

**Poverty Reduction:
What does the Sector-Wide
Approach have to offer ?**

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Poverty focus

- **World Development Report 2000/1
“Attacking poverty”**
 - **Implementing policies for growth**
 - **Addressing inequalities**
 - **Making markets work for poor people**
 - **Expanding poor peoples assets**
 - **Making state institutions work better for poor people**
 - **Removing social barriers**

What is poverty? Who are the poor ?

- **Difficulties in**
 - **Definition**
 - **Measurement**
 - **Targeting**

Health and poverty

- **Poverty tends to**
 - **Raise occupational health risks**
 - **Lower educational status**
 - **Lower health service use**

...therefore, free essential health services & IEC to end the cycle

What is the sector-wide approach?

- **A sustained partnership**
- **A coherent sector**
- **Collaborative programme of work:**
 - **sectoral policies and strategies,**
 - **medium-term projections**
 - **management systems**
 - **institutional reform, capacity building**
- **Strategic and management issues**

Opportunities to address poverty

- **Increase efficiency**
 - **Less duplication and corruption**
 - **Co-ordination with private sector**
 - **More planning and focus**
- **Improved access**
- **Channel for more resources**
 - **HIPC, GAVI, CMH, etc**
- **Governance and ownership**

Prerequisites for success

- **Ownership and participation**
- **Health information systems, monitoring and accountability**
- **Capacity building**
 - **Also important are:**
 - **Decentralisation**
 - **Motivated workforce**
 - **Inter-sectoral collaboration**

SWAp experiences

● What has changed

- Problem diagnosis
- Credible MTEF
- Implementation
- Shift towards PHC
- Increased funding
- Capacity increase
- Annual review
- Disbursement through government

● What has not changed

- Low local participation
- Donors not trusting
- Still need private sector
- Weak links to other reforms
- Monitoring focussed on actions
- HMIS systems still underdeveloped

Conclusions

- **SWAp is an important instrument for poverty reduction in aid dependent countries**
- **Countries must be 'ready' for SWAp**
- **Many preconditions for a SWAp**
- **Significant investment period**
- **Danger of losing gains of vertical prog.**
- **Focus on poor may exclude non-poor**