Overview of HSJF

The Health Services Joint Fund (HSJF) was established in late 2015 between the Government of Malawi and donor partners who hold an interest in improving the health services in Malawi.

Fund Participation.

Participation in HSJF is open to all donor partners (DPs), international institutions, and private agencies. Each DP identifies the objectives they have for the use of their contributed funds and can indicate specific usage of funds (i.e., procurement of vaccines, support of clinic or hospital construction, payment of direct health services, etc.). DPs may also collaborate and jointly fund activities, or “pick and choose” the usage of their funds. Partners in HSJF do not lose control of their funds.

Alignment with Health Sector Priorities

Use of funds are fully integrated within the planning and budgeting cycles of the Ministry of Health. Investments are specifically targeted to meet the objectives of the Health Sector Strategic Plan II 2017-2022: Towards Universal Health Coverage, Government of the Republic of Malawi, July, 2017. This is a means of coordinating DP input, and ensuring that funds are expended to meet jointly agreed priority health objectives of the Ministry of Health.

Fund Governance

An Executive Committee serves as the policy making body of HSJF. This is made up of one representative from each of the Fund Partners. A formal decision making process is in place, to ensure that decisions on the use of funds are consistent with Government of Malawi and DP procedures and regulations.

Managing Funds

HSJF provides several important checks and balances to provide assurance to DPs and strengthen MoH processes. One of the aims of HSJF is to improve the Public Financial Management (PFM), this is done through the following:

1) Senior Fiduciary Risk Advisor, to identify potential risks in fund usage,
2) Procurement Oversight Agent, to ensure that procurement regulations and best procurement practices are followed,
3) Fiscal Agent, to conduct due diligence (compliance and accounting), and to process all payments made by the fund.

Accounting and Audit

HSJF maintains its own accounting function. HSJF utilizes separate bank accounts and does not co-mingle funds with Government of Malawi funds. Signature authority for expenditures is shared by HSJF and the Ministry of Health. HSJF is audited by the same agency auditing the Ministry of Health.

HSJF Contacts: Policy and Planning Department, Ministry of Health

Further information on potential usage or participation with HSJF, can be made through the HSJF Partners:

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Fund Partners

Government of Republic of Malawi
Federal Republic of Germany, KfW
United Kingdom, DFID
Kingdom of Norway, Royal Norwegian Embassy