Uganda Healthcare Federation

Promoting the Private non-state Health Sector in Uganda and East Africa Wide
There is a strong link between health services exports and tourist activities. It reflects the existence of a threshold effect in the area of infrastructure (availability of flight and transport connections and a wide range of hotels, security and stability in a country.

Uganda has a fairly stable political environment, a rapidly growing tourist sector and physical infrastructure, which can enhance export of health services in the region.
Uganda - Pearl of Africa
Natural resources
Uganda-Basic Statistics

- Total population 36,346,000 million Ugandans
- Life expectancy at birth 56/58
- Adult literacy rate 73%
- Youth literacy rate 87%
- Percent of population with a mobile phone 38%
- Current number of children who were orphaned by AIDS 1,200,000
- Out of pocket expenditure as a percentage of private expenditure on health 64.8%
- Government expenditure on health percentage of total expenditure on health 26.3%

Source: WORLD HEALTH ORGANISATION STATISTICS SUMMARY 2002–CURRENT
To bring all private (non state) sector stakeholders under one umbrella body for the purpose of advocating policy change, promoting and championing the interests of the health sector.

Values

- Professionalism with Integrity
- Innovative and Results-focused
- Committed – for the long term
Core Objectives & Activities

- To promote and enhance medical care in Uganda with emphasis on the provision of affordable and accessible quality healthcare
- To provide a forum for consultation and strengthen the voice of the private health industry-PSHAC
- To promote, protect and champion the interests of the private health sector in Uganda-PPPHTWG, PIRT
- To unite, organize and promote all associations and companies involved in the private healthcare businesses-Membership
- To enhance knowledge of the private sector’s role in healthcare delivery-Development of the PPP unit
UHF Hub committees

- Public Private Partnerships
- Standards and Self Regulations
- ICT Technology
- Regional Networks and Information Hub
- Healthcare Financing
- Supply Chain
- Education and Training
Health Services Exports- Enabling Factors

- Increase in training levels
- Standardization of treatment protocols
- Availability of quality drugs and medical equipment
- Modernization of equipment
- Emergence of sophisticated middle class concerned about quality of services
- Developing medical tourism sector-EAHF
- Principle of neighborliness and cultural sensitivities
- South-south collaboration-initial starting point
Current Export Status

- Of all international trade sectors, the services sector is the one that grows fastest. It should account for 50% of all world trade by 2020.
- World health exports rose 1.2% in 1997 to 1.5% in 2010 while those in the south rose from 1.1% to 1.6% in the same duration.
- The current situation is that little is known of the real magnitude of the world's health services export flows and the impact that such exports have on the countries concerned.

Source: African Development Bank report 2013
Global Impact factors

- Liberalization of trade
- Investment in services
- Changes in structure of trade due to world demand-globalization
- Substantial reduction in transaction costs due to information and technology
- High elasticity in income
- Advanced education and information technology producing a highly qualified labor force
- Qualified and competitive work force
Four trade models

- Cross border trade (tele-medicine x-rays analysis abroad, tropical diseases)
- Consumption abroad (herbal companies/research and training, health spas and treatment )-Medical tourism
- Commercial presence (Foreign Direct Investment in health infrastructure-PPP projects regionally-Technical expertise firms-innovators and specialists)
- Temporary movement of natural persons (human resources)-immigration restrictions, lack of accounting inflow of foreign exchange return to the exporting country
According to a recent African Development Bank assessment, world trade in health services yielded USD 11,706 million in 2010 with an annual growth rate of 8.1%.

Exports from the south have been growing faster at an average annual rate of 12.3% than exports from the North, which grew by 5% annually.
Two Best Trade models

- Consumption abroad (herbal companies/research and training)-Medical tourism
  - Comparative advantage (revenue and cost differentials-cheaper)
  - Philanthropic medical tourists-Angelina Jolie
  - Diverse health services offered
  - Higher purchasing power for the patients

- Temporary movement of natural persons (human resources)
  - To get coronary bypass surgery, it is not rare to have to wait for over 6 months (Chasles 2011). A specialist could be flown in on clear terms and conditions
  - Dental surgery-non portability of health insurance
  - Ethical organ transplants and donors
Barriers

- Demonstrative effect-the building of a reputation internationally
- Anecdotal evidence on the upsurge in exports of health services, valid information on volume of exports or percentage of service trade they represent
- Immigration restrictions and freedom of movement of qualified experts
- Brain drain
- Lack of a concerted effort in building regional medical tourism-buy in from public sector
- Lack of accounting inflow of foreign exchange return to the exporting country
- Health system quality (very difficult to measure)
Opportunities and way forward

- Regional comparative advantage-reduction in cost on end user due to proximity of services
- Development of specialist services in research, training and telemedicine
- Development of health and well being linked with tourist activities such as health spas and organic nutrition education
- Development of a highly skilled qualified workforce linked in and registered with the ministry of health repatriated on clear terms and condition
  - Short term contracts
  - Payment system linked to own country institutional structure
Need to conduct a feasibility study to verify and evaluate the private health sector viability in exporting health services both in Uganda and regionally.

Viability of markets both through a north-south and south-south trade model need to be properly examined and documented
Uganda welcomes you
Thank you