The Health System

Dr. Sarah Byakika
Ministry of Health
Definition

- All the activities whose primary purpose is to promote, restore and/or maintain health.

- The people, institutions and resources, arranged together in accordance with established policies, to improve the health of the population they serve, while responding to people’s legitimate expectations and protecting them against the cost of ill-health through a variety of activities whose primary intent is to improve health.

*WHO Health Systems Strengthening Glossary*
The health sector is critical to the attainment of Uganda Vision 2040 by producing a healthy and productive population that effectively contributes to socio-economic growth.

This is implemented under the National Planning Framework which includes the;

- Vision 2040
- National Development Plan II
- National Health Policy II
- Health Sector Development Plan 2015/16 – 2019/20
- Annual operational plans
Vision

• A healthy and productive population that contributes to the socio-economic growth and national development.

Mission

• To provide the highest possible level of health services to all people in Uganda through delivery of promotive, preventive, curative, palliative and rehabilitative health services at all levels.
“To accelerate movement towards Universal Health Coverage with essential health and related services needed for promotion of a healthy and productive life”.
Strategic Objectives

1) To contribute to production of a healthy human capital for wealth creation through provision of equitable, safe and sustainable health services.

2) To address the key determinants of health through strengthening intersectional collaboration and partnerships.

3) To increase financial risk protection of households against impoverishment due to health expenditures.

4) To enhance the health sector competitiveness in the region and globally.
Our Key Partners

- Health Development Partners
- Related Ministries, Departments and Agencies
- Local Governments
- Private Sector
- Medical Bureaus
- Civil Society Organizations
- Health Training Institutions
- Research Institutions
- Regulatory Bodies and Health Professional Associations
- Health workers (Public & Private sector)
- Service Providers (suppliers, Consultants, Contractors)
- Health workers
- Communities, Households and individuals
- Among others
National Health Service Delivery Structure

HOUSEHOLDS / COMMUNITIES / VILLAGES

HC II  HC II  HC II  HC II  HC II

HC III  HC III  HC III

Referral Facility (Public or NGO)
(HC IV or HOSPITAL)

District Health Services HQ

Regional Referral Hospitals

National Referral Hospital

MOH Headquarters

HSD

District Health Service
Affiliated Institutions

Semi-Autonomous

• Uganda Blood Transfusion Services
• Uganda National Public Health Laboratories
• Research institutions - Uganda Virus Research Institute, Uganda National Chemotherapeutic Research Institute

Autonomous

• Uganda Cancer Institute
• Uganda Heart Institute
• Professional Councils
• National Drug Authority
• National Medical Stores
Core Functions of the MoH Headquarters

- Policy analysis, formulation and dialogue
- Strategic planning
- Resource mobilization
- Setting standards, quality assurance, inspection and support supervision
- Human Resource capacity development
- Coordination of health research
- Provision of nationally coordinated services including health emergency preparedness and response and epidemic prevention and control
- Monitoring and evaluation of the sector performance
- Advising other ministries, departments and agencies on health-related matters
Stewardship (Overall Oversight)

- Guidance on coordination and governance is provided through three oversight structures;
  - **The governance structure:** This looks at defining the guiding strategic direction and following up on the operation of interventions. It is largely defined through formal legislation, with members and functions formally gazetted by the Government.
  - **The management structure:** This guides internal Ministry coordination, to guide implementation of defined interventions and activities at the different levels.
  - **The partnership structure:** This guides external coordination of service delivery by all stakeholders at the respective levels of care. All partners providing services at a given level of care engage with each other through this structure.
National Health Provision

• The provision of health services in Uganda is decentralised with districts and Health Sub-districts (HSDs) playing a key role in the delivery and management of health services at those levels.
The District Health System

• In line with the 1995 Constitution and the 1997 Local Governments Act, the roles of the Local Authorities (in the context of the health sector) are:

  • Quality Health service delivery
  • Recruitment and management of personnel for District Health Services
  • Passing by-laws related to health
  • Planning, budgeting, financial management, additional resource mobilization and allocation for health services.
  • Supervision, inspection, monitoring and Evaluation
District Leadership (LCVs, CAOs, RDCs, DEC) Role

- **1) Service delivery:** infrastructure; management; safety & quality; demand for care, disease prevention, control programs, Health education, health promotion, infrastructure projects monitoring, inspection

- **2) Health workforce:** national workforce policy implementation-recruitment, career development, absenteeism, motivation, CHEWs and; advocacy; norms, quality, duty roasters, control training

- **3) Information:** facility and population based information & surveillance systems; standards and guidelines, tools used and reporting accuracy and timeliness

- **4) Medical products, vaccines & technologies:** procurement plans, witnessing Delivery, storage, dispensing records, stock outs, monitoring supplies and reporting on theft and redistribution policy, expires

- **5) Financing:** costing plans, PHC reporting, utilization and accountabilities for all grants

- **6) Leadership and governance:** Management meetings, reporting; oversight and regulation, radio talk shows once a week on health issues- emphasis- sanitation, lifestyles, hygiene, immunization, nutrition,

- **N.B. for details refer to the strategy for improving health service delivery 2016-2021**
# Summary of Health Facilities Levels

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>LEVEL</th>
<th>COUNT</th>
<th>PERCENTAGE</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Clinic</td>
<td>1578</td>
<td>22.75%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>HC II</td>
<td>3364</td>
<td>48.49%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>HC III</td>
<td>1569</td>
<td>22.62%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>HC IV</td>
<td>222</td>
<td>3.20%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Hospital</td>
<td>163</td>
<td>2.35%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>RH</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>0.04%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>NRH</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>0.03%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>RRH</td>
<td>13</td>
<td>0.19%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>SC</td>
<td>23</td>
<td>0.33%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

6937 HEALTH FACILITIES

- 48.49% HC II
- 22.62% HC III
- 22.75% Clinic
- 3.20% HC IV
- 2.61% Hospital
- 0.33% Special Clinics
OWNERSHIP

128 DISTRICTS

- MOH 2,978
- PRIVATE 2,757
- FAITH BASED 457
- NGO 340
- OTHER 223
- CBO 182

Percentages:
- MOH: 42.93%
- PRIVATE: 39.74%
- FAITH BASED: 6.59%
- NGO: 3.21%
- OTHER: 2.62%
- CBO: 4.90%
# Health Facility Level by Sub-Region

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>REGION</th>
<th>HEALTH FACILITY LEVEL</th>
<th>GRAND TOTAL</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>CLINIC</td>
<td>HC II</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>CENTRAL REGION</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Central 1</td>
<td>1166</td>
<td>1323</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Central 2</td>
<td>294</td>
<td>422</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Kampala</td>
<td>91</td>
<td>316</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>EASTERN REGION</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>East Central</td>
<td>1161</td>
<td>694</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mid Eastern</td>
<td>60</td>
<td>349</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>North Eastern</td>
<td>86</td>
<td>218</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>NORTHERN REGION</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Karamoja</td>
<td>118</td>
<td>554</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mid Northern</td>
<td>78</td>
<td>307</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>West Nile</td>
<td>38</td>
<td>158</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>WESTERN REGION</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mid Western</td>
<td>133</td>
<td>793</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>South Western</td>
<td>42</td>
<td>286</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>South Western</td>
<td>91</td>
<td>507</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>GRAND TOTAL</td>
<td>1578</td>
<td>3364</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
## National Health Facility Availability

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Level</th>
<th>Health Facility Population Ratio standard</th>
<th>Current Situation</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>National Referral</td>
<td>1: 10,000,000</td>
<td>1: 34,000,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Regional Referral</td>
<td>1: 3,000,000</td>
<td>1: 2,307,692</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>General Hospital</td>
<td>1: 500,000</td>
<td>1: 263,157</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>HC IV</td>
<td>1: 100,000</td>
<td>1: 187,500</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>HC III</td>
<td>1: 20,000</td>
<td>1: 84,507</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>HC II</td>
<td>1: 5,000</td>
<td>1: 14,940</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>HC I / VHT</td>
<td>1: 1,000 or 1 per 25 HH's</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
## Health Care Services Provided by Level

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Level</th>
<th>Health Care Services Provided</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Health Center I (Village Health Team)</td>
<td>Community based preventive and promotive health services.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Health Center II</td>
<td>Preventive, promotive, outpatient, curative health services and emergency delivery.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Health Center III</td>
<td>Preventive, promotive, outpatient, curative, <strong>maternity, inpatient, laboratory services.</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Health Center IV</td>
<td>Preventive, promotive, outpatient, curative, maternity, inpatient, laboratory, <strong>ultrasound examinations (for obstetric cases), emergency / simple surgery (including caesarean sections and life saving surgical operations), blood transfusion services and mortuary.</strong></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Health Care Services Provided by Level

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Level</th>
<th>Health Care Services Provided</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>General Hospital</td>
<td>In addition to the services offered at the HCIV provides services for general medical and surgical conditions, specialist services in Medicine, Surgery, Paediatrics, Community Medicine; and Obs &amp; Gyn. It also provides in-service training and basic research.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Regional Referral Hospital</td>
<td>In addition to services provided at the General Hospital, specialist services are provided including: psychiatry, ear, nose and throat, ophthalmology, dentistry, intensive care, radiology, pathology, higher level surgical and medical services. It also provides in-service and pre-service training and internship.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Level</td>
<td>Health Care Services Provided</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>-----------------------</td>
<td>-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>National Referral Hospital</td>
<td>In addition to services provided at the regional referral hospitals, provides Super specialist services: Nephrology, Neurology, Endocrinology and Metabolic Diseases, Gastroenterology, Respiratory Medicine, Geriatric Medicine, Neonatal Medicine, Intensive care, Neurosurgery and Cardiothoracic surgery. Diagnostic services: MRI and CT Scan, Advanced clinical laboratory services in Microbiology, Haematology, etc. In addition, provides training, internship and advanced research.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Health Service Inputs

• Human resources = 71% (42,530/60,384) staffing level
  - Gaps in critical cadres e.g. Specialist, MOs, Anaesthetists, Pharmacists, Dispensers, theater assistants)
  - 0.74 doctors, nurses and midwives per 1,000 population (WHO recommendation 2.3/1,000)

• Medicines and Health Supplies = 85% facilities with no s/o of 41 tracer medicines

• Infrastructure = On average 84% of the population are within 5km radius to a health facility.
Health Financing Functional Chart for Uganda

Source: HFS 2015
Health Sector Challenges (1)

- Despite sector prioritizing disease prevention, there is still inadequate funding for prevention strategies like IRS, media campaigns etc.
- Huge disease burden owing to mainly Pneumonia, Malaria, Diarrhea, Sepsis and Anemia in newborns and children.
- Inadequate transport and funding for district level coordination and support supervision.
- The budget increases for EMHS are not in tandem with the population growth over the years and thus the declining trends in the per capita allocations.
- There is inadequate funding for sector activities especially PHC Services at lower level leading to influx of patients at the referral facilities.
Health Sector Challenges (2)

- No commensurate funding for recurrent costs for utilities and/or maintenance arising from the raise in costs as well as construction of new buildings and equipment especially for hospitals.

- Poor / inadequate infrastructure (including staff accommodation).

- Inadequate staffing at all levels, a number of critical posts are not filled and current staffing norms not commensurate with the services provided and workload.
Health Sector Challenges (3)

• Inadequacy in the maintenance of medical equipment nationwide

• Challenge of the alignment of off-budget funding to sector priorities.

• Management of various disease outbreaks and public health emergencies is not equitably funded for example current influx of refugees into the country and internally displaced persons puts pressure on existing resources and is a risk of importation of vaccine preventable diseases.
Thank you