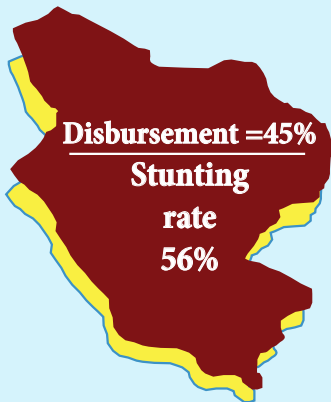




HEALTH PROMOTION TANZANIA (HDT)

Rukwa Region Nutritional budget for FY2019/2020 increased by 20%; Disbursement Challenges remain!



Preliminary budget analysis has shown that after PO-RALG Nutritional department oriented all districts and regions on nutritional budgeting and follow up support done by Health Promotion Tanzania to the region, the budget allocation for Nutrition has overall increased by 20%. But some district allocations are still below the expected allocation. The challenge remains on disbursement amidst of development partner's slow disbursement.

Quick highlights and trends: Major efforts to increase focus on nutritional planning and budgeting started in 2012 with National Nutritional Strategy and National Multisectoral Nutritional Plan. Later on the Nutritional score card and Public Expenditure Review processes came into light. In 2016 the Government gave directive for all local government to allocate Tsh. 1000 for each under-five and this was followed by signing performance contract on nutrition between Regional commissioners and Vice President Office. We take a closer look to Rukwa region- a region with highest stunting rates (56%) in Tanzania and examine trends of nutritional allocation.

The allocation trends: We examine budget allocation in five consecutive years during the period above. The analysis shows that in FY 2018/19 before Pre Planning and Budget

session, three LGAs allocated below 50% (Nkasi at 34%, Kalambo at 47%, Sumbawanga DC at 25%).

Figure 1 below shows increasing allocation in FY 2016 possibly because of directive to allocate TZS 1000 per under-five. The trend was maintained to financial year 2017/18 before it decreased to TZS 110 which was less than half (45%) of recommended allocation.

With Leadership of President Office regional Administration and Local Government, and funding from Eleanor Crook Foundation, pre-budget orientation training were done to Rukwa and Katavi region. Follow up intervention working with district and regional nutritional officers were done during planning and budgeting phase.

Fig1: Rukwa Region Nutritional Budget in TZS Mil



The analysis shows that the sum of district budget in the region for FY2019/20 is TZS 299 million; an increase of 89million from the current year. Comparing to the expected allocation based on number of under-five, this is 120%. However Kalambo allocation is still at 45% of expected. This remains a leadership question and how Kalambo district can learn from other districts in the same region.

While regional average is at 120%, it is worth to salute Nkasi, Sumbawanga DC and Sumbawanga MC have allocated above 100% of what is required.

We conclude that the intervention to support budgeting process and follow up beyond directives made significant changes. The challenges remain on disbursement and sustainable regional plan. We recommend these lessons to be scaled up to other regions.

For more information Contact:



Dr. Peter Bujari
Executive Director, Health Promotion Tanzania (HDT)
Email: ed@hdt.or.tz

12 MIKOCHEMI-A, SENGU STREET
P.O. Box 65147, Dar es Salaam, Tanzania.
Tel: +255 22 2772264/86, Fax: +255 22 2772299
Website: www.healthpromotiontanzania.org.
Affiliated to ACTION Global Health Advocacy Partnership