

USAID's Support to Global Health Research and Development Webinar Series:
Health Systems and Maternal and Child Health



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Health Research Program

**SAVING LIVES
THROUGH
REAL-WORLD
RESEARCH**



Research & Policy Division
Office of Maternal and Child Health and Nutrition
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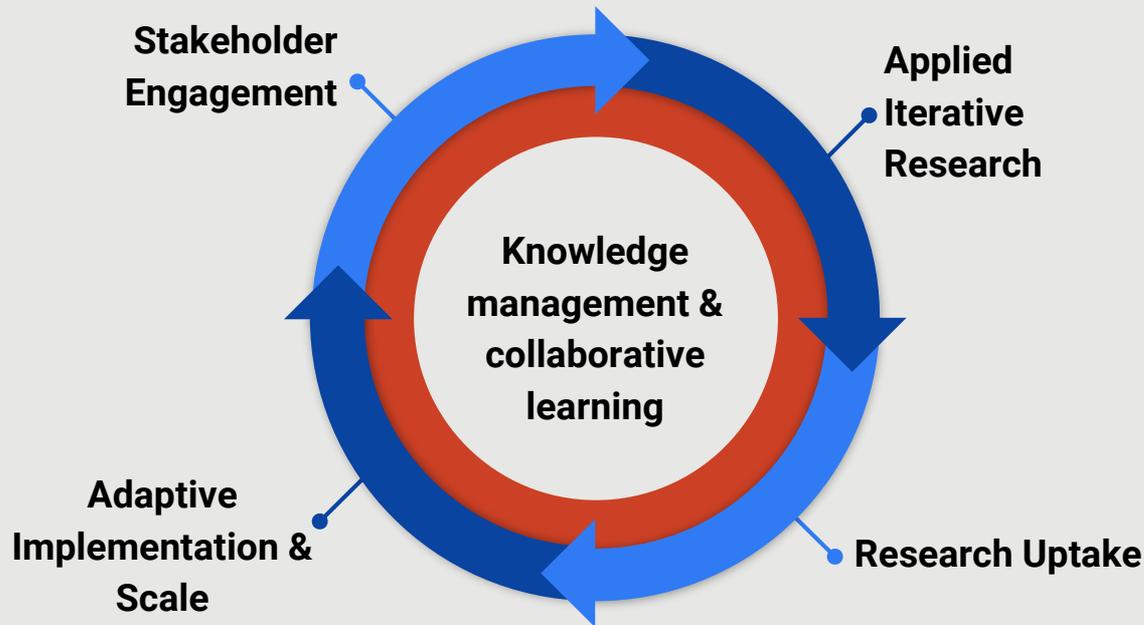
Presentation Overview

- What is the **Health Research Program**?
- Applying co-design approaches to accelerate research to use process
- Current and emerging priorities:
 - Newborn and young infant health
 - Illness recognition and care-seeking
 - Urban health



Health Research Program Mission

The Health Research Program supports and promotes **implementation research** as a means of accelerating the **research-to-use process** and facilitating the introduction, uptake and scale-up of new or adapted **health interventions**.



The Promise of Implementation Research

Statement on Advancing Implementation Research and Delivery Science

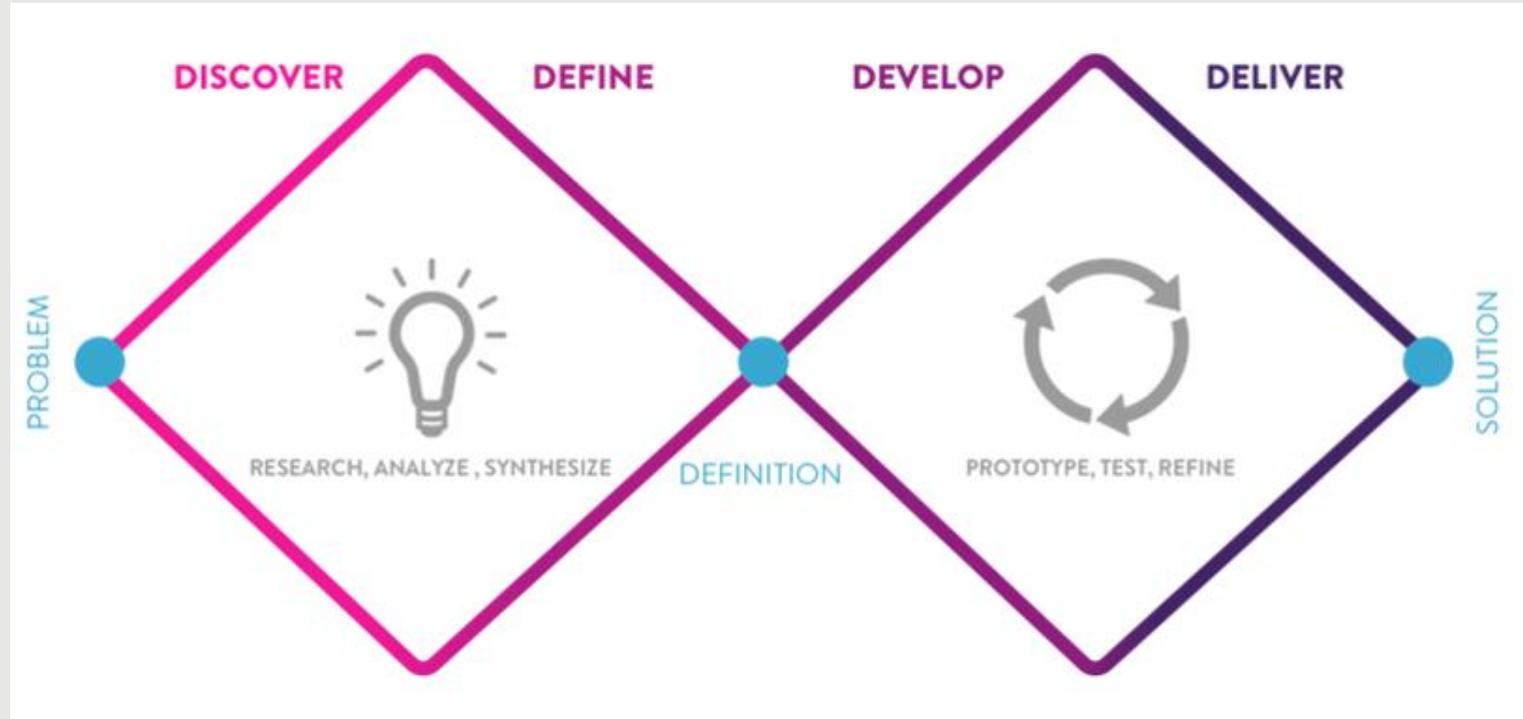
- Informs policy-makers, managers, the public, researchers, funders and other users on practical matters
- Builds capacity, ownership and accountability
- Strengthens problem-solving and learning
- Contributes to improved coverage, quality, efficiency and effectiveness of health interventions



“Many interventions found to be effective in health service research studies fail to translate into meaningful patient care outcomes across multiple contexts. In fact, some estimates indicate that two-thirds of organizations' efforts to implement change fail.”

Damschroder LJ et al. *Implement Sci* 2009; 4:50

Advancing Sustainable Solutions Through Co-design



Priority: Improved Management of Newborn Sepsis

Problem:

- Possible serious bacterial infections (PSBI), or sepsis, – a known killer of newborns – accounts for 23 % of newborn deaths in LMICs
- Hospitalization may not be possible for 80-90% of newborns with PSBI

Reasons:

- Hospital not available/accessible
- Family cannot accept hospitalization



Timeline for Improved Management of Newborn and Young Infant Sepsis



Launch

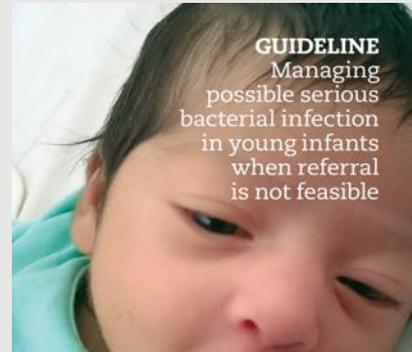
HRP and partners launch review of evidence on home-based therapies

Clinical trials

A series of coordinated clinical trials were conducted in Africa (DR Congo, Kenya, Nigeria) and Asia (Pakistan, Bangladesh)

Result Dissemination

WHO updated guidelines and operational manual



GUIDELINE
Managing possible serious bacterial infection in young infants when referral is not feasible

Implementation

Kenya - PSBI BAA

Ponya Mtoto Project: Scaling up PSBI Guidelines in Kenya

Aim: To reduce deaths of young infants from PSBI with revised national IMCI guidelines

Regional focus: Bungoma, Turkana, Kilifi, Mombasa - mix of rural and urban Kenyan regions with newborn mortality rates higher than national average

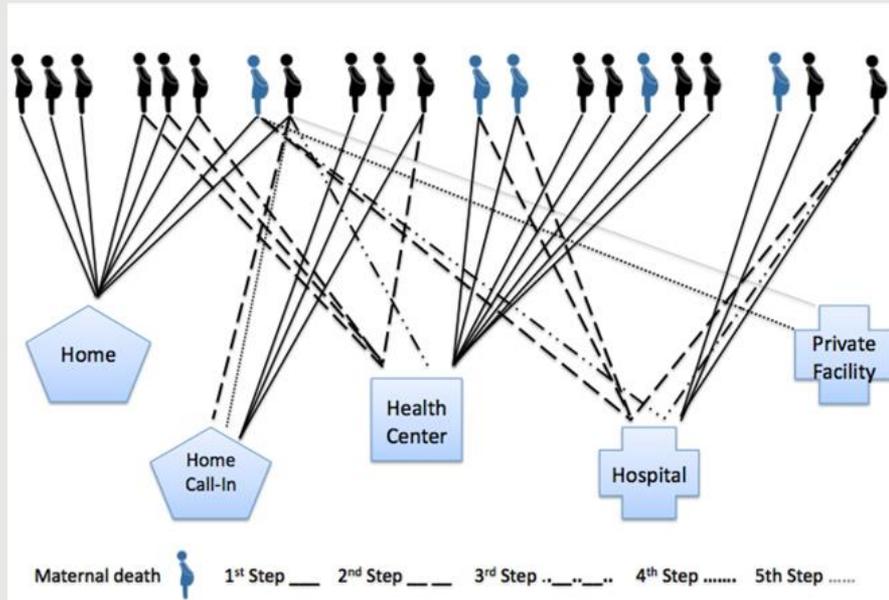
Activities focused on advancing implementation science and scale up of PSBI management:

- Engage county/national stakeholders and promote continuous communication
- Utilize existing structures to share research findings and implement activities
- Priority setting led by county teams with participation from local families, community, and health workers to identify contextual factors, potential roadblocks, and champions/opportunities
- Joint coordination and process documentation

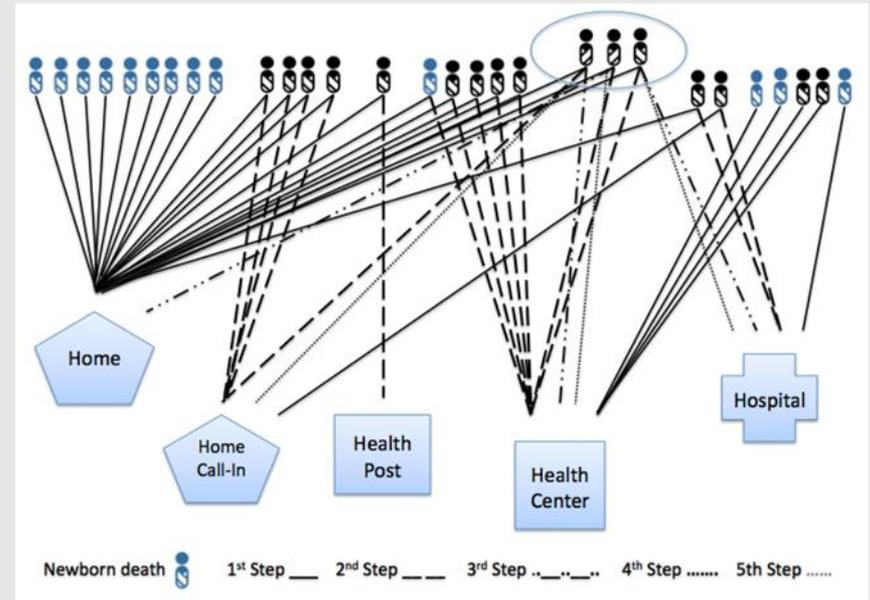
Priority: Improved and timely care-seeking for MCH services

Patterns of Care-Seeking in Ethiopia

Maternal cases

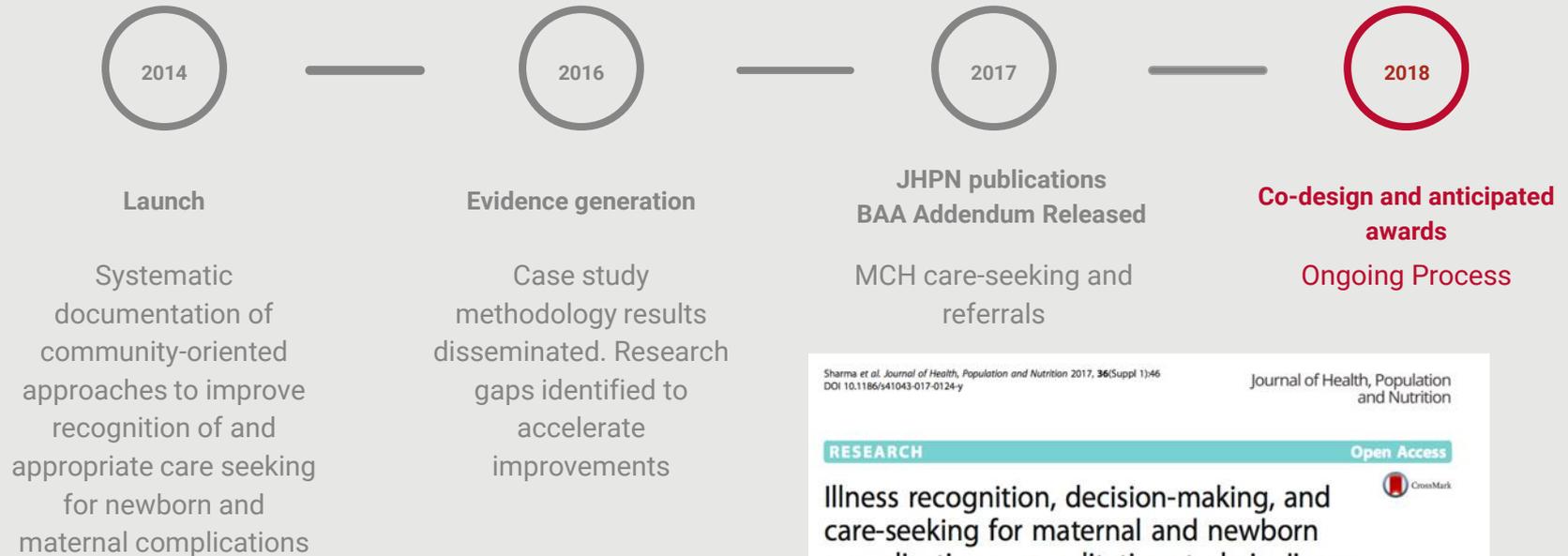


Newborn cases



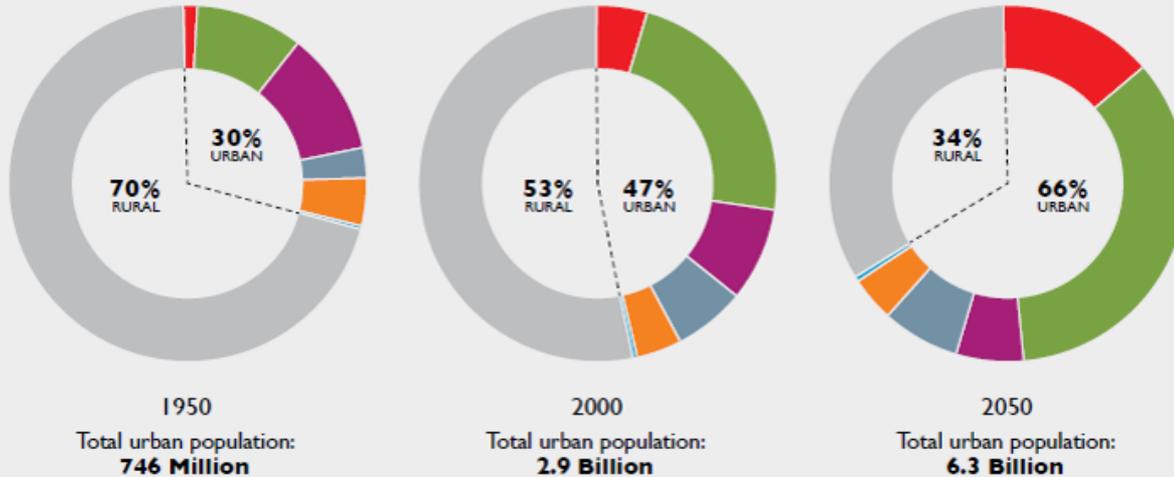
Source: Presentation by TRAcTION, Summary of Preliminary Findings, 18 November 2015

Timeline for Illness Recognition and Care-Seeking



Emerging Priority: Urban Health

Urbanization trends 1950-2050, with urban population by region



In 2014 - **54%** of the population was living in **urban** areas

By **2050** - **More than 66%** of the population will live in **urban** areas

Data source: United Nations, Department of Economic and Social Affairs, Population Division.
World Urbanization Prospects: The 2014 Revision (New York: 2014)

URBAN POPULATION, BY REGION:

- Africa
- Asia
- Europe
- Latin America and the Caribbean
- Northern America
- Oceania

SAVING LIVES THROUGH REAL-WORLD RESEARCH



The Health Research Program supports real-world research and translates findings into effective health interventions that can be adapted globally.

Office of Health Systems



Health Systems Research Defined

What is it and why do we measure it?

- Any method of study analyzing the impact of health policies and practices have on system performance and the impact system performance has on health outcomes.

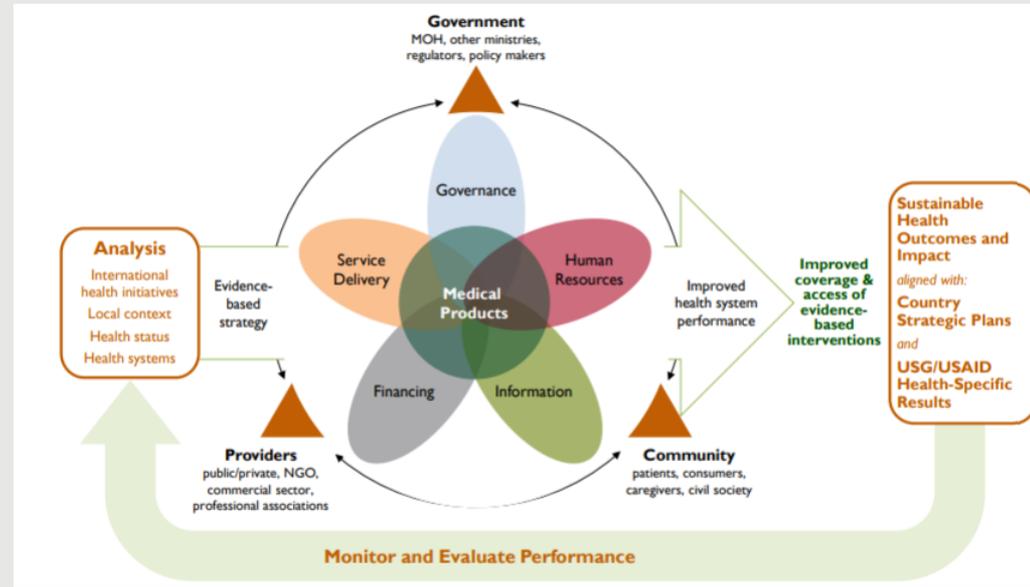


OHS Research Goal 1: Research to
measure progress and trace health
impacts of health systems strengthening
interventions



Pharmaceutical Systems Strengthening (PSS): What gets defined gets measured

- PSS: Identifying and implementing strategies and action to achieve coordinated and sustainable improvements in critical components of a pharmaceutical system to make it more responsive and resilient and to enhance its performance for achieving better health outcomes
- **PSS Insight Tool:** An online data management tool to measure PSS and performance across countries over time and enable countries to identify priority areas for investment
- Piloted 182 indicators in Namibia and Bangladesh



SIAPS PSS Framework

<http://siapsprogram.org/publication/altview/toward-building-resilient-pharmaceutical-systems-siaps-final-report/english/>

PSS Insight Tool Applied: Kenya

Aim: Measure the economic cost of non-adherence to TB medicines due to loss of follow-up and stock outs

Results:

- Estimated 7,000 lives saved
- Prevented the development of 1,000+ drug-resistant TB
- Prevented more than 400 new infections

Economic benefits: \$113M saved



OHS Goal 2: Research to identify effective interventions that integrate two or more HSS functions



Quality Improvement Research

Impact of health worker engagement on Service Delivery in Tanzania

- Aim: Identify factors that influence health worker engagement and its impact on service delivery
 - Four factors of engagement: job satisfaction, accountability, delivering quality care and being a team player
- Results: All four characteristics of engagement were associated with improved HIV care and outcomes

Improving CHW performance and productivity in Swaziland and Uganda

- Aim: Identify factors that increase CHW productivity and performance
 - Key factors for performance included increased salaries, confidentiality, training and access to supplies
- Results: No covariates were identified as significantly associated with both productivity and performance

Q&A

Please submit your questions in the chat box on the screen to the right.

Any questions not addressed during the session can be submitted to info@ghpod.com and will be answered by email.

