DATA CONTENT

MFL Resource Package Training

September 2019
# Agenda

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Topic</th>
<th>Estimated Time</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1. What do we mean by MFL Data Content</td>
<td>10 Minutes</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2. Signature and Service Domains</td>
<td>45 Minutes</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3. Data Specifications and Standards</td>
<td>40 Minutes</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4. Summary and Conclusions</td>
<td>5 Minutes</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5. Action Planning</td>
<td>65 Minutes</td>
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Session Learning Objectives

• At the end of today’s session participants will be able to:
  – Explain the difference between the signature and service domains and the type of data elements contained in each
  – Describe best practices for deciding which data to include in the MFL
  – Discuss tradeoffs between including optional data elements and data collection costs
  – Discuss the importance of data specifications and international standards
Review of Terms

- Data consumers
- Data curators
- Data workflow
What do we mean by MFL Data Content?

• The MFL data content refers to the information, or data elements, that relate to each facility included in the MFL.

• The data content in the MFL must be carefully selected, balancing the needs of data consumers with the practical consequences of collecting additional data on all facilities, and regularly updating and verifying that data.

• These critical issues and decisions related to data content need to be resolved early in the MFL development process.
Best Practices for Deciding which data to include in the MFL

- Consult potential MFL data consumers prior to deciding on the facility data to include in the MFL.
- Review the data being collected by existing facility lists.
- Once the data requirements are identified, it is important to identify the potential data sources and the procedures that will be used to collect and validate the data.
- Start with the minimum data content in the MFL and prioritize data that doesn’t change frequently.
- Work through the MFL Steering Committee to engage stakeholders in decisions about the MFL data content.
MFL Data Domains

- MFL data is divided into 2 domains:
  - Signature - used to identify and contact the facility
  - Service - information about the service capacity
Signature Domain

- Information necessary to uniquely identify, locate, and contact a specific facility and constitutes the **minimum data content**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Data element</th>
<th>Description</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Facility unique identifier</td>
<td>A unique code that identifies a specific facility</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Facility name</td>
<td>Official name of the facility</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Facility type</td>
<td>Classification of the facility</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ownership or managing authority</td>
<td>Entity that owns or manages the facility</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Postal address</td>
<td>Physical location or address of the facility</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Signature Domain continued

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Data element</th>
<th>Description</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Contact Information</td>
<td>Information necessary to get in contact with the facility, can be multiple fields (phone number, email)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Administrative areas</td>
<td>District, province, or other administrative level</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Geographic coordinates</td>
<td>Physical location of the facility represented as latitude and longitude</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Operational status</td>
<td>Legal status of a facility intended to provide health services</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Record date</td>
<td>The data the data was collected and validated</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
**Service Domain**

- Contains data elements describing basic services, infrastructure, and human resources at a facility.
- Data tend to change more frequently requiring greater maintenance.
- Inclusion of data elements depends on:
  - Budget requirements for collecting and maintaining these data.
  - Ability to capture information for all facilities.
  - MOH priorities.
  - MFL usage in country.
- Data sources can include Service availability and Readiness Assessment (SARA) Surveys, Service Provision Assessment (SPA) Surveys, or through facility staff data collection.
## Service Domain Data Elements

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Data element</th>
<th>Description</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Services offered</td>
<td>Types of services offered at the facility</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Human resources</td>
<td>Number of medical personnel by type</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Infrastructure</td>
<td>Number of inpatient, maternity beds, and/or cots in the facility</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Activity 1: Keeping the service domain manageable and sources of service domain data
Data Specifications

• Guidelines describing how each data element must be defined and formatted.

• For each data element, the following attributes should be clearly defined:
  
  o Definition – a simple description of the data element
  
  o Data rules – such as number of characters, language
  
  o Data source
  
  o Whether the data element is required, important, or optional?
  
  o Missing values – distinguish from zero or “Don’t know”
International Data Standards

• Data standards are agreed upon rules for how data should be formatted, defined, structured, managed, and used.

• International data standards can be used to define data specifications and will help to facilitate integration.

• Data standards will dictate which format to use consistently to avoid confusion and complication.

• Examples of different date formats for the same date
  – June 2, 2002
  – 2 June 2002
  – 06-02-2002
  – 02/06/2002
  – 2/6/02
Example from the Tanzania Health Facility List Data Specification

3.2.1 Facility Type

- **Definition:** Tanzania has a number of different types of health facilities within the country. This data element defines a given facility’s primary type.
- **Data Rules:** Facility type is a coded list of choices, only one is selected for a given facility. Possible answers are below (need to get MoH validation here):
  - Dispensary
  - Health Centre
  - Clinic
    - Eye Clinic
    - Dental Clinic
    - Others, Specify ______
  - Nursing Home
  - Maternity Home
  - Health Labs
  - Hospital
    - National
    - Zonal Super Specialist
    - Zonal Referral
    - Super Specialist
    - Regional Referral
    - Designated District
    - District
    - Other
- **Data Source:** official documentation from accreditation process
- **Example:** Eye Clinic
- **Required/Important/Optional:** required
Activity 2: Review resources on data specifications
Summary and conclusions