



Communication

The EU role in

Addressing health inequalities globally



Communication and SWDs

The EU role in Global Health

- This Communication proposes
 - an EU vision on global health, defines the guiding principles that should apply to all relevant policy sectors and presents a number of areas where the EU could more effectively act.
- The Communication is accompanied by three Staff Working Documents dealing respectively with:
 - "Contributing to Universal Coverage of Health Services through Development Policy";
 - "Global health: responding to the challenges of globalization"
 - "European Research and Knowledge for global health".



The Global Health Challenge

- Lights and shadows :
 - Life expectancy doubled in last century. Prevention, treatment, and care have increased.
 - Gaps have widened.
 - Globalizations risks and opportunities : Population growth, urbanization, migration and trade flows, aging, changing lifestyles, environmental degradation.

- Global health term :
 - about worldwide improvement of health, reduction of disparities, and protection against global health threats.



Global health governance and international policy frameworks

- The World Health Assembly (WHA)
 - International Health Treaties
 - Non-binding resolutions and national capacities/political will

- The health MDG 4, 5 and 6
 - enhanced political and financial efforts of the international community
 - progress uneven and largely off track in most developing countries.
 - HIV/AIDS (MDG 6), ARVT increase
 - Maternal mortality rates (MDG 5) barely declined.



Factors undermining progress

- Unbalanced and fragmented attention to health priorities
- Health fragility (capacity/willingness)
- Weak health systems. And weak links to MDG 1 on nutrition, MDG 3 on gender equality and MDG 7 on water/sanitation.



Health system fragmented

- o > 100 global initiatives
- o Advocacies by problems, isolated funding gap analysis (**consolidated > 30 b!**), vertical approaches, duplication and opportunity cost
- o The case of a safe delivery : basic service
 - o Vs. divided into? :
 - o MDG 4 : ~~reducing neonatal death~~
 - o MDG 5 : SRHRs : ~~reducing maternal deaths~~
 - o MDG 6 :
 - o ~~AIDS : PMTCT~~
 - o ~~Malaria : AN PrTx~~
 - o ~~Tb : BCG~~





The challenge of policy coherence

- Policy Coherence for Development
 - trade and financing,
 - migration,
 - security,
 - food security and
 - climate change.
- Others : education and youth empowerment.



The EU and global health

- The EU's leading role in international trade, global environmental governance and in development aid, as well as its values and experience of universal and equitable quality healthcare give it strong legitimacy to act on global health.
- The EU should apply the common values and principles of *solidarity towards equitable and universal coverage of quality health services* in all external and internal policies and actions.



Towards universal coverage of basic quality health care

- Where :
 - The EU should give priority to and increase its support for countries in fragile contexts, aid orphans and/or those worst off- track from the health MDGs.
 - The Commission will propose a list of **priority countries** where the EU should concentrate its health Official Development Assistance in view of the 2010 MDG Summit.



Towards universal coverage of basic quality health care

- What :
 - The EU should concentrate its support on strengthening of health systems
 - This approach is particularly important for MDG 5.
 - International Health Partnership and Joint Assessment of National Strategies
 - The EU should promote this approach in global financing initiatives.



Towards universal coverage of basic quality health care

- How :
 - Aid effectiveness objectives,
 - Predictability of at least three years and join MDGc
 - Partner countries owned development programmes
 - Partner countries' procurement and public financing management systems.
 - Additional innovative financing, role EIB
 - Joint health sector monitoring and dialogue
 - mobilise domestic revenues, fair financing of health systems (inc ab. user fees)
 - EU -WHO, national public funding gaps for delivery of basic health care.
 - Multi-sector nature of health
 - links to gender, nutrition (Interlinking health and food security interventions) water, sanitation, environmental quality and education



Coherence between relevant EU policies related to global health

- The EU should ensure that *all relevant internal or external policies* contribute to promoting equitable and universal coverage of quality health services.
 - impact assessment of the relevant policy areas should analyse the effects of policy options on global health
- The linkage between the EU's humanitarian and development aid should be promoted.
- Commitments made on policy coherence for development.