BEYOND COVERAGE

Measuring vitamin A programme’s effectiveness in:
Mauritania & Sierra Leone

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## Overview

### Introduction and Background

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Study Objectives, Methods, and Limitations</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Results</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Promising Practices</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Lessons Learned</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Implications for Policy and Practice and Future Research</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Introduction and Background
Country X

THIS YEAR VAS COVERAGE

62%

Country Y

THIS YEAR VAS COVERAGE

60%
Based on coverage alone, the two programmes seem equally effective this Year.
Country X

LAST YEAR VAS COVERAGE
84%

Campaign delivery of VAS and co-delivery in measles SIA last year; No SIA this year, VAS coverage declined this year.

Country Y

LAST YEAR VAS COVERAGE
55%

THIS YEAR VAS COVERAGE
60%

THIS YEAR VAS COVERAGE
62%
Country X

LAST YEAR VAS COVERAGE
84%

THIS YEAR VAS COVERAGE
62%

Campaign delivery of VAS and co-delivery in measles SIA last year; No SIA this year, VAS coverage declined this year.

Country Y

Routine delivery of VAS. Intensified strategy this year. Increased coverage.

LAST YEAR VAS COVERAGE
55%

THIS YEAR VAS COVERAGE
60%
Country X

YEAR 1 VAS COVERAGE
84%

YEAR 2 VAS COVERAGE
62%

Campaign delivery of VAS and co-delivery in measles SIA last year; No SIA this year, VAS coverage declined this year.

Country Y

YEAR 1 VAS COVERAGE
55%

YEAR 2 VAS COVERAGE
60%

Routine delivery of VAS. Intensified strategy this year. Increased coverage.

In Year 2, Country Y was more effective in ensuring VAS access.
Study Objectives and Research Questions

1. Test strategic reviews of delivery effectiveness in VAS programs using the delivery effectiveness framework in case-study countries (Mauritania and Sierra Leone)
2. Explore generic definitions and potential indicators for effectiveness parameters in case-study countries
3. Map out available data in the case-study countries
4. Build consensus on prioritization of effectiveness parameters in country-specific workshops
5. Generate recommendations for enhanced VAS delivery effectiveness
6. Collect and analyze lessons learned
Methods

- **Mixed-methods:**
  - Secondary analysis of available data provided numerical effectiveness metrics across parameters
  - Primary data collected using individual self-report, small group discussions, and consensus building methods within a novel participatory workshop design.

- **Participatory:**
  - Small group rotated among five ‘dialogue stations’
  - ‘Pile sorting’ used to elicit further input from participants
Delivery Effectiveness Framework

- Service quality
- Clinical outcomes
- Responsiveness
- Equity
- Efficiency
- Availability
- Access
- Resilience
- Community awareness
- Community acceptance
- Sustainability

Coverage
Proportion of the population with a healthcare need who receive care
Limitations

- Data availability
- Community member involvement
- Generalizability
Results

**MAURITANIA**

- High importance + easy
  - Clinical Outcomes
  - Access
  - Service Quality
  - Availability

- Somewhat
  - Community Awareness
  - Community Acceptance

- Less
  - Efficiency
  - Responsiveness

**SIERRA LEONE**

- High importance + easy
  - Efficiency
  - Service Quality
  - Community Awareness
  - Community Acceptance

- Somewhat
  - Responsiveness
  - Resilience

- Less
  - Clinical Outcomes
Results – Examples Sierra Leone

- Over 150 recommendations of the 11 parameters generated
- Thematic analysis resulted in 4 domains

**EQUITY**
- Equitable outreach will require capacity building of existing staff
- Better integration of health services
- Strengthening of the supply chain

**COMMUNITY AWARENESS**
- Utilize CHW and mother-to-mother support groups
- Integrate VAS awareness raising activities into routine care
- Ensure adequate funding for planned awareness activities

**HEALTH CAMPAIGN EFFECTIVENESS**
**Strengthen Systems. Maximize Impact.**

**Greater resources (human and financial)**

**Increase programme capacity**

**Enhanced integration**

**Stronger enabling environments**
Promising Practices

Universal conceptual framework useful guide in initiating discussions

Data from programmes with similar delivery platforms effective in filling data gaps

Government and non-government actor participation allowed unique insights
Promising Practices

Interactive and participatory workshop effective in engaging participants
Lessons Learned

Buy-in from in-country stakeholders for a strategic VAS program review instrumental to the success of the process

Adequate time and skill needed for data acquisition, compilation, and synthesis

Diversity of participants key to richer engagement
Implications for Policy, Practice and Future Research

Policy:
- Need for monitoring, evaluation, and reporting policies to create enabling environment for comprehensive assessments of program effectiveness

Practice:
- Need to integrate and test new effectiveness indicators

Research:
- Need for implementation research to refine, streamline, and institutionalize strategic reviews of delivery effectiveness
Countries prepared and able to consider program effectiveness by looking beyond coverage toward the newly proposed parameters

Strategic reviews is an opportunity for country stakeholders to identify, discuss, and work towards addressing barriers to effective delivery

The strategic review is a model for other public health program to enhance effectiveness in delivery of preventive interventions
Summary of Key Messages

Further implementation research is required to adapt the strategic review process and methodology to country and programme contexts.
THANK YOU.