



World Health  
Organization



REPUBLIC OF MALAWI



unicef



Quality, Equity, Dignity

A Network for Improving Quality of Care for Maternal, Newborn and Child Health

# Bringing it together in the Network

WE SUPPORT





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# Who are we?

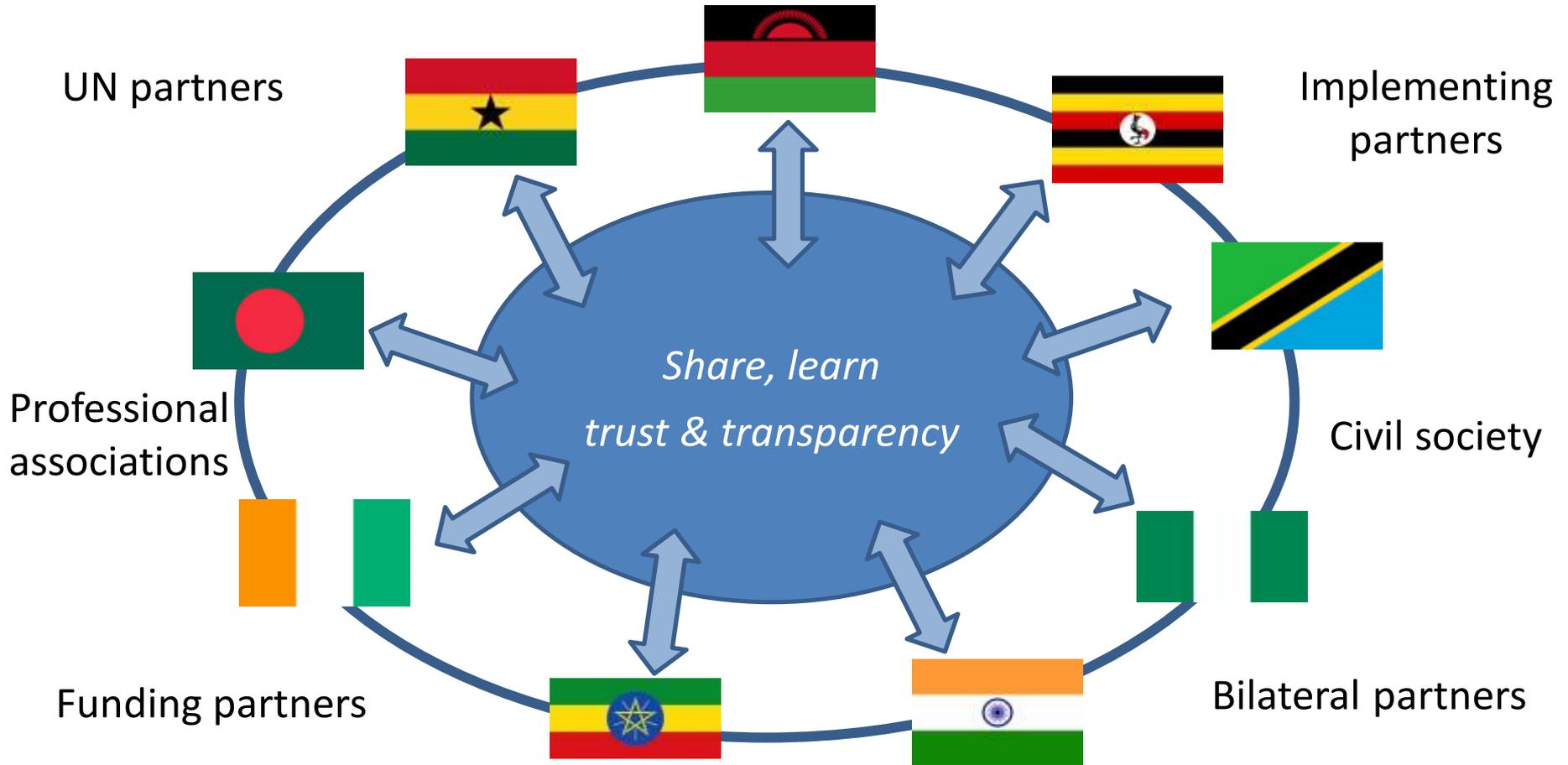


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# Countries and Partners





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# What are we aiming at?





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## Vision

- Every woman, newborn and child receives high quality care and their right to respect and dignity are protected

## Goal

- Reduce maternal and newborn deaths and stillbirths in participating health facilities in our respective countries by 50% over five years
- Improve experience of care – enable measureable improvement in user satisfaction with the care received





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# How will we achieve our goals?





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# Strategic objectives

- **LEADERSHIP:** Build and strengthen national institutions and mechanisms for improving quality of care in the health sector
- **ACTION:** Accelerate and sustain implementation of quality of care improvements for mothers and newborns
- **LEARNING:** Facilitate learning, share knowledge and generate evidence on quality of care
- **ACCOUNTABILITY:** Develop, strengthen and sustain institutions and accountability mechanisms for quality of care





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# Network Framework

Vision

Every mother and newborn receives quality care throughout pregnancy, childbirth and postnatal period

Values

Quality, equity and dignity

Measure of success

Halving maternal and newborn deaths in health facilities in five years

Strategic objectives

**1** To build and strengthen national institutions and mechanisms for improving QoC in the health sector

**2** To accelerate and sustain implementation of QoC improvements for mothers and newborns

**3** To facilitate learning, share knowledge and generate evidence on QoC

**4** To develop, strengthen, and sustain institutions and mechanisms for accountability on QoC

Outputs

- National governance structure for QoC is established and functioning
- National operational plan for improving QoC in MNH services is developed, funded, monitored and regularly reviewed
- National advocacy and mobilization agenda for QoC is developed and implemented

- WHO evidence-based standards of care for mothers and newborns are developed and adapted
- National package of improvement interventions is developed, adapted and implemented
- Clinical and managerial capabilities to support implementation of interventions are developed, strengthened, and sustained

- Mechanism to share knowledge and support a learning network are developed and strengthened
- Data systems for QoC improvement are developed, strengthened and used
- Data and practice are analysed and synthesized to generate evidence-base on QoC improvement

- National framework and mechanisms for accountability on QoC are established and functioning
- Monitoring and reporting framework for the programme is developed and implemented
- Impact of the global initiative on MNH quality of care is evaluated

Implementation principles

Accountability, scalability, sustainability and participation

Implementation

Government-led strategies, plans and implementation

WHO

Implementing partners

Professional associations

Academia

Civil societies

Donors

Network management support (WHO)



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# How can we support ...

- Learning systems at national, district and facility levels
- Capability building for quality improvement
- Monitoring
- Building the evidence on what works, when, where and how





# We have a number of tools

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- Standards
- Evidence of implementation interventions
- Implementation guidance
- Monitoring framework
- A learning network to harvest, share and create knowledge

**[www.qualityofcarenetwork.org](http://www.qualityofcarenetwork.org)**





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The Network for Improving Quality of Care for Maternal, Newborn and Child Health works to ensure that every pregnant woman and newborn receives good quality care throughout pregnancy, childbirth and the postnatal period.

[READ MORE](#) →



Knowledge Resources



Communities of Practice



Country Data



## The Network



While the rate of skilled care during childbirth has increased from 58% in 1990 to 73% in 2013, mostly due to increases in facility-based births, giving birth in a health facility does not equate with a safe birth. The World Health Organisation (WHO) estimates that 303,000 mothers and 2.7 million newborn infants die annually around the time of childbirth, and many more are affected by preventable illness.

WHO and UNICEF are launching a Network for Improving Quality of Care for Maternal, Newborn and Child Health (Quality of Care Network).

The vision of the Quality of Care Network is that every pregnant woman, newborn and child receives good quality care in health services, with the ambitious goal to **halve maternal and newborn deaths and stillbirths in health facilities within five years** in the

### The Network

[Vision and Objectives](#)

[Participating Countries](#)

[Partner Organizations](#)

[Working Groups](#)

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## Quality of Care

*The extent to which health care services provided to individuals and patient populations improve desired health outcomes. (WHO)*

In order to achieve this, health care needs to be safe, effective, timely, efficient, equitable, and people-centred. Quality of care is a key component of the right to health, and the route to equity and dignity for women and children.

In 2016 WHO published [standards for improving the quality of maternal and newborn care in health facilities](#). The standards place people at the centre of the care by improving both the provision of health care, as well as patients' experience of health care, and are a critical part of strengthening health systems and moving towards Universal Health Coverage.

Quality *provision of care* for pregnant women and newborns in health facilities requires competent and motivated health professionals, as well as resources such as clean water, essential medicines, equipment and supplies. In addition, evidence-based practices for routine and emergency care rely on

### Key Resources:



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Documents can be searched by topic, type, year of publication, or by using the search box

## Topics

- Clinical Care
- Health Information Systems
- Referral
- Communication
- Respect and Dignity
- Emotional Support
- Health Personnel
- Infrastructure and Supply

## Type of Document

- Guidelines
- Training
- Practical job aids
- Assessments
- Field documents on implementation
- Country Cases
- Strategic planning documents
- Research Articles

## Search

## Year Category

- > 2015
- 2011 - 2015
- < 2011

## Language

- English
- French



*A community of health practitioners from around the world co-developing and sharing their know-how, ideas and challenges on quality of care improvement.*

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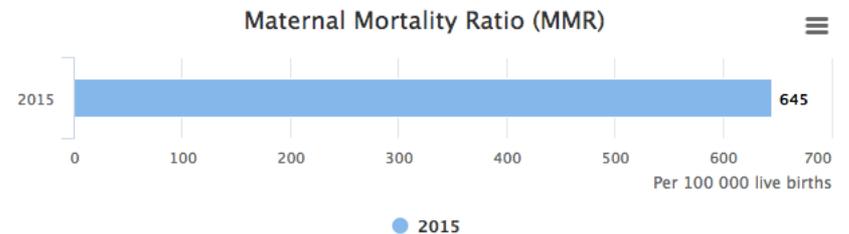
## Côte d'Ivoire : Readiness for Quality of Care Implementation

### Demographics\*

Population		23 844 228
Fertility rate per woman		4.9
Total maternal deaths in 2015		5,300
Neonatal Mortality Rate		38 per 1,000 live births
Stillbirth rate		26.7 per 1,000 births



### Côte d'Ivoire





# What success will look like

## Country and implementation perspective

- **Quality of care institutionalized** in health sector policies plans and actions at national, district and facility levels
- **Effective change packages identified** for different contexts and scaled up nation-wide
- **Broad-based multi-stakeholder partnership functional** in support of the national quality strategy and plans
- **Evidence of improvements** in care practices and client satisfaction with care leading to reduced mortality and better health outcomes available

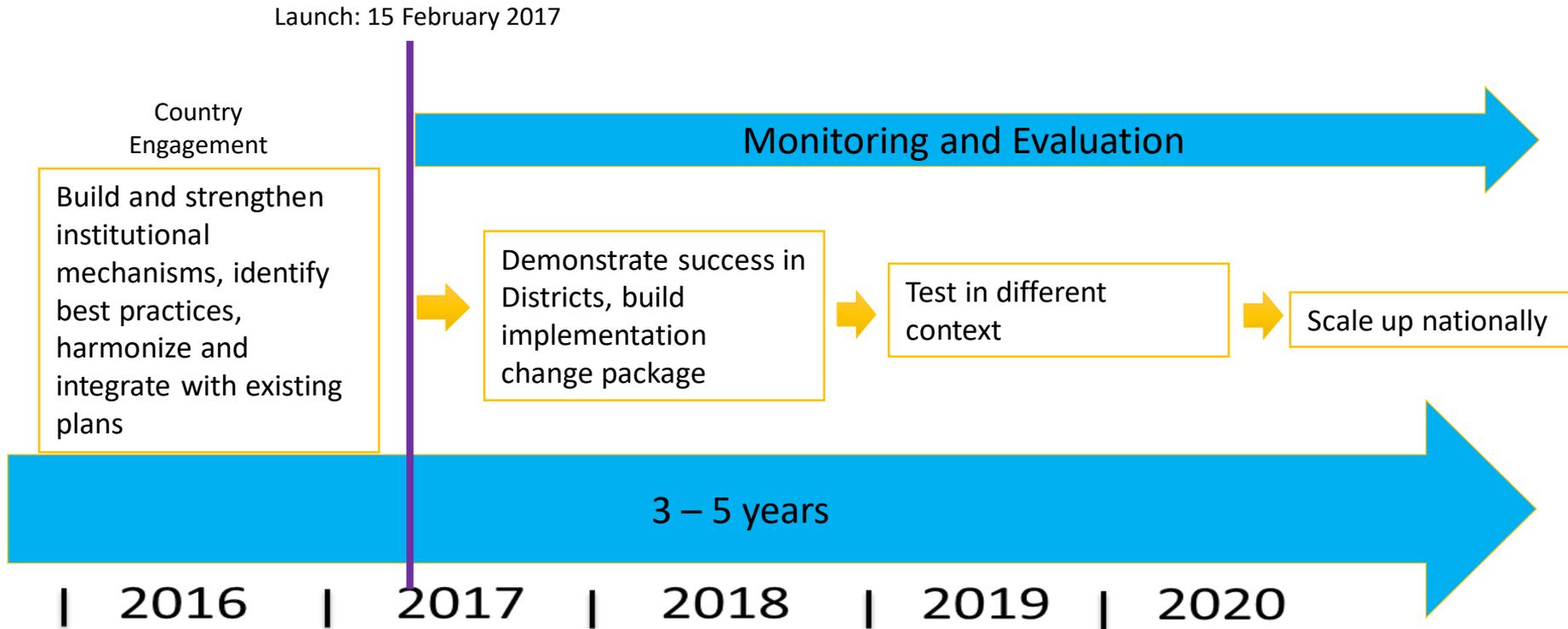
## Network and partnership perspective

- **The network for Quality, Equity and Dignity expanded** engaging more countries and more partners and covering the continuum of care for women, children and adolescents
- **Knowledge enhanced** of effective, scalable and sustainable approaches to improve quality of care
- **Progress towards the goals and targets** of the network documented through rigorous evaluation in selected countries





# Timeline for implementation



Solutions that are  
**Effective, Scalable and Sustainable**





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