

National Community Systems Strengthening (CSS) Knowledge Dissemination Forum



Theme: Communities as agents of change in improving health outcomes

Date: Tuesday, 13th to 15th June 2023

Call for Abstracts

The Community Systems Strengthening (CSS) National dissemination forum organisers are pleased to invite you to submit an abstract that will document best practices and lessons learnt. Abstracts must be submitted via email to cssabstracts@amref.org on or before **Friday, 19th May, 2023** by **12:00 midnight**. Any questions and clarifications should be sent to infocssabstract@amref.org. The Committee will also hold a Webinar in zoon on **Wednesday, 10th May, 2023** from **09:00 AM** on CSS Abstract writing for the National CSS Knowledge Dissemination Forum. You will be required to register for this webinar once you click the link below before you get the log in details: https://amref.zoom.us/webinar/register/WN_AedLQa1DT3ildpN0-RgILA

Abstract should fall under the CSS thematic areas below:

- **Community-led monitoring:** This area covers accountability mechanisms that are independent and designed, led and implemented by local community organisations. Through community-led monitoring (CLM), recipients of care and other local community members use structured data collection and analysis to produce evidence-based recommendations for improved accessibility, acceptability, affordability and quality (AAAQ) and impact of health programmes and services. These are systems like I-monitor, One impact etc.
- **Community-led research and advocacy:** These thematic areas cover interventions to inform and support advocacy that are designed and led by community organisations, networks and civil society actors, especially advocacy led by marginalised, criminalised, under-served, key and vulnerable populations. Research and advocacy can relate to quality of health services and programmes, financing of programmes - Domestic recourse mobilisation, legal and policy reform, and/or human rights barriers (*such as age and gender inequities, stigma, discrimination, criminalisation, violence and breaches of confidentiality*).
- **Community capacity building and leadership development:** Interventions that support the establishment, strengthening and sustainability of community-led organisations to provide and improve health and other services to address HIV, TB and malaria. This includes developing capacity and leadership of key and vulnerable populations and supporting organisations that have trust engaging with these communities. Examples of capacity building strategies includes Organisational Development and Systems Strengthening (ODSS) among others.
- **Community engagement, linkages and coordination:** The area includes activities to create an interlinked and coordinated system of community-based and community-led programmes and services that engage, inform and deliver services to people in key, vulnerable and other populations not benefiting from health programmes. This includes social mobilisation to inform and engage communities in decision-making about health services and policies.

All appropriate abstracts will be reviewed by the Scientific Committee. All abstracts received will be acknowledged, and authors will be sent acceptance or rejection letters by **Friday May 26th, 2023**. Submitted research abstracts can be considered for oral presentations as '**Short Talks**' in the panel discussions and for poster presentations. Posters will be organised by topic, and opportunities for presenters to discuss their work with interested participants will be provided by designated poster sessions.

Accepted abstracts will be displayed on abstract book and key stakeholders' websites.

Each abstract must clearly state the following:

- a. Abstract title (*the title of the abstract must not exceed 25 words*)
- b. List of all authors(s) and their affiliation.
- c. Name and contact details of the presenting author (*telephone numbers and e-mail address*)
- d. Abstracts must be typed in **English, single line spacing, Arial font size 12**

The body of the text must not exceed **300 words**

Please adhere to the following format:

- **Introduction:** should summarise the specific challenge to the programme/project and indicate the main purpose of the abstract, be brief and informative. Describe the problem being addressed, who it affects most and the impact of the problem
- **Description of intervention:** include a precise description of the intervention undertaken to address the problem mentioned, how it was implemented, who was targeted for the implementation and the main activities undertaken
- **Findings and lessons learnt:** outline the achievements of the intervention based on the data available, what worked and what did not work. Do not use graphs or tables in the abstract. The data provided must be sufficient to permit peer review of the abstract
- **Conclusion and next steps:** include the main recommendations that can be drawn from the implementation of this intervention and how it can be scaled-up.