

National Health Account (NHA)

Basis for Health Financing

Somali Health Sector Coordination

Mogadishu, 1st February 2021



Somalia National Health Account

*Health accounts are a way for countries to **monitor health spending** across multiple streams, regardless of the entity or institution that financed and managed that spending.*

https://www.who.int/health-topics/health-accounts#tab=tab_1

- measure and monitor health **expenditures** (not budgets) down to service delivery level.
- establish a **monitoring system** (not assessment or survey), building durable capacities
- information for **evidence-based policy making**, to increase efficiency and accountability, improve quality and decisively move toward equity, **health for all**.

*WHO works with Member States and partners to support the implementation of the health accounts system towards the goal of countries attaining **universal health coverage**.*

https://www.who.int/health-topics/health-accounts#tab=tab_2

- through the Health Accounts Country Platform, using the System of Health Accounts (SHA) 2011, related tools and technical support
- to **institutionalize** a harmonized, integrated platform for health expenditure data
- Data compiled in the Global Health Expenditure Database (GHED, 190 countries)

The national health account is the foundation for a country health financing strategy



Somalia National Health Account

Does Somalia need a National Health Account?
Is this a priority? Why?

- Data on health spending / health financing are still fragmented and non institutional. Still not good enough to be reflected in the GHED or any other database.
- Complexity brings lack of transparency, no basis for accountability toward Somali citizen
- Unsubstantial knowledge basis for a health financing strategy
- Odd attribution of roles: health service provider, purchaser of services, dealer, financier or funding source, regulator ... who is ultimately responsible for healthcare and public health in the country.

The NHA, established as a system with the aim of developing a health financing strategy, can contribute addressing many of these challenges. However, it is not the ultimate solution, rather the basis to build upon for medium – long term solutions.



Somalia National Health Account

To establish a NHA is a very demanding exercise, requiring high and sustained commitment and a number of critical elements. In Somalia this was discussed several times in the past ten years, not translated into action yet.

The key elements are now coming together, the process just started on 20th January 2021
Requirements:

- Strong **political will** by the country government, Ministries of Health, Finance, Planning.
- Strong **commitment**, from the highest authority to the operational level, to carry on the exercise, to **establish** and later **sustain the system**.
- The **country team** – and state level sub-teams – embedded in the institutions, with a skill mix including health financing, accounting, statistics, financial management, health facility management, public health.
- Collection of available **documents** and analysis. New **financial management system** with charts of account at the FMoH.
- Open channels for **primary and secondary data collection**, top-down (from funding sources) as well as bottom-up (from patient / facility).



Somalia National Health Account: work in progress

Some data available from

- New MoH financial management system
- Somalia Health and Demographic survey
- Resource Mapping and Expenditure Tracking
- Aid Flows in Somalia 2019. MoPIED alignment mechanism
- Annual Budget Appropriation Act
-

Institutional framework and official sources of data:

- Ministry of Health and Human Services
- Ministry of Finance
- Ministry of Planning, Investment and Economic Development
- Statistic authority.
-
- **Health sector stakeholders**

Operations:

- Papers: concept note, background docs, options for team composition, official papers.
- People: Government employees, embedded technical assistance, guiding experts.
- **Consultations.**



Thank you



World Health
Organization