

BRI-2013- ITEM4

PMNCH 2014 Workplan: Draft outline for discussion

Summary:

The Partnership's Board requested in approving the Strategic Framework 2012-15, that an updated workplan would be prepared every year to reflect any necessary adjustments. Building on the achievements and work related to the 2013 workplan, the PMNCH 2014 workplan will focus its activities in the following four outcomes:

- Outcome 1: Accelerate progress towards MDGs 4 and 5, and other relevant MDGs
- Outcome 2: Women's and children's health in post-2015 development agenda
- Outcome 3: Improve accountability for women's and children's health
- Outcome 4: Strengthen partnership alignment

Across these four outcomes, six priority areas of focus will be pursued in 2014, as follows:

1. Prioritize parts of the continuum of care that require more focus
2. Improve coverage of essential RMNCH interventions
3. Influence Sustainable Development Goal development process
4. Learn lessons from the MDGs for the post-2015 era – Success Factors
5. Track Every Woman Every Child commitments
6. Hold the 2014 Partners' Forum

Two scenarios of budget are considered. The first reflects the budget required for PMNCH to deliver on its priorities, which is around US\$ 12.5m. The second reflects the budget required to scale up action, which is around US\$ 14m. Activities that have reached maturity in 2013 will be transitioned from the Partnership and scaled up through joint action with specific partners in the lead.

Action required from the Board: For discussion and approval

The PMNCH 2014 Workplan outline is provided to the Board for discussion and approval. Once this outline is approved, and based on it, a detailed Workplan will be developed and shared with the Board in early 2014 for approval.

Introduction and purpose

As the year 2015 draws closer, PMNCH will continue helping shape the future of women and children around the world. The 2014 workplan offers the opportunity for the Board to guide these efforts by prioritizing the areas to pursue, including support for new projects needed based on gap assessments, support for on-going projects, and assessing fertile grounds where mature initiatives can yield more effective results.

This document provides the first draft outline of the PMNCH 2014 workplan. The purpose of this document is to inform the Board's discussion. In doing so, the Board is asked to equally:

- consider areas of work that **should be undertaken** within this particular Partnership focusing on tangible outputs and outcomes; and
- identify those areas of work that the **Partnership should not engage in**, given the available time and resources and the strengths of PMNCH.

The rest of the document provides a brief context, describes criteria used to propose areas of work, and sets out the proposed approach to implementing the 2014 workplan. Table 1 provides the outline of the workplan.

This document was completed after collecting inputs from partners. The Executive Committee will discuss it in its forthcoming meeting and their inputs will be incorporated accordingly.

Context: the Strategic Framework

This workplan has been developed in the context of the Partnership's Vision and Mission:

- **Vision:** The achievement of the MDGs, with women and children enabled to realize their right to the highest attainable standard of health in the years to 2015 and beyond.
- **Mission:** Support Partners to align their strategic directions and catalyse collective action to achieve universal access to comprehensive, high-quality reproductive, maternal, newborn and child health care.

In approving the Strategic Framework 2012-15, the Partnership's Board requested that every year an updated workplan be prepared to reflect any necessary adjustments. This 2014 workplan builds

on the developments that have taken place in 2013 in national, regional and global efforts to improve women's and children's health, as well as lessons learned related to last year's workplan implementation. A new strategic framework for possible Partnership activities in 2016-2019 will be discussed in due course and will benefit from the 2014 Partners Forum and the PMNCH evaluation.

Prioritization process

As evidenced in the 2013 Executive Director's Report, the year 2013 was characterised by an incredible breadth of activities across many thematic areas, geographic regions, and types of deliverables. In the year 2014, it will be essential for the Partnership change its way of working and build a workplan that is characterised by greater depth in a fewer, most value-adding, activities, which will take all of us closer to achieving MDGs 4 and 5, as well as other relevant MDGs, and ensuring women's and children's health is reflected in the post-2015 development agenda.

Based on the achievements of the 2013 workplan, the process of prioritising projects was based on a scoring of projects against criteria approved by the PMNCH Executive Committee as follows:

- Criterion 1: Potential for measurable contribution to the objectives agreed within the relevant PMNCH Results/ Logic Framework
- Criterion 2: Partner engagement and alignment
- Criterion 3: Working across the RMNCH Continuum of Care
- Criterion 4: Partner-centric implementation.

Workplan structure and terminology

As with the 2013 workplan, the three Partnership's Strategic Objectives (SOs)¹ and its Core Functions (CF) defined in the Partnerships' Strategic Framework 2012-15 will be integral to the new workplan. Building on the achievements and work related to the 2013 workplan, the 2014 workplan will be structured around the following four outcomes:

- Outcome 1: Accelerate progress towards MDGs 4 and 5, and other relevant MDGs
- Outcome 2: Promote accountability and results
- Outcome 3: Include women and children in the post-2015 development agenda
- Outcome 4: Strengthen Partnership engagement

For each of the four outcomes, a number of *outputs* have been identified that will contribute to the achievement of these outcomes. In turn, for each of the outputs, the workplan will identify a series of individual *activities and sub-activities* that have been resourced in a detailed bottom-up exercise. The workplan will be supplemented with working level, detailed logframes that will be developed for each of the outputs, and which will help in planning and monitoring the implementation of the individual activities and sub-activities, as well as for the workplan as a whole.

Workplan 2014: Shaping the future

This section presents the selected the focus areas of work emerging from the prioritization process described above which will be pursued in 2014 (Table I). Each of the four outcomes is related to specific areas of work and to groups of activities. Further sub-activities will be defined in the next iteration of this document.

¹ SO1: Broker knowledge and innovation for action; SO2: Advocate for mobilizing and aligning resources and for greater engagement; SO3: Promote accountability for resources and results.

Table 1. Focus areas of work in the 2014 workplan related to outcomes and activity groups

Outcomes	Priority areas of focus	Example activities
Accelerate progress towards MDGs 4 and 5, and other relevant MDGs	1) Prioritize parts of the continuum of care that require more focus	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Provide advocacy support for the Every Newborn Action Plan ▪ Support the development and implementation of an adolescent strategy (Scenario 2 only)
	2) Improve coverage of essential RMNCH interventions	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Promote the Global Investment Framework ▪ Multi-stakeholder dialogue and alignment in support of country-led RMNCH plans (e.g., ASAP UP)
Women's and children's health in post-2015 development agenda	3) Influence the Sustainable Development Goal post 2015 process	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Managing post-2015 multi-stakeholder working group activities ▪ Development of knowledge and advocacy products ▪ Partner engagement with processes and events post 2015 events
	4) Learn lessons from the MDGs for the post-2015 era	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Conduct country policy analyses and multi-stakeholder consultations (Success Factors study)
Improve accountability for women's and children's health	5) Track Every Woman Every Child commitments	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Reporting on the implementation of multi-stakeholder commitments and linkages with related accountability mechanisms (Scenario 2 only)
Strengthen partner alignment	6) Hold the 2014 Partners' Forum, co-hosted with iERG, A Promise Renewed, and CD 2015.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Hold forum event (30 June-1 July), develop related publications, and follow up activities

Each activity group in the table has a multi-constituency partner advisory and working groups which will be steering the activities. Log frameworks will be provided with details on the sub-activities. The Executive Committee will oversee the activities across outcomes.

Given the level of ambition for PMNCH in 2014, the secretariat request the support of the Board in focusing on these major deliverables and in understanding that inputs into other routine activities will be selective.

Workplan budget scenarios and staffing implications

The Partnership goes into 2014 with around US\$ 11m funding available for its workplan. Despite realities in global funding, assuming that the Board wishes to continue with a similar overall budget level for 2013, the budget to be reached in 2014 would be around US\$ 14m. This means that there would be a funding gap of around US\$ 3m which needs to be raised in 2014. The minimum budget estimated to deliver this workplan would be around US\$ 12.5m, but without being able to deliver the PMNCH 2014 Report on Commitments to the Global Strategy and some sub-activities of those outputs that remain,

Two possible budget scenarios for the achievement of the workplan are therefore considered, as summarised in Table 2.2 below.² The first scenario is based on the funding of US\$ 12.5m and the other, containing those activities that are currently not funded, based on a limit to the budget of around US\$ 14m. In particular, these scenarios include:

- **Scenario 1** reflects the budget required for PMNCH to deliver on its priorities for the workplan, including five of the six main priority areas of focus of the 2014 workplan (less the majority of work on accountability), and with ongoing activities required to maintain the Partnership's service to partners. Activities with great potential to leverage additional impact will be pursued but not fully led or funded. Under this scenario it will not be possible to carry out the 2014 Report on Commitments. It is suggested that the Executive Committee and any constituency meeting meetings are planned for every two months (as opposed to every month), whilst giving members the opportunity to call a meeting more frequently if it is required. The Board is also asked to consider whether having one face to face Board meeting a year is sufficient, with a virtual meeting in between times (as needed), given the maturity of Partnership's operations. The total proposed budget for this Scenario 1 is estimated at around US\$ 12.5m.
- **Scenario 2** includes a higher budget, which is required for PMNCH to scale up action, with work included for all activities in the workplan presented (although the proposed reduction in the number of EC and constituency meetings remains). It will support a higher level of activity funding for the six priority focus areas noted above as well as modest funding for emerging strategies (e.g. adolescent strategy, human rights and linkages with accountability, etc.), including ongoing activities required to maintain the Partnership's service to partners. These additional areas of work are significant, with relevant budgetary and staffing implications. The total proposed budget for this Scenario is estimated at US\$ 14m.

In both Scenarios, the Partnership is assuming that advocacy and secretariat related Countdown activities will continue to be an integral part of the PMNCH workplan, at around US\$ 2.1m. This

² Please note that the budgets presented include any additional staff required at the Secretariat, which may be temporary or fixed, as may be appropriate.

reflects a proposition that even when the Partnership is not fully funded (in Scenario I), the funding for Countdown to 2015 activities is protected at historic levels.

Board decision and next steps

The Board is invited to review the initial plans for the 2014 workplan presented in this note. In terms of the next steps:

- Board discusses and approves/ amends the proposed 2014 Workplan.
- With oversight from the EC, the Secretariat develops a more detailed version of the workplan based on the approved outline, including identification of sub-activities and budgets.
- The Board will be invited to review and approve, through no objection, detailed 2014 workplan as recommended for approval by the EC in due course.