USAID’s Systems for Improved Access to Pharmaceuticals and Services (SIAPS) Program (2011-2016)

Goal: Assure the availability of quality pharmaceutical products and effective pharmaceutical services to achieve desired health outcomes

Objective: Promote and utilize a systems strengthening approach that will result in improved and sustainable health impact

* IR = Intermediate Result
**USAID SIAPS Program**

**IR 1: Pharmaceutical sector governance strengthened**

1.1 Good governance principles embodied across all health system components

- Paradigm for good governance in pharmaceutical systems strengthening developed
- Increased stakeholder acceptance of harmonized approaches for good governance in medicines

1.2 Medicines policies, laws, regulations, norms and standards improved

- National medicines policies updated and reflect best practices
- Private sector enabled to improve access to quality medicines and services

1.3 Transparent and accountable pharmaceutical management systems

- Roles and responsibilities for implementing medicines policies, laws and regulations specified
- Governance structures promote stakeholder involvement and oversight

1.4 National pharmaceutical sector development plans are strategic and evidence-based

- Pharmaceutical system strengthening investments are based on clearly defined goals, priorities and targets
- Framework and metrics developed for pharmaceutical systems strengthening

**Illustrative Activities**

- Work with the MOH, MOE, MOF, professional and trade associations, and other stakeholders to develop appropriate governance frameworks and mechanisms to support:
  - Work force effectiveness
  - Information system responsiveness and accountability
  - Equitable financing schemes
  - Quality pharmaceutical products and services
  - Provide global technical leadership on good governance in medicines

- Assist in developing and updating national medicines policies, including STGs and EMLs
- Assist national regulatory authorities to strengthen medicine regulatory systems, including developing expedited drug registration review procedures
- Develop criteria for government contracting out for pharmaceutical management functions
- Work with professional and trade associations, Ministries of Health and regulatory authorities to develop accreditation programs for pharmaceutical services
- Assess the policy environment and support development of policies and SOPs to address health care waste management
- Work with governing bodies (such as CMS boards) to establish/update by-laws, terms of reference, roles and procedures for adequate oversight and performance monitoring

- Assist in developing modern and transparent procurement policies and procedures, including prequalification of suppliers
- Help establish a supplier performance monitoring and evaluation mechanism
- Support development of national and community level health advocacy programs
- Work with civil society, local watchdog organizations, and journalists to develop their capacity for monitoring government pharmaceutical management operations
- Promote an inclusive and participatory approach to strategic planning

- Assist in conducting pharmaceutical sector assessments to inform development plans and policies and identify technical assistance needs
- Assure consideration of proven approaches and best practices in strategic plan development
- Assist in assessing the financial and human resource implications of pharmaceutical systems strengthening and in developing a phased master plan
- Assist in developing monitoring and evaluation efforts to track progress on implementation of strategic plans
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### IR 2: Capacity for pharmaceutical management and services increased and enhanced

#### 2.1 Pharmaceutical management capacity of individuals, institutions, organizations and networks strengthened

- Countries have a sustainable supply of qualified managers and health workers for pharmaceutical management functions
- Improved implementation of prevention and treatment programs supported by US Presidential Initiatives, USAID health elements, and global health initiatives
- Ministries of Health are able to effectively manage their pharmaceutical systems

#### 2.2 Local institutions and organizations provide pharmaceutical services and TA in pharmaceutical systems strengthening

- Health workforce better prepared in pharmaceutical management and services
- Institutional capacity to perform pharmaceutical management functions strengthened

#### 2.3 Innovative and proven approaches for human resource capacity building adopted and implemented

- Develop pre-service and in-service pharmaceutical management training materials for health workers at all levels of the health system and help facilitate training
- Support training of faculties of medicine, nursing and pharmacy in AMR containment, appropriate medicines use, and therapeutic outcomes monitoring
- Promote the professionalization of supply chain managers and service providers
- Support senior pharmaceutical sector managers to develop and strengthen their leadership and management capacity
- Facilitate training to support improved implementation of regulatory functions and operations

- Develop the capacity of selected local institutions to provide pharmaceutical management technical assistance at the country or regional levels
- Develop performance-based contract management capabilities and tools
- Provide assistance to organizations to manage and implement grants and contracts for services from government and private sector entities

- Adapt training materials and approaches for eLearning/eHealth
- Support development of accreditation programs for pharmaceutical management training
- Assist MOH and other stakeholders to design task-shifting strategies and tools, including job aids and Standard Operating Procedures
- Work with professional and trade associations, educational institutions, and medical and pharmacy faculty to develop and implement continuing education programs on pharmaceutical management

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**Illustrative Activities**

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### IR 3: Information for decision-making challenge in the pharmaceutical sector addressed

**3.1 Pharmaceutical management information systems (PMIS) support both products and patients**
- Complementary PMIS enhances health management information system
- Supply chain system performance data support continuing availability of medicines
- Managers have access to and use data to assess potential medicines use problems

**3.2 Innovative and proven tools broadly available and used**
- Improved communications between service providers and supply chain managers for improved program implementation
- Web-based tools support patient and medicines management

**3.3 Strategic information on pharmaceutical systems strengthening available and used**
- Pharmaceutical system performance findings guide investments
- PMIS used for performance-based monitoring and evaluation

### Expected Results
- Improved access to accurate and timely pharmaceutical management information
- Countries able to measure the performance of their pharmaceutical systems
- Countries use information to enhance delivery of pharmaceutical services

### Illustrative Activities
- Work with MOH and partners to develop common platforms for collecting and sharing data on supply chain management, prescribing, dispensing, adherence and patient outcomes
- Develop links between laboratory supply information systems and pharmaceutical management information systems
- Develop information systems to support medicines use needs for community case management and down referral systems

- Genericize and/or harmonize existing disease-specific pharmaceutical management tools
- Support adaptation of traditional data collection to mHealth collection devices (mobile phones or other portable device) and the corresponding software platforms for improved patient safety and pharmacovigilance
- Develop decision-making tools (e.g., clinical algorithms) with visual image information and communication capabilities
- Integrate the use of GIS and GPS with mobile technologies to support pharmacovigilance and inventory management functions

- Develop a framework and metrics to measure pharmaceutical system strengthening
- Contribute to/advance the global dialogue on measuring pharmaceutical systems strengthening in particular, and health systems strengthening in general
- Monitor outcomes of system strengthening activities, derive lessons learned, document and disseminate findings
4.1 Financial barriers to access reduced

- Affordability of medicines and services improved

4.2 More efficient use of existing financial resources

- Improved allocation of resources for procurement and pharmaceutical management operations
- Efficiencies achieved through strategic investments in pharmaceutical system improvements.

4.3 Additional financial resources generated

- Countries expand prevention and treatment programs to reach previously underserved groups
- Realistic costing framework for pharmaceutical services developed

**Expected Results**

- Equitable access to essential medicines and services
- Expanded access to quality medicines and pharmaceutical services through the public and private sectors

**Illustrative Activities**

- Support national and community-based insurance funds to develop pharmacy benefits programs
- Assess factors contributing to the pricing of medicines and make recommendations to promote affordability
- Identify viable cost-sharing and cost-recovery mechanisms

- Conduct financial analyses to project future budgetary requirements for medicines needs resulting from on-going and expanding treatment programs
- Assess the impact of the introduction of new health technologies
- Design and help implement payment for performance schemes for pharmaceutical services
- Conduct options analyses to enhance system performance and efficiencies, including contracting out pharmaceutical management operations
- Identify opportunities to leverage vertical funding sources to support pharmaceutical system strengthening

- Provide technical support to prepare GFATM Procurement and Supply Management plans and access grants through GFATM and other international health initiatives
- Identify opportunities for public-private partnerships
- Map donor investments and identify pharmaceutical system needs to facilitate coordination and guide donor investments
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| **5.1 Availability of pharmaceuticals improved** | • Essential medicines are available for health programs  
• Health systems support patient-centered care  
• Antimicrobial resistance (AMR) is recognized as a serious public health threat | • Assess public sector supply chain capacity and pharmaceutical management operations and identify necessary system improvements  
• Support opportunities to achieve ISO certification for supply system components  
• Work with national counterparts to design and implement innovative approaches for enhanced use of the private sector for service delivery  
• Assist national authorities to integrate new medicines and diagnostic tools |
| **5.2 Patient safety and therapeutic effectiveness assured** | • Organizational structures improved for more effective supply chains  
• Strategies and approaches for integration of new health technologies and products adopted  
• Expanded use of the private sector | • Support implementation of both proactive and reactive approaches to monitoring patient and medicines safety  
• Coordinate and collaborate with WHO, ISoP, GFATM and other global initiatives to advance the pharmacovigilance and patient safety agenda  
• Document lessons learned and best practices in implementing comprehensive pharmacovigilance programs in developing countries  
• Help establish and capacitate national-level and hospital-based Drug and Therapeutic Committees and infection control units |
| **5.3 Medication use improved** | • Pharmacovigilance systems established and operational  
• Infection control programs implemented |  |
| **5.4 Pharmaceutical services standards defined, adopted and implemented** | • Health workers empowered to provide patient-centered pharmaceutical care  
• Patients empowered to better manage their therapies  
• Health care organizations implement medicines use review programs | • Support the implementation/scaling-up of community case management for malaria and childhood illnesses  
• Ensure effective patient care and treatment through down-referral systems for ART and referral networks for maternal health and TB/HIV programs  
• Expand use of IEC/BCC messages and strategies in the public and private sectors for providers and patients on responsible self-medication and adherence to recommended treatment regimens  
• Strengthen the capacity of health care organizations to monitor prescribing and implement corrective interventions |
| **5.5 Emergence of antimicrobial resistance (AMR) slowed** | • Minimum standards of pharmaceutical care established for public and private sectors  
• Global, regional, and country level AMR coalitions established  
• Cross-cutting AMR interventions supported  
• Framework to identify the health system costs of AMR developed | • Work with governments and national professional associations to develop harmonized standards for pharmaceutical services  
• Design medicines use components of accreditation programs for primary care facilities and pharmacies in the public and the private sectors |

15-Jan-13
This graphic represents a comprehensive set of dynamic relationships among the five health systems building blocks (governance, human resources, information, financing, and service delivery), with a medical products building block overlay to provide technical focus and identify substantive areas of concern and related corrective interventions. This approach will be used to achieve sustainable country-specific results that are aligned with partner country strategic plans and USG/USAID health-related goals.