

Motivation

In Kenya, there was a deterioration of health indicators despite an increase in health spending. The government was interested in finding out whether their funds were benefitting the poor, as they were intended to do.

Objectives

Therefore, a PETS was carried out in order to provide information for improving the effectiveness of public expenditures in primary health care.

Leakage

In the health sector, leakage of total funds received at the health center level is estimated at 38%, leakage of user fees at the facility level estimated at 25% and leakage of Community development funds at facility level is estimated at 37%.

Leakage is more pronounced in health centers than dispensaries.

Causes: provinces and districts are unaware of budgets and programs. Supervisory capacity of provincial and district authorities are insufficient and financial and accounting systems are inadequate.

Other findings

Medical supplies delivery experienced some delays and 61% of health centers report stocks out of drugs during FY 2003-04. Delays in medical supplies may be explained by top-down approach in the procurement process. Release of money through Authority to Incur Expenditures (AIE) to districts is a bottleneck to expenditures at the district level given that AIE are issued without disbursement of funds at the district level. Understaffing of health facilities is a major constraint in the delivery of services.

Sample

- 27 districts and 3 divisions in Nairobi province
- 241 public health facilities
- 867 patients

Sample design

Stratification of the country into provinces. In each of the 8 provinces, 2 poor and 1 rich districts were selected using poverty indexes. Facilities were selected in each district using systematic random sampling. On average 6 patients were systematically randomly sampled from each health center and 3 from each dispensary on the day of the survey for non-serious cases.

Resources monitored

- Non-wage expenditures (funds and in-kind)
- 2003-4
- 4 levels (central government, districts, facilities and users)

Main report

Republic of Kenya (2004) "Public Expenditure Tracking Survey (PETS) 2004," Preliminary Report, Ministry of Planning and National Development, Ministry of Finance, Ministry of Health, Ministry of Education Science and Technology, Nairobi, Kenya.