The Partnership Grant - 2006

In late 2006, the Partnership for Maternal, Newborn and Child Health obtained a grant from the Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation to achieve the maximum reduction in maternal, newborn and child mortality within a four year period in three high burden countries in Africa, namely in Burkina Faso, Malawi and Mozambique. The grant is also designed to support an additional three large countries (Ethiopia, DR Congo, and Nigeria) to build partnership towards a common MNCH agenda. The grant objectives are:

- Engage governments and partners in concerted, accelerated efforts sufficient to achieve coverage levels for high impact MNCH interventions consistent with at least a 25% reduction in child mortality (under-five years) within three years.
- Provide independent evaluation of progress and outcomes
- Support rapid expansion of evidence based MNCH interventions, by conducting value added activities through PMNCH, developing and maintaining high levels of coordinated commitment and support for MNCH among the partners and governments

Implementation of the grant would be supported by the WHO, UNICEF, WB, UNFPA and other bilateral and multilateral donors. The grant sets aside US$ 2.5 million per year for three years for implementation and US$ 330,000 for evaluation for each country. The planning process for each country should assess potential MNCH gaps, model scaling up scenarios, leverage additional resources, and result in an implementation plan that would include strategic and catalytic activities to accelerate MNCH interventions. The identified interventions are to be based on the Africa child survival strategy and the Roadmap for maternal and newborn health.