Reviewer’s report

**Title:** Harmonizing community-based health worker programs for HIV: a narrative review and analytic framework

**Version:** 0  **Date:** 13 Mar 2017

**Reviewer:** Norbert Dreesch

**Reviewer’s report:**

First, some small language glitches:

1. Page 15: Line 35/36 replace the word "allow" with "allows"

2. Page 17: Line 29/30: delete "in" after "appears"


4. Page 24, reference 42: spell out the name of the source(WB) in full or use correct citation mode for references for which author and publisher are identical.

5. Page 28 : for the interested reader, you may wish to add the following reference to ref. number 56:


Second, comments on content:

Since moving from the "Basic Health Services" concept of the 1960s to adoption of the "Primary Health Care" approach in the late 1970s to reach "Health for All by the Year 2000" and re-focussing international health development support on more disease-specific approaches e.g. HIV/AIDS and the creation of accompanying financing mechanism e.g. GFATM and PEPFAR towards the end of the last millenium, the need to harmonize the contributions of multiple actors, approaches and expectations within and across specific health development programme re-emerged in full force. Harmonization and coordination of approaches amongst the many "players" at international and national/local level are continuing challenges within a diverse field of humanitarian, health policy and human resources development approaches across agencies and institutions each needing to respond to the specific logic of their host institutional parameters.
This article sets out to create a much needed systematization to facilitate harmonization and coordination across the multitude of interests that need to be responded to.

Building incentives and reward systems which foster harmonization for, in this case, CHW development in its various dimensions will remain a challenge and demand a high degree of willingness amongst all actors - both national and international. It is hoped that in an ensuing development, much needed detailed operational guidance can be developed from pursuing this approach.

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