG implementation is playing out at the national, regional and global level. Focusing in the Eastern and Southern African countries represented at the consultation.
- Share information on the roles played and the spaces currently occupied by policy-research institutions in the countries where we work during the "first 1,000 days" of implementing health-related SDG.
- Explore ways in which policy-research institutions would like to position themselves for future ongoing health-related SDG implementation efforts; and as we progress beyond the "first 1,000 days":
- Explore ways in which the SDG-implementation efforts of policy-research organizations can be synergized and facilitated moving forward towards 2030.

Expected Outcomes of the Regional Consultation

- Community of institutions engaged in health policy research, analysis and advocacy for accelerating SDG implementation initiated;
- Options for a future program of support for health policy think tanks and academic institutions working on the health-related SDGs explored;
- Linkage of African HPPTs to global networks initiated.