

Governance Mechanisms and Processes:  
Are They Enough to Get Health in All  
Policies on the Agenda?

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# Outline

- Background
- Determinants of Health Issues and Opportunities for HiAP
- Strategic Frameworks
- Governance Mechanisms and Limitations
- Role of the Health Sector

# Background



**Pop: 2,436,469 Mil**

***Determinants of Health Issues and  
opportunities for HiAP***



Why treat people and send them back to the same conditions that made them sick in the first place?





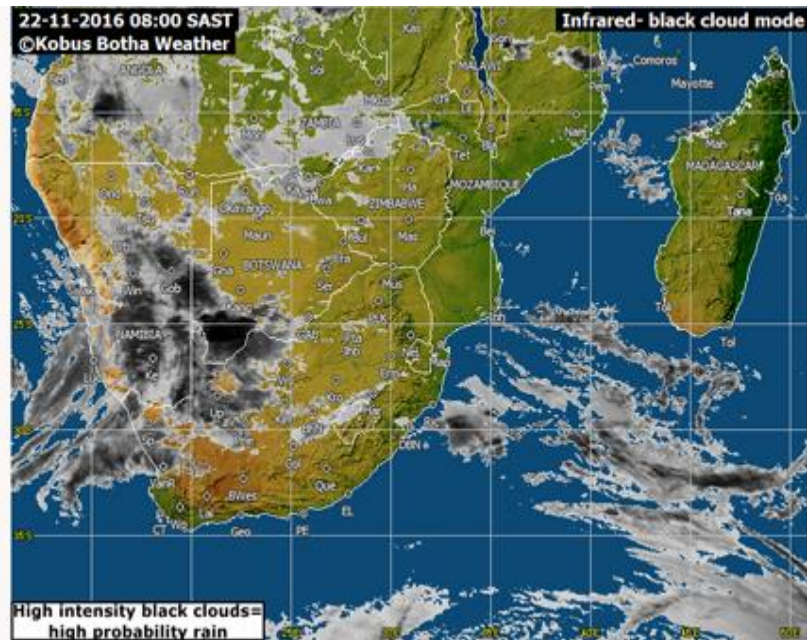
**President declares drought an emergency**







Vice-President, Nickey Iyambo with (SADC) six-member Malaria Elimination Eight (E8) representatives



### How are the environment and our well-being and health connected?

Natural resources fuel our production and consumption, and our use of them affects our quality of life and well-being. But our use of resources also affects the environment, and our economic capacity to provide for us in the future.



- Micro grids can solve localized energy challenges
- When paired with distributed generation, more energy sources will be available
- In rural setting, electrification can increase **quality of life, public health and financial stability**



Between 2008 and 2012, up to:

**96%**

of all electricity generated is from renewable sources (hydro, wind, solar, geothermal, biomass, etc.)

4 billion in total

**110 million**

people are severely affected by climate change-related events.

3 billion people to be

**80%**

of the population in rural areas is dependent on agriculture, making them most vulnerable to climate change.

Source: UNEP





# Strategic Frameworks

1. Vision 2030
2. Harambee Prosperity Plan
3. National Development Plans
4. Ministerial Strategic Plans
5. Annual Management Plans
6. Sectoral/ Thematic Implementation Plans

## **6.1. National Human Rights Action Plan – Health Pillar**

provide the framework for the lead and supporting ministries and agencies (and where applicable civil society organizations) to implement key actions towards achieving specific objectives articulated

Accessible and affordable health services; Quality health care services

## **6.2 Decentralization Focal Persons Task-force**

## **6.3 National Health Account (NHA) Task-team and Institutionalization**

## **6.4 Universal Health Coverage Advisory Committee for Namibia**

## **6.5 NAFIN – Namibia Alliance for Improved Nutrition**

# HPP STRUCTURE



The **HARAMBEE PROSPERITY PLAN (HPP)** is constructed around the Namibian narrative. It acknowledges that we are not starting afresh, but that we must continue with the construct of an inclusive Namibian House, built on a solid foundation of peace and stability. We are unified by our national identity and stand united in Cause, to usher Namibia into the epoch of Prosperity.

# Social Development Pillar

“One mother who dies while giving birth is one mother too many” and we must, therefore, do everything we can to prevent it from happening.

## INFANT AND MATERNAL MORTALITY

### Situational Analysis

The HPP considers “one mother who dies while giving birth is one mother too many” and we must, therefore, do everything we can to prevent it from happening. The same goes for a child that dies before the age of one. Infant mortality is a global challenge for many and has therefore, been prioritized as one of the sustainable development goals of the United Nations. Namibia has made good progress in reducing infant and maternal mortality but under the Harambee Plan we want to do even more.

### Proposed strategies and actions to attain HPP09

The following strategies and actions will be deployed to ensure a reduction in the infant and maternal mortality rates during the Harambee period:

- ➔ **Community Health Workers and Midwives:** We will identify, train and deploy community health workers and midwives to identify mothers who are potentially at risk of dying during the delivery process at an early stage and those requiring referral to health facilities for observation and treatment. The midwives will be based in the community, available to assist with and oversee safe home deliveries.
- ➔ **Provision of Equipment:** There is a shortage of essential equipment at most health facilities in the country. We will ensure that by the end of the Harambee period, all hospitals delivering babies should have at least one functional ultrasound machine. In the same vein, delivery beds have been ordered for all units and we will ensure that there are functional operating theatres, oxygen, resuscitative and suction points at all times in all maternity wards by the end of the Harambee period.

# NDP5 PILLARS



Economic Progression



Social Upliftment



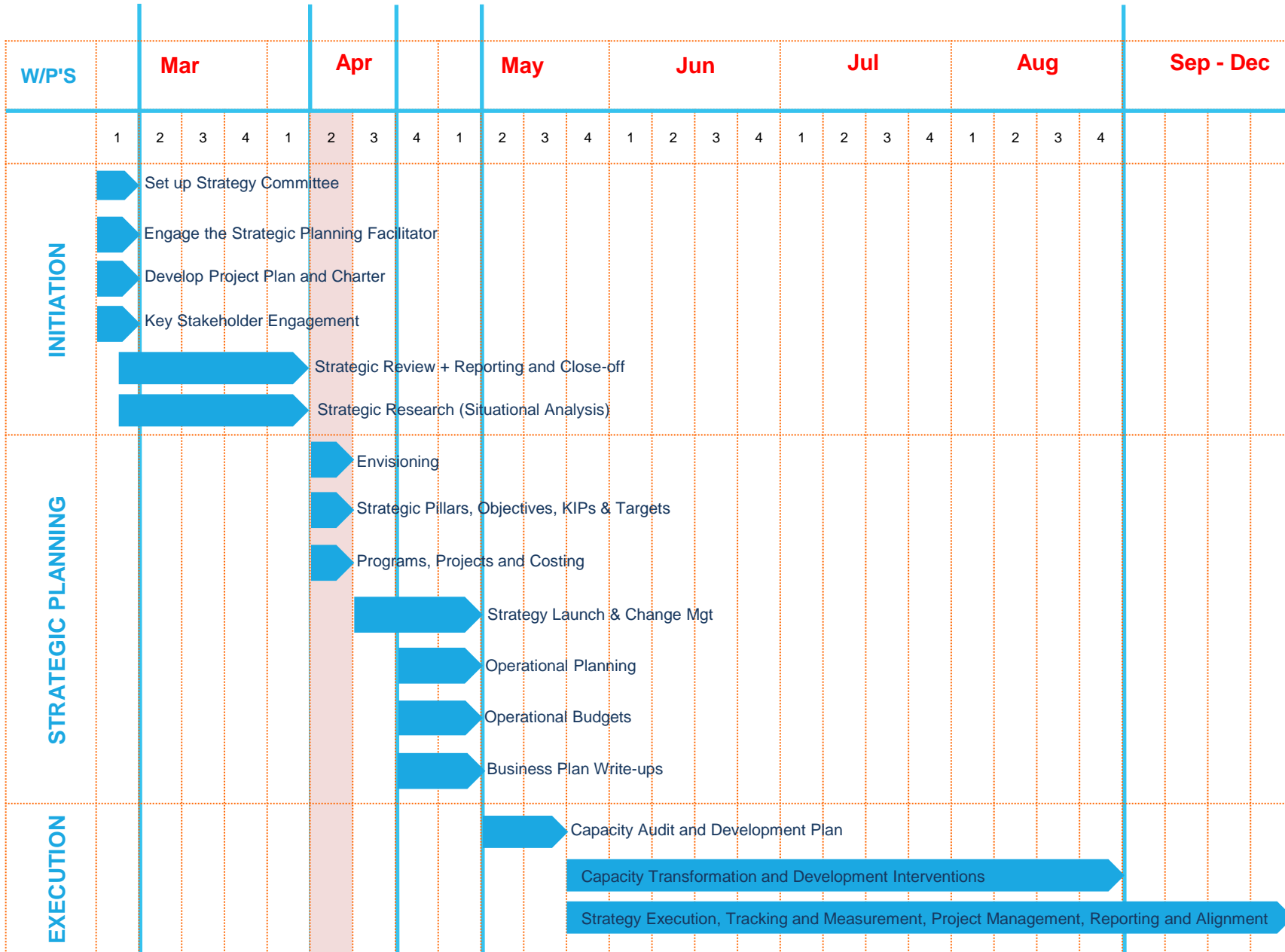
Environmental  
Sustainability



Good Governance

**MOVING TOGETHER TOWARDS PROSPERITY**





# STRATEGIC PLANNING - PROJECT PLAN

# Governing Mechanisms

- ***Coherence within Health Policies.***
  - **Education** (School Health Policy, Substance Abuse, Skills training and health literacy).
  - **Gender** (Gender Policy and GBV Action Plan).
  - **Defence** (HIV/AIDS, PHC, Training, Cross border health initiatives such as Malaria).
  - **Transport** (National Road Safety Council (Road Safety)).
  - **Local Government and Housing** (City of Windhoek) Enforcement of the new Public and Environmental Health Act, Health Cities Initiative, Housing, Water supply and sanitation, enforcement of Liquor Act, Tobacco control laws.

# Governing Mechanisms

- ***A range of existing collaborative and coordination mechanisms exist.***
  - Non-legislative mechanisms are frequently supported by memoranda of understanding and inter-ministerial committees.
  - These mechanisms are not functioning optimally given that inter-sectoral representation is frequently absent or, when present, sectors are represented by more junior staff

# Governing Mechanisms

- ***Strategies, policies and action plans exist to support inter-sectoral work for health***
  - e.g. Department Trade, Industry and control of unhealthy products; Department of Transport and road safety issues
  - However, at the level of implementation, budget lines and allocated human resources are weak
  - Lack of technical capacities to implement and monitor progress



# Foundation of HiAP Approach in Namibia

- The Government of Namibia requested WHO joint team (AFRO, IST, ESA and HQ) to develop a strategy to guide the Ministry of Health & Social Services (MoHSS) in mainstreaming health in other line ministries' policies.
- In response to this request, the WHO Joint Team in collaboration of local coordinating team from WHO Country Office and MoHSS undertook an initial mission to get views of relevant actors in Namibia in order to build momentum for the development of the national HiAP.
- Further to the initial process, 1<sup>st</sup> National Stakeholders Consultative Workshop was held to obtain deeper understanding and orientation to move the with respect to the introduction, mechanism of developing Implementation Strategy on Health in All Policies. Not all identified partners attended the Workshop.

# National Stakeholders Consultative Workshop

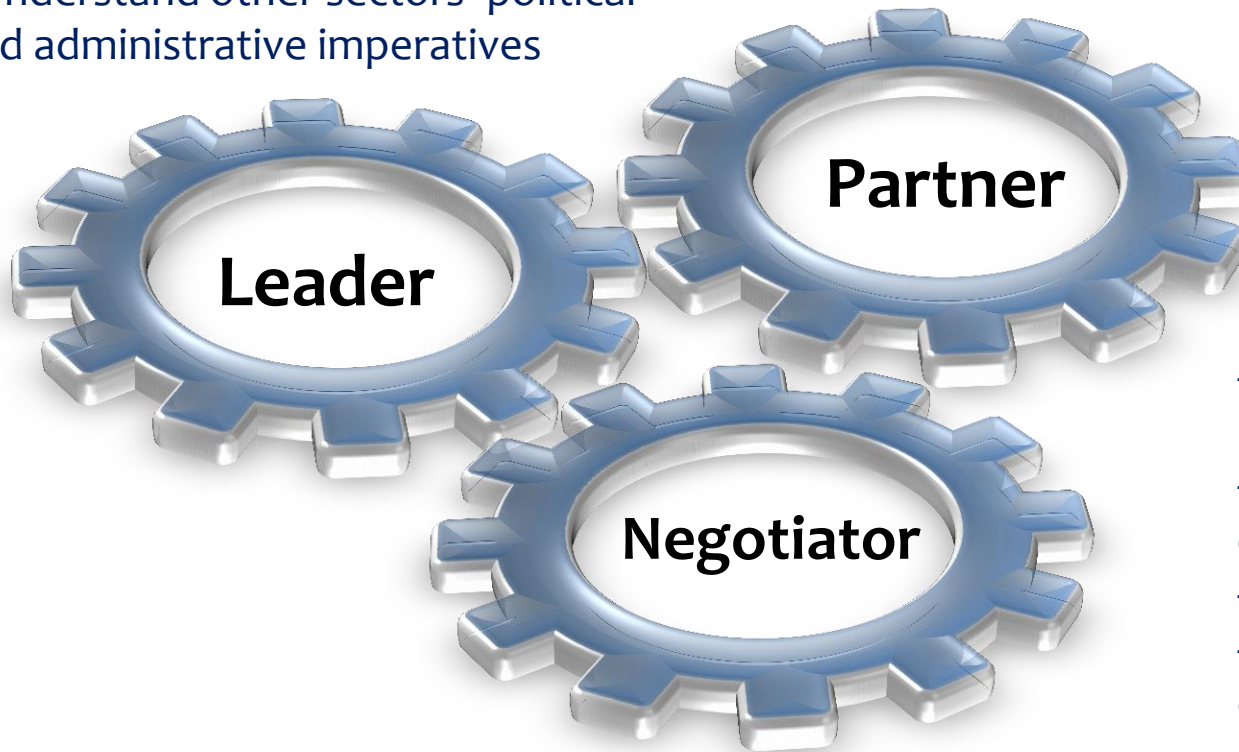


# The New role for the Health Sector

(including Ministry of Health)

## Leader

- Work with other arms of government to achieve health objectives of the long-term strategic Vision 2030 -
- Understand other sectors' political and administrative imperatives



## Partner

- Sectors other than health
- Evaluate the effectiveness of intersectoral work
- Integrated policy-making
- Build capacity for ISA and HiAP,
- Resource mobilization

## Negotiator

- Provide technical knowledge but no control
- Intersectoral platforms for dialogue
- Evidence base
- Policy and legislative coherence

# Next steps

- Gaining additional prioritised stakeholders on board.
- Creation of Champions of HiAP across public sector through institutionalization process – Ministerial accountability and Responsibility
- Solicit further technical support to finalize HiAP Implementation Strategy
- Organize high-level events to promote the work of Health in All Policies
- Development of the Health and Social Sector Coordinating and Oversight Council /Committee ToR, including membership
- Strengthen technical and leadership capacities of coordinating teams
- Communication with the Chair of the Parliamentary Standing Committee on Human Research, Social and Community Development.
- Solicit and advocate for the adoption of HiAP at Cabinet Level.



Thank you

