# Improved aid effectiveness but waiting for results: What are the missing links?

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### The "top-down" rationale of the Paris/Accra agenda for aid effectiveness:

### **INTERNATIONAL LEVEL**

## Improved Aid Delivery Effectiveness

### Ownership

- Respect ownership (conditionality)
- Support capacity strengthening

### Alignment

- Budget support
- Use national financial and procurement systems
- Coordinate technical cooperation
- Reduce fragmentation of aid
- Predictable, untied aid

### Harmonisation

- Programme-based approach/SWAP
- Joint missions/analyses

### Managing for Results

- Use Performance Assessment Framework, Information systems
- Reduce constraints to increase aid results

### Mutual Accountability

• Transparency, Mutual assessments

### **NATIONAL LEVEL**

# Improved Quality of National Policies & Systems

### Governance

- Broad country-level policy dialogue (including with civil society orgs)
- Poverty Reduction Strategy Papers
- Sector policies & programmes
- National Compacts (IHP+)
- Mutual Accountability

### Service Delivery

• Improved access and quality of care

### Health Workforce

Capacity development

### Information

• Improved information systems

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• Improved public finance management systems

### Medical products

• Improved procurement systems

# Improved Health Services and Impact If the results have not improved – what are the missing links?

### Missing Links: "Bottom-up" approach

### **INTERNATIONAL LEVEL**

- Donor agencies' constraints underestimated:
  - Administrative habits
  - Inappropriate capacities
  - o Political decisions
  - Perverse incentives
- Global health policies / initiatives ≠ Health System Strengthening
- Too much focus on quantitative results
- (Continued) direct interventions by donors
- Non-OECD donors
- → Results take time!
- → Need for behaviour change in aid delivery

### **NATIONAL LEVEL**

- Insufficient look at policy implementation ("Policy – implementation gap")
- Disconnection between national & operational level (insufficient feedback loop)
- National financial management systems sometimes inappropriate for health activities
- → Results take time!
- → Need to reinforce links between different levels within a complex system – there is no linear causality between national policies & systems, and results

### **OPERATIONAL LEVEL**

- What are the operational problems from the patients/providers perspective
- Empowerment of demand
- External factors impacting:
  - Inter-sectoral matters (education, equipment)
  - o Private sector
- → Results take time!
- → Need for a reactive, bottom-up approach to problem-solving

### Conclusion

The values behind the Paris/Accra
Declarations are sound, but a
bottom-up application and a realistic
evaluation approach have to be
promoted to ensure quality,
effectiveness and reactiveness.