



Impact of Community Engagement Advocacy Work on Quality Person Centered HIV Services

Case Study from Malawi

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Case Study Highlights

1. Aim & Objective of the Engagement
2. Resources used (Human, Funds, Materials)
3. Engagement Activities
4. Outcomes from the Engagement
5. Challenges & Overall Reflections
6. Key messages

Aim & Objective of the Engagement





















- The 2023 Community Engagement Assessment showed low numbers of health facilities with DSD models where Recipients of care and or community members work as service providers.
- In 2024 our aim was to influence district health facilities to increase the number of Recipients of care supporting DSD implementation at health centre level
- We sought to understand the level of community engagement at implementation level and influence health centers to recognize the role played by community members.

Young person from Mzimba presenting during district consultation meeting















Scoring for Malawi in CE

Average Country Score 2023 

INDICATORS (2022-2023)	Malawi	
	2022	2023
% of TWG and task team meetings on DSD where RoC/community members participated during the reporting period		
% of policy validation exercises where RoC/community members participated		
% of online DSD TWG and task team platforms that include RoC/community members		
% of DSD-related M&E meetings that include RoC/community members		
% of DSD impact assessment/evaluations where RoC/community members participated		
% of meetings focused on DSD programme design where RoC/community members participated		
% of DSD planning meetings where RoC/community members provided recommendations on prioritization of DSD models		
% of DSD health facility trainings that include RoC/community members as planners, facilitators and participants		
% of DSD M&E tools development meetings where RoC/community members participated		
% of DSD supportive supervision visits that include RoC/community members		

Scoring for Malawi in CE

Average Country Score 2023 

INDICATORS (2022-2023)	Malawi	
	2022	2023
% of CQUIN Capability Maturity Model self-assessments conducted by MoH where RoC/community members participated and led on community engagement domain		
% of thematic working group meetings where RoC/community members presented		
% of DSD sensitization/demand creation activities led by or actively involving RoC/community members		
% of health facilities with DSD where RoC work as service providers		
% of health facilities offering DSD services where community score cards and/or RoC satisfaction surveys are implemented		
% of government-developed DSD policy communication materials that acknowledged input from national networks of PLHIV		

- **Priority 1 – (Scored grey in 2023)**

- % of DSD sensitization/demand creation activities led by or actively involving RoC/community members

- **Priority 2 – (Scored orange in 2023)**

- % of health facilities with DSD where RoC work as service providers

Resources Used (Human, Funds, Materials)

- The project used funds amounting to US\$5,500 from ITPC small Grant Award Titled Sustaining Community Engagement & Response: Assessing Advocacy Outcomes.
- MANET+ worked with community members in 10 districts and selected health centers to highlight the importance of community cadres in DSD and HIV and AIDS work in general.
- The project utilized existing MANET+ staff, volunteers including young people and women. Some of the materials included the community engagement framework, training materials, WhatsApp platform, Radio slots, community dialogue resource guide
- The role played by community volunteers was very crucial in achieving the project objectives.

Resources Used (Human, Funds, Materials)



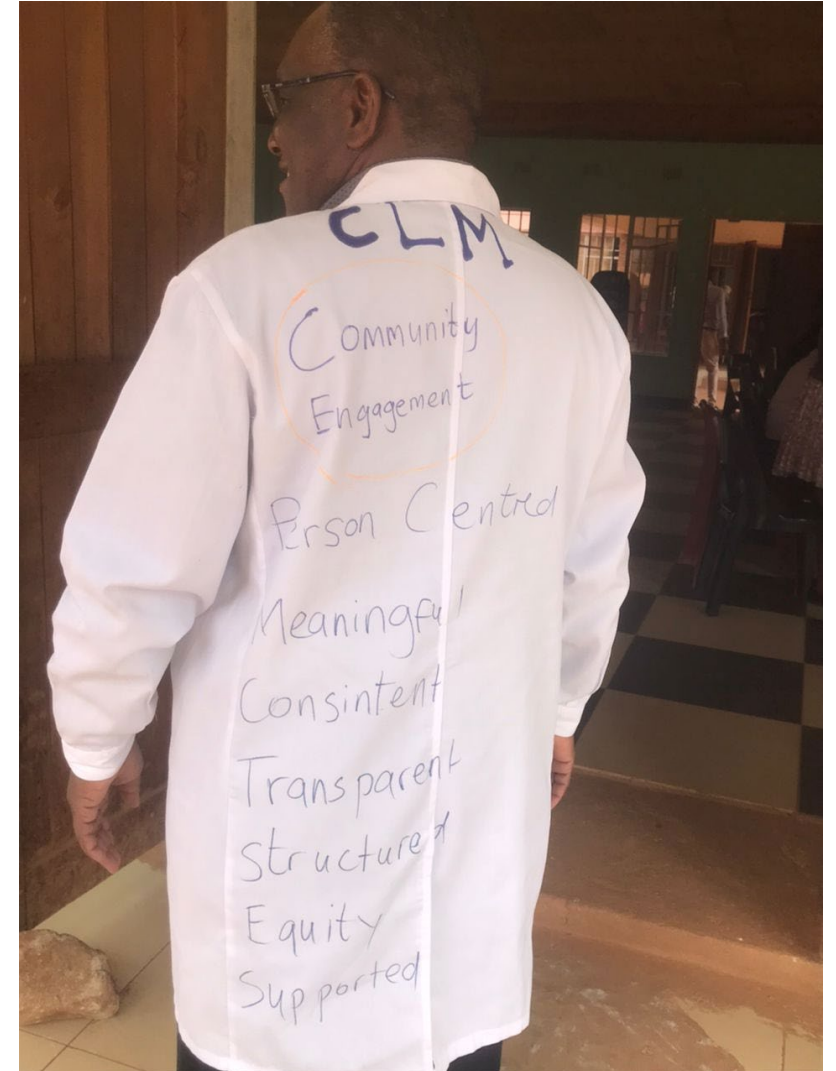
Community Adolescent Treatment Supporters (CATS) from Neno

Engagement Activities

- Mapping of community cadres
 - Treatment supporters
 - Community Care groups
 - Community Adolescent Treatment Supporters (CATS)
 - Recipient of Care Support groups
 - Sputum Collection Point Volunteers
- Radio interviews by community members
- Community dialogue sessions
- Lobbying with decision makers at district level
- Presentation to district health management teams.
- Lobbying at national Global Fund sessions

CQUIN 8th Annual Meeting | December 9-13, 2024 – Johannesburg, South Africa

The real meaning of community engagement



District Implementation Plan meeting for Rumph

Engagement Activities

Common tasks done by community workers

- Pre-test counselling
- Post test counselling
- Treatment Adherence counselling
- Default Tracing
- Bringing defaulters back to care
- Sputum Collection for TB and delivery of samples to health personnel
- Provision of health talks at Out-patient Departments (OPD)
- Early Infant Diagnosis programs
- Nutrition education

Outcomes from the Engagement

- Community engagement has greatly increased recognition of community cadres in DSD and other work at health center level.
- There has been improved coordination of volunteer work. Communities are forming their own support structure for effective support in health centers working with staff in the health centers.
- Increased funding for community activities in the GC7 of the Global Fund.
- Communities have been participating in health Centre management through CLM .



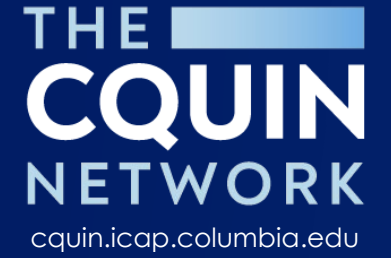
Challenges & Overall Reflections

- Lack of policy on incorporating work of volunteers supporting Health Centre work could hinder meaningful community engagement.
- Women continue to bear the brunt of working as volunteers at the expense of their other household tasks.
- TB and HIV Integration- TB sputum collection volunteers risk infection from TB.
 - Infection prevention and control refresher training to volunteers is a must.



Key messages

- Meaningful engagement of community is key in ensuring sustainability. For example, Recipients of Care in Nasawa Health Centre in Zomba are working well in collaboration with their health centers and have been incorporated into the routine schedule of clinic operations. They can be put on the roster for health talks and are able to handle referrals for ROC that are defaulting on treatment. Task shifting is now a reality.
- Meaningful engagement of communities in all stages, including during implementation, ensures community satisfaction.
- **The future is community led. Engage communities in all stages.**



Thank You!

