Promoting Cross Sector Linkages in Health and Education

Bradford Strickland, PhD
Educaid.be & Be-cause Health Conference
Brussels, 17 May 2018



A little background: cross-sector focus in health and education

- ► WHO Ottawa Charter
- ► UN Convention on Rights of the Child
- ► WHO Health Promoting Schools
- ► UNICEF Child Friendly Schools
- ► UNESCO FRESH Focusing Resources for Effective School Health

MDGs to SDGs - New Opportunities for Synergy Between Sectors

- MDGs focused on important outcomes, but stove piped approaches
- SDGs focused on many of same important development goals, but require synergy between sectors, new approaches
- ► Health and education cross-sector approaches support achievement of SDGs 2, 3, 4, 5, 6

17 Sustainable Development Goals to reach by 2030





































New realities New evidence New modalities

- Challenged by malnutrition/stunting; obesity nutrition deficits and systemic impact of environment and behaviors
- Changing global health trends non-communicable diseases, cardiovascular, hypertension, stroke, cancer, TB
- ► DCP3 2018 new evidence, more evidence, irrefutable evidence gathered in influential volumes
- Costed essential packages
- ► MDG 8 New global development partnerships

New Evidence: Disease Control Priorities History

 1993 World Development Report

 Disease Control Priorities in Developing Countries, Second Edition 2006 (DCP2)

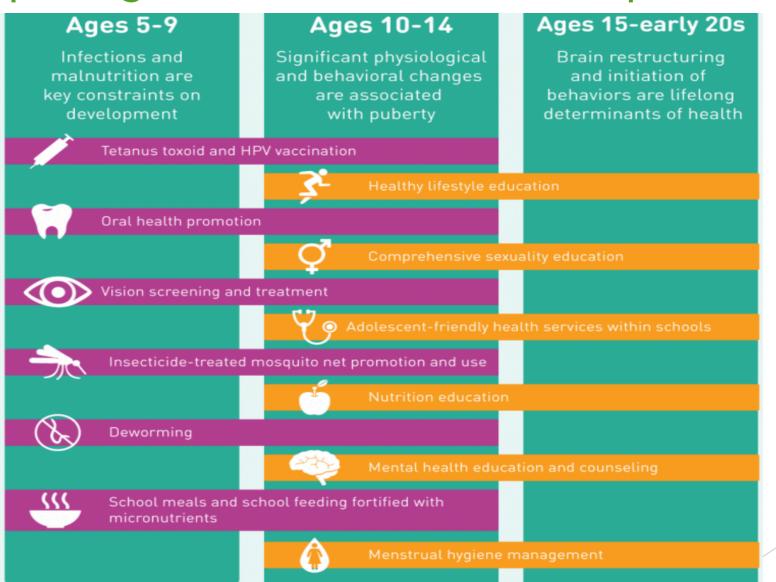
• Disease Control Priorities, 3rd Edition 2015-2018 (DCP3)



Main Messages of DCP3 Volume 8

- ► It takes some 8000 days for a child to develop into an adult.
- ► Focus on the first 1000 days is an essential but insufficient investment
- Sensitive phases shape development throughout this period, and age-appropriate and conditionspecific support is required throughout if a child is to achieve full potential as an adult.

Health needs addressed through essential packages of services - school as platform



Source: GPE Website, News and Media, Infographic (2018)

New modalities: massive scale-up to reach fast growing world population

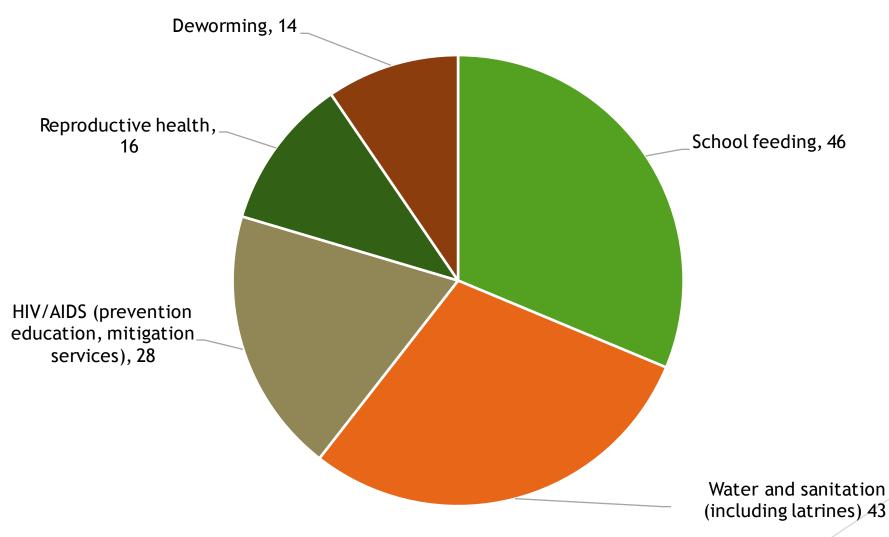
- How GPE works important to innovate ways to take activities to massive scale -- acknowledge the need to reach such a scale
- ▶ New modalities (like GPE, GF, GFF) to deliver international development
- Need for government to innovate in cross sector activities; maximize efficiencies between sectors
- Health activities in the education sector plans MOEs applying new funding modalities to promote cross sector programs - train teachers, open doors to MOH
- MOH can bring expertise to MOE for delivery of services

Health Activities in Education Sector Plans

Inter-sectoral coordination
Reproductive health education
 HIV and STI prevention
 Provision of water points
 Preventing unwanted pregnancy
 Preventing early marriage
 Prevention gender based violence
 Prevention of infectious disease
 Prevention of non-infectious disease
 School safety, including walls
 Preventing child abuse
 Vaccinations
Vision screening

Source: GPE, Stocktake in Health and Education, forthcoming 2018

Key health activities in ESPs



Source: GPE, Stocktake in Health and Education, forthcoming 2018

Massive scale - Meeting the needs of particular households, communities, kids

- Massive scale for delivery, cost effectiveness and efficient interventions, still have to be delivered so communities accept
- Communities ultimately must drive prioritization and acceptance
- Parents want to have a say in what is happening in their schools, communities
- ▶ Kids are the ones who need to drive service prioritization
- Teachers must feel confident about what they are teaching, delivering
- Community-centered school health programs
- School Health Committees

Steps for development agencies to help establish school health programs in MOEs

- Step 1 Facilitate and support strong cross sector policies and relationships across the MOE and MOH
- Step 2 Focus on education outcomes to justify MOEs including school health programing in their strategic plans
- Step 3 Assist the MOE in exploration of global frameworks for school health policies and programs (such as FRESH or HPS) with all stakeholders in MOE, MOH, community development, communities, and schools
- ► Step 4 Assist the MOE in selecting simple school level activities that are not complex for teachers to implement in order to fain support from MOE; promote national education goals in enrolment, attainment, attendance

Source: Strickland, Bradford, First Principles: Designing Effective Education Programs for School Health (2011)

Steps for development agencies to help establish school health programs in MOEs (cont)

- Step 5 Work with the MOE to understand costs and cost-effectiveness of school health programs
- Step 6 Help the MOE establish indicators that will show the impact of health activities on education goals, including attendance and cognitive goals
- Step 7 Strive to work with existing systems and infrastructure, such as teacher training systems and education management information systems (EMIS), to build capacity in the education sector for long-term management of school health programming
- Step 8 Help the MOE consider the legal and ethical factors involved in health-related research, thus avoiding unrealistic goals that are undermined by local norms or local laws

Source: Strickland, Bradford, First Principles: Designing Effective Education Programs for School Health (2011)

Thank you!

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