Partnership for change

Promoting and protecting women's, children's and adolescents' health in a fragmented world

Executive Summary

PMNCH strategy 2026-2030

Hosted by the World Health Organization

The current crisis

Achieving the health and human rights of women, children and adolescents (WCA) is within reach. While progress has been uneven and at times stalled, the past decades have shown what is possible. Maternal and child mortality rates have plummeted *(1)*, access to reproductive healthcare has expanded, and the health and well-being of adolescents began to win the attention they deserve *(2)*.

Hard-won gains are now under threat *(3)*. Global promises for women's, children's, and adolescents' health and well-being (WCAHW) are not kept, with little or no accountability. The multilateral system and the global rules-based order are being undermined, while restrictive national laws limit access to essential health services such as contraceptives, vaccines and safe abortion *(4)*.

The global rise of anti-rights movements, authoritarian leadership, and shrinking civic space also reflects deep-rooted political, economic and social inequities that have gone unaddressed for far too long. Online proliferation of misinformation and disinformation is eroding trust in scientific evidence. Conflict *(5)*, the climate crises *(6)* and brutal cuts to global aid *(7)* have catastrophic consequences for women, children, and adolescents. Persisting inequality and discrimination hamper response and hinder progress.

In a world of crises, partnerships and coalitions are more important than ever to drive collective action, protect progress and resist regression to WCAHW.

PMNCH 2026-20230 strategy for collaboration, creativity and courage

The Partnership for Maternal, Newborn & Child Health (PMNCH), the world's largest alliance for women's, children's, and adolescents' health and well-being, has a unique role to play. With a broad and diverse partnership across all regions, PMNCH has more than two decades of experience of bringing together champions for WCAHW, from grassroots to high-level partners, to collectively drive innovation, delivery and accountability.

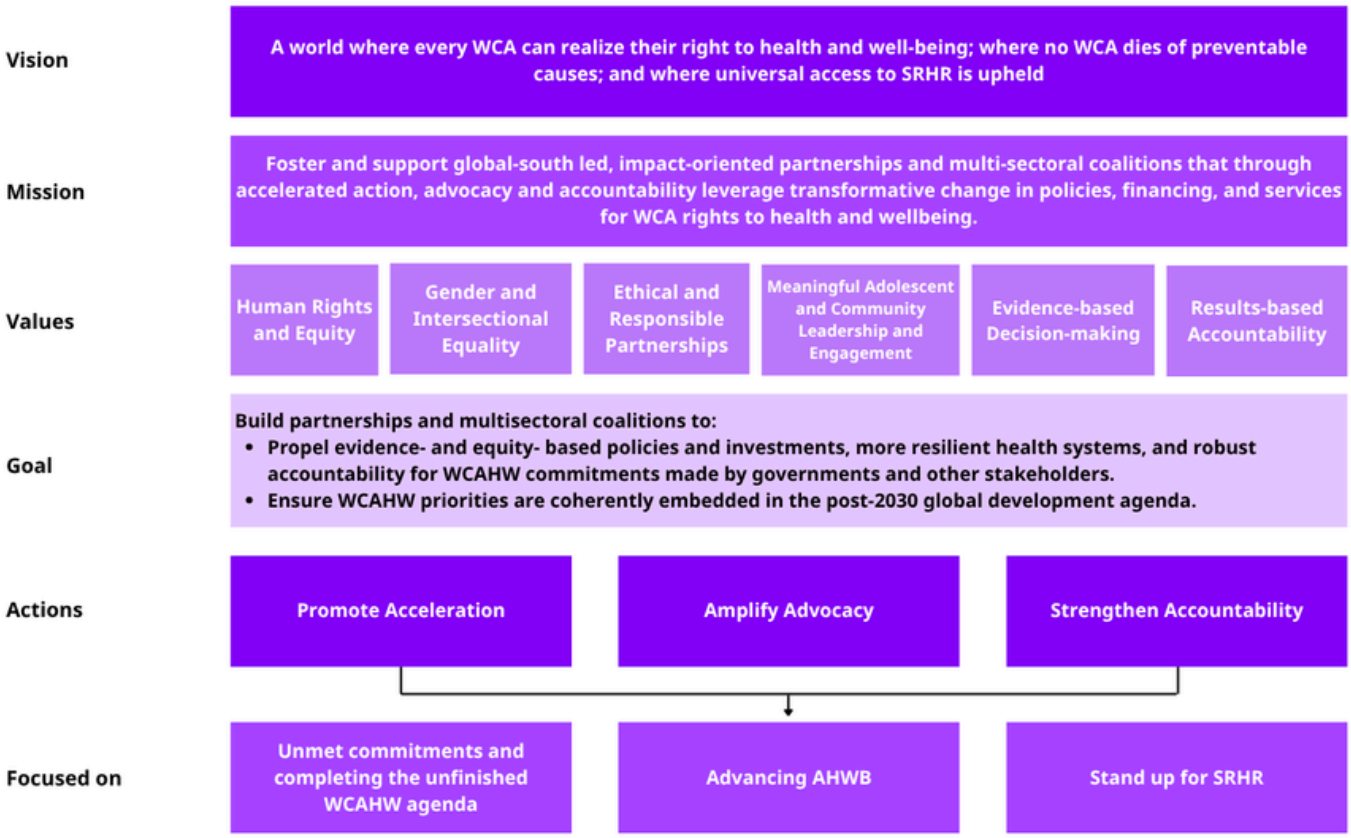
Guided by the **power of communities, equity, and universal human rights**, the PMNCH 2026-2030 strategy (Figure 1) is a blueprint to **promote acceleration, amplify advocacy, and strengthen accountability** to advance WCAHW through to 2030, while also laying the groundwork for robust commitments in the post-2030 development agenda. Our aim is to ensure:

- Sustainable delivery of unmet **WCAHW policy, financing and service delivery commitments.**
- Improvements to the **health and well-being of adolescents** meaningfully engaging them as actors with rights to shape their own lives.
- Realization of **sexual and reproductive health and rights** (SRHR).

Sector partnerships and broad multi-sectoral coalitions are our purpose, and they are at the heart of PMNCH's strategy with a focus on:

- Fostering stronger links between global, regional, and national actors to align priorities and harmonize actions.
- Serving as a hub for knowledge and innovation, providing stakeholders with cutting-edge research, evidence-based advocacy tools, and resources for capacity-building.
- Enhancing public accountability for commitments made, amplifying voices of historically underrepresented groups, including adolescents and advocates from the Global South.

Figure 1: Snapshot of PMNCH strategy 2026-2030



- Collaborating with multilateral organizations to enhance policy coherence, ensure alignment of funding priorities, and facilitate coordinated action at all levels.

To accelerate delivery and strengthen accountability, PMNCH will focus sharply on delivery of the promises to WCAHW that countries around the world have already made. Working specifically in partnership with countries in the Global South to leverage their growing role in shaping global health policy, investments, and decision-making, PMNCH will advance locally driven and contextually appropriate solutions. It will promote WCAHW-advancing innovations in digital health, medical science, and artificial intelligence (AI) which comes with risks, but also enormous potential for game-changing solutions.

To amplify advocacy, it will focus squarely on the power of social movements, specifically those championing gender equality and climate justice, and will promote the growing influence and leadership of young people.

In implementing its strategy, PMNCH will build on its successes, including the Global Leaders Network for Women's, Children's, and Adolescents' Health, the Global Forum for Adolescents, and the implementation of Collaborative Advocacy Action Plans across regions. It will deploy evidence-based research and knowledge tools such as the Adolescent Well-being Investment Case.

Grounded in commitment to its own accountability and impact, the PMNCH strategy is accompanied by a Monitoring, Evaluation, and Learning Framework, based on a Theory of Action. These will enable impartial tracking of progress in strategy implementation and learning and will guide decision-making by PMNCH and its partners. The strategy will also be accompanied by detailed biennium workplans, which will be developed based on inputs from different constituencies and approved by the Board,

to ensure adaptability and responsiveness to emerging situations, in accordance with the framework outlined in this strategy.

With collaboration at its core, the PMNCH will enable and amplify its global community of courageous champions for a world where every woman, child, and adolescent can realize their right to health and well-being; where no women, mother, newborn, child, or adolescent dies of preventable causes and where universal access to sexual and reproductive health and rights is upheld.

PMNCH 2026-2030 strategy in full can be found **here**.

PMNCH impact stories can be found **here**.

References

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