

Integrating the early years- integration agenda into the Kenyan response

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About NEPHAK

- The National Empowerment Network of people living with HIV/AIDS in Kenya (NEPHAK) is a national network that unites PLHIV and those affected by TB and AIDS in Kenya
- NEPHAK strength is derived from the Principle of Greater Involvement of People living and/or affected with HIV/AIDS (GIPA).

...We work to leverage the **lived experience** and channel it into the national response...

NEPHAK engaged Members of National Assembly and the Senate

- Enable them understand eMTCT and KMA
- Kenya Plan
- Have Political and leadership commitment
- Have champions from among the leaders
- In New York meeting focus was on early years of children affected by AIDS
- Share promising interventions like multi-sectoral approach to the HIV response
- Promote the Integration agenda including ECD into the HIV response
- Being nominated to be in the National Steering Committee on MNCH with the First lady.

Why Political Leadership and Championship?

- The agenda hinges on social, political, cultural and religious interventions
- Policy makers have greater influence in resource mobilization and allocation - Address disparity in provision of services across the country
- Means to secure commitment to deliver localized interventions like cash transfers to OVCs
- Key champions to mobilize constituents to take up services
- Leaders to work together to support country-driven efforts - Total commitment from Government and all stakeholders

Members of the Senate



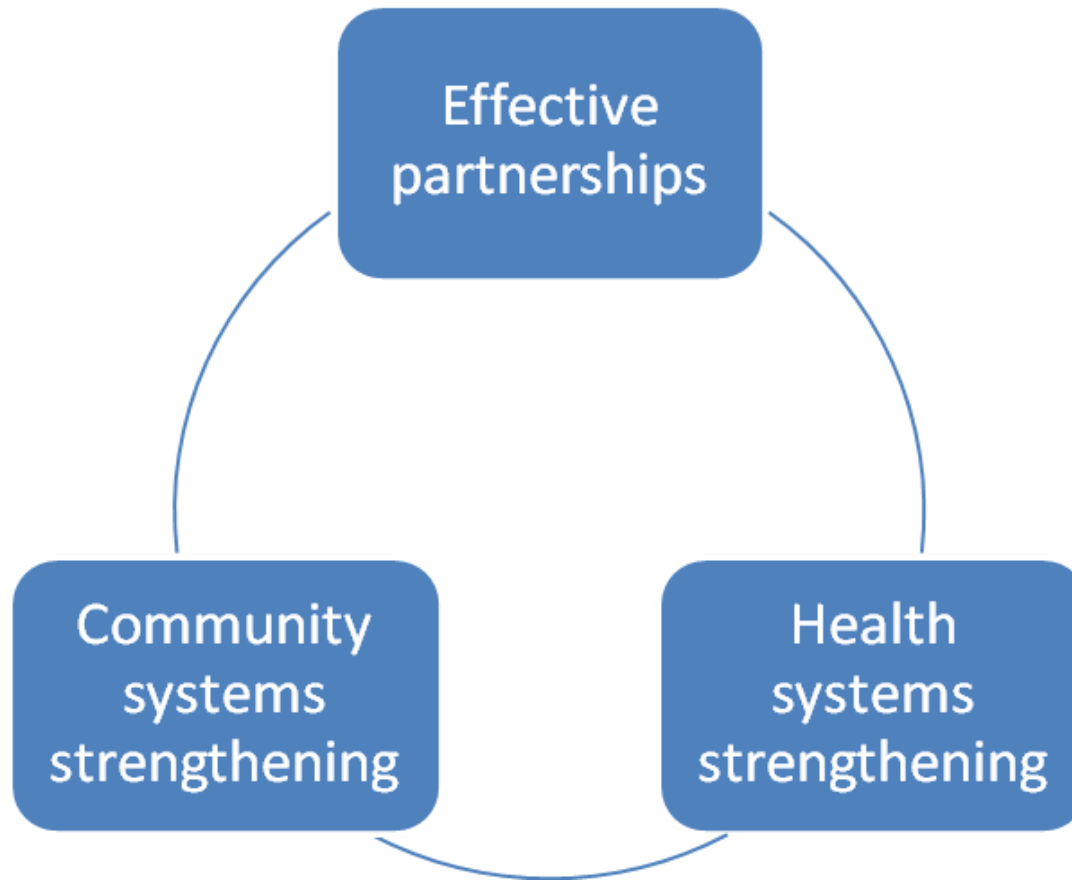
Integration Agenda in Kenya

- Integration is one of the five key strategic direction or guiding principles in the Kenya EMTCT plan. Only around facility based services
- Missed opportunities in the mother and child, immunization programmes
- Integration should go beyond PMTCT interventions to reach other vulnerable children and ensure retention in care;
 - Link identified children to OVC programmes for education, shelter, nutrition and psycho-social interventions.
 - Psycho-social support help parents and children understand their environment and thrive despite challenges and vulnerabilities
 - Social protection services including benefiting from cash transfers for OVCs

Integration Agenda Cont.

- Integration promotes family centered approach that benefits other children in the house hold
- Integration from WLHIV perspective is beneficial because pregnant women can get services under one roof (one-stop shop), saves time and promotes adherence
- Integration of SRH services for WLHIV enables preconception counseling, boosted retention to care as there is a whole Woman care in the clinic.
- There is need to link community interventions (community strategies) and health services for holistic benefit of affected children

What is missing?-



What works?

- Holistic approach interventions that supports children affected by HIV and their families.
- Creating awareness on the minimum package on various services to enable increased accountability by community.
- Support mothers to understand effect of their condition to their children and how this affect their future
- Invest in programmes that support vulnerable children in their early years at the community level.

Results

- NEPHAK is now involved in developing the country community service strategic plan which is focused on addressing social determinants of health.
- Cash Transfer Programmes for OVCs was launched in February by the president. NEPHAK members were called upon to ensure children affected by HIV are included
- **Discussions** at the national steering committee on MNCH – to include more stakeholders (social protection, education and researchers)

Integrate with long term goals



Thank you

