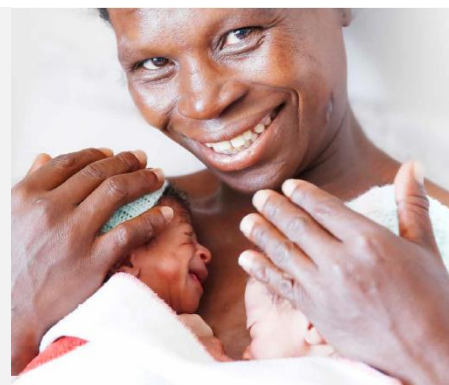


Every Newborn Action Plan (ENAP) & Ending Preventable Maternal Mortality (EPMM) Metrics Working Group

Expression of interest for new co-Chair of the ENAP EPMM Metrics Group
July 2024



The ENAP-EPMM metrics group is a global platform for technical exchanges on maternal and newborn health (MNH) measurement guidance, research, and technical support to countries. The group aims to enable collaboration and effective communication with relevant global, regional, and national partners to support improved monitoring of MNH programmes in countries and MNH measurement through routine information systems.

Context

Annually, 287 000 women die in pregnancy or childbirth, 4.9 million children die of largely preventable causes before their fifth birthday, and there are 1.9 million stillbirths. Progress in reducing all these deaths has stalled since 2016. At current rates of progress, more than 4 out of 5 countries are likely to fall short on the Sustainable Development Goals' maternal mortality targets; 64 countries for newborn mortality; and 59 countries for under-five child mortality. Current rates of decline in maternal mortality would need to be accelerated nine times, and newborn and under-five mortality four times to achieve these targets.

Acceleration requires good and regular measures to address gaps. The SDGs include 17 targets, with only one goal (SDG3) focused on health, and hence an imperative for joined up metrics systems and joined up innovation. This shift to integration is especially important for maternal and newborn health, and stillbirths, where the time and place and data collections overlap, as well as many of the indicators. The Global Strategy for Women's, Children's, and Adolescent's Health 2016-2030 includes targets to end maternal and newborn deaths and prevent stillbirths. Measuring programmatic content and quality of care around the time of birth and for small and sick newborns was highlighted as a major metrics gap and is underlined by ENAP-EPMM.

In 2021, the ENAP-EPMM 2025 coverage targets were defined for global, national, and subnational levels to support accelerate progress in MNH. These include: (1) At least four antenatal care (ANC) contacts, (2) Skilled health personnel attending every birth, (3) Postnatal care (PNC) within two days and (4a) Care for both small and sick newborns (4b) Access to Emergency Obstetric Care (EmOC) health facilities within two hours of travel time, and (5) Women are informed and empowered to make decisions regarding sexual relations, contraceptive use, and reproductive health care.¹

At the 77th World Health Assembly (WHA) in May 2024, Member States approved a new resolution on accelerating progress towards reducing maternal, newborn and child mortality in order to achieve Sustainable Development Goal targets 3.1 and 3.2.² This new resolution commits to tackling the leading causes of maternal, newborn and child deaths, especially in the worst affected countries.

The resolution emphasized that health systems must be enabled to deliver quality, safe and effective care, through well-stocked facilities, well-trained and motivated health workers, and safe water and sanitation. The resolution also stresses the need for comprehensive sexual and reproductive health care services, including family planning, that underpin women's health. Member States have committed to report back on this resolution every two years.

Objectives of the ENAP-EPMM Metrics Group

1. Provide a collaborative platform linking with other MNH measurement groups to communicate and discuss the ENAP EPMM coverage targets, quality of care measures and measurement implications for the milestones
2. In collaboration with the ENAP EPMM Country Implementation Group (CIG), provide technical advice and inputs on MNH measurement to monitor the implementation of MNH acceleration plans and progress towards ENAP EPMM targets (including the review of the ENAP EPMM Tracking tool and analysis of results)
3. Mobilize partners and enable technical support for countries for MNH monitoring and measurement linked to the MNH acceleration plans
4. Lead a collaborative process to review ENAP EPMM targets 2020-2026 and milestones and consider revisions if required
5. Coordinate with other ENAP-EPMM groups (including advocacy group) to support communication and dissemination related to MNH progress and measurement.

Composition of the ENAP EPMM Metrics Group

The ENAP-EPMM Metrics Group has been co-led by the World Health Organization (WHO) and the London School for Hygiene and Tropical Medicine (LSHTM). Group meetings include representatives from global, regional, and country offices for WHO, United Nations Children's Fund (UNICEF), United Nations Population Fund (UNFPA), and implementing partners, donors, academics, professional associations.

Expression of interest for new co-Chair

The ENAP-EPMM Metrics group is to be co-chaired by WHO, UNICEF and by an academic institution on a two-year rotation basis. LSHTM will end its rotation by the end of December 2024 and the group is looking for a new academic institution to co-chair the ENAP-EPMM Metrics Group with WHO and UNICEF from October 2024, with the following requirements:

- Based in a low or lower-middle income country
- Strong track publication record in maternal and newborn health measurement
- Applied research skills and deep understanding of routine data systems
- Desirable - expertise in maternal, neonatal and stillbirth metrics and coverage indicators.

Expression of interest should be sent to the ENAP EPMM Secretariat through the following email address (enapepmm@gmail.com) by 1 August 2024 (5pm CET) with the Subject – 'ENAP EPMM Metrics co-chair' and the following documents attached:

- Brief motivation statement
- Description of expertise and past and current involvement in MNH programmatic and/or measurement working groups/initiatives
- Publication records
- Name and CV of the proposed co-chair.

The position of co-Chair of the ENAP EPMM Metrics group is on volunteer basis (no paid benefits) and requires investing time (10% full time equivalent) for technical leadership, input to ENAP/EPMM metrics group and ENAP/EPMM management group meetings. The participation of the co-Chair to relevant in-person meetings of the ENAP EPMM will be covered (flight and daily subsistence allowance according to the UN System scale).

References

¹ World Health Organization (2023) Improving maternal and newborn health and survival and reducing stillbirth: progress report 2022.

<https://www.who.int/publications/i/item/9789240073678>

² World Health Organization (2024) A77/A/CONF./5 Accelerate progress towards reducing maternal, newborn and child mortality in order to achieve Sustainable Development Goal targets 3.1 and 3.2

https://apps.who.int/gb/ebwha/pdf_files/WHA77/A77_ACONF5-en.pdf