

Call to Action on improving access to and appropriate use of amoxicillin and gentamicin for newborn and child health

Child Health Task Force commodities sub-group – January 25, 2023

Photo: GHSC/PSM



**Promoting the Quality
of Medicines Plus (PQM+)**

USAID MEDICINES, TECHNOLOGIES, AND
PHARMACEUTICAL SERVICES (MTaPS) PROGRAM
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Agenda

- I. Background
- II. Call to Action paper:
purpose and contents
- III. Next steps:
 - Request for feedback
 - Dissemination
 - Discussion



Background: The global challenge

- There are over 700,000 under 5 deaths each year from pneumonia and other treatable respiratory infections, with 90% in 40 LMICs
- Global changes in treatment of newborn and child health conditions have still not been widely adopted
- 54 countries need accelerated action to meet the SDG target for under-five mortality
- **Access to and appropriate use of amoxicillin and gentamicin for newborn and child health through primary health care remains a challenge**



Photo credit J Briggs MSH

Background: Addressing key barriers and bottlenecks

What is needed to further the advances already made and increase access to and appropriate use of pediatric amoxicillin and gentamicin?

Prioritized bottlenecks:



Financing

Inadequate financing of pediatric amoxicillin and gentamicin formulations



Quantification

Inaccurate quantification at all levels



Quality

Quality of child health products not guaranteed



Appropriate Use

Inappropriate use of medicines for treatment of pneumonia and PSBI by providers and caregivers

Improving uptake of amoxicillin and gentamicin

Evidence and solution building process to review experience and evidence related to selected bottlenecks

Consultative process:

- Review of recent literature
- Call for evidence, experience, and data
- Surveys to priority countries
- Consultative meetings
 - Convene country stakeholders, donors, and implementing partners
 - Share evidence on prioritized bottlenecks in uptake of medicines for newborn and child health
 - Discuss root causes
 - Develop consensus on actionable, prioritized solutions
- **Call-to-action paper**
 - **with defined roles for both countries and global partners**

Series of 3 consultative meetings with the Newborn and Child Health Commodities subgroup of the CHTF :



May 2022

Consultative Meeting #1: Quantification & Financing
Consultative Meeting #2: Quality
Consultative Meeting #3: Appropriate Use

- Included technical experts from:
 - Government agencies
 - Global health institutions
 - NGOs
 - Private sector
 - Academic institutions
- Experts reviewed current evidence, identified root causes, and agreed on actionable solutions

Recordings and presentations can be found here:

<https://www.childhealthtaskforce.org/events/2022/05/improving-uptake-amoxicillin-and-gentamicin-three-part-consultation>

Call to Action paper: Purpose



- Re-ignite action to improve uptake of amoxicillin and gentamicin for children and newborns (also serve as proxy for other essential medicines in PHC)
- Sets out the recommended solutions
 - not necessarily new and innovative but not currently being implemented
 - Start with low hanging fruit that are feasible in the short term
- Describes the critical roles of country stakeholders, donors, implementing partners, and civil society organizations in driving purposeful action and saving children's lives
- Use to bring all country stakeholders together around a common goal and drive action
- Stresses the importance of strong health systems

Key action points: Strengthening quantification



Coordinate forecasting and supply planning



Improve timeliness and accuracy of data collected at all levels of the health supply



Build skills for data organization, routine review and analysis of consumption data and use established tools to conduct quantifications

Key action points: Increasing financing



Build capacity to manage available domestic resources



Improve transparency of financial commitments for procurement of medicines and build accountability



Include community-level requirements for amoxicillin in grant applications to the Global Fund

Key action points: Improving quality assurance



Strengthen national regulatory agencies to support GMP inspections, streamline registration, and post market surveillance

Advance regulatory convergence and harmonization

Strengthen coordination mechanisms to eliminate constraints to procurement of quality products

Ensure that procurers accurately specify quality requirements in tender documents and purchase only quality-assured products

Raise public awareness of substandard and falsified products

Use long-term procurement agreements and tax and tariff waivers to incentivize local manufacture

Ensure uninterrupted availability of quality assured gentamicin (plus 1 ml syringes) and amoxicillin

Key action points: Enabling appropriate use



Align national policies and guidelines with global recommendations and disseminate through range of media



Provide electronic decision-making tools to support providers



Ensure effective supervision, mentoring, and coaching



Set standards and indicators to monitor availability and use practices of providers and caregivers

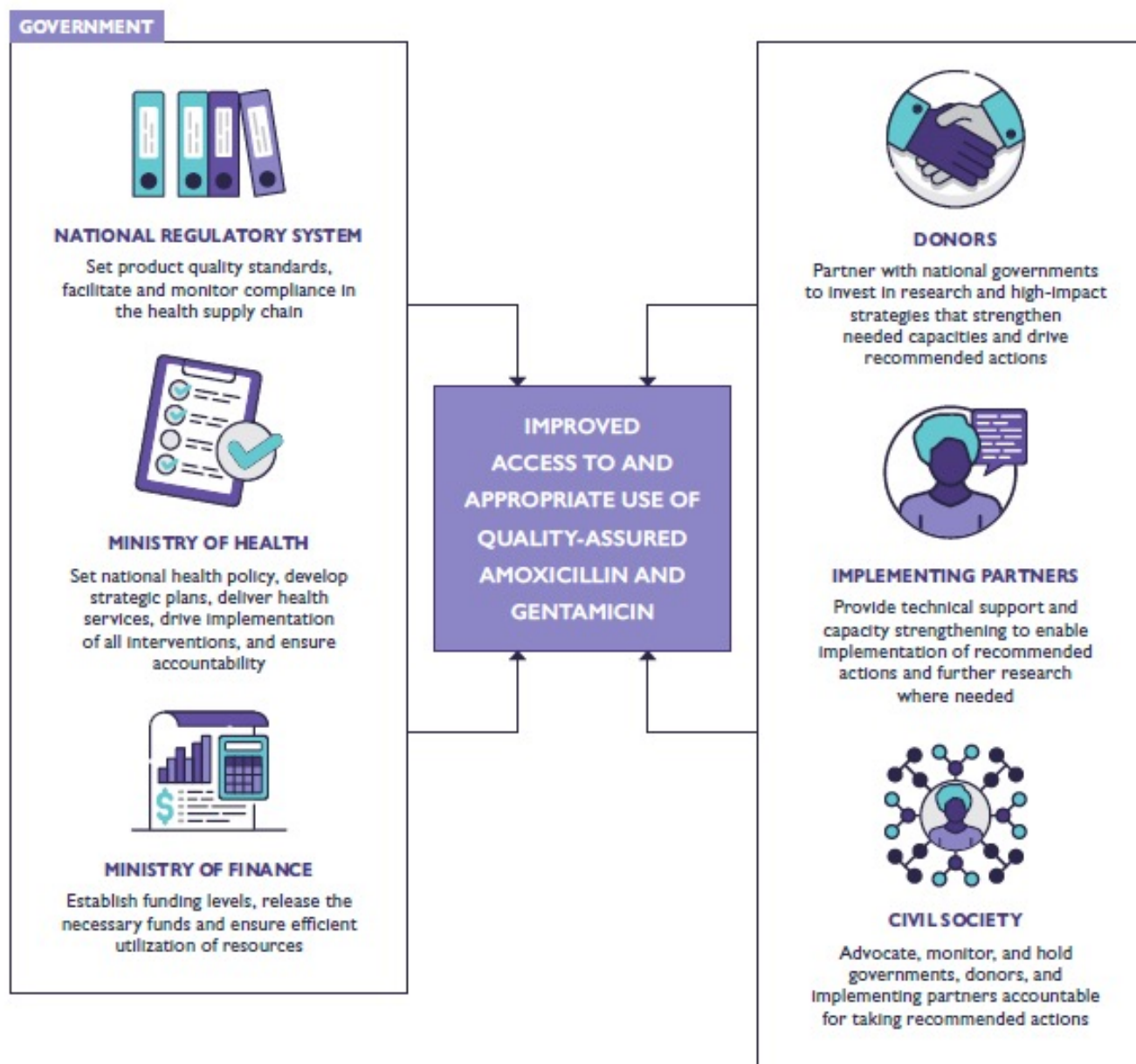


Design and implement evidence-based, multifaceted interventions



Research linkages between rational use of medicines and payment mechanisms and insurance schemes

Doing your part: Role of stakeholders



CHILD SURVIVAL ACTION

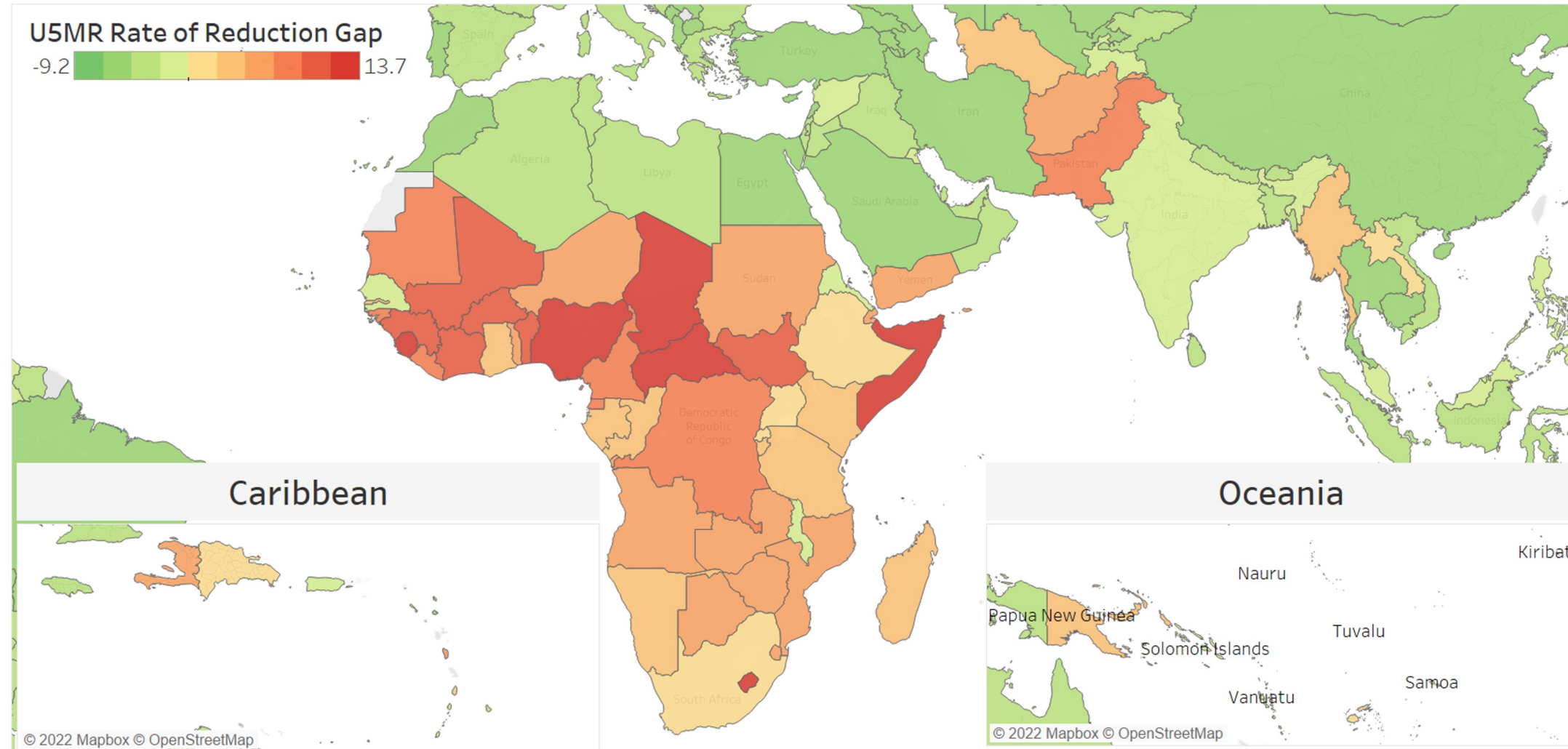
A renewed call to action to end preventable child deaths

•Full slides here: bit.ly/CSAdeck



What brings us together?

54 countries need accelerated action to meet the SDG target for under-five mortality.



Countries colored in red are "off-track" for achieving the 2030 SDG Target for under-five mortality (2030 SDG target = 25 deaths per 1,000 live births). The colors represent the difference between the average annual rate of reduction in under-five mortality required to achieve the 2030 target and the historical rate of reduction (2010-2020). The darker the red, the greater the gap between the required rate and the historic rate. Countries in green are all considered "on-track".

Next steps:

Request for feedback:

Please share any feedback on the draft Call to Action paper by **Friday, February 3, 2023**.



Email feedback to: childhealthtaskforce@jsi.com

Proposed dissemination strategies for the paper

- Briefing sessions with UNICEF and USAID regional and country offices
- Country discussions and planning sessions with all stakeholders, e.g., through TWG
- Link to Child Survival Action
- Consider address as part of country iCCM scale up plans
- Presentation at international and regional conferences



Discussion on the call-to-action paper :

- Are the actions feasible?
- Do you foresee any challenges?
- Additional suggestions for dissemination
- Questions



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Photo: GHSC-PSM



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