



# COLLABORATIVE STRATEGY TO IMPROVE MATERNAL AND CHILD HEALTH: APPROACHES TO THE CHALLENGES AND SDGS 2030"

Endang Sari Nainggolan<sup>1</sup>, Indra Agussamad<sup>2</sup>, Petra Dian Sari Zega<sup>3</sup>, Rosmega<sup>4</sup>, Lisbeth Gurning<sup>5</sup>, Karina<sup>6</sup>

1-2STIKes Mitra Husada Medan

Email: endangsari3501@gmail.com, Syamsiarindra@gmail.com, Karinaptri@gmail.com

### **ABSTRACT**

Collaborative strategies are an important approach in improving maternal and child health, especially in the context of achieving Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) 2030. This article explores the various challenges faced in implementing this collaborative strategy, as well as an analysis of its impact on maternal and child health. Effective collaborative methods and resulting discussions on implementing these strategies are also discussed in this article, with the aim of providing practical guidance for health practitioners and policy makers.

## **Keywords**

Collaborative Strategy, Maternal and Child Health, SDGs 2030, Implementation Challenges, Collaborative Methods.

### INTRODUCTION

Achieving the 2030 Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) in improving maternal and child health is a global challenge that requires a coordinated and integrated approach. One approach that is recognized as effective is a collaborative strategy, where various stakeholders such as governments, non-governmental organizations and civil society work together to achieve common goals. This strategy not only focuses on increasing the accessibility of health services, but also on improving the quality of care during pregnancy, childbirth and childhood.

collaborative strategies is faced with various complex challenges. For example, effective cross-sector coordination is often difficult to achieve due to differences in priorities and organizational culture between collaborative partners. Additionally, the sustainability of maternal and child health programs is also a major concern, with many initiatives at risk of cuts in funding or support that could threaten the continuity of the health services provided.

#### **METHOD**

This article uses a qualitative approach to evaluate collaborative strategies that have been implemented in various global contexts. Data was collected through literature studies, policy analysis, and interviews with health experts and policy makers. A triangulation approach was used to validate findings and develop practical recommendations.





### RESULT AND DISCUSSION

Maternal and child health is an important indicator of human development and societal welfare globally. Although significant progress has been made in recent decades, major challenges remain, especially in developing countries. High

Maternal and neonatal mortality rates, as well as unequal access to health services are the main problems that need to be addressed. Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) 2030 in the Context of Maternal and Child Health

SDGs 2030 set ambitious targets to improve maternal and child health worldwide. These targets include significantly reducing maternal mortality neonatal rates, increasing universal access to reproductive health services, and achieving gender equality in access to health services. A collaborative approach is key to achieving these goals. This strategy involves cooperation between government, non-governmental organizations, the private sector and international organizations. This crosssector collaboration allows for the pooling of resources, increased efficiency, and the innovation spread of health care delivery.

# **Examples of Effective Collaborative Methods**

Effective collaborative methods include:

- Strengthening the Primary Health System: Increasing the accessibility and quality of maternal and child health services through improving the primary health system.
- Promote partnerships between the public and private sectors to develop and implement innovations in health technology and clinical practice.
- Education and Training: Conduct training for health workers to improve their abilities in caring for pregnant women, giving birth and caring for newborns.
- Impact Evaluation and Empirical Evidence

Measuring the impact of this collaborative strategy is important to assess implementation success. Evaluations may include reductions in maternal and neonatal mortality rates, increases in access and use of health services, and changes in other health indicators. Empirical evidence from case studies in various countries shows that cross-sector collaboration can produce significant changes in maternal and child health.





## **Potential and Challenges**

- 1. Potential.
- a. The COVID-19 pandemic has provided a collective awareness that health is a priority issue and has a major impact on the national resilience system.
- b. Health awareness as a priority issue directs policies to strengthen health system resilience. The President of the Republic of Indonesia gave directions to the Ministry of Health regarding three matters, namely:
  - \* Accelerate the implementation of vaccination to achieve herd immunity;
  - ♣ Handling the pandemic better and more sustainably; And
  - \* Transformation of the health sector.
- c. The COVID-19 pandemic has also provided momentum for the Health sector to transform Health and Public Health Programs. People are used to and easy to change, and will always demand change if they feel it is necessary to improve the quality of public services. The need for increasingly widespread use of digital technology for various service sectors, including health. The target for expanding the services of the Social Security Administering Agency (BPJS) for Health is to reach 98% of the population with the target of expanding coverage Contribution Assistance Recipients (PBI) to reach 112.9 million people by 2024.

### 2. Challenge

a) Health costs continue to increase, but are not yet optimal in supporting the achievement of public health programs

- b) Fulfillment of access to health services
- c) There is a need to increase early detection and surveillance, as well as strengthening responses to crisis situations:
- d) Health expenditure that still focuses on curative efforts;
- e) There are various health financing schemes that need to be harmonized;
- f) Lack of quantity and distribution of quality human resources (HR);
- g) Needs planning and mapping of the number, type and qualifications of health workers have not been integrated with their provision and fulfillment;
- h) Limited use of digital technology; And
- i) Limited public health laboratory services that meet standards in promotive and preventive efforts.
- In carrying out its duties, the Directorate of Nutrition and Maternal and Child Health carries out the following functions:
  - a) Preparation of policy formulation in the fields of health surveillance, early detection, control of risk factors and standardization of maternal and child nutrition and health services.
  - b) Implementation of policies in the fields of health surveillance, early detection, control of risk factors and standardization of maternal and child nutrition and health services.
  - c) Preparation of norms, standards, procedures and criteria in the fields of health surveillance, early detection, control of risk factors and standardization of maternal and child nutrition and health services.





- d) Providing technical guidance and supervision in the fields of health surveillance, early detection, control of risk factors and standardization of maternal and child nutrition and health services.
- e) Monitoring, evaluation and reporting
- f) Implementation of Directorate administrative affairs.

Collaborative strategies involving various parties can be an effective solution for improving maternal and child health. This article discusses collaborative approaches that can be implemented to achieve these goals:

A. Partnership between the Government and Health Institutions

Importance of Partnerships: Partnerships between governments and health institutions serve as the foundation for building a comprehensive and efficient health system. The government is responsible for creating policies, budget allocations, and regulatory oversight, while health institutions such as hospitals, clinics, and community health centers implement these policies through direct health services.

## Implementation Example:

Immunization Programs: The government can set immunization policies and provide vaccines, while health institutions implement vaccination programs, conduct outreach, and handle vaccine administration.

Prenatal Education: Governmentsponsored maternal health programs can be promoted by health institutions to increase maternal knowledge regarding prenatal care and delivery. Challenges and Solutions:

Coordination: Ensuring coordination

between government policy and implementation on the ground can be a challenge. Solutions include regular meetings between relevant parties and the use of technology to share information.

Funding: Adequate financing is often an issue. Effective and transparent budget allocation can help overcome this obstacle.

B. Collaboration between Health Service Providers and the Community

Integrated Approach: Collaboration between health care providers and communities that health ensures programs meet local needs. approach involves health care providers working directly with communities to and treat specific identify problems.

## Implementation Example:

Local Midwife Training: Provide training for local midwives in prenatal care and delivery techniques, as well as understanding safe traditional practices.

Health Education at the Village Level: Provide health education to the community at the village level to increase understanding of maternal and child care.

### Challenges and Solutions:

Cultural Sensitivity: Addressing cultural differences and local practices requires adapting strategies. Involving community leaders in the education and training process can help. Accessibility: Providing services in remote areas requires good infrastructure and logistics.





C. Active Participation of Non-Governmental Organizations (NGOs)

Role of NGOs: NGOs often play an important role in providing health services in underserved areas and supporting existing health programs. They can fill gaps that governments and other health agencies cannot meet.

## Implementation Example:

Immunization Campaigns: NGOs such as Save the Children can help in distributing vaccines and educating the public.

Improving Health Facilities: NGOs can be involved in building or improving health facilities in areas where they are needed.

## Challenges and Solutions:

Coordination with Government: NGOs often operate independently, so coordination with government for program integration is important. Clear and regular collaboration arrangements can help.

Funding: NGOs often depend on external donations and support, which may not always be stable. Diversifying funding sources can help overcome dependency.

# D. Use of Technology for Monitoring and Evaluation

Benefits of Technology: Technology can increase efficiency in monitoring and evaluating health programs. Integrated health information systems enable accurate data collection, tracking of health outcomes, and better analysis.

## Implementation Example:

Mobile Apps: Apps for monitoring pregnant women's health can provide information and reminders about medical visits and necessary care.

Data Management System: Use of a cloud-based system to store and analyze health data that can be accessed by various related parties.

## Challenges and Solutions:

Infrastructure Limitations: Not all regions have adequate technological infrastructure. Investments in infrastructure and technical training can address these issues.

Data Privacy: Health data management must pay attention to privacy and security. Implementation of strict security protocols is necessary to protect sensitive information.

# E. Community Empowerment and Education

The Importance of Empowerment: Community empowerment through education and training can improve individuals' ability to make good and sustainable health decisions.

### Implementation Example:

Health Education Program: Organizes courses and seminars on nutrition, hygiene, and baby care for mothers in the community.

Economic Training: Programs that provide economic and entrepreneurial skills to improve the economic status of families, which in turn can support maternal and child health.





## Challenges and Solutions:

Community Involvement: Gaining active community participation in health programs can be challenging. Involving local leaders and community leaders in designing and delivering programs can increase engagement.

Availability of Resources: Requires resources for education and training. Collaboration with donors and local organizations can help provide necessary resources.

## F. Multisectoral Approach

Holistic Approach: A multisectoral approach recognizes that maternal and child health is not only influenced by the health sector, but also by educational, economic and social factors. Integration of various sectors can create a greater and more sustainable impact.

#### Implementation Example:

Integrated Programs: Describes programs that combine health education with increased educational access and economic support. For example, schools can provide health services and health education in their curriculum.

Support for Working Mothers: Provide policies that support working mothers, such as maternity leave and childcare facilities in the workplace.

## Challenges and Solutions:

Inter-Sectoral Coordination: Integrating various sectors requires good coordination. Establishing cross-sector committees or working groups can facilitate this coordination.

Integrated Funding: Look for funding sources that can support various sectors simultaneously. A public-private partnership-based approach can be a solution for integrated funding.

### **CONCLUSION**

Overall, collaborative strategies are an important and effective approach in achieving the maternal and child health goals listed in the 2030 SDGs. Cross-sector collaboration and active participation from various stakeholders have brought significant benefits in increasing the accessibility of health services and public awareness. However, to maximize its impact, further efforts are needed to overcome challenges such as differences in organizational culture and program sustainability issues.

Successful implementation of this strategy requires strong commitment from all parties involved, policy continued support, innovation in resource management and capacity development. In this way, collaboration can be an effective means of achieving ambitious maternal and child health goals, in line with the SDGs 2030 vision to create a world where everyone can live healthily and prosperously.





### REFERENCES

World Health Organization (WHO).(2018).Strategies toward ending preventable maternal mortality (EPMM). Geneva: WHO. Available at: https://www.who.int/reproductivehealt h/topics/maternal\_perinatal/epmm/en/

United Nations Children's Fund (UNICEF). (2020). Committing to Child Survival: A Promise Renewed. New York: UNICEF. Available at: https://data.unicef.org/resources/com

The Lancet. (2016). Series on Maternal Health. Available at: https://www.thelancet.com/series/mate rnal-health-2016

United Nations Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs). (2015). Goal 3: Ensure healthy lives and promote well-being for all at all ages. Available at: https://www.un.org/sustainabledevelopment/health/

Grollman, C., et al. (2019). Collaborative approaches to improve maternal and child health in low and middle income countries: a systematic review. PLoS One, 14(8), e0222353. DOI: 10.1371/journal.pone.0222353

Bhutta, Z. A., et al. (2014). Evidence-based interventions for improvement of maternal and child nutrition: what can be done and at what cost? Lancet, 382(9890), 452-477. DOI: 10.1016/S0140-6736(13)60996-4

Partnership for Maternal, Newborn & Child Health (PMNCH). (2020). Knowledge Summary: Maternal and Child Health. Availableat: <a href="https://www.who.int/pmnch/knowledge/publications/maternal-child-health/en/">https://www.who.int/pmnch/knowledge/publications/maternal-child-health/en/</a>

United Nations Population Fund (UNFPA). (2020). Maternal Health. Available at: https://www.unfpa.org/maternal-health