SHARING THE MFL
MFL Resource Package Training

September 2019
# Agenda

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<th>Topic</th>
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<td>1. What do we mean by “Sharing the MFL?”</td>
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<td>2. Why is sharing the MFL important?</td>
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<td>3. Key aspects of MFL data sharing</td>
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<td>4. Considerations for integration of the MFL</td>
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<td>5. Management and support</td>
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<td>6. Summary and conclusions</td>
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Session Learning Objectives

• At the end of today’s session participants will be able to:
  – Describe 3 methods for sharing the MFL and discuss considerations for each method
  – Discuss the benefits of sharing the MFL
  – Differentiate between the types of domain users and the security requirements for each type
  – List the documentation needed for data consumers
  – Prepare an outline of roles and needs for management and support of MFL sharing
Review of Terms

• Data Consumers
• Domain user
What do we mean by “Sharing the MFL” and what are the benefits?

- Making MFL data accessible to data consumers
  - The more data consumers that have access to the MFL the greater its value

- Methods for sharing data
  - Using a spreadsheet that can be downloaded or emailed
  - A public portal
  - Integrated with other information systems
Let’s visit Kmhfl.health.go.ke/#/home
Why is sharing the MFL important?

• The value of an MFL is in data consumer’s ability to access and use it.
• The greater number of data consumers able to access and benefit from using the MFL the more valuable it becomes.
• Sharing improves quality by having more users to evaluate the quality of the data.
• Sharing ensures consistency across data systems
• Can be a potential source of revenue
Key Aspects of MFL Data Sharing
Developing a Data Sharing Policy

• Sharing procedures and decision are transparent and known to current and potential users

• Complies with existing policies governing national data

• Management of MFL is more efficient because of clear processes and procedures

• Request for data are handled in a more timely and consistent manner
What should the data sharing policy specify?

- What MFL Data are shared. This depends on a number of factors:
  - Who has access to the data
  - Approval process
Activity 1: Discuss existing data sharing policy.
What MFL data are shared?

• The type of MFL data shared and how broadly shared depends on:
  — National and institutional data policies
  — Needs of data consumers
  — Presence of sensitive data
Who has access to the data?

- Trusted domain users
- Middle domain users
- Public domain users
- Administrative domain users
Approval Process

- Will depend on the user domain and type of access requested
- Should indicate the following:
  - Person(s) responsible for approving share request
  - Criteria for making the decision
  - Timeframe for review
Documentation for Data Consumers

- Data specifications document – describes how each data element in the MFL is defined and the parameters associated with the data
- Summary of the process for updating the MFL and the frequency of updates
- Change log – dates of changes to MFL data
How to Share the Data

• Sent electronically (e.g. by email)
  – Can lead to version control issues and difficult to manage

• Read-only web document
  – Limited utility

• Online portal

• Integration
Activity 2: Discussion on pros and cons of each type of data sharing
Considerations for Integration of the MFL
What is Integration?

• Process of linking multiple information systems to create a combined system or unified solution

• Two approaches to integration
  – *Data synchronization*: automated process of harmonizing lists
  – *Data warehouses*: repository of data from multiple sources

• Integration requires good management and governance to support interoperability between the systems that are integrating
Activity 3: Discussion about reasons that MFL should be integrated?
Goals, Organizational Incentives, & Alignment

• Create a common vision of what is to be achieved by integration

• Integrating organizations need to be aware:
  – Whether integration aligns with mandates and policies
  – Benefits to be gained individually and collectively
  – Real and perceived risks
  – Staff capacity required
  – Upfront and ongoing costs
Data Sharing Framework

• DSF details:
  – Governance and contractual requirements for integration
  – Data to be shared through integration, what direction, and how often
  – Assumptions about read/write/admin access
  – Data curation and update SOP
  – Data sharing policies of each organization and any impacts
  – Constrains on access rights, physical placement of the data, and length of storage
  – Varying guidelines for different type of data
Aligning data requirements

- Two aspects to be considered
  - *Syntactic interoperability*: How are the data formatted?
  - *Semantic interoperability*: How are the data defined?

- Technological feasibility must also be assessed
Alignment Checklist

- Facility identifiers match & legacy identifiers preserved
- Geographic and/or administrative hierarchies match
- Facility types & service categories are defined the same
- Data values match
- Agreement on empty, NA, & null values
- Records of when data were last updated and by whom exist
- Maintenance of ontology mappings between terminology standards & project datasets
Data Sharing Tools

• Application programming interfaces (APIs) enable integration and are available for many commonly used facility registry services.

• If no API is available, facility registries may support data exchange via file transfers in formats such as GeoJSON, RSS, and CSV.
Management and Support Needs

- Designated person to respond to support requests
- Technical staff that can handle ethical issues and bug fixes
- Routine meetings of the steering committee and plan to maintain a strategic vision for the MFL and integrations
  - Funding for technical support activities
  - Tiered approach to cost sharing
  - Cost recovery model
  - No fee access
Summary and Conclusions

• Sharing the MFL increases its value and utility

• Prior to sharing the MFL the following is needed:
  – Data sharing policy
  – Documentation for data consumers
  – Decisions about how to share data
  – Data sharing framework
Summary and conclusions