

Output 2

- Health systems strengthened in Nyanza Province to support delivery of Kenya Essential Package for Health (KEPH), especially the maternal and neonatal health component.

Referral System Strengthened in Target Districts

- Where facility-based birth is low, a referral system is essential, including:
 - Referral from Health Center to Hospital
 - Referral from Community to Health Center or Hospital
- EHS interventions included:
 - Mobile phones for EHS supported health facilities
 - Purchase of motor ambulances to be placed at hospitals STILL NEED
 - Purchase of 1 boat (to access island communities)
 - Purchase of 5 motorcycle ambulances to be placed at Health Centers
- Target: 10 Community-based Emergency Referral systems functioning by 2011



Referral strengthened

- Mobile phones to 23 of 25 EHS supported facilities
 - Only one not functional at Endline
- Motor ambulances
- 1 Boat (for island communities)
- 5 Motorcycle ambulances
 - Required training of 2 local riders (often casual employees at Health Center)
 - Training of mechanic
 - Logistically complicated intervention
 - Disproportionate focus on motorcycles in this evaluation





Strengthening Emergency Referral Systems in the Community; Motorcycle Ambulances

Emergency cases referred to the referral hospital during the past year (January – December 2010)				
	Obstetric cases		Other cases	
Health facilities: Magunga, Ndiru, Pala HC	Total	By MCA	Total	By MCA
Total:	34	9	No data	19
Recorded patients transported by motorcycle ambulance (MCA) from the community during the past year (January – December 2010)				
Health facilities: Magunga, Ndiru, Pala HC	Obstetric cases	Other cases	Not specified	Total
Total:	9	6	0	15

How to judge?

And had they not been transported?



Lessons Learnt regarding use of motorcycle ambulances

- Need for clarity about the envisaged role of the ambulances
 - For transport patients between facilities or from the community to a facility
 - Whether the motorcycles are for emergencies only, or a general source of transportation to the facility for delivery
- Need to ensure that the vehicles are robust/functional
- Need to explore alternative means of transport (taxis etc) and costs before introducing motorcycles and fixing a cost for their use
- Need for comprehensive and consistent community mobilisation

Lessons Learnt regarding use of motorcycle ambulances

- The need for agreed operating procedures including
 - Responsibility for routine maintenance
 - Responsibility for ensuring availability of fuel
 - ★ Responsibility for documentation of use, expenses and income
 - ★ Responsibility and systems for obtaining cost sharing contributions
- Need for handover of the above responsibilities as staff move/ change
- Consideration whether there should be a common reward package for drivers (payment/ lunch allowance/ protective clothing etc)

Recommendation re: Motorcycle Ambulances

- Before committing to further roll out:
 - undertake brief comparative study of sites in Kenya where they are being used “successfully”
 - determine if the definition of success is appropriate across different settings

Reproductive Health Data Management

- Recognized in EHS as essential for planning at multiple levels
- No specific indicators articulated at the programme inception
- Weakness of data hinders routine monitoring (and this evaluation)
 - Other than coverage (skilled attendance and antenatal care), few usable data on actual use of health services
 - Example: Unmet need for Emergency Obstetric Care
 - Even fewer on health outcomes other than maternal death
 - Severe morbidity
 - Perinatal outcomes



When equipping health facilities, thought must be also be given to record-keeping and HMIS needs

Recommendation: Reproductive Health Data Management

- Further strengthening is necessary for the investment in planning processes to be fully realised
- Efforts at strengthening HMIS should focus on specific tasks, with articulated goals and timelines and be monitored over time
- Focus on the *quality, breadth and use* of data collected at health facilities also merits increased attention during national, provincial and district planning

Inventory

- Inventory training delivered and materials supplied
- Intervention not in AOP and ? ownership by District and Province?

Recommendations

- System strengthening will require local ownership and prioritisation and longer term support and supervision to be sustainable