Data Brief—Government Integration

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GOVERNMENT INTEGRATION

**FACILITATORS AND BARRIERS**

### Political climate and involvement
- **Facilitators:**
  - Political support and awareness; Political commitment to prevention; Independence from political cycle; Governmental mandate
- **Barriers:**
  - Adverse political context;
  - Tedious process of obtaining mandate

### Decision-making and management strategies
- **Facilitators:**
  - Dedicated management; Regular scheduled meetings; Gradual dissemination and application of intervention methods; Obtained accreditation
- **Barriers:**
  - Absence/weakness of leadership and support from managerial component; Inability to act as a unified metagovernor; Failure to include inter-agency assessment in evaluation; Misaligned incentives

### Allocation of roles and tasks
- **Facilitators:**
  - Clear definition of roles and objectives; Availability of strong reference points
- **Barriers:**
  - Lack of clear mandate; Inability to relate to the work of partner agency

### Structural aspects and processes
- **Facilitators:**
  - Shared goals and vision; Diversity of activities; Partner complementarity and fitness; Availability of training opportunities; Co-designing and collective decision-making; Staff continuity
- **Barriers:**
  - Segregated organization of services; Demographic; organizational and technical set-up differences; Staff turnover and insecurity

### Interpersonal interactions
- **Communication and information exchange**
  - **Facilitators:**
    - Mutual listening; Effective communication; Information flow and exchange; Shared communication channels
  - **Barriers:**
    - Lack of or scarce communication and information exchange; Information gap

### Social-Psychological
- **Social dynamics**
  - **Facilitators:**
    - Mutual appreciation; Interdependence; Having good access to each other
  - **Barriers:**
    - Lack of trust; Conflicts; Criticism; Prejudices and stereotypes

### Personal Characteristics
- **Involvement and capabilities**
  - **Facilitators:**
    - Interest and motivation; Proactiveness; Active participation; Self-reflection; Innovation; Attentiveness
  - **Barriers:**
    - Lack of personal and professional motivation; Lack of commitment; Absenteeism; Withholding information; Scarcity or irregular meeting attendance; Reluctance to get involved; Resistance to comply with guidelines

### Knowledge and experience
- **Facilitators:**
  - Knowledge and understanding of partner organizations and their missions; Previous knowledge and experience of collaboration; The sharing of working knowledge and philosophy
- **Barriers:**
  - Lack of knowledge of partner organizations and their responsibilities; Lack of collaboration experience
CHALLENGES TO A MULTISECTORAL APPROACH

Public Financing
- A lack of (limited) government investment in public services can translate into an over-reliance on donor funding, which can result in a country’s priorities being skewed towards the priorities of the international donor community, often driven by its own agenda.

Scalability and sustainability
- Interventions are often relatively small-scale
- Donor-funded and donor-led often results in initiatives being neither scalable nor sustainable
- Donor-driven initiatives may not always reflect the priorities and realities of the country in question, which could lead to a poor uptake in services, even if they were to be adequately resourced.

Coordination
- Sectors are insufficiently informed about what the others are doing
- Sectors and organisations risk working in isolation, which can lead to inefficiency in terms of resource allocation and duplication of efforts.
- Monitoring and evaluation systems, as well as data capturing tools, are also weak, which makes it difficult to collect information systematically and to track progress.

National plans of action
- Poorly implemented
- Plans do not always fit with national or local priorities
- Need to be realistic in terms of what they can achieve in a given timeframe, especially in low resource settings, and be contextually relevant.

MULTISECTORAL COLLABORATION MODEL TO ACHIEVE TRANSFORMATIVE CHANGE

Drive change
Assess whether the desired change is best achieved by multisectoral collaboration. Drive forward collaboration by mobilising a critical mass of policy and public attention.

Define
Frame the problem strategically and holistically so that all sectors and stakeholders can see the benefits of collaboration and contribution to the public good.

Design
Create solutions that are relevant to each context, build on existing mechanisms, and leverage the strengths of diverse sectors for collective impact.

Realise
Ensure resources for multisectoral collaboration mechanisms, including for open communication and deliberation on evidence, norms, and innovation.

Relate
Remain open to redefining and redesigning the collaboration to ensure relevance, effectiveness, and responsiveness to change.

Capture success
Use qualitative and quantitative methods to monitor results regularly and comprehensively. Learn from failures and successes to inform action and sustain gains. Two critical caveats are the self-defined nature of the successes and the extent to which they are directly attributable to multisectoral collaboration (as a standard intervention), given the diversity of contexts and collaborations.

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REFERENCES


This data brief was created by the Population Council’s GIRL Center in collaboration with CIFF to inform the thematic roundtable discussion on Government Integration at the Girls Deliver Pre-Conference on Adolescent Girls held in Kigali, Rwanda ahead of the Women Deliver 2023 Conference.