About the Partnership

The Partnership for Maternal, Newborn & Child Health (PMNCH, the Partnership) is the world’s largest alliance for women’s, children’s and adolescents’ health (WCAH), bringing together over 1,000 partner organizations across 192 countries. Since its inception, PMNCH has worked to forge and strengthen partnerships and drive momentum towards the attainment of global targets for WCAH.

Members are grouped into one of PMNCH’s 10 constituencies: Academic, Research and Training Institutes; Adolescents and Youth; Donors and Foundations; Global Financing Mechanisms; Healthcare Professional Associations; Inter-Governmental Organizations; Non-Governmental Organizations; Partner Governments; Private Sector; and United Nations Agencies. PMNCH provides a multistakeholder platform allowing these diverse organizations to align objectives, strategies and resources, and to amplify evidence for action to support the attainment of the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs), including through universal health coverage and primary health care. Through its unique convening power, PMNCH enables members to deliver collectively more than each could deliver alone.

History

PMNCH was launched in September 2005, when 50 organizations belonging to the Partnership for Safe Motherhood and Newborn Health, the Healthy Newborn Partnership and the Child Survival Partnership joined forces. The founding organizations agreed that by working together under one partnership they could do more to accelerate action by partners and countries to achieve Millennium Development Goals (MDGs) 4 (reduce child mortality) and 5 (improve maternal health).

In its first decade, PMNCH’s mandate was to strengthen alignment and to build consensus on the priority interventions required to achieve MDGs 4 and 5. These efforts were bolstered in 2010 when PMNCH facilitated the development of the Global Strategy for Women’s and Children’s Health, led by United Nations Secretary-General Ban Ki-moon, and mobilized tangible commitments from organizations, governments and the public for the attainment of these MDGs.

In 2015, the Global Strategy for Women’s, Children’s and Adolescents’ Health (2016-2030) was launched as the MDGs were replaced by the SDGs. The updated Global Strategy incorporated the pursuit of adolescents’ health, remained focused on the unfinished agenda from MDGs 4 and 5 and introduced a stronger emphasis on equity and quality. Overall, it takes a more holistic view of health, moving beyond survival to well-being and social transformation.

Board Chair

In July 2019, the Rt Hon Helen Clark, former Prime Minister of New Zealand, was appointed PMNCH Board Chair, following in the footsteps of Dr Michelle Bachelet, former President of Chile (Board Chair 2018) and Graça Machel (Board Chair 2013-2018).

The Vice Chairs of PMNCH’s Board are the Government of India (who acted as interim Chair of the Board in 2018 and 2019) and the Government of the UK.
Our work and achievements

PMNCH is currently developing its five-year strategy for 2021-2025), which will focus on three areas of work:

1. Maternal, newborn and child health: prioritizing MDGs 3 and 4 (addressing preventable maternal and child mortality, including newborn deaths and stillbirths), with a particular focus on humanitarian and fragile settings.
2. Sexual and reproductive health and rights (SRHR): addressing morbidity and mortality relating to SRHR, as well as the politicization of SRHR and threats to rights.
3. Adolescents: dealing with a growing and largely unaddressed burden relating to adolescent health and well-being.

In order to deliver these objectives PMNCH will use its core function of advocacy, which will be supported by three approaches: knowledge synthesis and application; partner engagement, alignment and empowerment; and execution of campaigns and accountability for outcomes.

As we contribute to the urgent need for leadership and technical guidance, we will seek to remain nimble, strategic and flexible in our support for partners on the ground, focusing resolutely on the most vulnerable.

PMNCH’s achievements to date include:

- **Giving voice to thousands** of individuals, organizations and governments in numerous consultations managed by the Partnership (e.g. consultations on the SDGs for Health, the Global Strategy for Women’s, Children’s and Adolescents’ Health) and within initiatives and programmes of work, including enabling civil society organizations to engage in the work of the Global Financing Facility.

- **Facilitating financial commitments** to support improvements for WCAH, including building the Every Women Every Child movement to orchestrate more than US$ 150 billion in concrete, measurable commitments for the Global Strategy, and for WCAH more broadly, since 2010. This includes the historic commitment by the Government of India at the PMNCH Partners’ Forum in New Delhi in 2018 to earmark an additional 2.5% of its GDP to health (around US$ 100 billion, of which some 60% is expected to be directed towards WCAH).

- **Helping to secure global agreements** between the 192 Member States of the United Nations, ensuring improved visibility for WCAH, including the protection of SRHR issues (e.g. the SDGs and the Every Newborn Action Plan; resolutions on universal health coverage at the World Health Assembly, the UN General Assembly, and the Inter-Parliamentary Union) and developing broad-based partner initiatives and agreements (e.g. Ending Preventable Maternal Mortality; the Nurturing Care for Early Childhood Development Framework).

- **Streamlining global accountability efforts** through the development and management of the Unified Accountability Framework (UAF) with a clear structure and system to strengthen accountability at all levels for the Global Strategy. The UAF was developed by PMNCH with the H6 agencies to organize and align stakeholders to streamline the “monitor, review and act” elements of accountability. Our operationalization of the UAF has led to fewer and better aligned accountability reports, as exemplified by the collection of articles “Leaving no woman, no child, and no adolescent behind”, led by PMNCH and Countdown to 2030 and published by The BMJ and BMJ Global Health. PMNCH brings together key international actors to report on progress made, and to highlight ongoing challenges leading to unequal outcomes, in achieving the SDGs.

- **Developing global consensus and supporting young people** through activities such as the Global Consensus Statement on Meaningful Adolescent & Youth Engagement, endorsed by over 250 organizations in 2018, and building youth capacity through grants to develop coalitions and undertake joint advocacy and accountability work.

PMNCH’s new vision is “A world in which every woman, child and adolescent realizes their right to health and well-being, leaving no one behind”.

PMNCH’s new mission is “To mobilize, align and amplify the voice of partners to advocate for women’s, children’s and adolescents’ health and well-being, particularly for the most vulnerable”.

Learn more at [www.pmnch.org](http://www.pmnch.org) Follow @pmnch on Twitter & Facebook