

Global Leaders Network Focal Point Meeting

Friday 20 March



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Welcome remarks

Rajat Khosla, Executive Director PMNCH



| Time | Segment |
|---------------|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| 8:00 – 8:30 | Registration |
| 08:30 – 08:45 | <p>Welcome remarks <i>Rajat Khosla, Executive Director PMNCH</i></p> <p>Opening remarks <i>Dr Lwazi Manzi, Head of Secretariat, South African Presidency</i></p> |
| 09:00 – 11:00 | <p>Presentation: How GLN is effectively advancing WCAH through UHC, financing, SRHR and political leadership <i>Chembe Kachimanga, Global Leaders Network TAG</i></p> <p>Tour de table & Plenary discussion: Reflections from GLN Focal Points on how GLN 2026 activities address the 4 areas of interest <i>Facilitated by Njoki Kimani, Global Leaders Network TAG; Dr Lynda Farma, Ministry of Health Sierra Leone (TBC)</i></p> |
| 11:00 - 11:30 | Break |
| 11:30 - 12:30 | <p>Presentation: Refining AU strategy for the GLN <i>Diana Nsubuga, Global Leaders Network TAG</i></p> <p>Tour de table & plenary discussion: Prioritization of opportunities for leveraging regional mechanisms and priorities . <i>Facilitated discussion by Diana & Dr. Teyah Sackie Moore, Assistant Minister for Curative Services, Ministry of Health Liberia</i></p> |
| 12:30 - 13:30 | Lunch |
| 13:30 - 14:30 | <p>PPP Health Accelerator: From Theory to Practice & Proposed Financial Diplomacy Series <i>Dr Lwazi Manzi, Head of Secretariat, South African Presidency</i></p> <p>Plenary discussion <i>facilitated by Njoki Kimani, Dr. Abera Bekele, Ministry of Health Ethiopia (TBC)</i></p> |
| 14:30 – 15:45 | <p>Better leveraging the GLN network: Plenary discussion on communications and technical support, recommendations on how the GLN provides support to members. <i>Presentation by Kadi Toure, PMNCH; Facilitated discussion by Keamogetswe Khoaripe, GLN</i></p> |
| 15:45 – 16:00 | Break |
| 16:00 - 17:00 | <p>Way forward and recap on 2026 priorities <i>Dr Lwazi Manzi</i></p> <p>Plenary discussion <i>review of advocacy roadmap</i></p> |
| 17:00 – 17:15 | Closing remarks <i>Rajat Khosla, Executive Director PMNCH</i> |



Our objectives today

- **Examine bottlenecks and strategic relevance across GLN commitment areas:** Identify the key bottlenecks hindering progress across the four GLN commitment areas, and review whether GLN's current 2026 activities are fit for purpose in addressing these challenges.
- **Recalibrate priorities and activities for 2026:** Identify concrete next steps and refine GLN's 2026 activities and priorities to ensure they respond directly to the barriers and country needs and emerging priorities identified across the four areas of work.
- **Strengthen political influence and use of the GLN platform:** Explore how the GLN can be more effectively leveraged to advance WCAH priorities, including through stronger engagement of Heads of State, champions, and strategic media opportunities.
- **Define practical measures to increase GLN effectiveness:** Agree on actionable ways to strengthen the Network's impact: including clearer roles for focal points, improved coordination, more targeted political engagement, and structured follow-up to ensure momentum beyond the meeting.

**By the end
of the day
we want
to
achieve:**

- A **refined GLN Advocacy Roadmap for 2026**, including key themes, milestones and priority advocacy moments at regional and global levels, linked to country priorities.
- **Practical recommendations** on how to leverage GLN leadership as champions through diplomacy, media engagement and political messaging.
- Identified **coordination mechanisms to strengthen engagement** across Ministries of Health, Finance, Presidencies, and Permanent Missions.



Opening Remarks

Dr Lwazi Manzi, Head of GLN Secretariat, South African Presidency



How GLN is effectively advancing WCAH through UHC, financing, SRHR and political leadership

Chembe Kachimanga, Global Leaders Network TAG

Plenary discussion facilitated by Njoki Kimani and Dr Lynda Farma, Ministry of Health Sierra Leone



WCAH in 2025: Critical Moment



260,000

Maternal deaths per year
(1 every 2 minutes)

4.9 Million

Under-five deaths annually

2.3 Million

Neonatal deaths

Among adolescent girls, maternal-related complications remain one of the leading causes of death globally

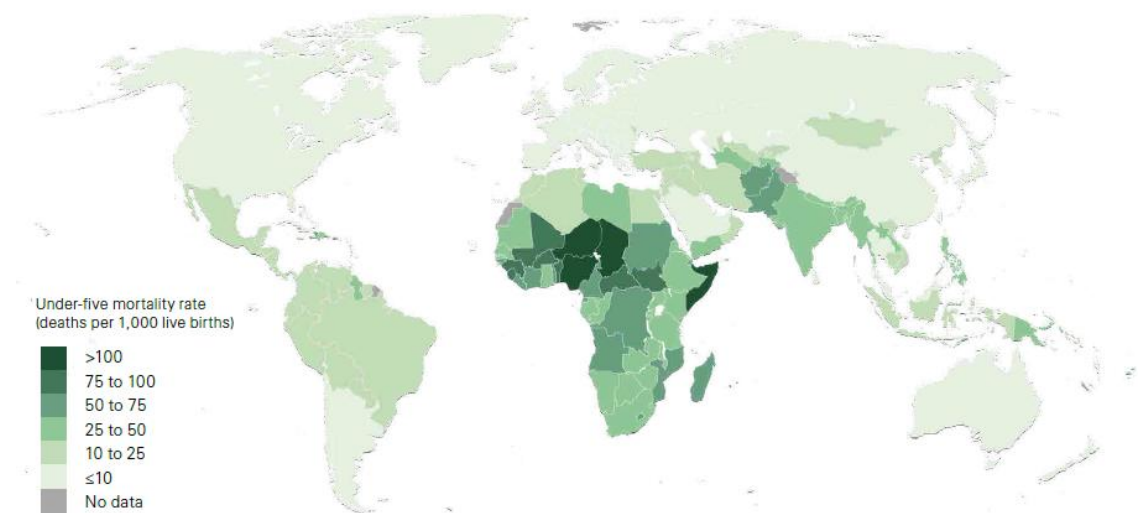
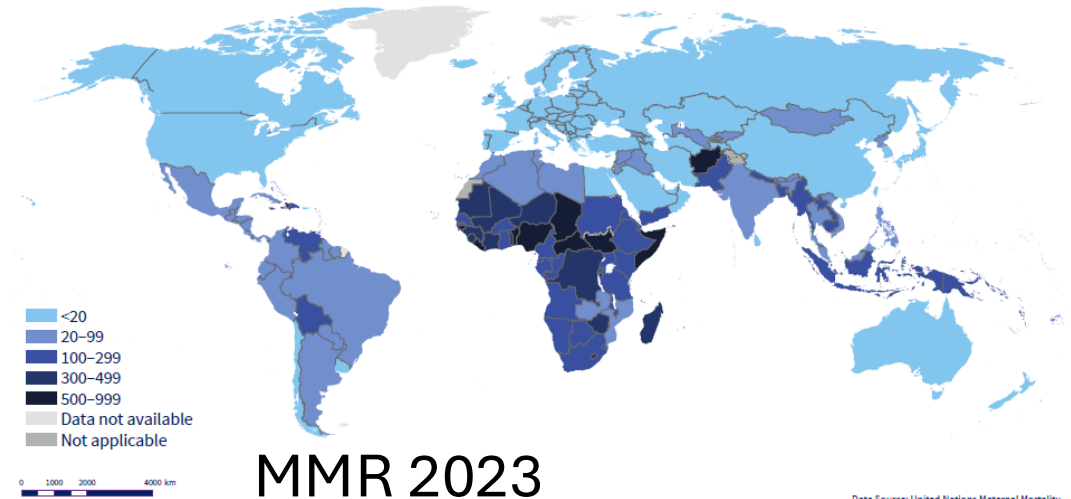
OFF TRACK FOR SDGs

60 countries – Under-five mortality

65 countries – Neonatal mortality

2.5 times higher than Target-MMR

Source: UNICEF. (2025). Levels & Trends in Child Mortality. United Nations Children's Fund; WHO. (2023). *Maternal Mortality Data*. World Health Organization.





Notable successes:

- Secured critical global commitments on WCAH
- GLN recognition at the G20
- Sustained momentum toward establishing WCAH as a standing global policy priority
- Launched the Domestic Resource Mobilization (DRM) webinar series and Advanced the Health Public–Private Partnership (PPP) Health Accelerator
- Strengthened peer-to-peer learning among member countries
- Increased visibility of the WCAH agenda through media engagement and strategic communications

• Questions for Reflection

- How did we achieve these successes?
- What did GLN do particularly well in advancing WCAH through UHC, financing, SRHR, and political leadership?
- Where did we face challenges or limitations?
- What lessons should guide the next phase of GLN's work?

Country Leadership Through GLN



Countries Set Priorities

- Direct input shaping GLN's advocacy and diplomacy agenda
- GLN members jointly reached a consensus on key diplomatic and advocacy areas (Durban Meeting, March 2025)
- Ongoing focal point meetings to track progress and maintain coordination

Countries Share Solutions

- Shared evidence, tools, and policy insights



DRM knowledge-sharing webinar series

- Focal points facilitated the webinars
- Endorsement and launch by Ministers
- Shared country experiences and policy lessons
- Invited non-GLN countries to contribute perspectives
- 5 of 6 planned webinars successfully delivered

“Alone we walk fast, together we walk farther.”

Country Leadership Through GLN



Countries Advocate Globally

- Countries elevated WCAH priorities in global forums
- Engagement at all levels (sometimes at the same time!!)
- Advocacy rooted in community voices and country experiences



“Alone we walk fast, together we walk farther.”

Country Leadership Through GLN

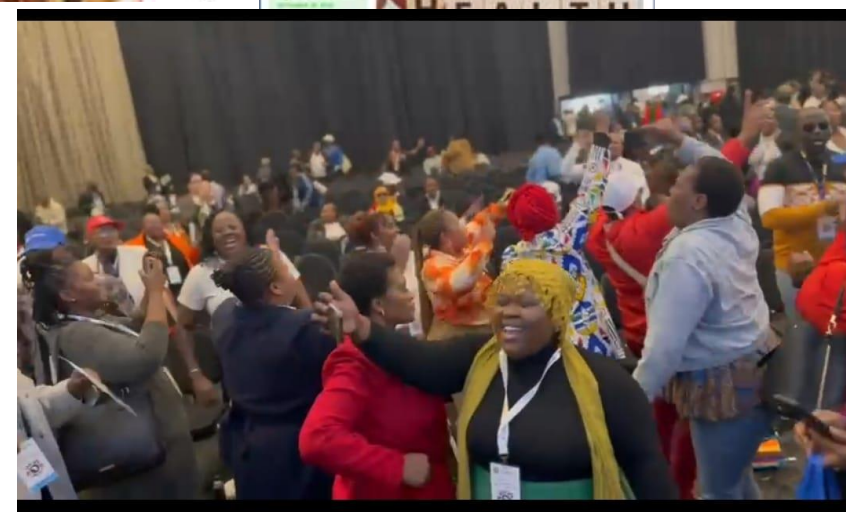
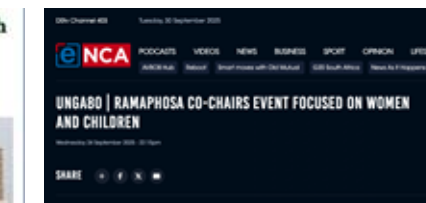


Countries Expand the Coalition

- Direct engagement and follow-up with after (and sometimes before) diplomatic outreach
- Senegal and Somalia joined the network

Countries Drive Collective Action

- Actively participated in high-level WCAH advocacy meetings
- Contributed technical expertise and policy insights
- Implementation of GLN initiatives, including knowledge exchange, policy dialogue, and advocacy efforts
- Amplify WCAH advocacy through strategic communications



“Alone we walk fast, together we walk farther.”

GLN country initiatives: Some examples



| UHC | Financing |
|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| <p>Integrating maternal and child health services into the Emergency Operations Centre, to help track and all pregnancies through the life course leveraging on digital tools-Sierra Leone</p> | <p>“We are establishing a health fund so that all the money collected from taxes goes directly to health.” Malawi</p> |
| <p>Significantly reduced MMR through healthcare worker training, neonatal care, Universal Health Coverage (UHC) legislation, and domestic financing—all working together to save lives and ensure no woman dies while giving life-Tanzania</p> | <p>“Ethiopia is linking maternal, child, and adolescent health to national budgeting through reforms like community-based insurance, new tax models, and a health workforce compact.” Ethiopia</p> |
| <p>Expansion of community-based midwifery programs and immunization initiatives-Somalia</p> | <p>Support of “ 10 million safer births initiative” in Tanzania and Ethiopia aimed at improving quality of maternal health services (e.g. equipment, training and use of mHealth app (safe delivery app) to improve quality of intrapartum care-Denmark</p> |

GLN country initiatives: Some examples



| SRHR | Leadership |
|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| “Our partnership with the Global Leaders Network opened doors for strategic collaborations like the one with Seed Global Health helping us integrate post-abortion care into our maternal health strategy.” Liberia | “Our third priority is to uphold sexual and reproductive health rights. The data is clear: a lack of access to safe abortion leads to higher incidents of deaths, costly complications and permanent damage leading to infertility.” South Africa |
| Reforms to improve access to SRHR and WCAH e.g Social Health Insurance, Linda mama schemes and CHWs- Kenya | “Africa must do it for Africa. The Global South must do it for the Global South,” Dr Phumzile Mlambo Ngcuka, South Africa |
| Release of \$3.75 million (94%) through the Ministry of Health in support of the 2025 family planning allocation in order to advance the health and rights of women and girls- Nigeria | 300-day activism to end preventable maternal and child deaths- Sierra Leone |

“Alone we walk fast, together we walk farther.”

GLN: An Enabler



Convene

- Mobilize Heads of State, ministers, technical leaders, CSOs, and partners to prioritize WCAH
- Strategic policy and dialogue forums at AU summit, UNGA, G20, WHA, among others

Inclusive approach

- Four-tier engagement model: Connects political leadership at the head-of-state level, ministerial and technical implementation levels, and community-level engagement
- Ensure political commitments are translated into actionable programs.

Knowledge exchange

- Shared evidence, tools, and policy insights that help strengthen decision-making and accelerate progress.

Peer-to-peer learning

- Enabling countries to share experiences on policies, implementation strategies, and innovations
- Webinar series critical for increasing investments in WCAH

Connect and Catalyze

- Catalyst for high-impact interventions by supporting countries to identify priority interventions that can significantly reduce maternal, child and adolescent mortality

Implementation Challenges



- **Stakeholder Engagement**
 - Limited structured feedback from civil society organizations (CSOs)
- **Heads of state convening**
 - Challenges convening Heads of State and other high-level political meetings
- **On-going engagement**
 - Sustaining consistent engagement across all planned activities
- **Data and Analytics**
 - Limited access to country-level data to support modelling and analysis

Summary: Strengths and weaknesses



| Strengths | Weaknesses / Constraints |
|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| High-level convening power | Challenges convening Heads of State for GLN countries only |
| Strong alignment with global priorities and political positioning of WCAH | Limited CSO engagement – Insufficient structured participation and feedback from civil society |
| Country-driven approach – Direct engagement of member states | Inconsistent focal point engagement – Challenges sustaining regular coordination across countries |
| South–South peer learning platform – Facilitates exchange of best practices and country experiences | Limited engagement with Ministries of Finance: Weak integration of health priorities into broader fiscal policy |
| Catalyst and enabler role – Connecting countries to funding opportunities and strategic partnerships | Data access constraints – Limited availability of country-level data for modelling and decision-making |
| Advancing innovative initiatives – DRM series, PPP Health Accelerator | Difficult to establish if GLN success translates to new in-country initiatives |
| Growing network and coalition – Expansion of membership (e.g., new countries joining GLN) | |

GLN in 2026: Ongoing challenges



Inequities in care, especially in fragile and conflict-affected areas

- Maternal mortality rates 5× higher than in stable settings
- Under-five mortality 3× higher than in stable settings

Health Financing Constraints

- ODA is expected to decrease in the next few years. 2027 ODA may be lower than 2020 levels

Chronic underinvestment in SRHR and WCAH

- Many African countries remain below the 15% Abuja target for health spending (only one country above 15% target between 2012 and 2020; average health expenditure 7%)
- Limited fiscal space to increase domestic health spending due to rising debt, the deprioritization of health in national budgets, and continued reliance on out-of-pocket payments.,
- **Rising political pushback against gender and SRHR**
 - Organized, planned, and well-resourced push-back supported by anti-rights movements and conservative political parties
 - Direct impact on women's rights and gender equality and access to care
 - Limits the voices of civil society
- **The expanded application of the Global Gag Rule**
 - Prohibit both US and international NGOs from performing or promoting abortion, gender affirming care, and DEI

GLN Priorities: Reflections



What are the top priorities GLN should focus on in 2026 to maximize impact?



What concrete global or regional strategies should GLN prioritize to accelerate progress on UHC, financing, and SRHR?



How has GLN contributed to tangible in-country progress on UHC, financing, and SRHR over the past year?

REVISED MODELLING WORK APPROACH



Model-based tools will be developed to support learning on the ability of models to measure impact of interventions deployed to reach SDG goals

These tools will be packaged as interactive applications that can be hosted on a website. Users of these tools will be able to

1. Observe a detailed walk-through of each example tool, explain how each intervention leads to an outcome.
2. Engage with data required to do this analysis and why each data set is necessary.
3. Interface with the modelling tool and make inputs to assess impact on outcomes measured.

Break



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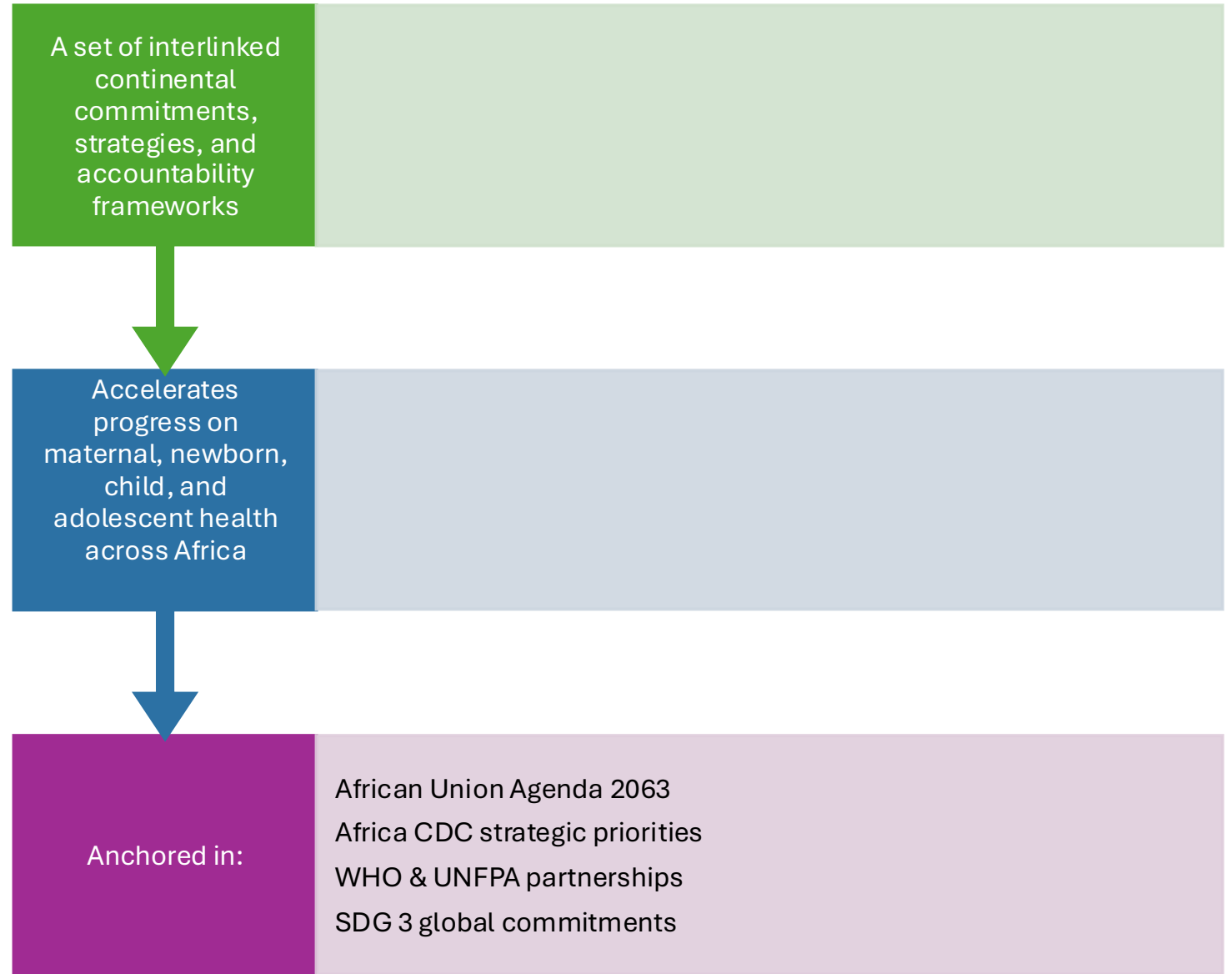
Refining AU strategy for the GLN

Diana Nsubuga, Global Leaders Network TAG

Plenary discussion facilitated by Diana and Dr. Teyah Sackie Moore, Assistant Minister for Curative Services, Ministry of Health Liberia



What is the AU Political Roadmap on WCAH?



Foundational Political Commitments

Campaign on Accelerated Reduction of Maternal Mortality in Africa (CARMMA, 2009)

- is an initiative launched by the African Union
- Focused on addressing high rates of maternal and newborn mortality across the continent.

Maputo Plan of Action (2016–2030)

- Focus on SRHR, maternal mortality, family planning, adolescent health
- Calls for domestic financing and accountability

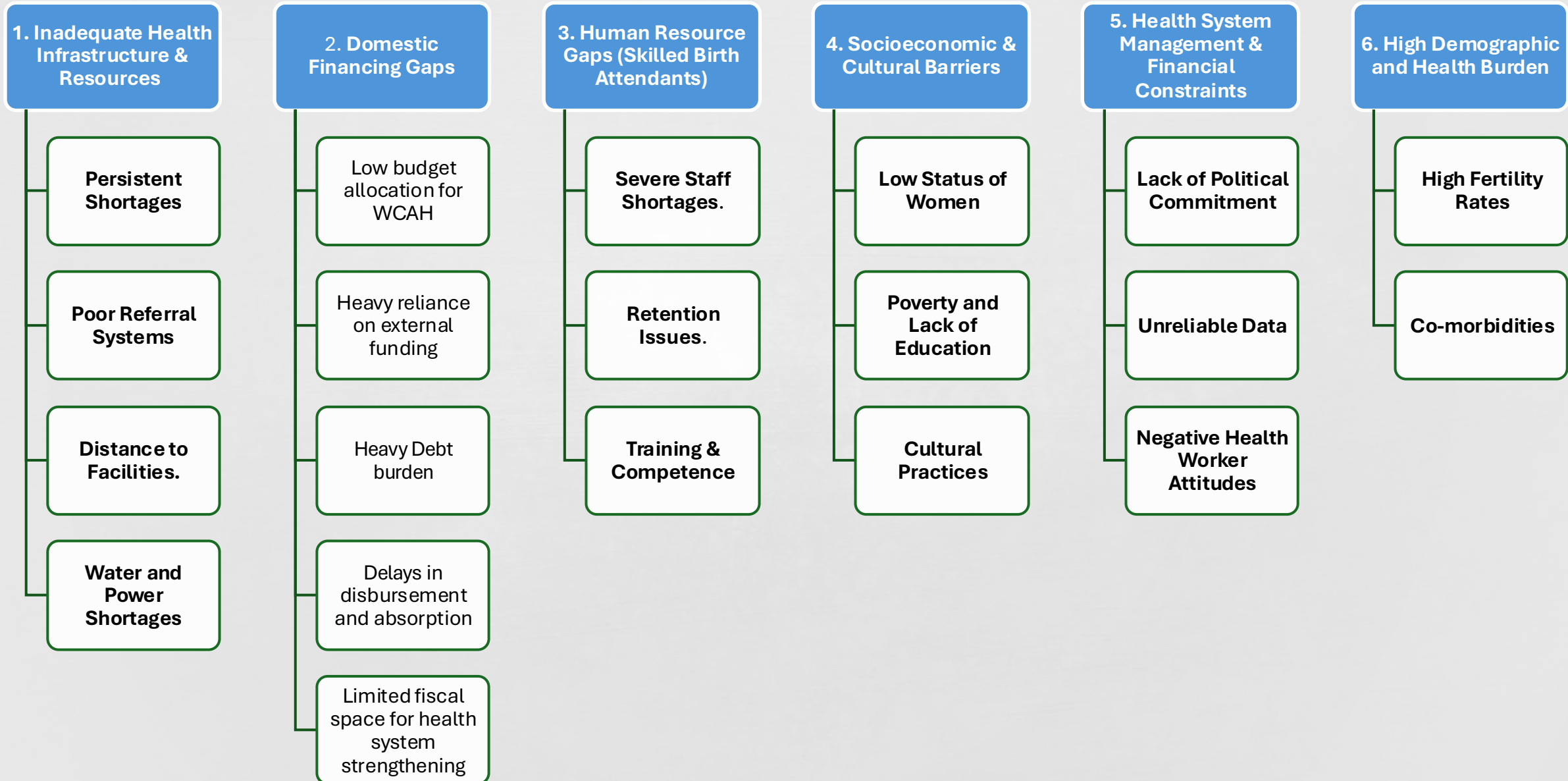
Addis Ababa Declaration on Immunization (2017)

- Strengthens child survival and vaccine financing
- Promotes national ownership

Africa Health Strategy (2016–2030)

- Promotes UHC and integrates maternal & child health into PHC

Challenges



Opportunities: Recent Political Momentum (2023–2026)

Maternal Mortality Focus

- Africa accounts for ~70% of global maternal deaths

Priority actions:

- Enhance health financing amid declining donor support
- Scale emergency obstetric & newborn care (EmONC)
- Strengthen referral systems

Key Initiatives:

- Lusaka Agenda (2023): Coordination of global health initiatives, domestic financing, alignment behind national WCAH plans
- Africa CDC Reproductive Health Priorities (2022–2026): Maternal & newborn health, adolescent SRH, reproductive cancers, GBV integration

Opportunities: AU Strategic Insight

Africa is at a stage of
Critical
Implementation
Decade (2025–2030)

Shift from making
commitments →
delivering measurable
results with domestic
ownership

WCAH framed as a
development, equity,
and economic issue

Alignment of AU WCAH Priorities with GLN Strategic Priorities

| AU Priority | GLN Priority |
|--------------------------------------------------------------------|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| Domestic resource mobilization for WCAH | Advance Financial Diplomacy for Members |
| Local Manufacturing & Pooled Procurement Mechanism (APPM) for WCAH | Advocacy for Local Manufacturing & Pooled Procurement Mechanism (APPM for WCAH |
| Primary health care strengthening | Deliver the PPP Health Accelerator |
| Accountability for existing commitments | Shape Global Health Reform Policies |
| Integration of adolescent health into UHC reforms | Strengthen SRH Advocacy and Global Diplomacy for WCAH |
| Resilient systems protecting essential services during crises | Strengthen Leadership Continuity and Representation |

Key AU WCAH Priorities and Targets for Action-1

| Priority Area | Focus | Targets (by 2030) | Success Indicator |
|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------|----------------------------------------------------------|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|---------------------------------------------------------------|
| PHC Strengthening | Expand integrated RMNCAH/SRH services at community level | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • ≥80% essential services at PHC • ≥1 frontline health worker/500 pop • ≥90% skilled birth attendance • ≥70% PHC digitalization | Quality care accessible locally; reduced preventable deaths |
| Domestic Resource Mobilization | Increase country-led financing | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • ≥20% increase in WCAH budget • ≥50% reduction in out-of-pocket costs • Dedicated WCAH budget lines in ≥80% countries | Sustainable, affordable services |
| Local Manufacturing & Pooled Procurement Mechanism (APPM) for WCAH | Improve affordability and availability of essential | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • ≥70% of AU Member States participating in pooled procurement platforms • ≥30% reduction in commodity costs through pooled procurement • ≥90% availability of essential RMNCAH/SRH commodities at PHC level • Strengthened local manufacturing capacity to supply ≥50% of essential RMNCAH/SRH commodities for the continent | Reliable, affordable supply of life-saving RMNCAH commodities |

Key AU WCAH Priorities and Targets for Action-2

| Priority Area | Focus | Targets (by 2030) | Success Indicator |
|---------------------------------|-------------------------------------------------|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|--------------------------------------------------|
| Accountability | Strengthen monitoring, financing, and reporting | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 100% countries publish WCAH scorecards • ≥15% national budget to health • ≥90% community monitoring • AU accountability review operational | Data-driven governance; visible progress |
| Resilient Systems | Protect essential services during crises | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • ≥90% continuity of RMNCAH services • 100% countries with WCAH-inclusive emergency plans • ≥70% PHC facilities meet resilience standards • ≥50% reduction in crisis-related deaths | Systems sustain life-saving services in shocks |
| Adolescent Health in UHC | Integrate adolescent services into PHC/UHC | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • ≥90% countries include adolescent health in UHC packages • ≥80% PHC provide adolescent-friendly services • ≥75% coverage of CSE & SRH • ≥50% reduction in unmet adolescent SRH need | Adolescents access inclusive, comprehensive care |

Source: African Union Commission – AU Roadmap to 2030 and other AU reports

From Commitment to Action: WCAH Advocacy Priorities and Institutional Accountability-1

| Organization | High-Impact Advocacy Ask (WCAH) | Responsible (Role / Department) |
|----------------------------------------------------|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| African Union (AU) | Institutionalize annual WCAH accountability scorecards with Heads of State review | Commissioner, Health, Humanitarian Affairs & Social Development (HHS); Director, Health & Nutrition Division |
| Regional Economic Communities (RECs) | Operationalize Local Manufacturing & Pooled Procurement Mechanism (APPM) for WCAH commodities | Commissioners/Directors of Health (e.g., Health & Social Affairs); Heads of Pharmaceutical/Procurement Units |
| African Union / Africa CDC (Joint Platform) | Champion Local Manufacturing & Pooled Procurement Mechanism (APPM) for WCAH | AU Commissioner (HHS); Africa CDC Director General; Heads of Finance & Resource Mobilization Units |
| NEPAD / AUDA-NEPAD | Integrate WCAH into national PHC investment plans with financing pathways and unlocking the demographic dividend | CEO; Head, Health Programme; Director, Human Capital & Institutional Development |
| Africa CDC | Ensure continuity of RMNCAH services during crises through resilient systems | Director General; Head, Health Systems & Resilience Division; Head, Primary Health Care Unit |

From Commitment to Action: WCAH Advocacy Priorities and Institutional Accountability-2

| Organization | High-Impact Advocacy Focus (WCAH) | Responsible (Role / Department) |
|-----------------------------------|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| PMNCH | Drive political accountability for WCAH commitments | Executive Director; Head of Advocacy & Partner Engagement |
| WHO Africa Region | Advance PHC-centered policies integrating adolescent health into UHC | Regional Director; Director, Universal Health Coverage/Health Systems Cluster; Lead, Adolescent Health |
| UNFPA | Scale access to modern contraception and adolescent SRH services | Regional Director (ESARO/WCARO); Director, Technical Division (SRH Branch) |
| UNICEF | Accelerate community-level child survival interventions (immunization, nutrition) | Regional Director; Chief, Health Section; Chief, Nutrition Programme |
| Gavi, The Vaccine Alliance | Expand sustainable immunization financing integrated into PHC | CEO; Managing Director, Country Programmes; Director, Health Systems & Immunisation Strengthening |

I acknowledge the invaluable support of GLN, PMNCH, AU and Africa CDC teams in providing information and guidance that informed this presentation. Below are key departments I spoke to and their relevance:

As well as online literature

| GLN and PMNCH | |
|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| AU -Departments / Units I spoke to | Role / Relevance |
| Africa CDC, Health Diplomacy & Partnerships Unit | Leads continental coordination of pooled procurement, market-shaping initiatives, and partnerships with Member States and manufacturers. |
| Africa CDC, Public Health & Commodity Supply Division | Manages the operational aspects of procurement, logistics, and commodity availability tracking. |
| AU Department of Social Affairs – Health Division | Oversees continental health strategies, including WCAH policy, domestic financing, and regional implementation guidelines. |
| AU Pharmaceutical Manufacturing Plan for Africa (PMPA) Secretariat | Focuses on building local manufacturing capacity and aligning pooled procurement with industrialization goals. |
| African Union Development Agency (AUDA-NEPAD), Health & Infrastructure Programs | Supports investment, financing, and infrastructure planning for local manufacturing and supply chain systems. |
| Regional Economic Communities (RECs) – Health & Procurement Units | Collaborate with APPM to align regional procurement mechanisms with AU-wide pooled procurement initiatives. |
| AU Finance & Budget Department | Provides insights on financing frameworks, budget allocations, and resource mobilization for pooled procurement. |
| Technical Working Groups / Advisory Committees for APPM | Comprise Member State representatives and technical experts; provide detailed operational guidance, data, and policy insights. |



**What should be GLN's top
advocacy priorities to
strengthen WCAH across
the continent?**



AU Political Roadmap on WCAH — Global & Regional Milestones (2026)

| Date (2026) | Event | Level | Strategic Relevance to AU WCAH Political Roadmap |
|--------------------------|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|---------------|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| 9–10 Feb | ECOSOCC Civil Society Pre-Summit | AU / Regional | Mobilizes civil society voices ahead of AU Summit; shapes advocacy priorities on health, gender & youth. |
| 11–15 Feb | 39th AU Summit Week | AU | Continental leadership convening shaping policy direction on health financing & development. |
| 14–15 Feb | 39th Ordinary Session – AU Assembly of Heads of State & Government | AU | Highest political endorsement platform for WCAH priorities. |
| 13 Feb (13:00–16:00 EAT) | High-Level Side Event & Launch of CARMMA Plus Website | AU | Reinforces Maputo Plan of Action; strengthens integrated RMNCAH, WASH & digital systems. |
| 13–15 Feb | Africa CDC Participatory Dialogues & Ministerial Engagements | AU / Regional | Aligns health-finance collaboration, manufacturing & system resilience to advance MNCAH sustainability. |
| 13 Feb | Ministerial & Heads of State Session (Health–Finance Collaboration) | AU | Elevates domestic resource mobilization for health. |
| 14 Feb | Presidential Breakfast on Health Manufacturing & System Resilience | AU | Links local production & resilient systems to maternal & child survival. |
| 15 Feb | Ministerial Working Group on Global Health Architecture Reform | AU | Aligns Africa’s voice in global health governance reform. |
| 15 Feb | Global Leaders Network Side Event – Investing in Africa’s Future: A Ministerial & Partner Conversation on WCAH | AU / Global | Strengthens political accountability & delivery for women’s, children’s & adolescents’ health. |

AU Political Roadmap on WCAH — Global & Regional Milestones (2026)

| Date (2026) | Event | Level | Strategic Relevance to AU WCAH Political Roadmap |
|----------------------|------------------------------------------------------------------------|-------------------|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| 18–20 Mar | PMNCH & Global Leaders Network (GLN) Peer-Learning Convening – Nairobi | Global / Regional | Advances CAAP commitments; strengthens peer accountability & advocacy coordination. |
| 9–12 Mar (Tentative) | WHO SAGE Meeting (Strategic Advisory Group of Experts on Immunization) | Global | Influences immunization policies critical for child survival. |
| 7 Apr | World Health Day | Global | Advocacy moment linked to UHC & health systems strengthening. |
| 24–30 Apr | World Immunization Week | Global | Elevates child survival and zero-dose agendas. |
| April (TBC) | World Bank–IMF Spring Meetings | Global | Major financing window where Ministers of Finance, Central Bank Governors and development partners discuss debt sustainability, fiscal space, and development financing — directly influencing domestic investment in maternal, newborn, child and adolescent health. |
| 18–23 May | 79th World Health Assembly (WHA79) | Global | Global health policy-setting forum impacting MNCAH resolutions & financing. |
| May 10-20 | Global Partnerships Conference | London | Global Partnerships Conference to build new international coalitions to tackle shared challenges The UK will cohost a major conference on the future of international development to drive shared growth and prosperity and tackle global challenges head on; it is announced today. |
| June (TBC) | AU Mid-Year Coordination Meeting | AU | Aligns AU & Regional Economic Communities (RECs) on implementation. |
| June (TBC) | G7 Leaders' Summit | Global | Influences global health financing flows impacting African MNCAH priorities. |

AU Political Roadmap on WCAH — Global & Regional Milestones (2026)

| Date (2026) | Event | Level | Strategic Relevance to AU WCAH Political Roadmap |
|----------------------|------------------------------------------|-------------------|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| July (TBC) | UN High-Level Political Forum (HLPF) | Global | Reviews SDG progress including SDG 3 & SDG 5. |
| 24–28 Aug (Proposed) | 75th WHO AFRO Regional Committee Meeting | Regional (Africa) | Shapes Africa’s regional health strategy including MNCAH priorities. |
| 8–22 Sep | 81st UN General Assembly (UNGA 81) | Global | Prime political advocacy window for WCAH commitments and financing alignment. |
| 22–28 Sep | UNGA General Debate | Global | Heads of State statements — opportunity to spotlight maternal & child survival. |
| Oct (TBC) | World Health Summit | Global | Strategic dialogue on financing, systems strengthening & innovation. |
| Nov (TBC) | COP31 (Climate Conference) | Global | Climate-health nexus affecting maternal & newborn vulnerability. |
| 12 Dec | Universal Health Coverage (UHC) Day | Global | Reinforces equity & domestic health financing commitments. |

Additional Regional Platforms to Monitor (2026)

| Event | Level | Strategic Use |
|------------------------------------------|--------------|---------------------------------------------------------|
| ECOWAS Health Ministers Meeting | Sub-Regional | West Africa MNCAH financing alignment |
| EAC Health Sector Council | Sub-Regional | Regional accountability on maternal & newborn mortality |
| SADC Health Ministers Meeting | Sub-Regional | Policy harmonization |
| IGAD Health Platform | Sub-Regional | Fragile/conflict settings MNCAH |
| Africa CDC Public Health Emergency Forum | Regional | |

Extremely high-level events out of the already set AU high level convenings:

| Advocacy Window | Key Opportunities |
|----------------------------------------|-------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| Global Policy Setting | WHA, G7, UNGA |
| Regional Alignment | Africa CDC dialogues, WHO Regional Committee, GLN High Level Convenings |
| Technical Consensus | World Immunization Week, International AIDS Conference |
| Public Awareness & Advocacy | World Health Day, Global Public Health Week, UHC Day |

Lunch



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Public Private Partnership Health Accelerator

A political commitment by the GLN and the ALMA
An official G20 2025 Legacy Project

Dr Lwazi Manzi, Head GLN Secretariat, South Africa Presidency



Background



- SDG health targets are off track globally
- Financing gap remains critical: **>\$66B shortfall to meet 2030 health goals**
- Private sector is a key partner:
 - Strength in efficiency, innovation, and resource optimization
 - Increasing investment across the Global South
- Public–Private Partnerships (PPPs): a win–win
 - Go beyond funding → technical expertise + in-kind support
 - Improve service coverage, access, and system efficiency
- PPPs align business & public health goals
 - Enhance governance, accountability, and return on investment
- Diaspora financing = untapped opportunity
 - 200M migrants support 800M people globally
 - \$905B in remittances (2024, LMICs)

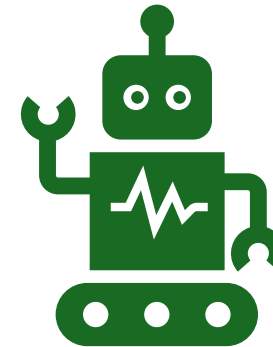
Objectives



To design a sustainable PPP with the private sector and the diaspora that bridges the gap in health sector funding, resources and technical expertise.



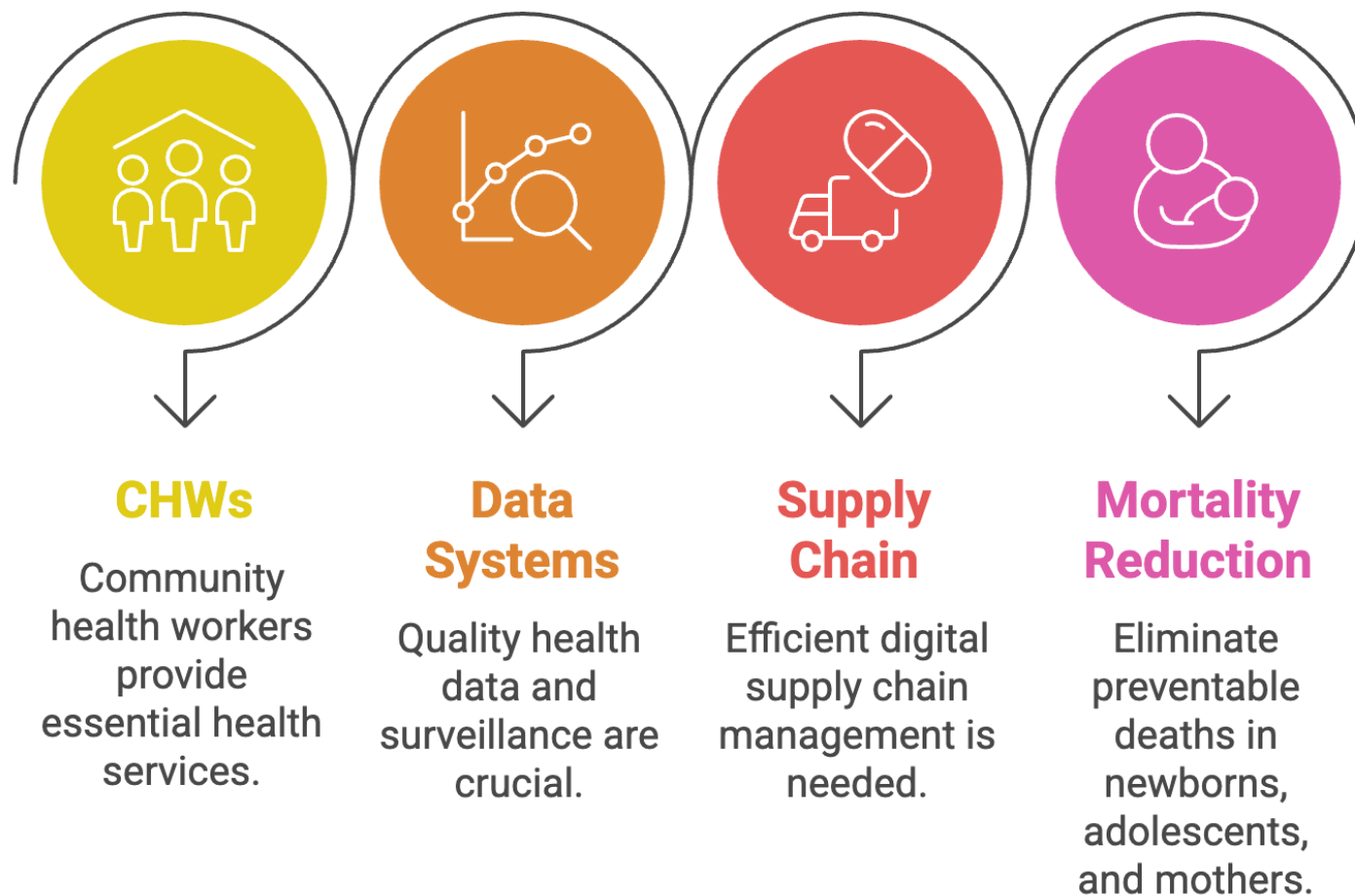
To mobilize resources such as financial, technical and in-kind investments by the Private sector (companies & high networth individuals) & diaspora, towards sustainable health impact and quality health service delivery.



To establish voluntary contributions to health impact investments by the diaspora when they send remittances to the continent.



Proposed Areas of Initial Investments



How will the Health Partnership for Prosperity work?



Sources of funds:

Diaspora Remittances

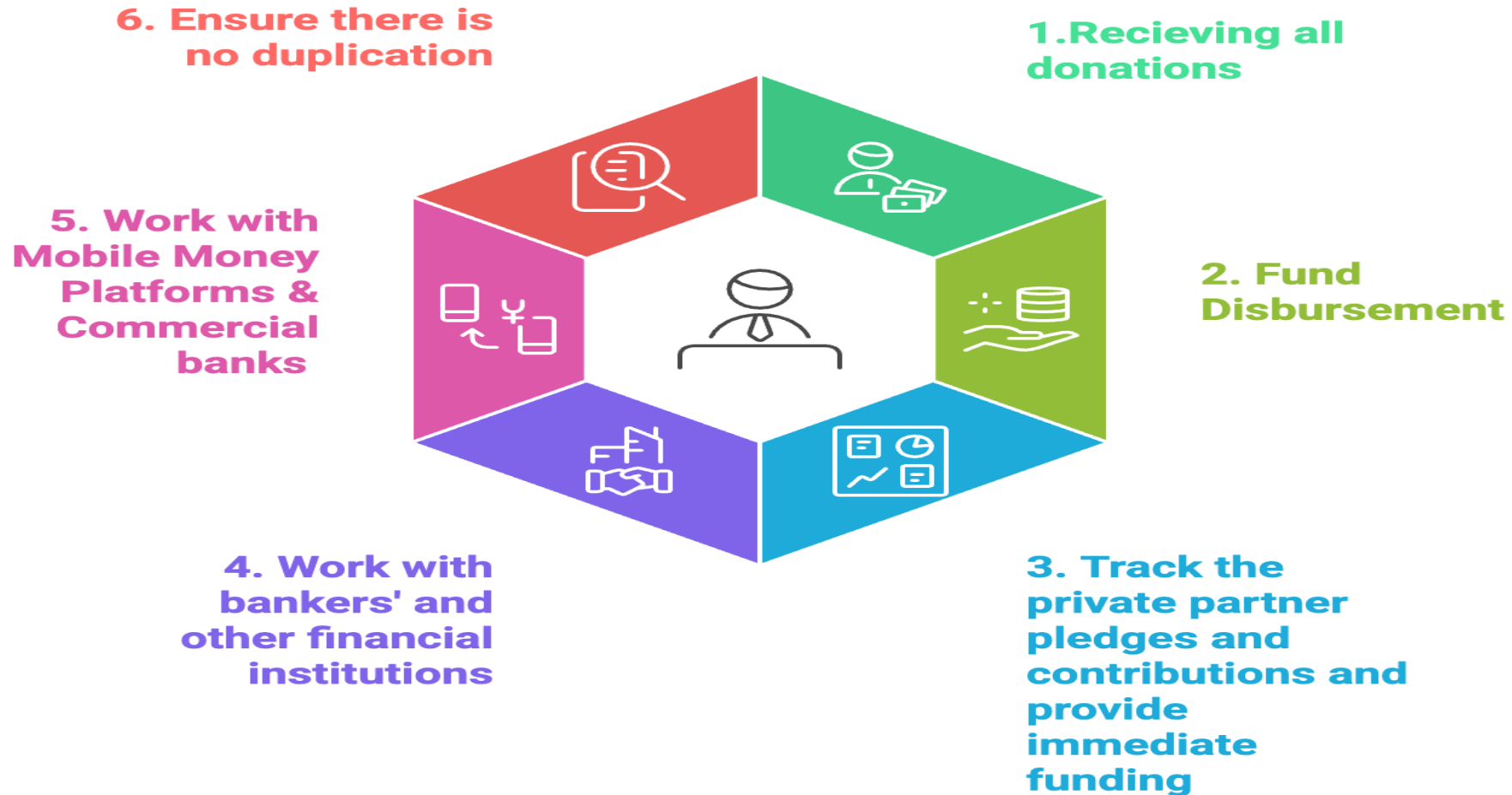
Private Sector

High Net Worth Individuals

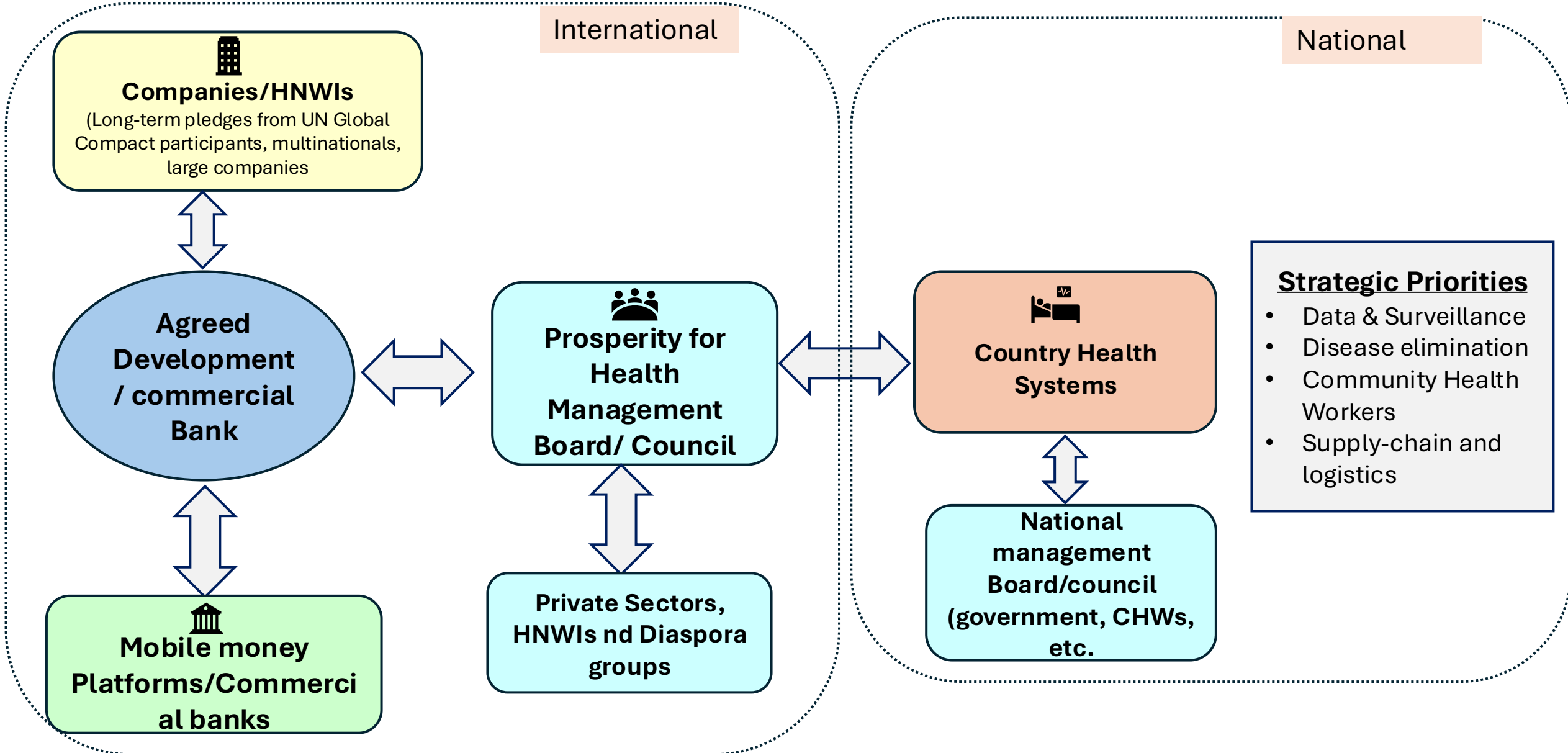
3 functions to invest
and stimulate DRM
in the coinvesting
countries

Predetermined and
agreed ROI metrics

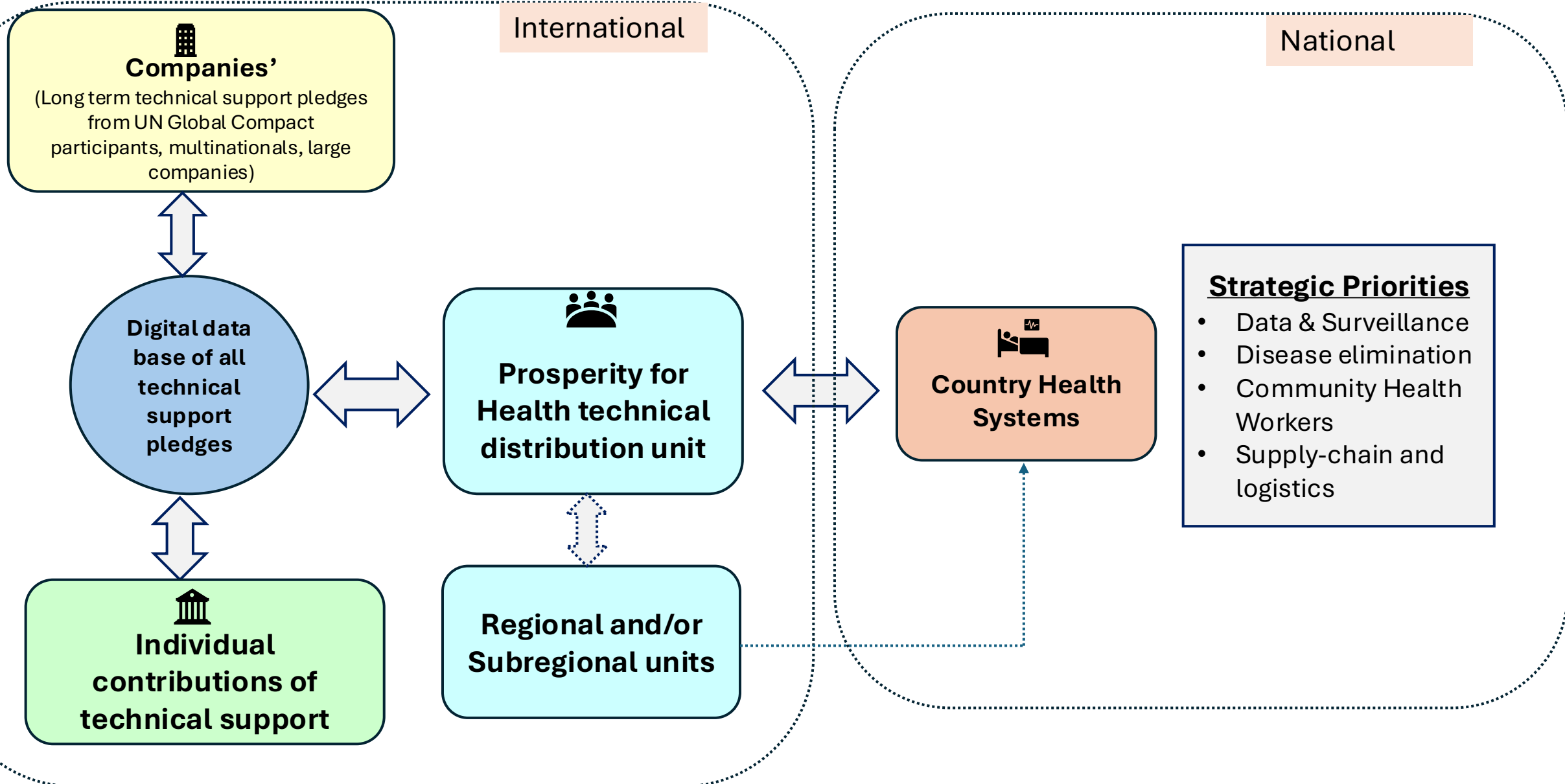
Proposed Secretariat: Bank in the Global South



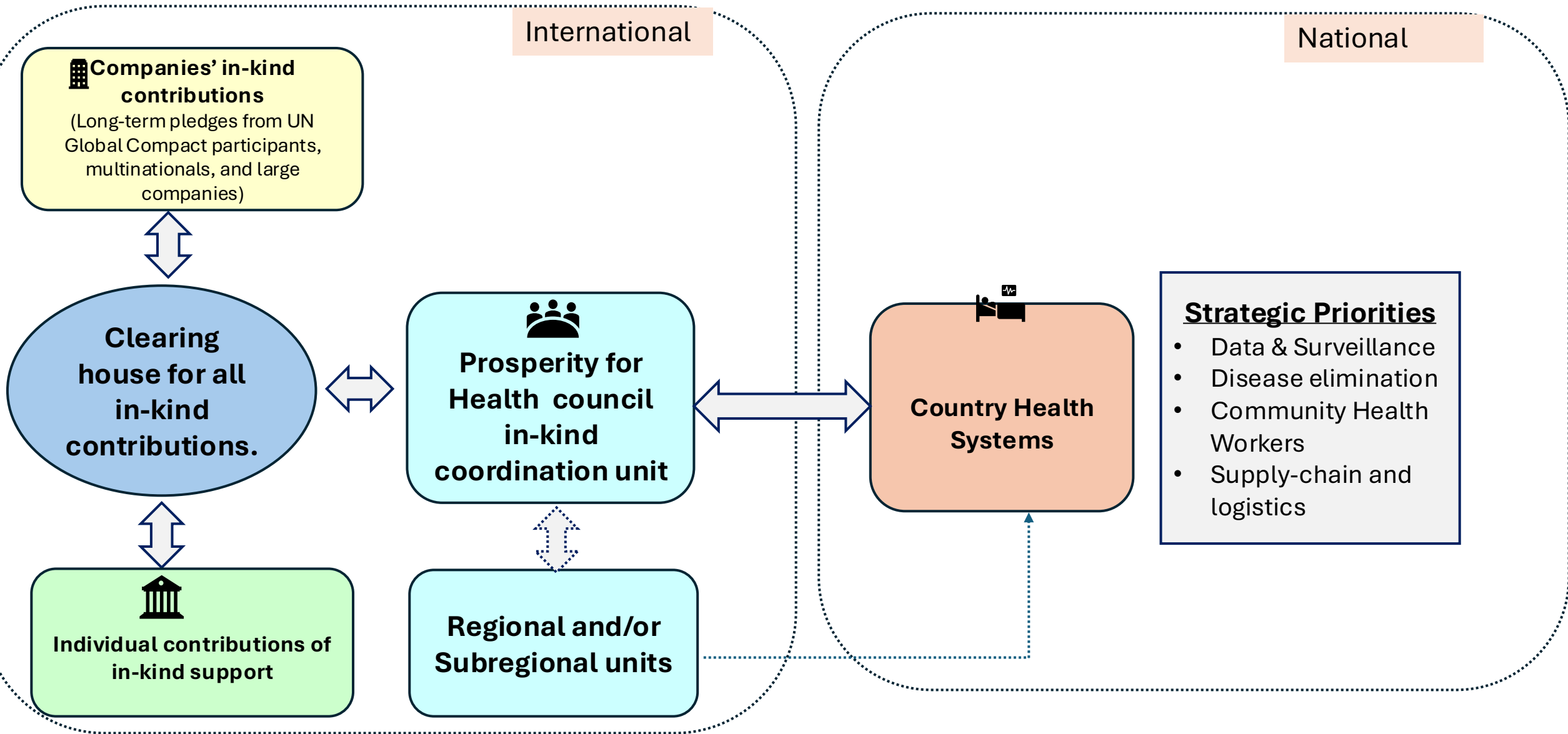
PROPOSED PARTNERSHIP FOR PROSPERITY STRUCTURE - FINANCE



PROPOSED HEALTH PARTNERSHIP FOR PROSPERITY STRUCTURE - **TECHNICAL**



PROPOSED HEALTH PARTNERSHIP FOR PROSPERITY STRUCTURE – IN-KIND



Impact Tracking



Monitoring and evaluation frameworks will be developed for each priority area



Communities of practice and/or councils will be established for each contribution mechanism (finance, technical and in-kind) to ensure coordination impact and ROI tracking



All key lessons will be documented for storytelling on the impact of contributions made for each specific area



Demand forecasting system to align measurable health outcomes and contributions

Next Steps



Assemble design team (under the G20 Legacy Programme)



Identify and align potential private sector partners, including from the mining, energy tourism, agriculture, tech, finance and insurance sectors



Explore banks, fintech and mobile money platforms



Continued stakeholder consultations and harnessing political will



Financial Diplomacy Series

Dr Lwazi Manzi, Head GLN Secretariat, South Africa Presidency



From Dialogue to Action



GLN Webinar Series Success

- Average 150 participants in each webinar
- Brought together health and financing expertise from public and private sectors
- Knowledge exchange on diversified financing
- Documented knowledge capacitation and shifts in attitude and perceptions
- Clear need to advance from dialogue to action
- Policy briefings from University of Johannesburg



- Recognises several challenges
 - ODA will continue to decline
 - Severely contracted fiscal space in GLN countries
 - Low uptake of facilities created by financing institutions
- Connects GLN ministers of finance with MDB's, DFI's, commercial banks, philanthropy, and private sector
- Countries identify their own financing priorities
- Structured, iterative engagement to turn priority into a finance plan

Kick of: World Bank Springs



- Ministers of Finance will present each country's WCAH investment priority and key financing constraints
- Connect country priorities with available instruments from development finance institutions and catalytic private capital
- Identify the right blend of guarantee, pooled procurement, co-investment, and TA structures for each national context
- Confirm the country cohort and focus areas, establishing early accountability for the path forward
- Lay the foundation for concrete financing commitments
- Elicit political commitment from the Ministers to remain active



Better leveraging the GLN network: Plenary discussion on communications and technical support, recommendations on how the GLN provides support to members

Kadi Toure, PMNCH; Facilitated discussion by Keamogetswe Khoaripe, GLN





- **Funding Crisis threatens hard-won progress**
 - Sustained contraction in Official Development Assistance (ODA), disproportionately affecting women's, children's, and adolescents' health programs
 - ODA in 2027 is projected to fall back to 2020 levels with projected cuts impacting the poorest countries and vital services hardest
 - Increased fiscal pressure on low- and middle-income countries amid debt burdens and competing priorities
- **UN80 Reforms of the global health architecture**
- **Political pushback on sexual and reproductive and health rights (SRHR) likely to expand bans on essential SRH services for women, children, adolescents**
- **Opportunities amid crisis**
 - Accelerated focus on domestic resource mobilization and innovative financing
 - Rising emphasis on health sovereignty, local manufacturing, and regional pooled procurement
 - GLN positioned as trusted Southern-led platform connecting political leadership to concrete action

State-led Exemplars



Head of State-led initiatives unlock political will and resources that technical advocacy alone cannot achieve as shown by the below initiatives:

Every Woman Every Child

UN Initiative (2010)

Leadership:

- UN SG Ban Ki-moon launched movement
- Mobilized HoS, multilaterals, private sector

Results:

- \$40 billion pledged at 2010 launch
- 73 governments committed
- 250+ organizations engaged

African Leaders Malaria Alliance

AU Initiative (2009)

Leadership:

- 55 African HoS coalition
- Quarterly scorecard to Heads of State to track progress and accountability

Results:

- Political accountability drives action
- Increased domestic financing
- Expanded 2009 focus on malaria to include Neglected Tropical Diseases (NTDs) and Reproductive, Maternal, Neonatal, Child, and Adolescent Health (RMNCAH)

Norway-led Network of Global Leaders

Health MDG Initiative (2007)

Leadership:

- Network of 11 HoS

Results:

- NOK 3B committed (2009-2020)
- In 2006, Norway's Foreign Minister elevated public health and health security as foreign-policy priorities, leading to the Oslo Ministerial Declaration by seven foreign ministers.

Common Success Factors:

Head of State engagement + Financial commitments + Accountability mechanisms + Multi-stakeholder partnerships = Mobilized resources & measurable results

How GLN Creates Impact



Influencing Global & Regional Policies

- Engaging in high-level diplomatic advocacy at key global and regional moments to ensure WCAH remains prioritized on policy agendas.
- Negotiating inclusion of WCAH in official communiqués and declarations at global and regional events.
- Institutionalizing WCAH in decision-making processes by advocating for WCAH as a standing agenda item.

Championing Change in Countries

- Supporting countries to translate political commitments into action through domestic financing, policy reform, and strengthened protection of SRHR.
- Facilitating peer-to-peer learning for member states to share lessons, challenges, and proven best practices.
- Amplifying country-level impact, including innovative financing mechanisms, increased domestic resource mobilization, progressive legislation, and improved healthcare for women, children, and adolescents.

Creating an Enabling Environment

- Driving strategic media engagement with leading global and regional outlets to elevate WCAH on influential platforms.
- Amplifying Member State leadership by showcasing national actions, commitments, and success stories on WCAH.
- Building a sustained content pipeline, including social media assets and video interviews, for consistent rollout across GLN channels.
- Boosting WCAH visibility across mainstream, political, and public arenas, ensuring finance ministers, policymakers, and decision-makers clearly understand the economic case for sustained investment.

Leveraging Advocacy Moments



| 2026 Advocacy Roadmap | Proposed Communication Channels |
|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| <p>World Bank Spring Meeting 13 – 18 April, Washington DC</p> <p>CPD 13 -17 April, New York</p> <p>Regional World Health Summit 27 – 29 April, Nairobi</p> <p>French/ Africa Development Summit 11 - 12 May, Nairobi</p> <p>WHA 18 - 23 May, Geneva</p> | <p>Digital media</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Social media toolkit: Pre-drafted posts (X/Twitter, LinkedIn, Facebook), graphics, hashtags, and advocacy statements for key moments • Social media videos: 30-60 second videos highlighting WCAH wins, leadership moments, and advocacy messages with captions and subtitles • Infographics & Data Visualizations: Custom graphics showcasing country WCAH data, budget wins, policy progress, or health outcomes • Advocacy toolkit: Online resource with statistics, key messages, and talking points • Digital campaigns: Coordinated social media campaigns for key advocacy dates (IWD, World Health Day, etc.) • Web Stories & Long-Form Content: Feature stories on country innovations, leadership profiles, policy wins for PMNCH and GLN websites |
| <p>G7 15 - 17 June Évian-les-Bains, Haute-Savoie, France</p> <p>BRICS July (India Chair)</p> | <p>Broadcast & online media</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • TV, radio and online interviews: Facilitate interviews with national, regional and international media, where focal points and partners can highlight key advocacy messaging to advance progress on WCAH issues. • Podcast interviews: Facilitate podcast interviews for key advocacy moments and engagements • Opinion pieces (op-eds): Draft and place op-eds to drive legislative action on key WCAH priorities |
| <p>SADC HoS Summit - August (Aug - TBC) SA Presidency</p> <p>UNGA 9 – 23 Sept, New York</p> <p>AU STC on Health (TBC)</p> | <p>High-level events and Policy Forums</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Talking points: The GLN can support focal points by drafting talking points and speeches, interview talking points for regional and continental media • Briefing documents: The GLN can support with Finance Ministry-focused messaging on WCAH as economic investment, ROI frameworks and fiscal arguments for health financing, • Declarations: The GLN can support the drafting of joint or unilateral statements from focal points including health ministers and senior technical officials. |

2025 Media and Advocacy Snapshot



Media Coverage

NEWS POLITICS

Ramaphosa's plea at UN: Over 700 women die daily from preventable causes linked to pregnancy

Jonisayi Maromo | Published 4 months ago

Facebook X LinkedIn WhatsApp Telegram Email Print 2min



L-R: H.E. President Advocate Duma Gideon Boko of Botswana, Chair of the African Leaders Malaria Alliance; H.E. President Cyril Ramaphosa of South Africa and Chair of the Global Leaders Network; H.E. President William Ruto of Kenya; and the Rt. Hon. Helen Clark at the UNGA80 side-event on Global Health Security at the United Nations. Source: African Leaders Malaria Alliance (ALMA) @Health

African Leaders Call For Bold, United Action To Tackle Global Health Crises And Sustain Malaria Progress

September 27, 2025 0 Comments

By Eurasia Review

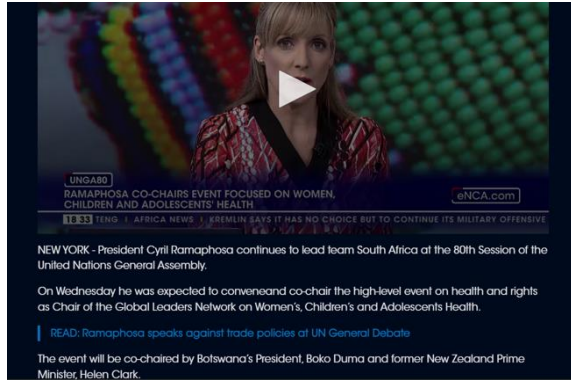
Sierra Leone: From Political Will to Commitment - Sierra Leone's Vision for Transforming Women's, Children's, and Adolescents' Health

Facebook Twitter WhatsApp LinkedIn YouTube Email Print +



OPINION

By Dr. Lynda Fama



Call for investment in health of women, children and adolescents

Thursday, August 21, 2025



President Cyril Ramaphosa has urged world leaders to intensify investments in the health and rights of women, children and adolescents, warning that the cost of inaction would be measured in lives lost, diminished futures and destabilised communities.

The President was delivering an address on Thursday at the United Nations Population Fund (UNFPA) and Global Leaders Network dialogue on Investing in Peace: "Health for Adolescent Youth and Women."

The session was held on the sidelines of the Tokyo International Conference on African Development (TICAD) Summit in Yokohama, Japan.

Convenings



2026 Strategic Goals



| GLN Focus Area | Focal Point Action |
|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| <p>MOBILIZE POLITICAL LEADERSHIP</p> <p><i>Accelerate WCAH progress through high-level engagement and diplomatic coordination</i></p> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Obtain calendar of Head of State regional/continental meetings and delegates attending(AU Summit, SADC, ECOWAS, EAC) • Identify counterpart focal points in the Presidency, Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Ministry of Finance, and Ministry of Health planning departments • Coordinate with Foreign Affairs to ensure Permanent Missions at AU, Geneva, and New York receives GLN talking points for multilateral statements • Coordinate with focal points on opportunities to amplify WCAH and SRHR advocacy |
| <p>AMPLIFY LEADERSHIP & INNOVATIONS</p> <p><i>Showcase country wins and political commitment through strategic media engagement</i></p> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Coordinate HoS/ministerial participation and contribute to GLN-facilitated media engagements – such as op-ed publications or short media interviews • Share speeches, remarks, and talking points that reference national WCAH achievements for amplification on public channels • Map your country's WCAH innovations that demonstrate measurable results for interview opportunities |
| <p>SUPPORT IMPLEMENTATION</p> <p><i>Strengthen WCAH delivery through peer learning and progress tracking</i></p> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Identify country-led WCAH or SRHR innovations suitable for peer learning showcases with other GLN member states • Facilitate your HoS or technical team's participation in South-to-South learning exchanges at GLN-led convenings • Track progress on national WCAH commitments and share updates with the GLN |

Discussion: Better Leveraging the GLN Network



- How do we strengthen diplomacy and coordination across government departments, including the Office of the Presidency, finance and health ministries, and permanent missions?
- What specific communication tools or materials would help you more effectively position women's, children's and adolescents' health at national and global levels?
- Which high-impact media or speaking platforms offer the greatest opportunity to advance women's, children's and adolescents' health, and what support do you need to fully leverage them??
- What communication and advocacy actions should be prioritized to accelerate progress on women's, children's and adolescents' health?

Break



*Scan to view meeting
resources*



United Nations Commission on Population and Development (CPD59)



Way forward and recap on 2026 priorities

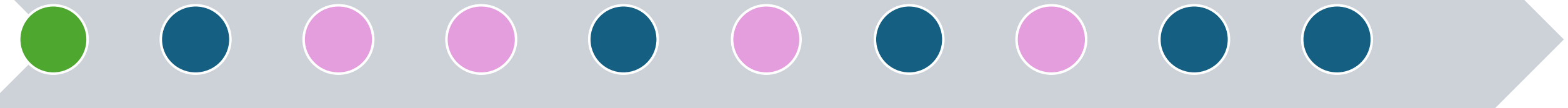
Dr Lwazi Manzi, Head GLN Secretariat, South Africa Presidency



Advocacy Roadmap 2026



| | | | | |
|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------|---------------------------------------------------------------|-------------------------------------------------------------|------------------------------------|--------------------------------------|
| 39th Ordinary Session of the AU HoS with STBF 14 – 15 February, Addis | Regional World Health Summit 27 – 29 April, Nairobi | WHA UK/ SA Development Summit 18 - 23 May, Geneva | BRICS July (India Chair) | UNGA 9 – 23 Sept, New York |
|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------|---------------------------------------------------------------|-------------------------------------------------------------|------------------------------------|--------------------------------------|



World Bank
13-18 April

Africa Forward Summit (France/Kenya)
11 - 12 May, Nairobi

G7
15 - 17 June
Évian-les-Bains, Haute-Savoie, France

SADC HoS Summit - August
(Aug - TBC)
SA Presidency

AU STC on Health
(Timing/Local - TBC)

Additional opportunities GLN is monitoring

- UK Future of Development Summit (March and May)
- Public Health World Conference (July)
- World AIDS conference (July)

Key priorities include leveraging HoS Economic Forums to advance SRHR

Light fill indicates opportunities for heightened SRHR focus



Closing remarks



Thank you!

GLOBAL LEADERS NETWORK
for Women's, Children's and Adolescents' Health
Hosted by the World Health Organization
We support the Sustainable Development Goals

Global Leaders Network & Collaborative Advocacy Action Plan Joint Convening

A joint convening of Global Leaders Network (GLN) Senior Technical Focal Points and Collaborative Advocacy Action Plan (CAAP) Coordinating Partners

18 - 20 March 2026 | Hybrid: Nairobi & Virtual

Partnership for change
Joining together to accelerate advocacy for women's, children's and adolescents' health

Day 1 – CAAP Partners
Day 2 – Joint GLN & CAAP
Day 3 – GLN Focal Points

Scan to view meeting resources

