**PROJECT LESSONS-LEARNED REPORT**

Total length of report: 2-3 pages.

Please refer to the [Deliverable Description](http://content.undp.org/go/prescriptive/Project-Management---Prescriptive-Content-Documents/download/?d_id=1358999) for more information on the purpose and use of this report

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| **Project Title:** | Health AND HIV/AIDS DEVELOPMENT |
| **Country:** | BOTSWANA |
| **Related CPAP Outcome** | By 2016 institutions at all levels capacitated to effectively respond to HIV and AIDS and deliver preventative and curative health services |
| **Project Description and Key Lessons-Learned** | |
| **Brief description of context** | Botswana is an Upper middle income country and as such donor support is dwindling. The country is a major contributor to the health budget and has achieved universal coverage of health care as most of the communities live within a radius of 8kms from a health facility. The country has agreed to provide ARVs to all HIV positive citizens thus posing a challenge of increased health expenditure for both HIV drugs, and related commodities as well as increasing demand for treatment of Non-Communicable Diseases. There is thus a need for interventions that can reduce the costs of drugs, medicines and essential commodities. UNDP has collaborated with Government to assist with technical support to implement TRIPS flexibilities to ensure access to cheaper drugs.  The project started in 2013 with a workshop sponsored by UNDP to train stakeholders on the importance of TRIPS flexibilities. The workshop came up with recommendations, one of which to form a Technical Working Group to implement recommendations.  The project never took off as in December 2016 UNDP sponsored yet another meeting to review progress and come up with a roadmap to implement recommendations. |
| **Brief description of project** | The project was set up to help Government to Increase access to cheaper drugs and medicines to enhance accessibility to HIV treatment: through Harmonization of medicines and intellectual properties legislation with TRIPS (Trade Related Aspect of Intellectual Property Rights).  The project was aimed at helping Government to set up a TWG to implement 2013 recommendations on TRIPS flexibilities; development of the TORs of the TWG; Development of Operational guidelines; Work towards enabling environment (legal reform in industrial property ACT and competition ACT). |
| **Key project successes** | The project succeeded in procuring a Regional consultant who facilitated a training of potential TWG members representing different stakeholders. The workshop produced a report with suggested roadmap for implementation of TRIPS flexibilities. This was successful due to the support from MOHW, Ministry of Trade and CIPA. |
| **Project shortcomings and solutions** | The project stalled from 2013 after the first workshop which came up with recommendations of implementing TRIPS flexibilities. The stakeholders who attended a meeting in 2016 were new thus necessitating a procurement of a consultant to train them. The project results were partially attained.  In future there is a need to get commitment from MOHW to prioritize the activity. |
| **Lessons learned** | There is a need for project planning stage to involve MOHW for them to identify the gaps or be brought on board to own the plans.  Ministry management should be involved from the onset to develop a joint AWP and own it. The AWP was signed in the middle of the year.  There is a need for rigorous follow up to ensure implementation of agreed plans rather than taking long to elevate the issues to management. |
| **Follow-up Actions** | The project will be continued in 2017 as a roadmap has been developed to be implemented in 2017. There is a need to follow up in the establishment of the TWG to implement the recommendations. |

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| **Project Information** | |
| **Award ID:** | 00097462 |
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| **Partners:** | Ministry of Health and Wellness, Ministry of Trade, NACA |
| **Project resources:** | Workshop report available |
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