



"Beyond Declarations - Primary Health Care and Health Systems in Africa: Ouagadougou declaration and perspectives from Ghana".

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Outline of Presentation

- ***Introduction***
- ***The Declaration.....***
- ***Beyond the Declaration.....***
- ***Implications for Ghana.....***
- ***Conclusion.....***



Introduction

- The International Conference on Primary Health Care and Health Systems in Africa, organised under the auspices of WHO/AFRO and supported by other UN Agencies, International Financial Institutions and the Government of Burkina Faso, has come and gone!

Introduction (ctd)

- The Conference ...
 - took stock of lessons learnt in the past 30 yrs of implementation of PHC in the African Sub region
 - identified strategic directions for intensifying essential interventions with a view to achieving health MDGs
 - reiterated the commitment of all countries of the Region to promoting PHC with a view to strengthening health systems;



Introduction (ctd)

- Member States, partners and stakeholders all pledged to demonstrate greater political will and provide more resources (financial, technical and human) through the implementation of the Ouagadougou Declaration on PHC and Health Systems to achieve the health MDGs



The Declaration.....

- ..affirmed the principles of the Declaration of Alma-Ata of September 1978, particularly in regard to health as a fundamental human right and the responsibility that governments have for the health of their people
- ...expressed the need for accelerated action by African governments, partners and communities to improve health



The Declaration....

- emphasizes the involvement, participation and empowerment of communities in health development in order to improve their wellbeing; and recognizes the importance of a concerted partnership, in particular, civic society, private sector and development partners to translate commitments into action.

The Declaration....

- .. recalls that *'phc forms an integral part both of the country's health system, of which it is the central function and main focus, and of the overall social and economic development of the community'*
- .. And as *'the first level of contact of individuals, the family and community with the national health system bringing health care as close as possible to where people live and work, and constitutes the first element of a continuing health care process' -*

The Declaration....

-made a ten point declaration.....
 - which emphasized the identification of strategic orientations for using PHC approach to strengthen health systems will lead to a “modern” PHC approach which takes into account:
 - ...new challenges e.g. chronic care for communicable diseases such as HIV/AIDS and non-communicable diseases such as cardiovascular diseases, cancers etc

The Declaration.....

-new opportunities (e.g. funding mechanisms, partnerships) for scaling up interventions
- new operational approaches (e.g. integrated community approaches for delivery of medicines, vaccines and micronutrients);
- ...the need for continued quality surveillance and response



Beyond the Declaration.....

- The Declaration is underpinned by:
 - Health care is a human right and is a developmental concern requiring a multi-sectoral response:
 - Equity in Health Care is a foundation for all health systems;
 - Solidarity is a means of facilitating access for the poor;
 - Health is a productive sector – not merely consumption and
 - Diseases know no boundaries and therefore cross border cooperation.



Beyond the Declaration....

- Consensus was to encourage that the convening of a Technical Task Team
 - country experts, DP's, led by WHO AFRO to develop an implementation framework for the Declaration which will guide member countries in the development of their action plans.
- M&E Framework be developed to monitor country implementations
 - ..include peer review mechanisms and innovation exchanges between countries.



Beyond the Declaration....

- that AU Ministers of Health to push for Head of States to sign up commitment to strengthen their Health Systems as an entry point to Poverty Reduction... indicating that ‘Health is Wealth! –
- ‘Creating Wealth through Health’ as the main theme of the strategy



Beyond the Declarations....

- Call for
 - Country Health Investment Plans
 - ‘Investment Plan for Scaling Up Health Systems especially PHC and District Health Systems’
 - Peer Health System Reviews:
 - Peer Review Processes to monitor the progress of country health systems development

Implications for Ghana.....

- This Declaration..... gives a lifeline to the health systems development initiative with Community-based Health Planning and Services (CHPS) ...
- that could resolve the problems and accelerate implementation of CHPS-sponsored community-based health care – primary health care.



Levels of the District Health System in Ghana

District level

District Health Management Teams (DHMT)



patient referral

supervision

patient referral

Sub-district level

Sub-district Health Management Teams (SDHMT)



patient referral

patient referral

patient referral

supervision

supervision

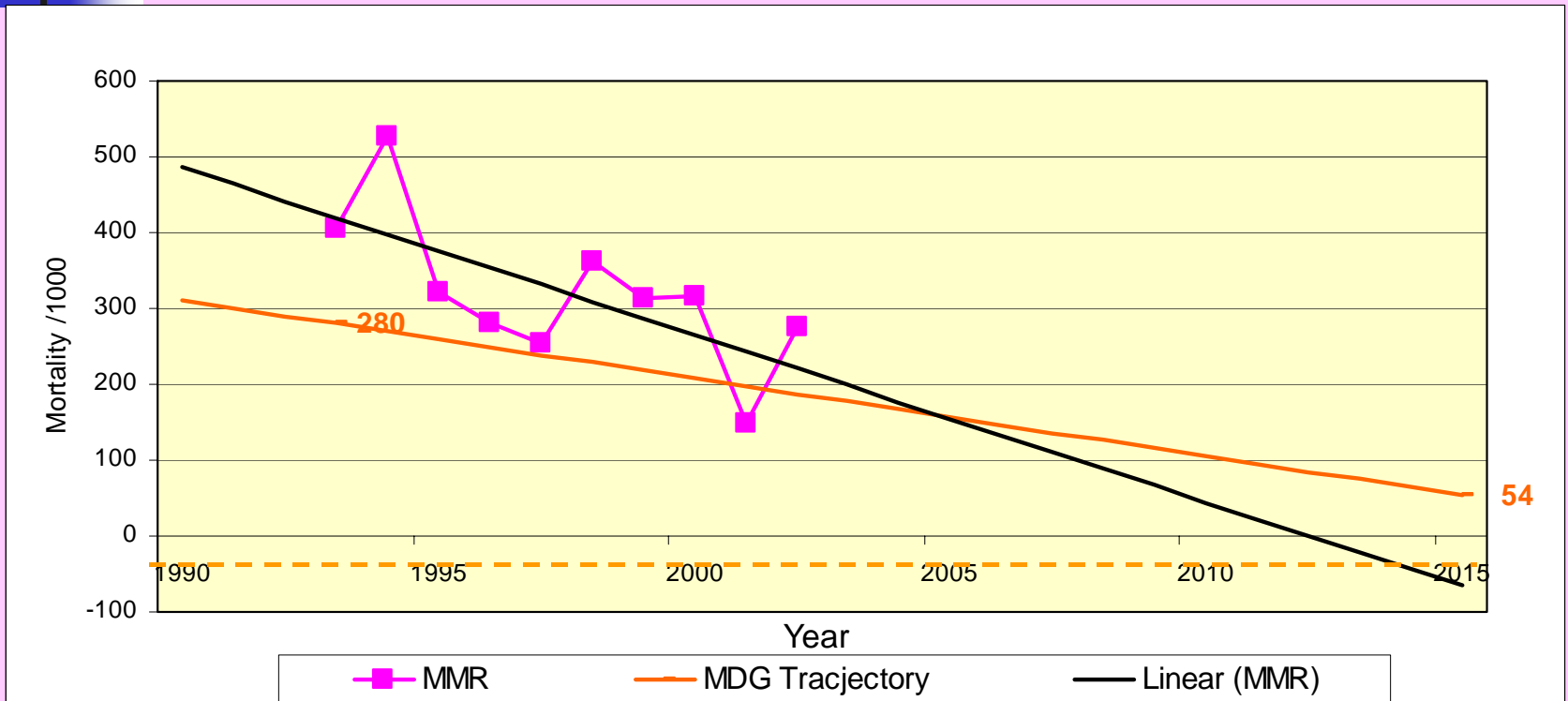
supervision

Community level

Community Health Committees



Maternal mortality Kassena-Nankana District 1994-2002



Conclusion.....

- The 3rd AU Conference of Ministers (CAMH3) debated and adopted the Africa Health Strategy (2007-2015) under the
 - **theme** *'strengthening of Health Systems for Equity and Development in Africa'* with a
 - **vision** of *'an Africa free of the burden of disease, disability and premature deaths'* and a
 - **mission** *to build an effective, African driven response to eliminate poverty, reduce the burden of disease and disability through strengthened health systems, scaled-up health interventions, intersectoral action and empowered communities.*





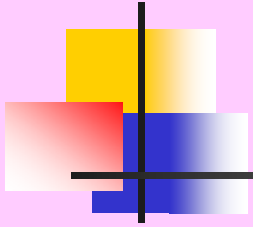
Conclusion.....

- Clearly, the mood amongst the participants after the conference is the need for action, document best practices, encourage innovation, share the results of these innovations at innovators meetings where innovator countries tell their own stories and finally ensure peer review processes as was discussed in the CAMH3 at Johannesburg, 2007.



Conclusion.....

- after all, Countries can develop ‘compacts’ amongst themselves to deliver on the declaration this time around!!



■ Thank You