



# **SDH Research to Policy to Practice Tanzania**

**International Conference  
Social Determinants of Health,  
Intersectoriality and Social Equity in Latin  
America**

**FIOCRUZ, November 17<sup>th</sup>, 2015.**

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# Outline

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1. General Context and Policy Framework
1. IHI: SDH Research for Action
1. Research to Policy and Practice
1. Implementation Challenges
1. Summary



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# **General Context and Policy Framework**



## **Tanzania's social and economic development is challenged by sharp inequalities -**

- **Between and within urban centers and rural areas**
- **Among different socio-economic groups.**

### **Aggravated by:**

- **unequal access** to essential **public services** and **employment** opportunities
- The **gender imbalance** of labour and structural and social norms, as well as **unequal power relations**

# **Informal employment is on the rise -**

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- **Women** are mostly concentrated in casual, low-skilled, poorly remunerated & irregular forms of employment
- **Vast majority of working poor** who work informally earn their living in the informal economy where:
  - risks are high, average earnings are low
  - have **no social security coverage** to protect against short term risks or life-time contingencies
  - cannot afford private insurance, have **little access to social insurance**





# Without a healthy population, Tanzania risks NOT achieving TDV2025's aspirations...

**USD 272.6  
mn<sup>1</sup>**

losses to GDP  
**4,20,000** total  
mortality

A portion of **USD 431 mn<sup>2</sup>**  
spent on treatment could be  
used for development  
purposes...

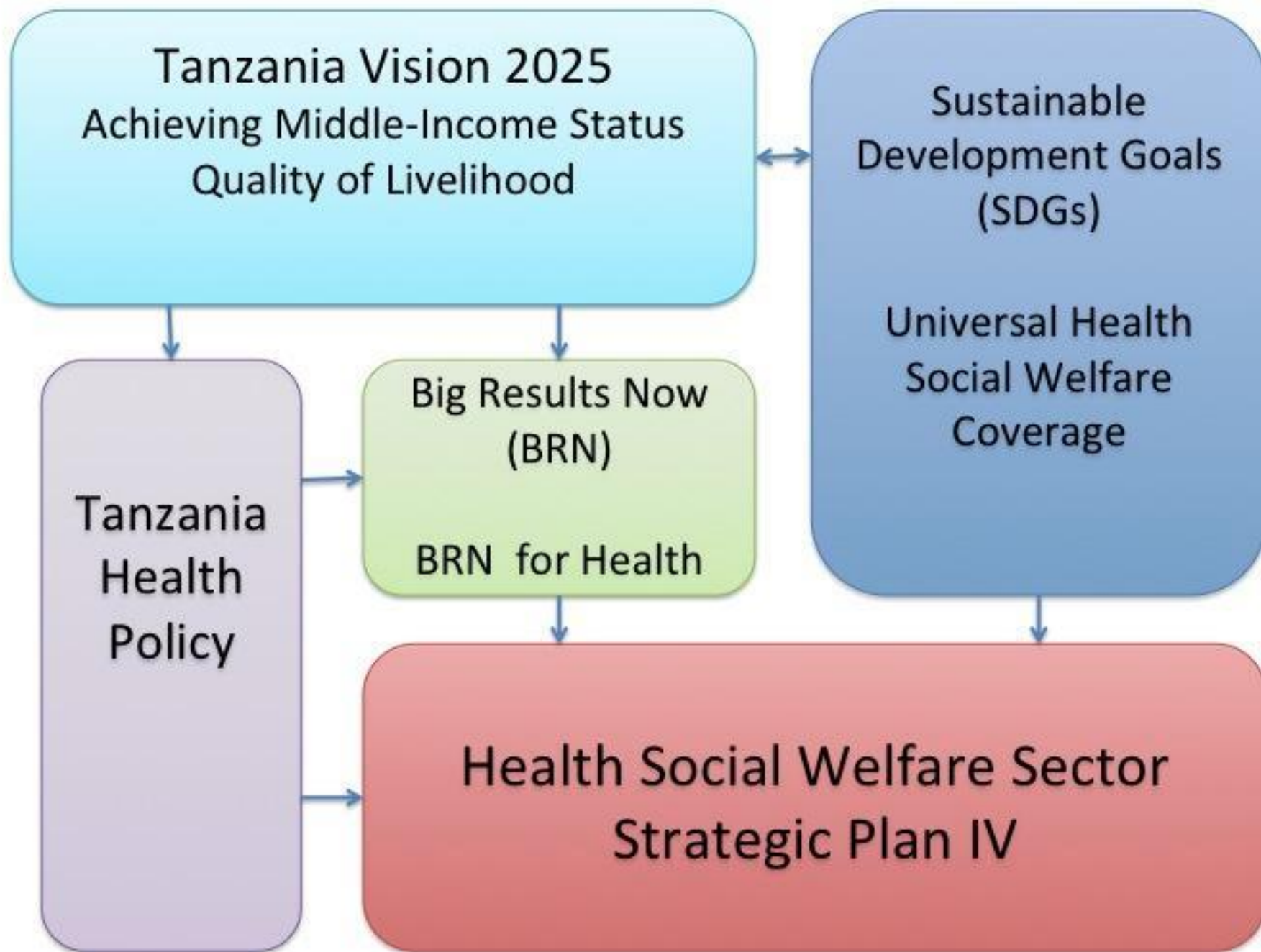
(1) Based on WSP's studies on average annual lost due to premature deaths, productivity losses due whilst sick or accessing healthcare and loss in national income due to burden of chronic diseases. The 5 key diseases encompassed Diarrhoea, LRI, infectious diseases, NTD, Malaria, Diabetes, Cardio & circulatory diseases, etc.

(2) MoF's 2013/14 Budget allocation based on annual average exchange rate at TSH 1618 per dollar

Sources:

WSP, WHO, IHME, GBD 2010, MoHSW Midterm review, MoF, team analysis





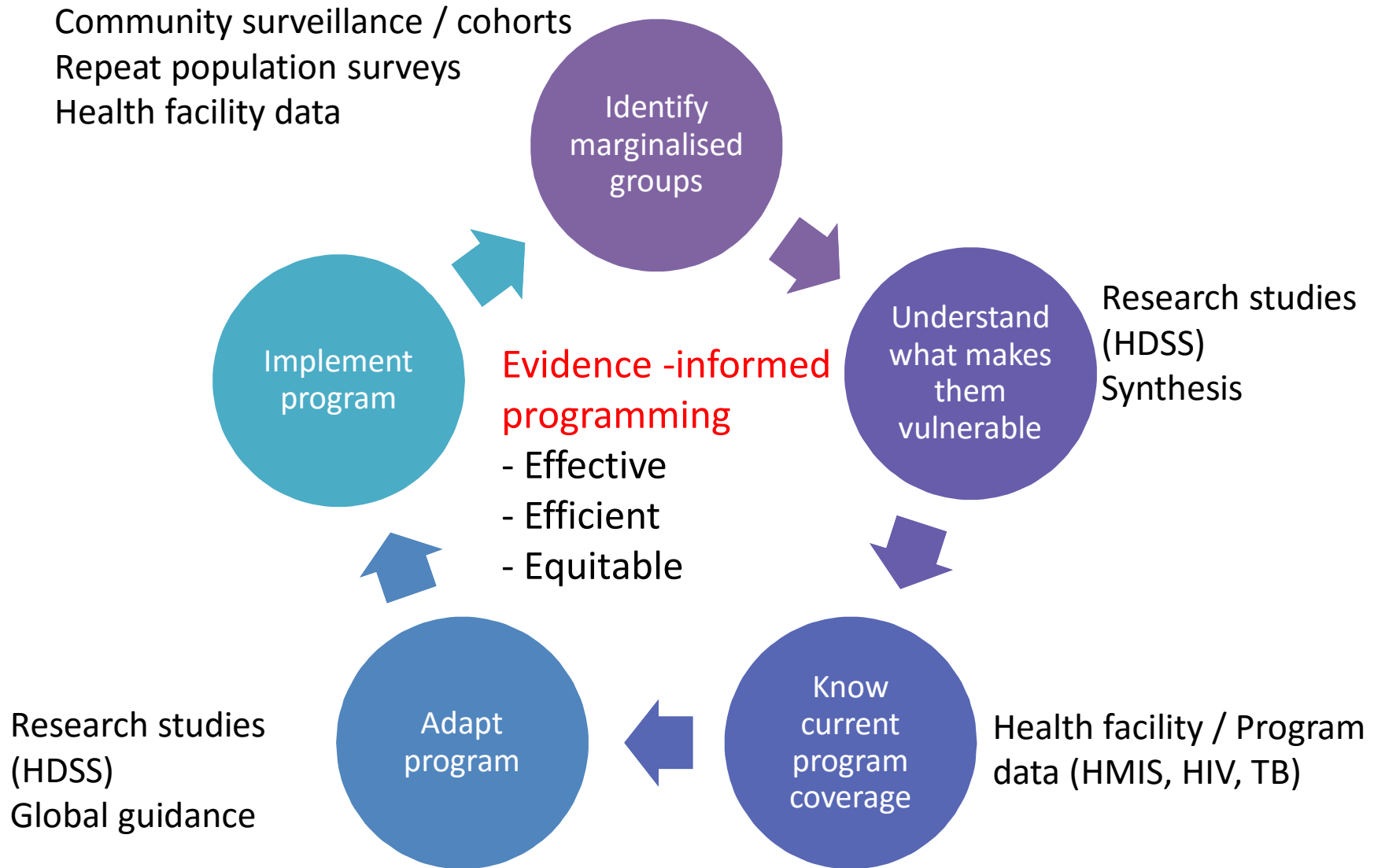


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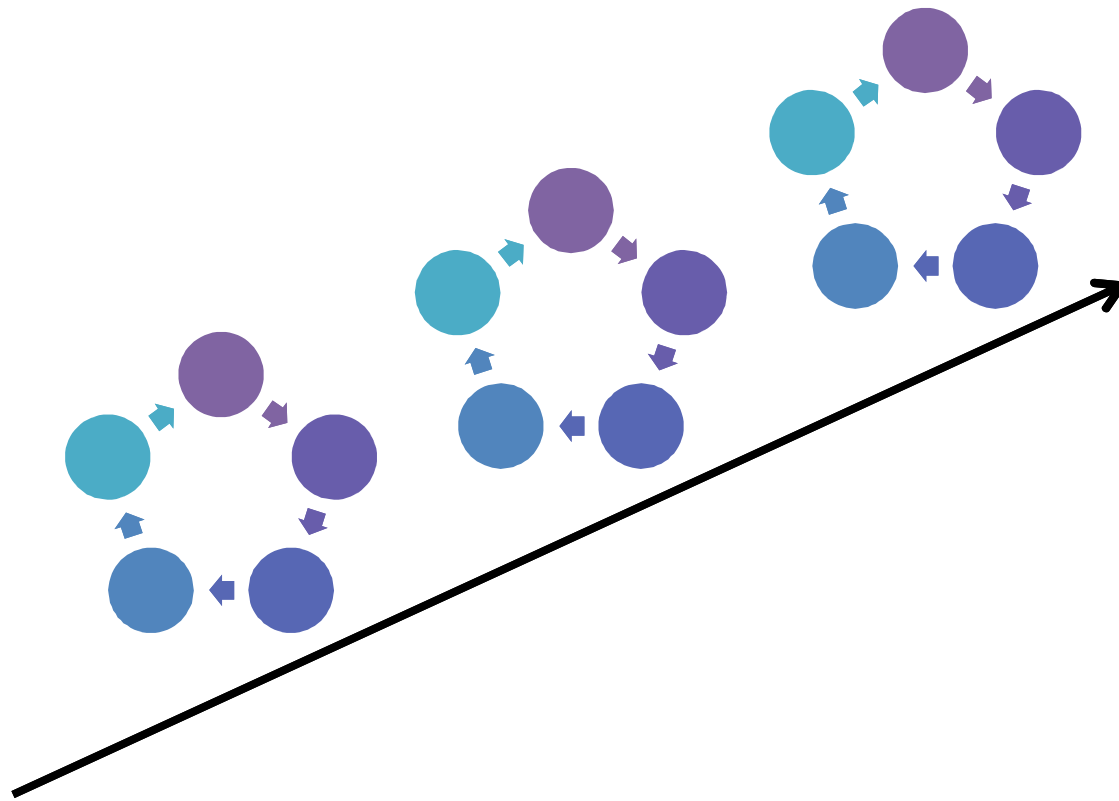
# **Ifakara Health Institute**

## **SDH Research for Action**

# IHI: Evidence-informed policy and planning..



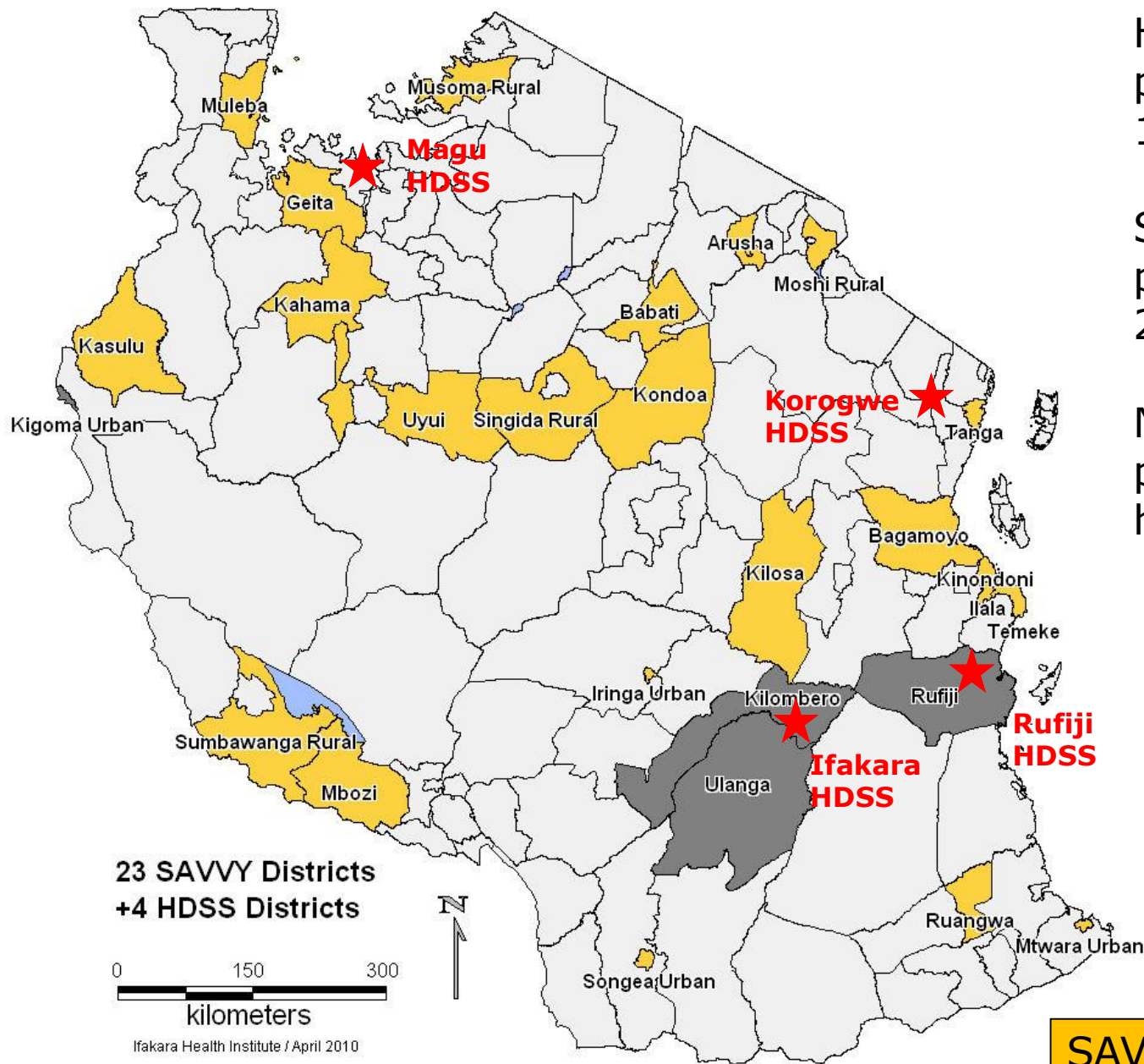
.. is an iterative process



**Improve:**

- **Survival**
- **Health**
- **Wellbeing**

**in an equitable way**

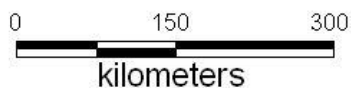


HDSS: 400,000 population, since 1994

SAVVY 800,000 population, since 2013

National population & health surveys

23 SAVVY Districts  
+4 HDSS Districts



Ifakara Health Institute / April 2010

SAVVY + HDSS Districts



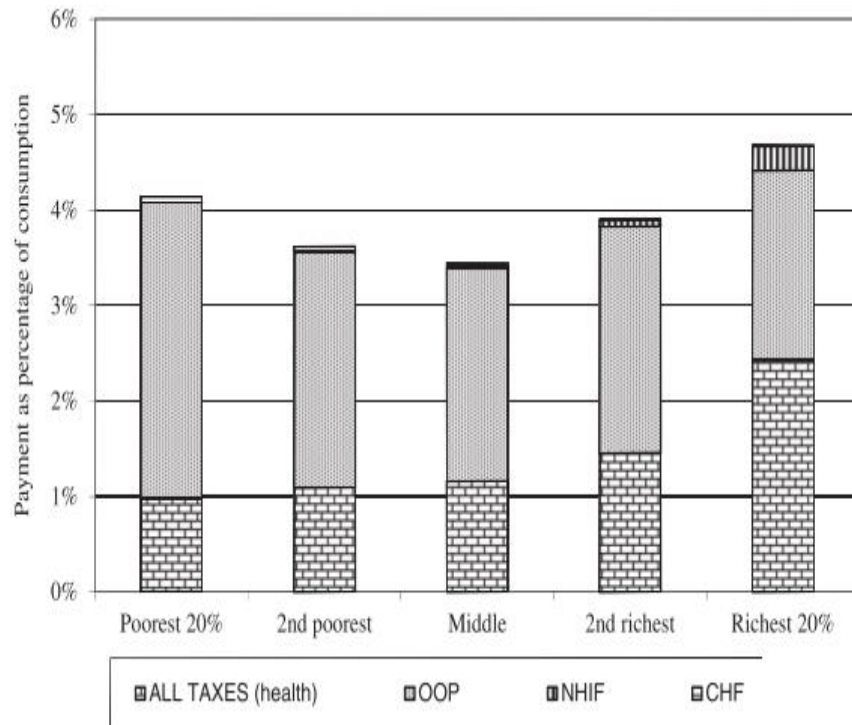
# Some examples of research on SDH

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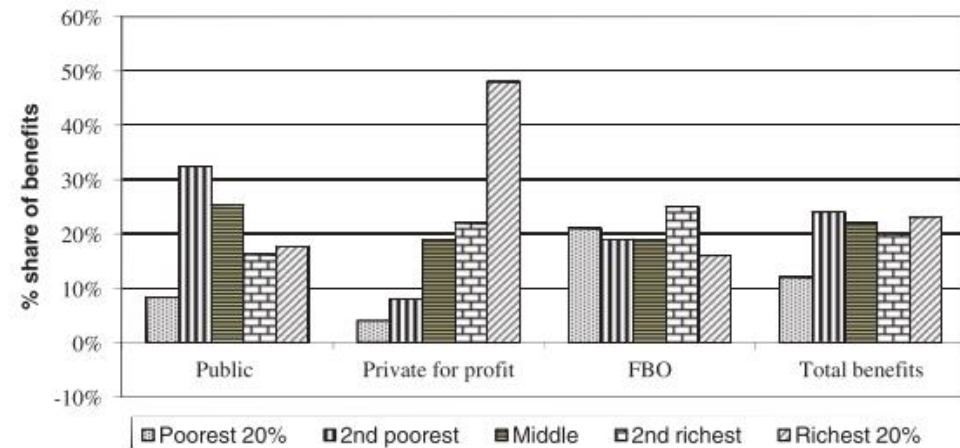
1. Bed-net social marketing increased child survival through increased ownership and equity in ownership (Schellenberg Lancet 2001; Nathan Trop Med Int Health 2004)
2. Heterosexual anal sex new driver of HIV: gender power, modernity, economic, pleasure (Mtenga Sex Transm Inf 2015)
3. Women's savings groups increase women's likelihood for (transactional) extramarital sex, because they need to pay back loans (Mtenga et al, forthcoming)
4. Traditional cultural schema delay timely health seeking by diabetes patients (Metta et al, BMC Pub Health 2015)

# Equity in Health care financing & benefits

## Relative burden of health financing by wealth quintile



## Health benefits distribution from use of public, private and faith based clinics, by wealth quintile



### Who pays and who benefits from health care? An assessment of equity in health care financing and benefit distribution in Tanzania

Gemini Mtei,<sup>1\*</sup> Suzan Makawia,<sup>1</sup> Mariam Ally,<sup>2</sup> August Kuwawenaruwa,<sup>1</sup> Filip Meheus<sup>3,4</sup> and Josephine Borghi<sup>1,5</sup>

*Health Policy and Planning* 2012;27:123-134



**MIDTERM ANALYTICAL REVIEW OF  
PERFORMANCE OF THE HEALTH SECTOR  
STRATEGIC PLAN III 2009-2015**

**September 2013**

Ministry of Health and Social Welfare  
United Republic of Tanzania

in collaboration with

Ifakara Health Institute  
National Institute of Medical Research (NIMR)  
World Health Organization

 **IFAKARA HEALTH INSTITUTE**  
research | training | services



**Mboera *et al.* Midterm  
review of national  
health plans: an  
example from the  
United Republic of  
Tanzania. Bull WHO  
2015;93:271-278**

# Progress and equity

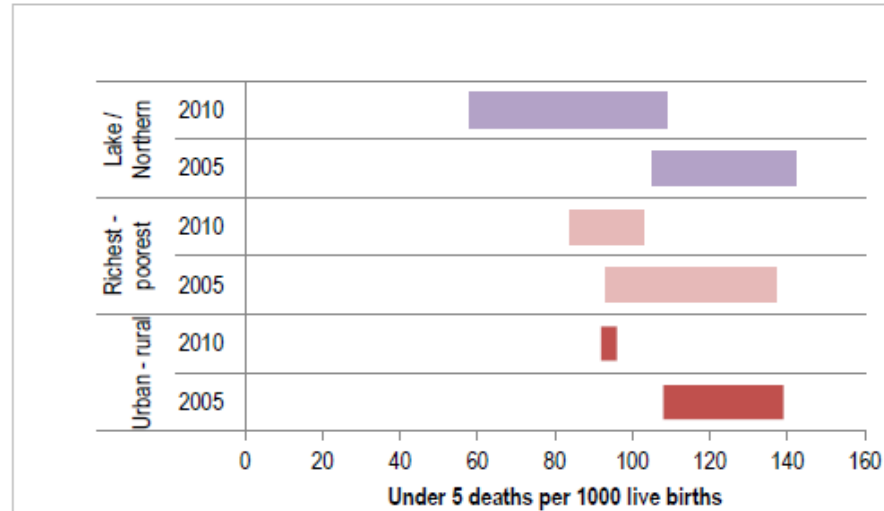
## HSSP III indicators

	Overall progress	Achievement	Target 2015	Equity	Compare (rank)
<b>HEALTH STATUS</b>					
Life expectancy (years)		61 (F) /58 (M) (2011)	62/59		
Under-5 mortality rate		81/1,000 (2006-10)	54		1
Neonatal mortality rate		26/1,000 (2006-10)	19		1
Infant mortality rate		51/1,000 (2006-10)	-		1
Child stunting rate		35% (2011)	22%	GRW	3
Child underweight rate		14% (2011)	14%		5
Maternal mortality ratio		454/100,000 (2004-10)	156	G	2
Total fertility rate		5.4 (2008-10)	5.1	GRW	4
Adolescent fertility rate		44% (2010)	39%	GRW	5
HIV prevalence among young people		2.0% (2011/2)	-	G	
HIV prevalence, pregnant women (15-24)					
TB notification rate		75% (2011) 52% (2012)	70%		
Leprosy cases diagnosed and treated					
Cholera incidence rate		343 cases	0		
Cholera case fatality rate		4.1%	<1%		
Malaria prevalence among OPD (lab)		33% (under 5) (2012)	-		
Parasitemia prevalence (children)		9.2% (2012)	5%		
<b>COVERAGE OF INTERVENTIONS</b>					
Measles immunization coverage		100% (2012)	85%		1
DTP-Hb 3 immunization coverage		95% (2012)	85%		4
Vit A coverage (2 doses)		60% (2010)	-	GW	7
TT2 immunization coverage		88% (2011)	90%		

(G=gender, R = place of residence (urban-rural, region) and W=wealth quintile).

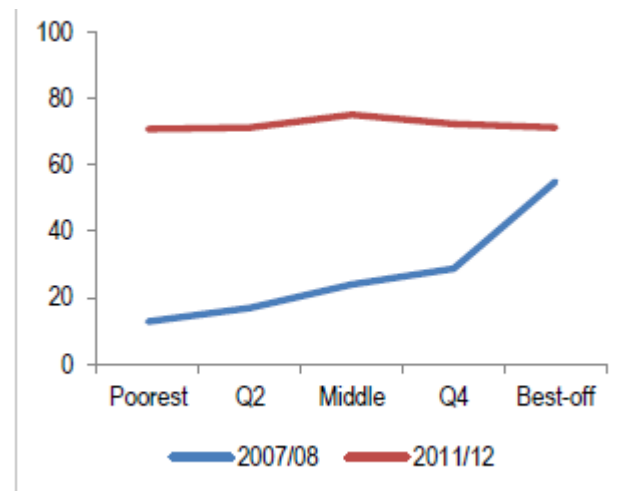
# Equity

Under-5 mortality rate, 1996-2005 and 2001-2010



Gaps in child mortality between poorest and best-off quintiles and between urban and rural children have reduced

Use of ITN by children of 5 during the last night, by wealth quintile



The big equity gap in 2007/08 in the use of ITN was completely closed by 2011/12



# Current analysis plans

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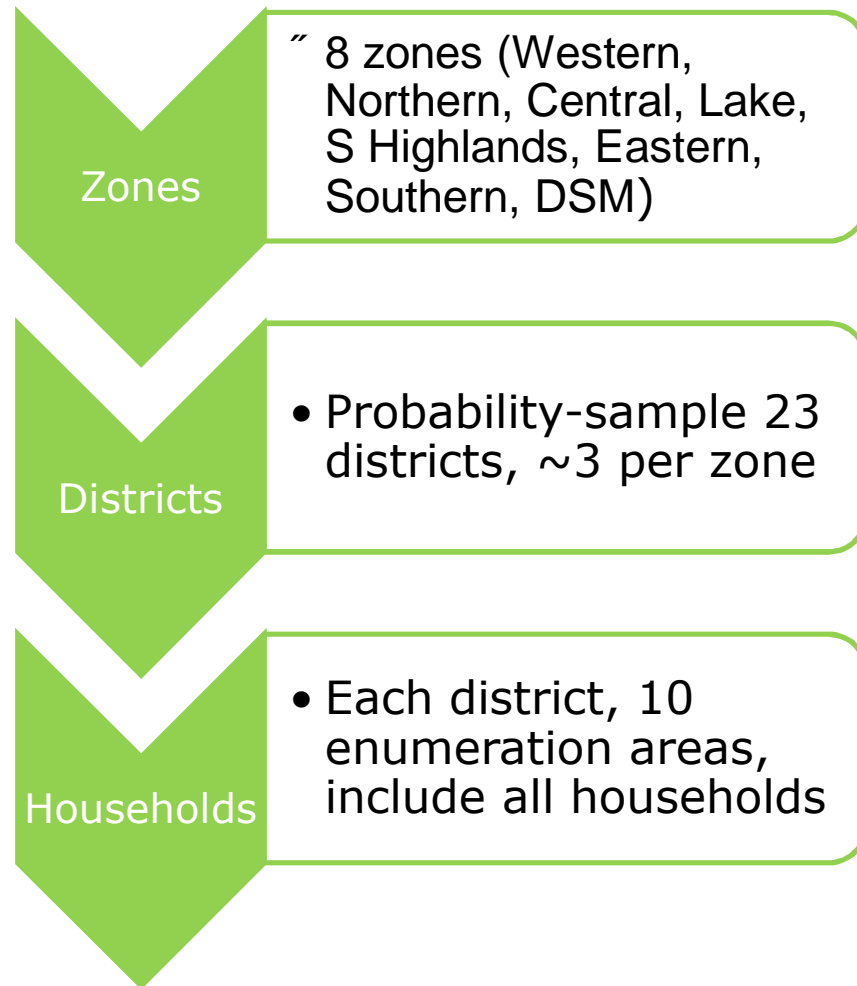
## **Triangulate information on ÷**

- “ **Burden of disease** (THMIS, DHS, national prevalence survey for TB, STEPS survey for NCD)
- “ **Service availability and readiness** (SARA)
- “ **Service utilization** (FBIS)
- “ **Mortality** (SAVVY, DSS)
- ÷ **.through an equity lens, i.e. break down by geography, age, sex, occupation / education, etc**

**Å ..try to understand differences through analysis of research project information**

**Focus: HIV, maternal and newborn, TB, malaria, NCD,**

# SAVVY Sample



## Sample design

- “ **Nationally representative**, 2-stage sample
- “ Can stratify by
  - “ DSM, other urban, total urban, rural
  - “ zone
- “ 650,000 population

# HDSS – beyond SAVVY

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## CORE

- Individual level data on migration → estimation of person-time at risk
- Individual data on marital status, pregnancy, relationship to other hh members

# HDSS – beyond mortality & fertility

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- Estimate **disease burden** for non-lethal diseases
- Estimate behavioural, social, structural drivers for **demographic** trends
- Measure **what** health program **impact** is (mortality and disease incidence)
- Understand **why** there is program impact
- Measure **unintended** effects of programs
- Platform to test **novel** health interventions

# SAVVY & HDSS – what & how

## SAVVY & HDSS

- Census by age, sex, occupation, education
- Prospective births, deaths, birth outcomes
- Cause of death by Verbal Autopsy



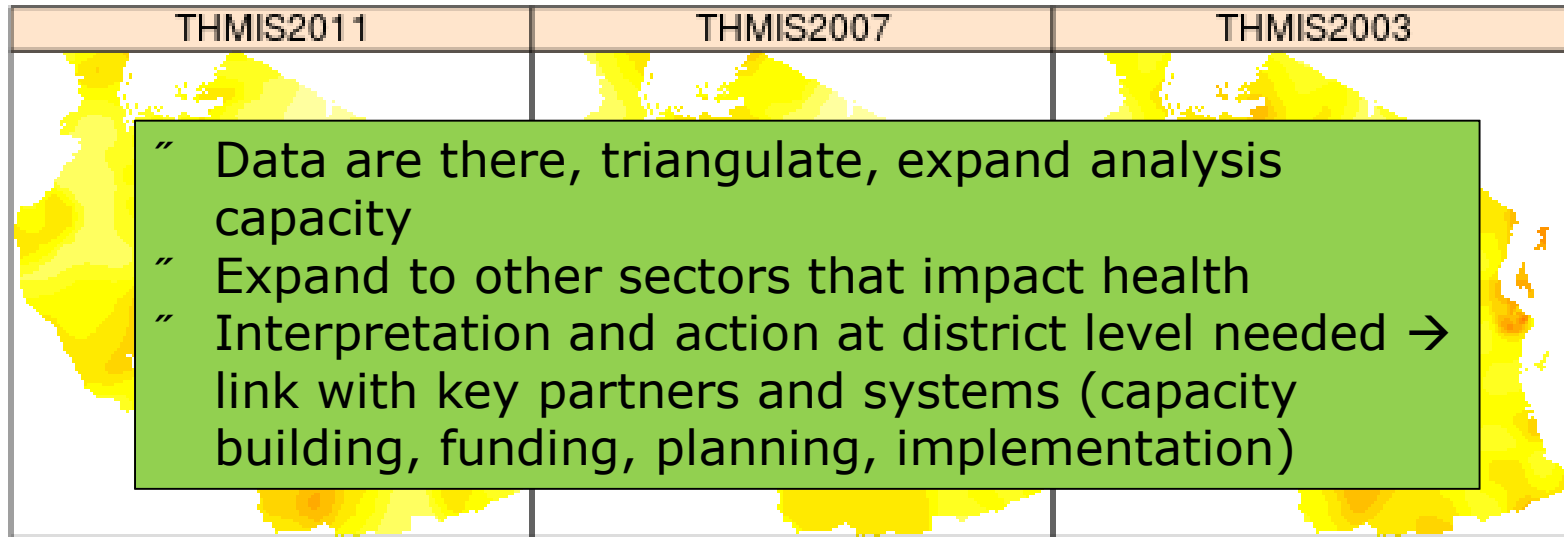
## DSS

- Household visit every 6 months
- Social determinants, health behaviour, health seeking, health status, family dynamics



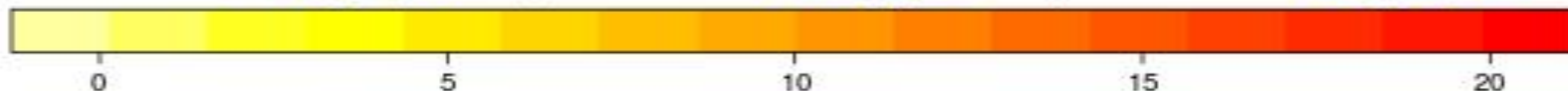
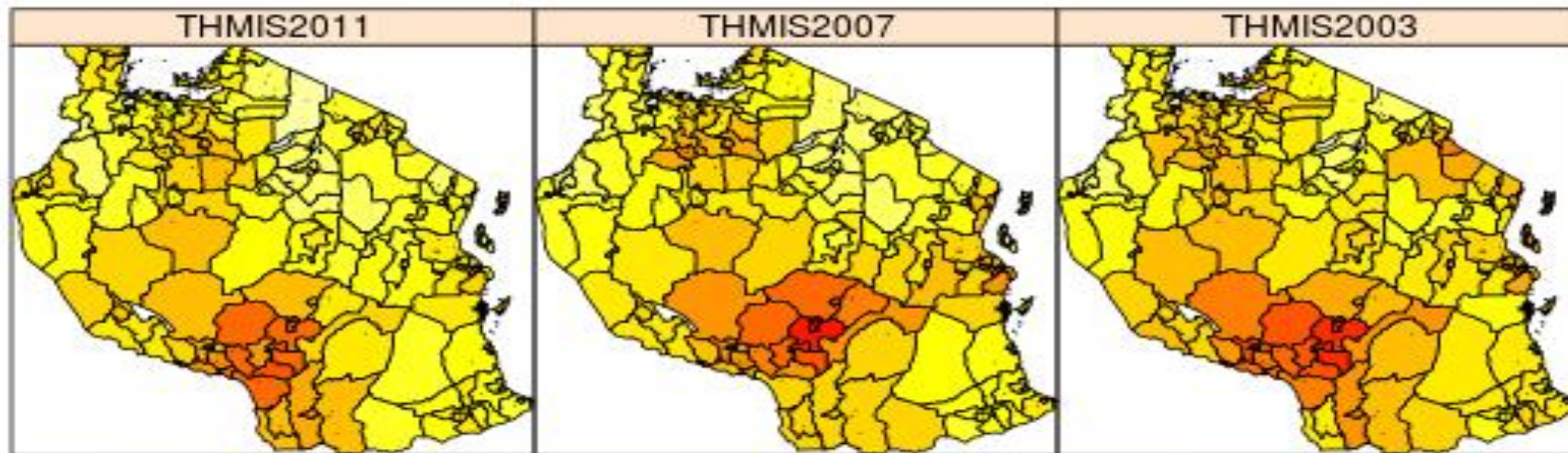


## HIV Prevalence surface



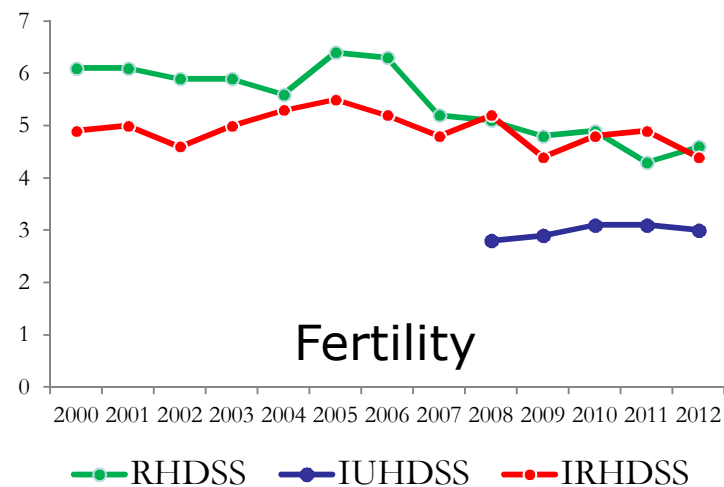
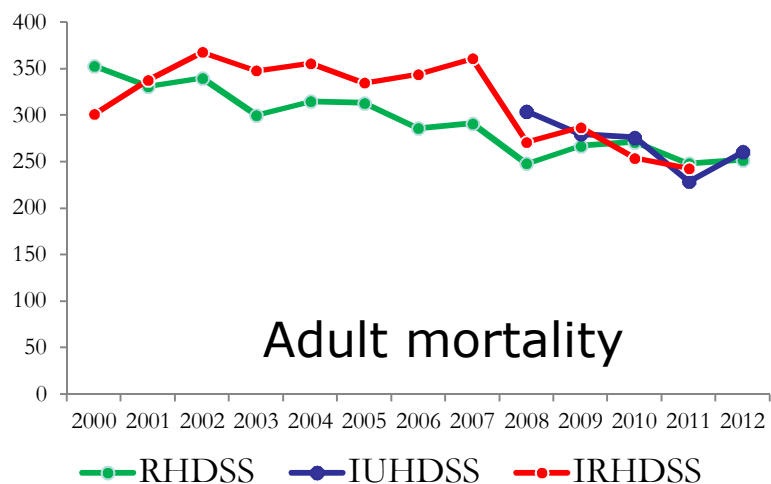
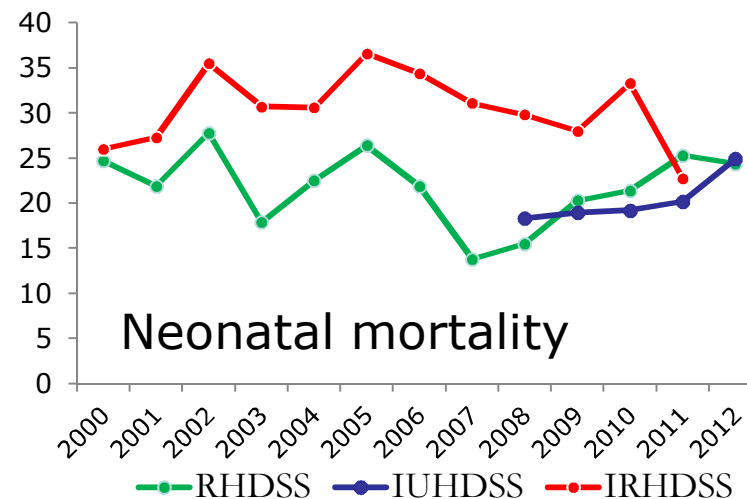
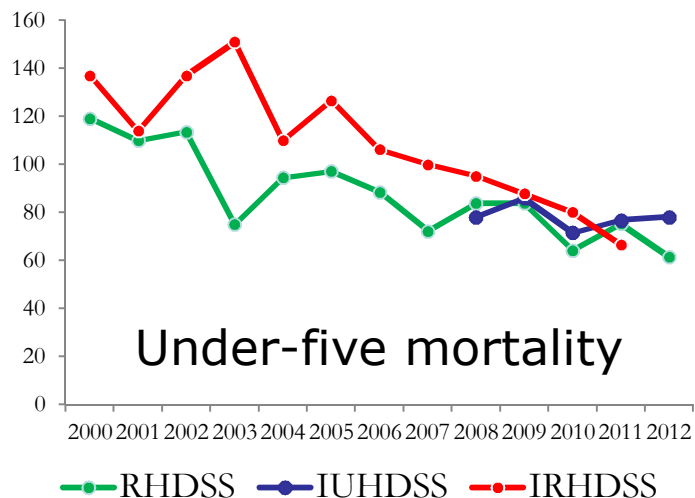
%

## District Prevalence



%

# Demographic trends (Ifa. & Ruf. HDSS)



# Most factors determining health are outside the health system

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**Deepen conceptualisation:** Explore broader and **contextualized drivers** of health inequities

Promote **interdisciplinary programme research** – **adapt and innovate**

**Co-production of knowledge** – **interdisciplinary teams and analysis** for better policy

Prioritise **community participatory research and empowerment** to explore the **underlying causes** of health inequalities

**Inform Policies/ Programmes/ Planning/ Budgeting** at national and **local government level**

**Promote public debate** -> **informed citizens**

**->What are the context specific policy imperatives necessary to reduce inequities?**

## A focus on conceptualisation and contextualisation of SDH research...

**“an absence of critical thinking and analysis, pulling together various determinants; need to build capacities towards defining the research question that is context specific.”**

**“talk to each other.. share and learn from each other” => promote interdisciplinary & participatory research => lend an SDH inequity perspective to findings**

**Promote public discourse -> informed citizens**

**THINK BIG  
“consider the changing dynamics ...demography , migration, urbanisation, effects of globalisation”**

## IHI in EQUINET

- is a consortium network of professionals, civil society members, policy makers, state officials in east and southern Africa that aims to advance and support health equity and social justice through research, analysis, networking and dialogue

“ Formed in **1998**, linked to SADC, extended to East Africa in 2003

“ Covering **16 countries** in ESA

Visit [www.equinet africa.org](http://www.equinet africa.org)



Southern and Eastern African Trade Information and Negotiations Initiative



SEAPACOH



CEHURD  
social justice in health



IFAKARA HEALTH INSTITUTE  
research | training | services





2008 **EQUITY WATCH**



2010 **OBSERVATÓRIO DA EQUIDADE**

Avaliação do progresso da equidade na saúde



**Moçambique**

2011 **EQUITY WATCH**



Assessing progress towards equity in health

**Zambia**

2011 **EQUITY WATCH**



Assessing progress towards equity in health

**Uganda**

2011 **EQUITY WATCH**

health



Assessing progress towards equity in health

**Zimbabwe**

2012 **EQUITY WATCH**



Assessing progress towards equity in health

**Tanzania**



Ministry of Health and Social Welfare



Ifakara Health Institute

2011 **EQUITY WATCH**



Assessing progress towards equity in health

**Kenya**



**REGIONAL**

2012 **EQUITY WATCH**

Assessing progress towards equity in health  
**East and Southern Africa**



**EQUINET**  
Regional Network for Equity in Health In East and Southern Africa

# EQUITY WATCH



- “ Gathers and organises evidence on **25 progress markers of contexts**; equity in health/ health care, equity in social determinants of health, redistributive health systems; global issues
- “ To **promote dialogue** on the findings, & stimulates debate on **implications for policies and actions** and for more regular monitoring;
- “ To **identify key equity concerns** in the region
- “ To **exchange country evidence** at regional level on **common trends and promising practices.**





# The 2012 Regional EW found

1. More constitutional recognition of rights, but weak mechanisms and social literacy for meaningful participation
2. Rising within area inequalities, urban social inequality
3. Progress in gender differentials in primary school, but very poor progress in early childhood education
4. Low progress in water and sanitation, womens access to resources for food sovereignty
5. And moreÅ



in Watch report from

## PROGRESS MARKER

### EQUITY IN HEALTH

- Formal recognition of equity and health rights
- Halving the number of people living on US\$1 per day
- Reducing the gini coefficient of inequality
- Eliminating differentials in child, infant and maternal mortality and under-nutrition
- Eliminating differentials in access to immunization, ante-natal care, skilled deliveries
- Universal access to prevention of vertical transmission, antiretroviral therapy and condoms

### HOUSEHOLD ACCESS TO THE RESOURCES FOR HEALTH

- Closing gender differentials in access to education
- Halving the proportion of people with no safe drinking water and sanitation
- Increased ratio of wages to GDP
- Provide adequate health workers and drugs at primary, district levels
- Abolish user fees
- Overcoming barriers to access and use of services

### REDISTRIBUTIVE HEALTH SYSTEMS

- Achieving the Abuja commitment
- Achieving US\$60 / capita funding for health
- Improve tax funding and reduce out of pocket spending to health
- Harmonize health financing into a framework for universal coverage
- Establish and ensure clear health care entitlements
- Allocate at least 50% public funding to districts and 25% to primary health care
- Implement non-financial incentives for health workers
- Formal recognition of and support for mechanisms for public participation in health systems

### A JUST RETURN FROM THE GLOBAL ECONOMY

- Reducing the debt burden
- Allocate resources to agriculture and women smallholder farmers
- Ensure health goals in World Trade Organization (TRIPS, GATS) agreements
- Health officials included in trade negotiations
- Bilateral and multilateral agreements to fund health worker training

	Zimbabwe	Mozambique	Zambia	Kenya	Uganda
	2008	2011	2010	2011	2012
<b>EQUITY IN HEALTH</b>					
Formal recognition of equity and health rights	Yellow	Green	Green	Yellow	Green
Halving the number of people living on US\$1 per day	Red	Red	Yellow	Red	Green
Reducing the gini coefficient of inequality	Green	Yellow	Yellow	Green	Red
Eliminating differentials in child, infant and maternal mortality and under-nutrition	Yellow	Yellow	Green	Green	Yellow
Eliminating differentials in access to immunization, ante-natal care, skilled deliveries	Yellow	Yellow	Yellow	Orange	Yellow
Universal access to prevention of vertical transmission, antiretroviral therapy and condoms	Green	Green	Yellow	Green	Green
<b>HOUSEHOLD ACCESS TO THE RESOURCES FOR HEALTH</b>					
Closing gender differentials in access to education	Yellow	Green	Green	Green	Green
Halving the proportion of people with no safe drinking water and sanitation	Red	Red	Red	Red	Green
Increased ratio of wages to GDP	Yellow	Red	Yellow	Yellow	Yellow
Provide adequate health workers and drugs at primary, district levels	Red	Green	Green	Yellow	Red
Abolish user fees	Red	Yellow	Yellow	Green	Green
Overcoming barriers to access and use of services	Yellow	Yellow	Yellow	Yellow	Yellow
<b>REDISTRIBUTIVE HEALTH SYSTEMS</b>					
Achieving the Abuja commitment	Green	Green	Yellow	Yellow	Red
Achieving US\$60 / capita funding for health	Yellow	Yellow	Green	Yellow	Yellow
Improve tax funding and reduce out of pocket spending to health	Yellow	Yellow	Yellow	Yellow	Red
Harmonize health financing into a framework for universal coverage	Yellow	Red	Green	Red	Red
Establish and ensure clear health care entitlements	Yellow	Red	Yellow	Yellow	Yellow
Allocate at least 50% public funding to districts and 25% to primary health care	Yellow	Yellow	Yellow	Green	Red
Implement non-financial incentives for health workers	Green	Green	Green	Green	Yellow
Formal recognition of and support for mechanisms for public participation in health systems	Yellow	Green	Red	Red	Red
<b>A JUST RETURN FROM THE GLOBAL ECONOMY</b>					
Reducing the debt burden	Red	Red	Green	Yellow	Green
Allocate resources to agriculture and women smallholder farmers	Yellow	Red	Yellow	Yellow	Red
Ensure health goals in World Trade Organization (TRIPS, GATS) agreements	Green	Yellow	Green	Yellow	Yellow
Health officials included in trade negotiations	Yellow	Green	Yellow	Green	Yellow
Bilateral and multilateral agreements to fund health worker training	Yellow	Green	Green	Yellow	Yellow

# Future Directions of IHI Research: Urban Spaces, SDH observatory, UHC, Regional networks, South-South learning

- 2012 Census - Dar es Salaam 10% of total population; 5.6% annual growth
- **Youths: 47% of Tanzania's population <15 yrs**
  - Unemployment & Employment in the informal market
- **Cities are divided** (social/economical/political)
- 'Urban Bias' Vs 'Urban Penalty' → disaggregated and accurate data on urban health
- **Inequity and Inequality in Urban Spaces** --> access to services, physical environment, social fabric, livelihood



61 % urban SSA population in slums

- **Governance systems for social equality**



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# Research to Policy and Practice

**~~Research alone is of limited value in influencing policies~~**

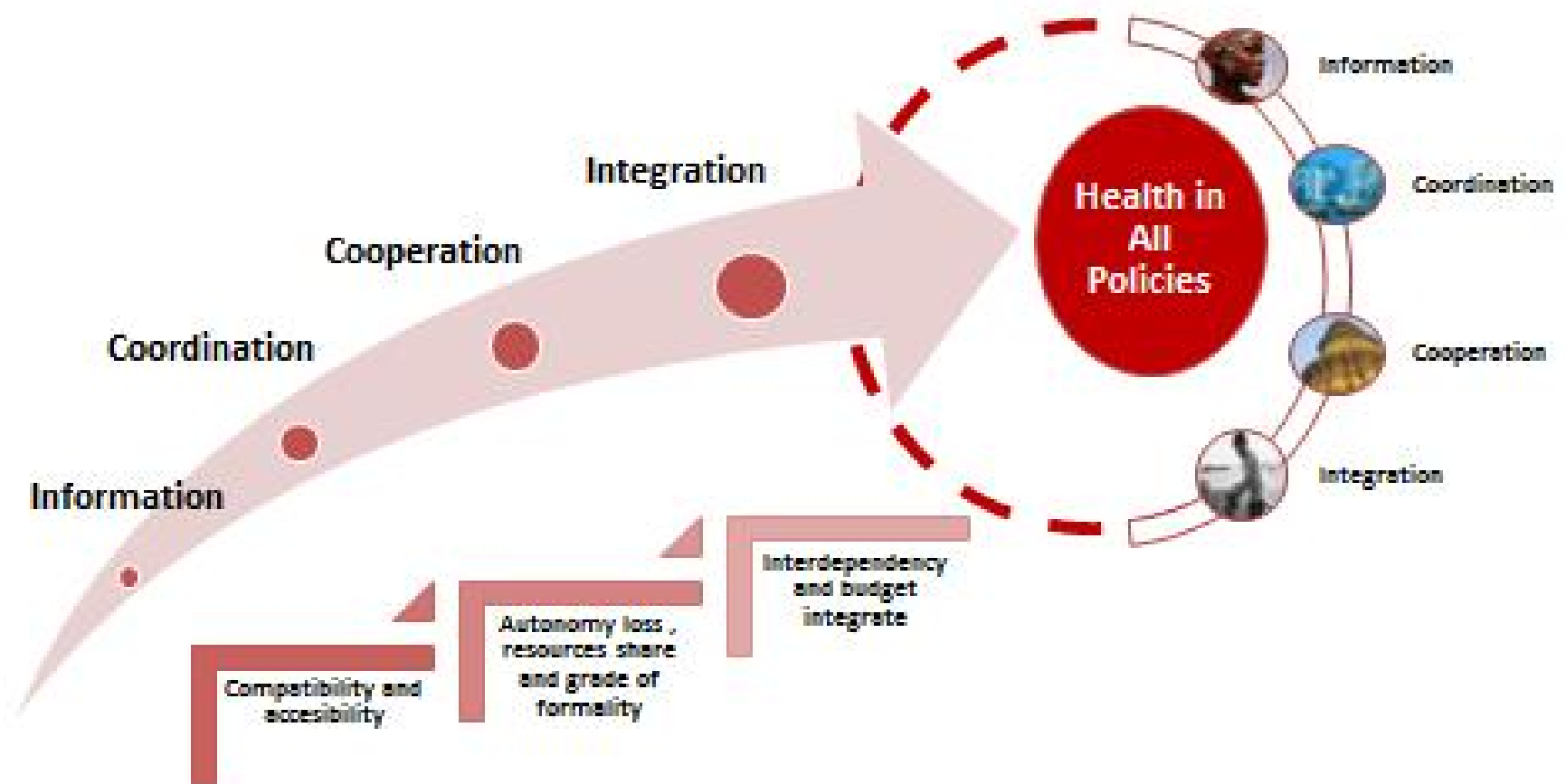
**“SDH is challenging the status quo...can research have a role?”**

# Call for integration of Health in All Policies across sectors and priority public health conditions

## Many unresolved questions -

- **How** does evidence-informed policy and practice change happen?
- **How, or when**, intersectoral action contribute to addressing social determinants of health and improving health equity?
- **How to strategize** on ways forward for establishing a Health in All Policies across sectors?
- How to **incorporate** a Health in All Policies agenda at **planning and budgeting** at **Local Government Level?**

# Implementation .. relationships with other sectors



**Better understanding of how policy is made, financed and implemented with specific attention to national circumstances is urgently needed**

- **A great deal of attention has been paid to the contents of policies**
- **A great deal of effort internationally has been expended in examining best practices**



## Several factors critical in shaping the extent to which research is used to influence policies: addressing health inequities requires-

- Credible **evidence**
- Influential leader/ **champion**
- **Strategic alliances & coalitions**-between health and other “SDH” stakeholders, research & advocacy groups
- **Informed citizens** and public debate
- An awareness of **political priorities vs. needs**
  - =>**SDH Research is not only valuable in itself but as a driver of wider social change.**
  - =>**Long and challenging process**

## Policies that work best

**~~“ Start simple but may become complicated over~~**

**time** - easily understood by all concerned; e.g. SA Child Support Grant; Swaziland Neighbourhood Care

- ***Make modest demands on institutions*** -involving just one line ministry e.g. Primary Education Development Programme, Tanzania; Child Support Grant, South Africa

- ***Command popular support*** -a policy that is nationally-owned will be much easier to implement, finance and monitor

**the most important factor that influences good outcomes is sound administrative capacity; and good, transparent, well-resourced and working governance institutions**



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# Implementation Challenges

# Limited capacity to implement complex social policies at national and local government level

- **Weak/ fragile** institutions
- **Over-stretched** human resources
- A multiplicity of **uncoordinated initiatives** at LGA level:

# Coordination and Scale

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**CBOs and NGOs in Tanzania provide much-needed services ...They are:**

- **Serendipitously located and structured**
- **Uncoordinated**
- **Not linked to health, education and welfare services**
- **Of unknown quality and effectiveness**

# Government oversight and commitment is critical -

- Achieve **scale** and universal coverage
- Reach **Consensus**
- **Coordinate** responses
- Ensure **effective use of resources**
- Ensure **sustainability**

## Some key points

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- SDH / equity data informs policies at national level, but do these policies get effectively implemented?
- Need to better understand the drivers of policy change/ implementation
- Need to deepen the role of implementation and participatory research in linking research to national and local policy dialogue.
- Influence policies as and when .....
- An emphasis on partnerships, integration of inputs from various disciplines -> co-production
- A focus on interpretation and action at district level



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- ***The core requirement:***

**to do the basics well**

- ***The core question:***

**what specific policies, mechanisms and accountabilities can be put in place to promote the wellbeing of the majority in a manner that recognizes rights and entitlements, can go to scale and is lasting...redistribution!**

# SUMMARY

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- The emphasis is to **do the simple things well and at scale**, providing for the majority in need: **less for more rather than more for less**.
- The emphasis is on **national ownership and leadership**, building upon and strengthening existing institutional capacity.

# More reading

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