



Health Promotion Event in Cabo Delgado Province, 2017

Background

In 2003, Switzerland, together with other donors, supported the Ministry of Health in the establishment of the Health Common Fund PROSAUDE and in building a sector wide approach (SWAp). This approach and Fund have since then allowed a holistic and coordinated approach of the donors with the government and aim to improve systemic challenges of the health sector.

PROSAUDE III is a revised funding mechanism that has gone through a thorough reform in 2015/16. Today it is supporting primary health care with a focus on the local level. It applies rigorous allocation criteria and is supported by a management unit that ensures strengthened planning and monitoring of the funds. In a health sector that suffers from increased fragmentation and verticalization of funds, PROSAUDE remains – despite decreasing contributions – an essential mechanism for Mozambique to achieve its national health targets and to ensure a (minimal) coordinated approach of all health partners.

Switzerland's important historical role (it acted as PROSAUDE's first focal partner in 2003) and constant engagement created a unique position for Switzerland in 2016/17 when it led the reform on the partners' side and in the current phase when it was the focal partner from 2017-2018.

Goal

To support Mozambique in its efforts to provide more and better essential primary health care services, universally accessible, through a decentralized and strengthened health system

Beneficiaries

Targeted are all people resident in Mozambique (more than 28 Mio.), in particular poor people, women and children as main users of primary health care services.

Health

Support to the Health Sector PROSAUDE III



Geographical focus

National

Target group

People resident in Mozambique (more than 28 Mio.), in particular poor people and women and children as main users of primary health care services

Timeframe and Phase

Phase 7 (2017 – 2020)

Swiss Budget (2017-2019)

CH 9'090'000

Size of the Common Fund (2019)

USD 16.2 Mio.

The major share of the Common Fund contributions (80% of the total amount) is allocated at decentralized level to local governments who are responsible for providing basic health care for local communities. Rigorous, transparent and equitable allocation criteria are being applied.

Implementing partners

Ministry of Health (MISAU)
Provincial Directorates of Health (DPS)
District Directorates of Health (SDSMAS)

Signatory Partners

Government: Ministry of Health (MISAU), Ministry of Economy and Finances (MEF)

Cooperation Partners: Denmark, Flanders, Ireland, Italy, Spain, Switzerland, UNFPA and UNICEF



Preparation for the Indoor Residual Spraying Campaign against Malaria, 2017

Expected Results of the current Phase

- Increased equity in resource allocation in order to improve equity in the access to Primary Health Care (PHC) services, in particular quality reproductive, maternal, newborn and child health services
- Improved efficiency in spending and improved management capacities
- Increased contribution from domestic resources to the health sector and in particular to Primary Health Care and reproductive, maternal, newborn and child on the basis of a Health Financing Strategy
- Improved coordination among health sector's partners, and functional Sector Wide Approach (Swap) mechanism in place

Main Activities

Switzerland concentrates its intervention on strengthening health governance aspects with a focus on the following three main lines of intervention:

Financial Support to the Strategic Health Sector Plan through PROSAUDE Common Fund. Switzerland together with PROSAUDE partners aims to ensure that funds are allocated according to agreed priorities and by using a rigorous, transparent and equitable allocation criterion to ensuring that population needs are taken into account.

Policy Engagement for System Reforms, Fiscal transparency and Sustainable Financing. The fund contributes to strengthen Public Financial Management by supporting the integrated planning and budgeting as the main tool for steering to achieve results, and increasing internal control measure to improve spending efficiency.

Research. The fund is being used for research in the sector that will generate evidence for an informed health policy dialogue.

Results achieved and challenges

- The current PROSAUDE Common Fund applies allocation criteria that have a clear focus on the local level: 80% of funds must be allocated to the sub-national level whereof 65% must be directly allocated to districts.
- Reforms are the main pillar of the current Strategic Health Sector. *Decentralization* – one of the Swiss priorities – figures as one of the main entry points for this reform agenda. With the establishment of a decentralization reform unit in 2016, the Ministry of Health has created the necessary structure for change. However, concrete results are currently still outstanding. In light of the constitutional reform in 2018 that bestows a certain degree of autonomy and functional responsibility to provincial governments, Switzerland is actively advocating for concrete actions to further decentralize the health sector.
- In order to mitigate stock outs, pharmaceutical supply and logistics are now more structured and this has resulted in an increase in the percentage of provinces that are able to manage and request medicines timely, from 59% in 2014 to 82% in 2016.
- Policy dialogue and interventions by the Ministry of Health with partners have resulted in improved sector financial tracking and reporting with a quarterly budget execution report, capacity building in public finance management at provincial reported, in budget execution reporting, financial statements and monitoring tools.
- Community involvement and health promotion strategies improved significantly and influenced policy and planning; structures have since been established to ensure consistent and sustainable community involvement.

Transversal themes

Switzerland aims to advance **gender** as transversal theme in the health sector and therefore supports the revision and implementation of the Gender Strategy of the Health Sector. This Strategy aims to further improve women's sexual and reproductive rights and their decision-making power in relation to their bodies and in relation to the use of health services during pregnancy. One of the main objective is to decrease the high maternal mortality and morbidity rates.

Good Governance is a topic inherent in Switzerland's engagement in the health sector in general and in PROSAUDE in particular. Next to its efforts to advance the decentralisation agenda, Switzerland is for example also engaged in technical working groups of the sector wide approach that rigorously analyse the annual financial and procurement audits to ensure that the government institutions are fully compliant with government rules.

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