

HLSP is a professional services firm specialising in the health sector both in the UK and globally. Working with international agencies and national governments, HLSP strives to advance health systems, reduce poverty and combat HIV and AIDS through long-term sustainable solutions.



Our work with GAVI emphasises harmonisation with partners and alignment with country processes in order to strengthen capacity to deliver immunisation and child health services

Working
to improve
world health

Improving aid
effectiveness

At HLSP we have made a commitment that development assistance, whether to health or other sectors, should be used effectively and support national development efforts to get people out of poverty and help countries meet their Millennium Development Goals.

The key to improving aid effectiveness is to facilitate policy dialogue between the governments of countries receiving aid and the development partners contributing financial resources. This dialogue should foster the role of government in defining policy and overseeing its implementation, with donors supporting this process. Aid instruments provide the mechanisms (a coherent process, direction and definition of roles) for governments and their partners to support shared development objectives.

At HLSP we strive to address the following issues in improving aid effectiveness: the links between sector policies, poverty reduction and development strategies; the mechanisms for aid delivery, which should strengthen country financial management systems; the transparency of aid, which is better achieved when financial contributions are reflected in the government budget; and the costs to countries of managing aid, which can be unnecessarily high, if donor financial, procurement or programme management practices are not harmonised and aligned with country procedures.

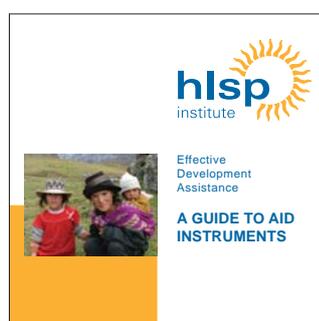
A variety of aid instruments, financing strategies and approaches to delivering development assistance are in use today. These include sector and budget support, global health initiatives, multi-donor funded programmes, sector wide approaches and more conventional projects, as well as technical support to enhance capacity to use aid effectively and efficiently. More resources for development are always welcome, but they need to strengthen and not distort national priorities and systems.

Expertise

- sector wide approaches
- poverty reduction strategies
- global health partnerships
- aid harmonisation
- budget support and programme aid
- performance assessment frameworks
- joint performance reviews
- linking planning and aid cycles



Attendees at the Joint Donor Training on Partnership for Poverty Reduction held in Bolivia



Our CD-ROM has been used as a training tool by a number of development partners

Contact us

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HLSP is a member of the Mott MacDonald Group



Our track record

HLSP has provided technical advice and supported the implementation of health Sector Wide Approaches (SWAp) in many low-income countries. In a SWAp, all significant government and donor funding for a sector is used to support a single sector policy and expenditure programme, with the government leading the process and implementation. We have also undertaken assessments and evaluations of SWAp in and across countries as well as provided training and awareness raising activities to a range of development agencies on SWAp for the health, education and agriculture sectors.

We have provided similar training on Poverty Reduction Strategies, a major instrument for national planning in many low, and some middle income countries, and on general and sector budget support. We have also worked with a number of partnerships including the Global Alliance for Vaccines and Immunization (GAVI) and the Global Fund to Fight AIDS, Tuberculosis and Malaria, and with multilateral and UN organisations including WHO, UNAIDS, UNDP, UNICEF and UNFPA to improve aid delivery strategies at country level.

SWAp

- Long term support to implementing the SWAp in Bangladesh, including reforms to planning and management approaches to enable sector-wide working
- Design and implementation of the SWAp in Honduras and Nicaragua
- Joint identification mission for a SWAp in Zambia
- Reviews of SWAp performance in Ghana, Tanzania and Mozambique
- Health SWAp mapping report for SIDA
- The role of UNFPA in SWAp: Bangladesh, Mozambique, Ghana and Tanzania
- Study of UNICEF's contribution to health SWAp in East and Southern Africa
- Training on SWAp for UNICEF education sector staff in Africa and Nicaragua

Poverty Reduction Strategies

- Six joint donor regional training courses on partnerships for poverty reduction to better support Poverty Reduction Strategy Papers (PRSPs)
- Joint Nordic and Dutch donor training for headquarters staff on PRSPs
- Review of experiences with mainstreaming HIV/AIDS in development instruments for UNAIDS

Global Health Partnerships

- Studies to assess the impact of Global Health Partnerships, for DFID (through the DFID Health Systems Resource Centre)
- Support to GAVI (Global Alliance for Vaccines and Immunization) to carry out country and partner consultations, and help to design future support
- Assisted the Global Fund to Fight AIDS, Tuberculosis and Malaria in defining its evaluation framework for its core principles, particularly sustainability issues

Aid Harmonisation/Aid Instruments

- Publication of CD-ROM for self-learning on Aid Strategies and Instruments
- Discussion paper on new aid instruments for Spanish Development Cooperation Secretariat, Madrid
- National case studies on harmonisation in Honduras and Nicaragua in preparation for the High Level Forum on Harmonisation, Paris 2005
- Facilitation of OECD partners meeting on harmonisation priorities from the perspective of aid receiving countries, Managua 2004