

**Vuka! Let's unite towards
a TB-free world!**

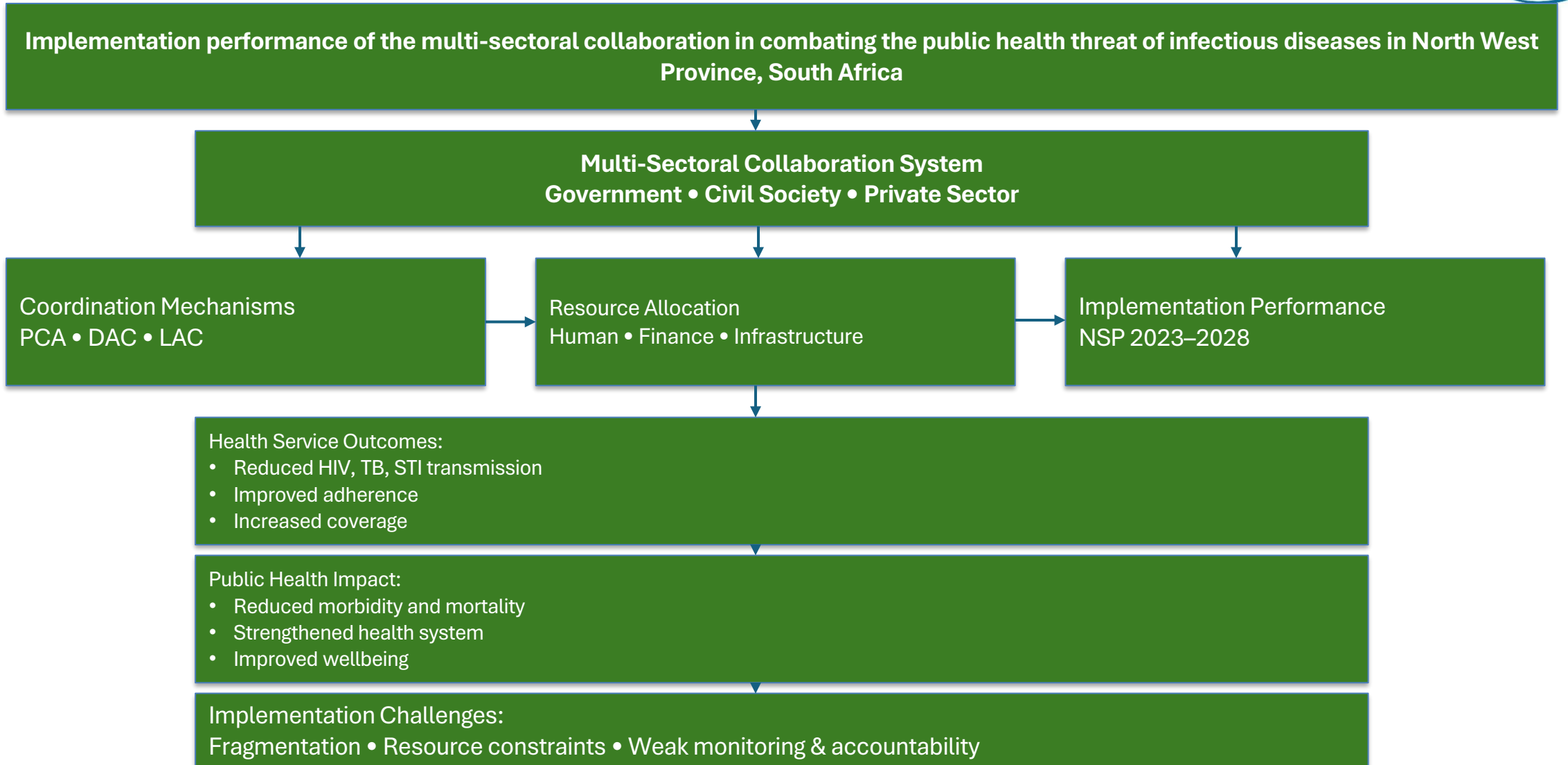
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**Implementation Performance of Multi-Sectoral
Collaboration in Combating the Public Health
Threat of Infectious Diseases in North West
Province, South Africa**

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TB Conference 2026**

Background



Problem Statement / Rationale



Policy Mandates (NSP / PIP)



Coordination Challenges (Silos)



Service Delivery Breakdown



Poor Health Outcomes
(HIV, TB, STIs, Adolescents)



Stalled NDP 2030 / SDG Progress

Rationale (Why this study?)

This study is driven by the need to understand why MSC is not translating into effective implementation, despite strong policy frameworks.

Specifically, it seeks to:

- Identify where and why coordination breaks down
- Assess whether MSC is functioning as an implementation system (not just a policy requirement)
- Address the lack of empirical evidence on real-world collaboration performance
- Inform a practical, evidence-based cross-sector delivery model

Objective(s)



Methods

INTEGRATED FINDINGS

Quantitative Results (n=56)

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Qualitative Insights (n=7)

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TRIANGULATION & COMPARISON

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FINAL INTERPRETATION OF FINDINGS

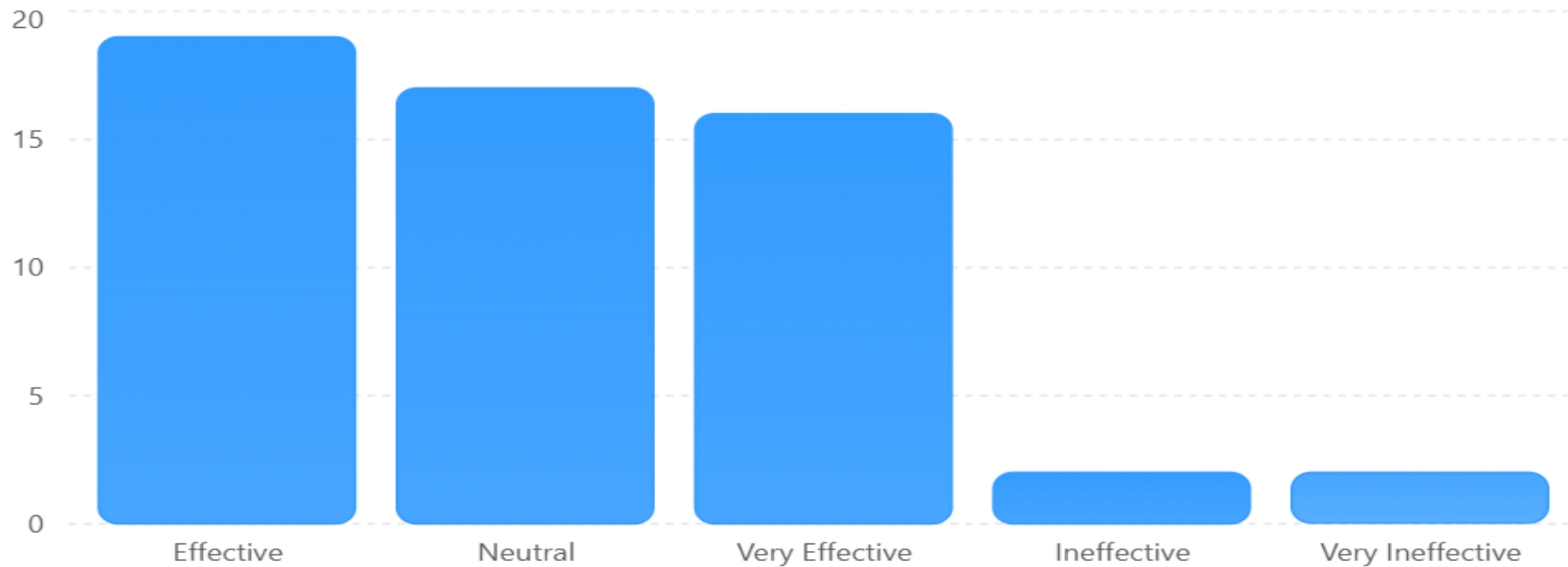
Focus:

- Convergence of results
- Confirmation / contradiction of patterns
- Contextual explanation of survey results

Results

Perceived Effectiveness of Multi-Sectoral Collaboration (n=56)

Stakeholder ratings of the effectiveness of multi-sectoral collaboration in addressing infectious diseases in North West Province.



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Most respondents viewed multi-sectoral collaboration positively, with 62.5% (n=35) rating collaboration as either effective or very effective. However, 30.4% (n=17) remained neutral, while 7.2% (n=4) perceived collaboration as ineffective or very ineffective.

Community Participation And Accountability



Most cited:

- Lack of awareness
- Limited co-design opportunities
- Stigma and discrimination
- Limited financial support
- Weak leadership structures

Key Findings:

- Community participation was generally rated as slight to moderate.
- Respondents consistently highlighted insufficient community engagement in planning and implementation.
- 26 stakeholders out of 56 reported limited opportunities for co-design and shared decision-making.

Integrated Findings (Mixed Methods)

Quantitative Findings	Qualitative Insights
High awareness of collaboration structures	Provincial structures such as PCA, DACs and sector forums are recognised
Majority rated collaboration effective	Stakeholders value shared planning and coordination
Funding identified as major barrier	Budget constraints affect implementation capacity
Weak M&E frequently reported	Monitoring exists but accountability is inconsistent
Limited community participation	Co-design and grassroots engagement remain weak

Interpretation

1. Multi-Sectoral Structures Are Functional

- The Province has established collaboration platforms involving government, civil society, private sector and communities.

However: Functionality does not automatically translate into implementation effectiveness.

2. Implementation Gaps Remain

Challenges identified include:

- Weak coordination
- Poor communication
- Resource limitations
- Weak accountability

These factors reduce the effectiveness of infectious disease responses.

3. Community-Centred Collaboration Is Still Underdeveloped

Stakeholders consistently identified:

- Limited co-design
- Limited participation
- Stigma
- Awareness challenges

as barriers to achieving better outcomes.

The challenge in North West Province is no longer the absence of multi-sectoral structures, but strengthening implementation performance and accountability across sectors.

Programmatic / Policy Implications

- The study shows that while multi-sectoral collaboration (MSC) is well established in policy under the NSP (2023–2028), its implementation in the North West Province is weakened by coordination challenges, fragmented governance, and weak accountability across sectors.
- This indicates that the main challenge is not programme delivery itself, but the functionality of multi-sectoral collaboration systems.
- Key implications include the need to strengthen coordination structures, clarify roles and accountability mechanisms, and develop measurable indicators specifically for collaboration performance.
- The study also highlights the importance of integrated monitoring and evaluation systems and more aligned or pooled resource allocation to support joint implementation.
- At policy level, the NSP (2023–2028) implementation should be reinforced by a provincial-level MSC accountability framework, ensuring that collaboration is not only mandated but enforceable and measurable.
- Overall, the findings suggest that improving MSC requires shifting policy focus from individual sector outputs to the performance of collaboration itself as a governance system.

Conclusion & Key Take-Home Messages

- The study demonstrates that North West Province has established multi-sectoral collaboration structures that are widely recognised and perceived as valuable in addressing infectious diseases.
- However, implementation performance is constrained by funding shortages, poor communication, inadequate integrated monitoring systems and limited community participation.
- Strengthening accountability, coordination and community ownership is essential for translating collaboration into improved public health outcomes.