

Overview of Private Sector Engagement in Healthcare in Ghana

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Presentation Outline

- Background
- Current Status of Private Sector Engagement in Ghana
- WHO supports for Private Sector Engagement
- Review of the Private Health Sector Development Policy
- Application of the Progression Pathway in Ghana



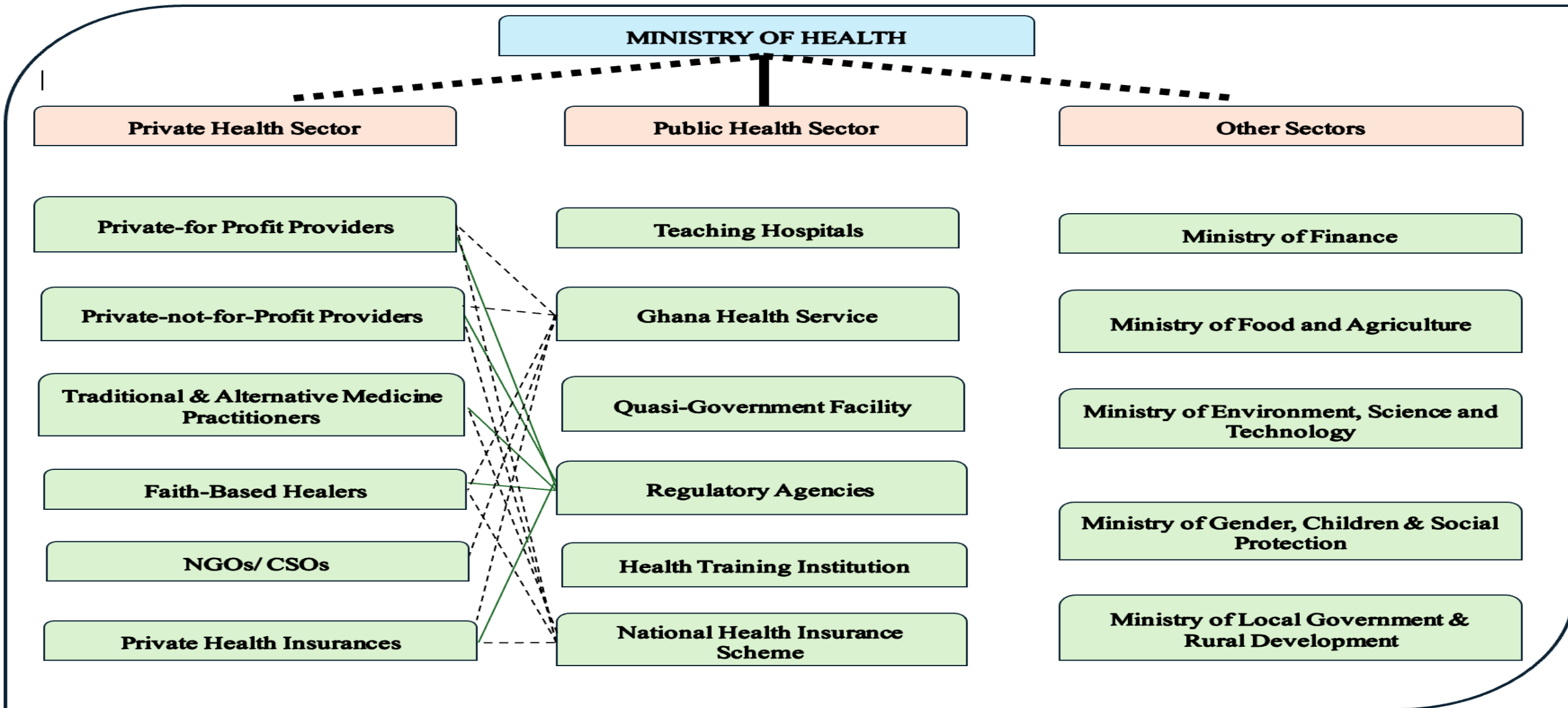
Background



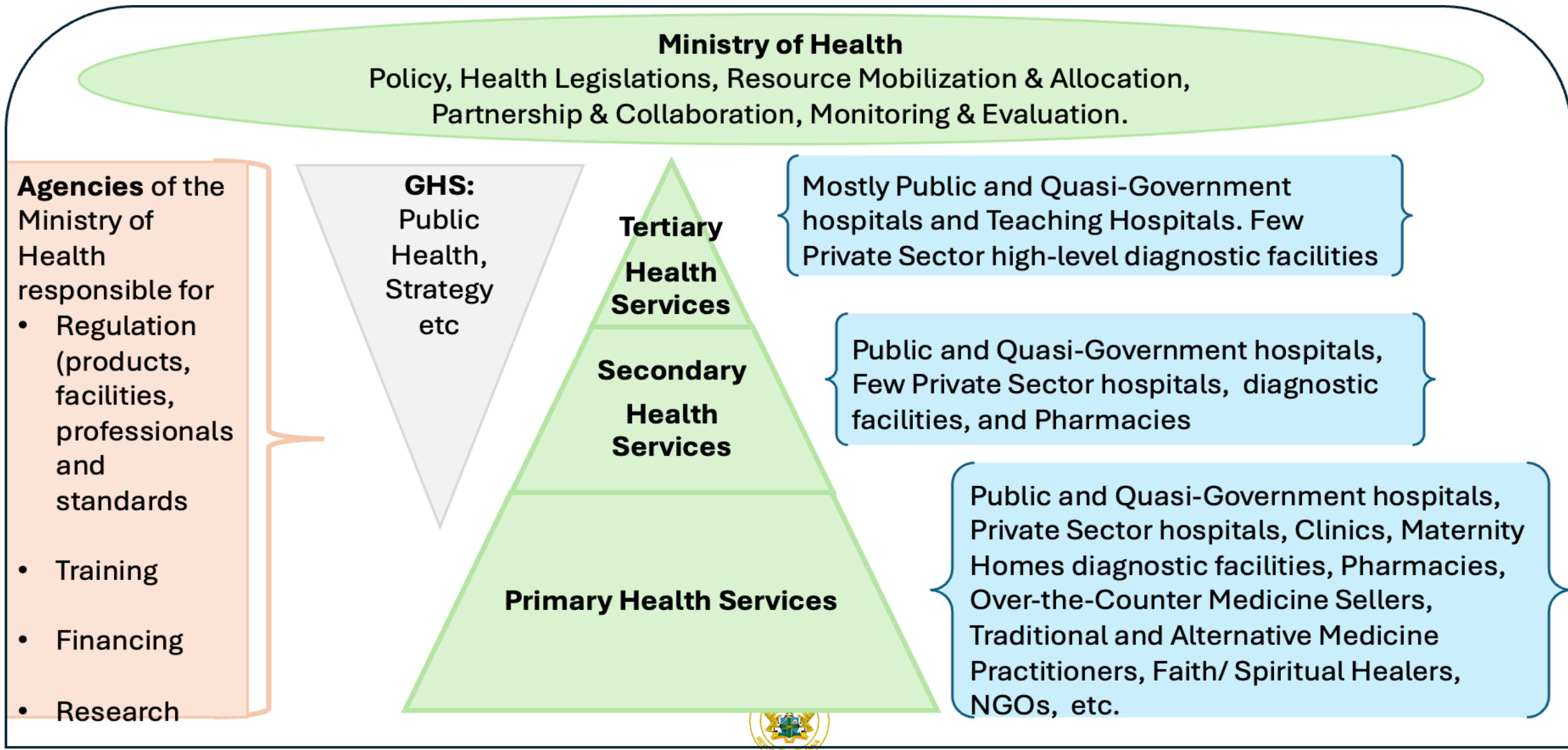
- Ghana is a relatively small country in West Africa
 - ✓ Estimated Population of 34 million people in 2024
 - ✓ GDP estimate for 2023 was \$72.9 billion
 - ✓ Per capita health spending of US\$83.42 (NHA, 2022)
 - ✓ Life expectancy at birth was 66.1 years (WHO, 2021)
 - ✓ Financing: mainly Social Health insurance with tax funding
 - ✓ Service providers/ Facilities:
 - *Public* → 53.8%
 - *Private* → 46.2%
 - ✓ Contribution to Service Delivery
 - *Public* → 48.3%
 - *Private* → 51.7%



Ministry of Health's Relation to Other Sectors



Arrangement of Health Services in Ghana



Status of Private Sector Engagement in Ghana 1/3

Private Not-for-Profit

- Mainly health facilities owned by religious organizations (churches and Moslem)
- ✓ Strong collaboration with signed MoUs
- ✓ Deeply involved in sector working structures/ engagements
- ✓ Received government support; compensation for staff, training, supply of critical equipment, and funding for programs
- ✓ Active reporting
- ✓ Sharing of best practices to inform policy
- ✓ Strong collaboration at the regional, district, and community level with GHS
- ✓ Enjoy regulatory regimes like the public sector
- ✓ ***Well organized with recognized front/ point of engagement/ advocacy***



Status of Private Sector Engagement in Ghana 2/3

Private for-Profit

- Health facilities owned by individual practitioners including pharmacies, diagnostic centers, suppliers of health commodities, and traditional and alternate medicine practice centers.
- ✓ Involvement in policy and sector coordination platforms; HSWG, Health Summit, and Review Meetings
- ✓ Advocacy for policies to provide an enabling environment
- ✓ Involvement in the implementation National Health Insurance
- ✓ Collaboration to ensure complete and regular reporting in National Routine Database (DHIMS2)
- ✓ Collaboration to promote a united front/platform for effective engagement
- ✓ Public – Private Partnership arrangements in some hospitals
- ✓ Out-sourcing of some services from public facilities (revenue collection, cleaning, supplies, diagnostic,



Status of Private Sector Engagement in Ghana 3/3

- Successful engagement in regulatory activities;
 - ✓ improved relations between regulators and private sector stakeholders
 - ✓ less closures,
 - ✓ media banter,
- Engagement in the Revision of the Private Health Sector Development Policy (PHSDP)
 - ✓ Representation of private sub-sectors on the Technical Working Group
 - ✓ Plans for extensive stakeholder engagement
 - ✓ Plans for dissemination of the policy
- Support for Central Government incentives for the private health sector
 - ✓ Implementation of VAT exemption on raw material for local manufacturing and selected finished product
 - ✓ Implementation of VAT exemption on medical supplies/ equipment



WHO support for Private Sector Engagement

Pharma Sub-Sector

- Drafting of the National Vaccine Institute Bill
- The National Vaccine Policy
- Provide technical guidance for the design and construction of DEK Vaccine Manufacturing Plant in line with the requirement for cGMP
- Technical support to the development of the National Pharmaceutical Traceability Strategy; the strategy seeks to improve the visibility of medical products from end-to-end
- WHO supported developed a restricted List of Medicines (Executive Instrument 181) that restricted 49 medicines from importation and reserved for local production
- The initial work for parliamentary approval for the Implementation of VAT exemption on pharmaceutical manufacturing inputs, APIs, and finished products received technical support from WHO



Other Sub-sectors

- WHO partnered with a medical devices manufacturer (Getinge) to deliver and install state-of-the-art ventilators in the Intensive Care Units in response to COVID-19
- Support for documentation of the role of the private sector in COVID response.
- Support for health information system development in Ghana including training and reporting from the private sector

Review of the Private Health Sector Development Policy

- The current policy was launched in 2013
 - ✓ Not full Implemented
 - ✓ Legal context changed
 - ✓ New developments
- The decision to revise the policy and support renewed efforts to engage the private sector
 - ✓ Steps were taken to activate the Inter-Sectoral Collaboration Unit
 - ✓ Engagement with private health sector stakeholders
 - ✓ Establishment of technical Working Group
 - ✓ Inception report including roadmap for the review and revision of the policy prepared
 - ✓ Secure commitment from UNFPA and WHO to support the process
 - ✓ Ongoing processes to procure a consultant to lead the revision processes



Application of the Progression Pathway in Ghana 1/2

- The Progression Pathways reflects all that we are already doing in Ghana but is a more structured and measurable approach to engaging the private sector.
- It is timely as it aligns with our efforts to review the Private Health Sector Development Policy. Basis for Situational Analysis for the new policy.
 - ✓ Successful engagement with WCO, the AFRO, and HQ
 - ✓ Concept notes and Terms of Reference Developed
 - ✓ Timelines agreed
 - ✓ WCO far advanced with the procurement process (Consultant)
 - ✓ The consultant will have 15 working days to support the policy revision process to ensure the findings inform the new policy



Application of the Progression Pathway in Ghana 1/2

- It will serve as a baseline for measuring progress on private sector engagement and governance in the health sector.
- ✓ We will publish the report from this work
- ✓ Develop a Logframe to address gaps to be identified
- ✓ Inclusion of selected indicators in the sector assessment tool
- ✓ Ensure regular monitoring and reporting



Thank you

