

# HEALTH and SL: Governance Challenges

Community Health Promotion, Power  
Relations and Self-empowerment

# Promoting Sustainable Livelihoods

## What have we learned?

- **Use of self-empowerment**
- **Focus on community assets and strength**
- **Improved access to resources**
- **Recognition of the cross-sectoral nature of the approach**
- **Livelihoods as function of activities, assets and entitlements**
- **Emphasis on resilience, economic efficiency, social equity and ecological integrity**
- **Recognition of the linkages between micro action and macro conditions and policies**

# Clarifying the Concept of Governance

- **Broad enough to be everything and therefore nothing (UNDP example)**
- **Economic, political and administrative governance**
- **Associated with regime rather than state or civil society**
  - **constitution or reconstitution of normative rules that guide public or political actions**
- **In relation to SL (more specific definition):**
  - **One aspect of politics (constitutional)**
  - **Different from policy-making, public administration or project management**
  - **Constitutive (versus distributive) side of politics (*who sets what rules, when and how?*)**

# Governance and its relation to other concepts and activities

<u>Level</u>	<u>Activity</u>	<u>Concept</u>
Meta	Politics	Governance
Macro	Policy	Policy-Making
Meso	Program	Public Admin
Micro	Project	Management

# Clarification of the Concept of Governance

- **Intimate empirical interconnections; but analytical value of distinctions**
- **Governance might operate from community level right up to international levels depending on the nature of the activity**
- **The conventional needs approach to development relies more on the distributive side-*who gets, what, when and how*- (verus constitutive) and does not ask for changes in the rules of the game**
- **SL relies more on the constitutive side of politics (it calls for changes in power relations by focusing on empowerment and access to resources)**

# Governance as a Management Tool

- **Equivalent to strategic management in business administration- big picture, technology, markets**
- **Coping and adapting to uncertainties (caused, in politics, by wishes of groups to change the ruling conditions)**
- **Encouraging leaders to find consensual, positive solutions for their constituents**
- **Engaging politics including the need for changes in power relations**

# Role of Donor Agencies

- **Can they become involved in support of changes in the internal political arrangements of sovereign states?**
- **What do existing democracy and governance programmes do?**
- **Need to make governance more than an end in itself**
- **Defining good governance as the successful implementation of rules for specific objectives eg in health, provides a hands-on approach**
- **Demonstrate relationship between governance and health**

# Democracy, Governance and Health

- Limited studies on democracy and health suggest positive co-relation
- Competition for votes increases political participation and can lead to universal health insurance and access programs such as in UK and Canada.
- Anti-corruption measures can highlight health sector dysfunction
- Financial accountability can reveal mismanagement in investments in health sector



# Governance and Health contd

- Reforming fiscal, political and administrative framework for sub-national governments can improve performance and civic engagement
- Reforming tax policy and administration to pay for and regulate health insurance and services are critical to sustainability

# Operational Aspects

<u>PowerAspect</u>	<u>Governance Focus</u>	<u>Program Concern</u>	<u>Institutional Issue</u>
Articulation	Self- Organisation	Ownership	Empowerment
Mobilization	Social Capital	Capability	Civic Engagement
Distribution	Social Space	Access	Pluralism
Confirmation	Strength	Rights	Rule of Law

# Governance Issues from Monterrey to Johannesburg

- **Good governance as pre-requisite for future aid allocation**
- **Country concentration: Rewarding good performers**
- **Donor support to constitutive issues-underlying structural conditions which shape and constrain the behaviour of political actors**
- **Effective Institutions for Health: Education, Science and Technology for Decision-Making, Access to Information, Stakeholder Participation, Access to Justice**

# Definition for Discussion

**Governance refers to the following:**

- **The steering of societies and organisations to achieve desired and national objectives and goals**
- **The setting of rules for the exercise of power, including who has access to political power, how those in power deal with those who are not, how those in power are held accountable**
- **The capacity of the state to organise social and economic activity according to rules, and to enforce compliance with those rules**
- **Mechanisms and institutional arrangements for articulating the interests of citizens and their involvement in decision-making processes**

# Elements of a Governance Agenda

## Goal:

- **Strong resilient economies with equitable health outcomes for all**

## Challenges:

- **Multiple vulnerabilities both internal and external**
- **How to influence the rules and who makes them at the level of the sources of vulnerability (local, national and international)**

## Actions:

- **Local level empowerment-decentralisation, articulation, mobilisation, etc..**

# Elements of a Governance Agenda

(Actions Continued)

- **Build capacity of sub-regional local level networks of GO's and NGO's and CBO's(e.g use GFATM)**
- **Rebuild social capital-new levels of trust across ethnic and institutional divides**
- **Managing globalisation for local level to use global opportunities( e.g in telemedicine,pharmaceuticals)**
- **Having strategic influence in relevant external fora-national and international**
- **Using donor partners for influencing power relations**
- **New goals, skills resources and accountability criteria for the foreign service**

# Good Governance for effective developments Co-operation

## **Level I: Donor capitals and other donors fora**

- **Policy coherence in debt, trade, market access and ODA**

## **Level II: Good domestic governance in recipient countries**

- **Rule of law, Justice system, human rights, democracy, human security, institutional effectiveness**

## **Level III: The partnership mechanisms**

- **from projects to programs to policy and governance relationships**