

MAKING



WORK

PCB Thematic discussion:
Lessons Learned from the
Global Implementation Support Team (GIST)

Background

- In response to the Global Task Team (GTT) recommendation, the UN system and Global Fund formed the joint problem-solving team as the Global Joint Problem Solving and Implementation Support Team (GIST)
- The GIST was set up to ensure that bottlenecks in the implementation of national strategies and plans at the country level in a timely and effective manner by promoting improved coordination and accountability in the provision of technical assistance
- In November 2006 in response to the PCB recommendation that “... *further involvement of other development partners, such as bilaterals and NGOs, where necessary,*” the GIST expanded to include 3 bilaterals and 3 CSOs

Lessons Learned

- Countries and partners appreciated the progress that the GIST has made and encourages continued development of the team to respond to country needs
- Difficult for countries to identify, acknowledge and address bottlenecks effectively – honest assessment of issues is essential
- Weak capacity at country level to engage in monitoring implementation and in accessing assistance – look for local solutions
- Need for Country level “CIST” mechanisms
- External engagement can help resolve problems that are ‘political’

Recommendations

- Need for better communication on what the GIST is and how it can be accessed – ‘marketing’
- Partners at the country level need to engage in the proactive monitoring of the progress on programs in reaching their objectives and to be
- Consider inclusion of major foundations in GIST
- Need for funding to realise the capacity for GIST to support country solutions to bottlenecks

Thank you!

