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Purpose

This document outlines the purpose and key elements of context-specific country roadmaps for hand hygiene as well as the process of their development. It is based on the Country Roadmaps Framework and the Hand Hygiene for All Interim Guidance: Steps for Developing a Country Roadmap¹.

Background

WHO and UNICEF have launched the Hand Hygiene for All (HH4A) global initiative, to operationalize WHO's recommendations towards universal access to hand hygiene and improved practices across settings.

The Initiative identifies three pillars critical to effectively and sustainably scale up of hand hygiene: **political leadership, a strong enabling environment, and increase supply and demand for hand hygiene** through inclusive programming at scale. The Initiative also acknowledges that change in hand hygiene needs to happen in **multiple settings**, including but not limited to schools and day care centers, health care facilities, in homes, workplaces, markets and food establishments, prisons and detention centers, refugee and other humanitarian settings, transport hubs, places of worship and other public spaces. A **culture shift** will require a phased approach considering short-term COVID-19 **response** needs to control the outbreak, medium-term activities to **rebuild** hand hygiene systems and long-term approaches to **reimagine** and sustain a hand hygiene culture.

The Hand Hygiene for All Initiative calls for countries to lay out **comprehensive roadmaps that bridge**

national COVID-19 response plans with national development goals and ensure hand hygiene is a mainstay in public health interventions beyond the pandemic. It also proposes a **framework for coordination and collaboration among global and regional partners**, with the primary aim of supporting and growing country-led efforts and investments.

What is a hand hygiene country roadmap?

Country roadmaps for hand hygiene **identify strategic goals and opportunities for investments** to improve hand hygiene and **guide actions across the three pillars** by aligning multisectoral stakeholders and investments around a common, co-developed vision and course of action. The roadmaps **lay out a path for maximizing upcoming opportunities** (i.e. upcoming review or development of new policies, national development plans, etc.).

The development of a country roadmap is a **country-led process to review and assess the current hand hygiene landscape, identify strengths and gaps, and plan and prioritise activities** across the three pillars of activity, taking into consideration existing capacities and resources as well as potential risks and challenges. This process brings together **stakeholders from across sectors and disciplines around a common, co-developed vision** and course of action to align investments and activities.

Roadmap development includes a review of **the enabling environment**, including policies across all relevant sectors, institutional arrangements and coordination mechanisms, financing, monitoring and evaluation systems, and capacity development; as

¹ Both documents are currently not publicly available but may be shared upon request.

well as **current programming efforts** to increase the availability of hand hygiene products and services and social and behaviour change activities. Further, it identifies hand hygiene champions for change across settings and sectors and available human, organizational and financial resources to draw on.

Finally, country roadmaps should bridge sectors and ministries and identify new opportunities for partnership and innovation and can provide a stakeholder **accountability mechanism** to achieve results.

Guiding Principles

The country roadmap process is government-led and builds upon **existing coordination mechanisms, processes, policies, strategies** as well as **present and past efforts to improve hand hygiene** across settings.

The roadmap development process should be **inclusive** and target all segments and sectors of society. It is an opportunity to **develop new partnerships** and establish shared accountability for achieving hand hygiene for all.

Steps to developing a country roadmap

1. Engage: To initiate the process, a coordination mechanism is identified and/or set up, capitalizing on existing coordination mechanisms (e.g. sectoral working groups), a government focal point is designated to lead the process and a workplan with clearly defined timelines and responsibilities is agreed. It is important to ensure adequate representation of government, civil society, private sector, and other partners in the process.

Objectives:

- To set up a coordination mechanism and ensure strong ownership of the process, including all relevant actors;
- To identify focal points in government and development counterpart (if necessary) and/or external support to facilitate, coordinate and document the process;
- To build alliances with non-traditional partners (e.g. health, education).

Key Outputs:

- Coordination mechanism with focal points identified

- Newly established and/or strengthened partnerships
- Workplan with clear timelines and responsibilities

2. Assess: A detailed assessment of the context to identify current hand hygiene activities and programmes across the three pillars and settings, current and potential stakeholders and partners in each setting and existing funding sources as well as potential opportunities.

Objective: To understand the current hand hygiene landscape (context/ stakeholders/ funding) and identify strengths and gaps to be addressed in the roadmap.

Key Outputs:

- Context Analysis
- Stakeholder and funding analysis
- Identified strengths and gaps

3. Plan: To think through and decide on how to progressively build on strengths and fill hand hygiene gaps identified during the assessment phase in the different settings in the short-, medium- and long-term.

Objective: To define sets of actions to build upon existing activities and fill gaps across settings and phases.

Key Outputs:

- Set of actions for each setting
- Outline of roles and responsibilities for each action

4. Prioritize: To balance the needs and gaps identified during the planning process, the resources available and aligning activities with current program plans.

Objective: To prioritize actions based on set of criteria and in line with HH4A goals.

Key Outputs:

- Context specific set of criteria (i.e. impact, resources available - current/ future, reaching vulnerable groups)
- List of priority actions by setting in line with HH4A goals