

#### **COmmunity and District Empowerment** for **S**cale up (CODES) project,

#### EMPOWERING COMMUNITIES WITH INFORMATION TO MONITOR HEALTH SERVICE PROVISION AND DEMAND FOR QUALITY SERVICES

#### **COmmunity and District Empowerment for S**cale up (CODES) project

- The CODES Project sought to empower communities to monitor health service provision and demand for quality health service. by providing them with information on the performance of the district health system focusing on diarrhea, pneumonia and malaria
- The data was generated through household surveys, health facility assessments and Focus Group Discussions
- Data was summarized on 4 page documents Citizen Report Card

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Alexandra (Balance) Frankrauth







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#### **Community Dialogues**



#### **Community Dialogues**

- The dialogues brought together 70 to 100 participants comprised of community leaders, caregivers of young children, Village Health Teams (VHTs) and health care providers
- Through a facilitated process lasting two days, each of the groups separately discussed and interpreted the data presented on the CRCs



#### **Community Dialogues**

- then stood before the collective forum to present their interpretations, challenges as well as their proposed solutions
- The groups then jointly came up with community contracts/action plans to address the issues identified.



### **U-Report**



## **U-Report**

- U-Report, a free SMS social monitoring tool was used to highlight issues affecting children and to stimulate discussions about public service delivery and to hold duty bearers accountable
- U-Report was also used for monitoring post dialogue activities
- U-Report is hosted and managed by UNICEF.

#### Lessons learnt

- **CRCs** were important for stimulating focused discussions on health service provision and utilization in specific sub counties
- **CDs** provided the neutral spaces- caregivers needed to safely voice their concerns to the health care providers, VHTs and community leaders
- For different stakeholders to engage and create joint action plans to address the identified challenges

#### Lessons learnt

- Health rights in the Patients Charter were popularized during the dialogues.
- To ensure sustainability district-based CSOs were trained by the IP in facilitating community dialogues and in post-dialogue monitoring.
- CDs based on CRCs promoted participatory planning and enhanced collective action for child health and survival at community level

#### Lessons Learnt

- Communities initiated actions such as health outposts in response to long distances, provided transport for health workers etc
- Health care providers instituted measures to deal with staff absenteeism and introduced badges for ease of identification
- Community leaders become more vigilant in their oversight role.

# Challenges

- CRCs focused on sub county data but the CDs were not rolled-out district wide due to logistical challenges
- The format of the CRCs could be further simplified for scale up purposes. A scalable CD model is yet to be fully developed
- U-Report received a mixed reception with a low response rate. This needs further exploration, as it may have had to do with the characteristics of the populations engaged

## Acknowledgements

- ACODE Implementing Partner that designed the CRCs, organized and implemented the CDs and trained CSOs in facilitation of CDs and in Post Dialogue monitoring
- CODES was funded by the Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation through UNICEF
- Ministry of Health provided oversight for the implementation of the Project
- Makerere University and KI focused on the learning component

#### Acknowledgements





BILL& MELINDA GATES foundation



**Ministry of Health** 



