



The Partnership for Maternal, Newborn and Child Health FAQ

Why a global health partnership for maternal, newborn and child health?

Each year, more than half a million women die in pregnancy or childbirth, and almost 10 million children die before their fifth birthday, almost 40% in the first month of life. Recent research finds that at least two-thirds of these deaths could be prevented with proven, cost-effective interventions that could and should be available to every woman and child today. By expanding access to these interventions and integrating maternal, newborn and child health efforts, an estimated 6 million deaths of women and children could be prevented each year. Given the scope of this challenge, no individual country, organization, or agency can address it alone.

What is the Partnership for Maternal, Newborn & Child Health?

The Partnership for Maternal, Newborn & Child Health is a new global health partnership launched in September 2005 to accelerate efforts towards achieving Millennium Development Goals (MDGs) 4 and 5. This partnership is the result of a merger of three existing partnerships: the Partnership for Safe Motherhood and Newborn Health, the Child Survival Partnership and the Healthy Newborn Partnership. The Partnership aim is to intensify and harmonize national, regional and global action to improve maternal, newborn and child health.

Who is in the Partnership for Maternal, Newborn & Child Health?

The Partnership joins together the maternal, newborn and child health communities, encouraging unified and effective approaches that promise greater progress than in the past. The Partnership is made up of a broad constituency of about 260 members representing partner countries, UN and multilateral agencies, nongovernmental organizations, health professional associations, bilateral donors and foundations, and academic and research institutions.

What does the Partnership for Maternal, Newborn & Child Health offer?

The Partnership provides a forum through which members can combine their strengths and implement solutions that no one partner could achieve alone.

What are the Partnership's key objectives in 2009-2011?

With only six years left until 2015, it is evident that enormous scaling up will be required in MNCH services in countries. While acknowledging progress being achieved by many partners and countries in different areas, the Partnership community strives to focus on the following key objectives in 2009-2011:

1. Build consensus on, and promote, evidence-based high-impact interventions and means to deliver them through harmonization;
2. Contribute to raising US\$ 30 billion (for 2009-2015) to improve maternal, newborn and child health through advocacy; and
3. Track partners' commitments and measurement of progress for accountability.

What is a "partner-centric model"?

The Partnership's mission is to support the global health community to work successfully towards achieving MDGs 4 and 5. The mission will be best achieved by enhancing partners' interactions and using their comparative advantages to contribute to this common goal. This "partner-centric" approach has become the key theme of the Partnership's strategy and work plan for 2009-2011. Using this approach, lead partners are expected to drive key initiatives in six priority areas with the Secretariat providing an effective platform for collaboration, facilitation and knowledge exchange.

What are the Priority Action areas?

In order to best support global action for MDGs 4 and 5 and streamline contributions by its broad membership, the Partnership identified six Priority Action areas where the Partnership and its members are focusing in 2009-2011. These are:

1. MNCH knowledge management system
2. MNCH core package of interventions
3. Essential MNCH commodities
4. Strengthening human resources for MNCH
5. Advocacy for increased funding and better positioning of MNCH in the development agenda and
6. Tracking progress and commitment towards MDGs 4 and 5

Full descriptions of activities for each Priority Action area can be found in the 2009-2011- PMNCH Strategy and Workplan.

How can all members and partners contribute?

Lead partners and their focal points, as well as contributing partner organizations, have been identified in each of the six Priority Action areas. Members wishing to contribute may contact focal points; names are provided in the strategy document.

How can an organization get involved?

The Partnership for Maternal, Newborn & Child Health welcomes new members. To learn more about the Partnership's activities and how you can become involved, please contact:

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