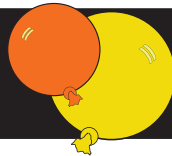


Scaling Up for Better Health

Highlights

In this issue of the IHP+ update, we provide an update on the signing of the first country Compact in Ethiopia, a summary of findings from the first external review, a link to the latest IHP FAQs and also to the report prepared for the Accra High Level Forum. In addition, summaries of the work on expanding HSS investments and the strengthening of Country Health Sector Teams are also provided.

Happy Birthday IHP+!



Today marks the first year of activities of the IHP+. Congratulations to all who have contributed to the successes of the IHP+ over the past year!

Ethiopia signs the first country Compact

26 August 2008 Addis Ababa

The government of Ethiopia has signed a Compact with the global development community to mobilize more effective financing to reduce maternal and child deaths and the impact of catastrophic illnesses on the poor.

As the first of several forthcoming Compacts, the government and development partners have pledged to channel aid through a common financing mechanism in support of a single, validated plan in order to boost or 'scale-up' the coverage and quality of its national health services. The terms of the compact will be monitored by both the government and its development partners (which include Civil Society) in order to assure that national targets are being achieved. Signatories to the Ethiopian health Compact included DfID (UK), Direzione Generale per la Cooperazione allo Sviluppo (Italy), the European Commission, the governments of Spain and the Netherlands, the African Development Bank, World Bank, UNAIDS; UNICEF; UNFPA; WHO and the Ministries of Health and Finance from the government of Ethiopia. In addition, GAVI, the Global Fund, and USAID sent letters of support to the Minister of Health.



"By signing this compact with the International Health Partnership today—the first of its kind world-wide—I believe we can mobilize the resources we need and provide them in a way that can really help Ethiopia's mothers survive their pregnancies and raise healthy children ..."

Dr. Tedros Adhanom Ghebreyesus

The [country Compact](#) and the related [Health Sector Development Programme III](#) signal a major milestone in the development of the IHP+. [read the press release ...](#)

IHP+ Recent Events

The IHP+ External Review has been completed

05 September 2008

Bringing accountability to global health... The IHP+ Global Compact called for an independent, evidence-based assessment of results at the country level and of the performance of each of the partners both individually as well as collectively. As the first step¹ in addressing this expectation, a short-term external review was recently completed by the consultancy group, Responsible Action. The review is based on inputs from over 100 informants from national ministries of health, from partner agencies and civil society at global and country levels.

Walking the talk in global health... Coming only 9 months after its launch in September 2007, the IHP+ is in an early stage. Based on the opinions of informants, the review broadly found that **while the IHP+ has been established as a relevant response to addressing constraints towards achieving the health MDGs, there is a real risk of failure if all partners (Governments and Development Partners) do not reform their ways of working.** Furthermore, ensuring effective mechanisms of accountability are essential to these reforms.

¹Annual reviews will be performed by a North-South Consortium. Selection process for this consortium is currently ongoing.

Useful links: | [WHO](#) | [UNICEF](#) | [UNAIDS](#) | [World Bank](#) | [UNFPA](#) | [GAVI](#) | [Gates Foundation](#) | [Global Fund](#) |

Scaling Up for Better Health

IHP+ External Review findings, continued...

The review identifies partners' concrete steps towards achieving the vision of the IHP+ by building upon reform processes. The key findings and recommendations from the review are aimed at global and local players. The main points include:

- + Improving how the IHP+ is communicated and understood to be relevant, both within partner institutions and amongst external stakeholders.
- + Investing in change management processes within partner institutions and through developing people's competencies to implement new ways of working.
- + Operationalising the IHP+ results framework and building in strong transparency mechanisms for mutual accountability.
- + Working cooperatively to achieve reforms by partners identifying specific actions that need to be taken, making these explicit to other partners.
- + Focusing the IHP+ Interagency Core Team's efforts on the country level to promote and facilitate specific reforms, with suggestions for improved ways of working.
- + Giving consideration to the idea of Local Health Partnerships that are underpinned by a People's Movement for Health, led by Civil Society.

Time for responsible action.... Specific actions for each of the above recommendation can be found in the full report. The SuRG will be providing a written response to the review's findings and recommendations of the review in order to maintain the momentum of the IHP+. Read the full report... [EN](#) [FR](#)

Accra High Level Forum on Aid Effectiveness 2-4 September 2008 Accra, Ghana

The High Level Forum on Aid Effectiveness wrapped up yesterday in Accra. Ministers from over 100 countries, heads of bilateral and multilateral development agencies, donor organizations, and civil society organizations joined from around the world with the common objective of facilitating developing countries and marginalized people in their fight against poverty by making aid more transparent, accountable and results-oriented.

Health Sector issues were summarized and discussed based upon the document, "Effective Aid: Better Health", which summarizes many of the major issues that are currently being faced. [read the report ...](#)

IHP+ News

Country Health Sector Team Strengthening

As defined in the original IHP+ work-plan, a working group is being established to better understand existing good practices arising from the work of country health sector teams and to identify opportunities for scaling-up good practices. Opportunities to improve the effectiveness of country health sector teams as they implement country compacts (or local equivalents) will be investigated. For more information, contact the consultant, Martin Taylor, at: m.taylor@globalhealthconsult.net. [read the Terms of Reference...](#)

IHP+ monitoring and evaluation: H8 health information goals

Following previous work on the development of a common approach to monitoring and evaluation in country health sectors, Health 8 agencies recently discussed the priorities for strengthening health information. [read more...](#)

Expanding predictable financing for health systems strengthening

There is a growing need and expectation to expand international financial support for strengthening health systems and delivering results in developing countries by scaling-up both individual- and population-based services in order to reach health-related MDGs. The IHP+ has established a working group to start investigating the different options for facilitating country access to more predictable financing for health systems strengthening. This initial work will be completed before the end of September, after which a high level task force is being considered to take the work forward. [read the Terms of Reference ...](#)

IHP+ FAQs are being updated

The IHP+ website changes regularly; the FAQs are considered the most up to date of resources for documenting the nature and the process of the IHP+. A revised section on IHP+ Engagement details what Compacts are, provides initial views about how they are expected to work, and describes some of the roles that development partners and country stakeholders play in taking forward the goals of the IHP+. [read the FAQs ...](#)

Useful links: | [WHO](#) | [UNICEF](#) | [UNAIDS](#) | [World Bank](#) | [UNFPA](#) | [GAVI](#) | [Gates Foundation](#) | [Global Fund](#) |