



# UPDATE ON INNOVATION



# INNOVATION: Key for building equitable and resilient health systems to deliver better health for women, children and adolescents

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## The challenge innovation can help solve:

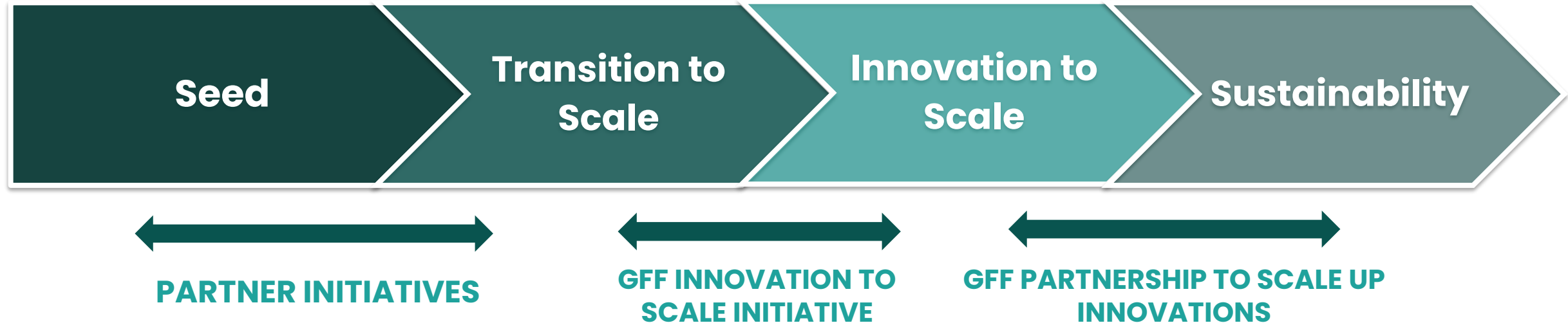
- Curves are not bending to reach the SDG3 targets. Accelerated rate of progress needed.
- COVID-19 and other crises highlighted health system weaknesses & increased health inequities
- There is a need to:
  - Ensure **continuity of essential health services** throughout crises and beyond
  - Strengthen **service quality**
  - Reimagine **service delivery** to reach the most vulnerable communities
  - Build more **resilient and equitable health systems** for the future

## The opportunity to make innovation part of the solution:

- Innovation can enable countries transform their health systems and scale up impact
- Increasing country demand for support to help **select, scale, and sustain innovations** linked to national health priorities and health system reforms
- Several areas where innovations can make a difference in expanding access to affordable and quality care: **service delivery models (incl. primary health care), health financing, supply chain, products, and technologies**

# Stages of innovation uptake in country health systems

Innovation ecosystem needs support from partners and donors across various stages



## Early stage:

needs financing for innovators to develop and test innovations, dialogue with gov. on needs aiming to leverage support for innovations

## Transition stage:

needs financing from partners to both innovators and governments/ third parties for pilots, creation of innovation pipelines

## Mature stage:

governments need financing and technical assistance to integrate and implement selected innovations at scale, and build capacity to manage and utilize them

# GFF's role in innovation ecosystem spans across different stages, responds to opportunities and challenges

## Opportunity:

- **Rich ecosystem** for health innovation; Innovations already happening across many GFF countries; **high demand** for further support on exploration, investment, and implementation of innovations

## Challenge:

- Leveraging opportunities in a strategic and systematic way to achieve RMNCAH-N goals
- Accessing sustainable/sufficient financing for innovation scale up
- Often dual need for support to innovators to build their business and to government for uptake into the health system



## GFF VALUE ADD

### 1. Convening and prioritization:

- Country Platforms are a government led forum for identification of innovation opportunities and solutions
- Country-led prioritization process focuses on needs for RMNCAH+N innovations in line with priorities

### 1. Identification of innovations:

- Connecting needs with relevant innovations

### 2. Financing and technical assistance:

- GFF trust fund supports preparatory work + co-financing implementation at scale with IDA/IBRD
- TA to strengthen institutionalization and country capacity to implement and scale innovations

# Stages of GFF Innovation Support to countries

## GFF STRATEGIC DIRECTIONS

Close equity gaps by supporting disadvantaged and vulnerable populations (SD2)

Protect and promote high-quality essential health services by reimagining service delivery (SD3)

Build more resilient, equitable, and sustainable health financing systems (SD4)

Bolstering country leadership and accountability (SD1)

Ensuring results and data for decision making (SD5)



**2. MATCHING COUNTRY CHALLENGES TO INNOVATION SOLUTIONS**  
Through financing analysis and TA to government and stakeholders



**3. FINANCING INNOVATIONS**  
GFF and WB financing for countries to integrate scale up of innovations (implementation + capacity building)



**GFF Innovation Focus:**

- *PHC delivery redesign*
  - *Supply chain*
  - *Quality of care*
  - *Data systems*


(e.g., *delivery models/digital/technology/products*)




**1. COUNTRY DIALOGUE + PRIORITIZATION**  
Integrating innovation into country platforms, Investment Cases, and policy/financing dialogue



**4. IMPLEMENTATION AND RESULTS**  
Supporting innovation program implementation through WB projects and tracking results



# GFF Innovations Approach: Two Pathways for Implementation and Scale Up

## 1 Innovation implementation through partners

- **Innovation to Scale Initiative** (implemented by UNICEF as GFF partner)
- Innovations selected based on country priorities; provision of financing and technical assistance to implement and generate evidence for government uptake at later stage

## 2 Scaling up innovation through government systems

- Support from GFF trust fund to govt. for technical assistance to identify appropriate innovations to be integrated into ministry-led service delivery and health financing plans
- GFF Trust Fund and World Bank financing provided to govt. to implement innovations at scale with focus on longer-term operational and financial sustainability

# Pathway 1: Innovation to Scale Initiative (launched 2019)

## Mali – Scaling up early MNC in fragile settings

- Integrated package of Maternal & Newborn Care (BeMONC, KMC & NICU)
- All regional, district and community health facilities equipped. Training started on MNH modules and newborn screening.
- Newborn HMIS developed

## Tanzania– Safer Birth Bundle of Care

- Rolled out to 30 hospitals in 5 regions
- Early data of 11 months implementation encouraging out of 13,249 births:
  - > 90 newborn lives saved during perinatal period and between 12–13 maternal deaths averted.
- Scale up to at least additional 100 hospitals



## Ethiopia – Saving Little Lives at Birth:

- 75 hospitals equipped and clinical mentors trained as part of Phase 1 implementation
- Phase 2 underway to scale this up to 218 hospitals.
- New WB/GFF financed project includes corresponding DLI with \$5M IDA & \$5M GFF



## Pathway 2: GFF partner countries are already integrating innovations across their health systems in response to specific country needs

Focus Area	Countries	Innovations under consideration
Service Delivery Redesign	Ghana, Indonesia, Pakistan, Ivory Coast	Networks of Care model, Human Development Worker program, Hub and spoke, Centres of Excellence
Digital Tools for Quality of Care	Burkina Faso, Cambodia, Chad, Indonesia, Rwanda, Tanzania, Uganda	M-Mama Application, Safer Births Bundle of Care, Nest360, Commcare/Terre de Homes, eHDW application
Supply Chain*	Burkina Faso, Ethiopia	mBranan LMIS application, "Warehouse in a box"
Strengthening Data Systems	Cambodia, Rwanda	OpenMRS, DHIS2, Dashboards
Performance Scorecards	Cambodia, Indonesia, Nigeria, Rwanda	RMNCAH+N Quality of Care Scorecards, Child Scorecards



# What does success for supporting innovations look like?



**More health workers with the right training and tools to deliver quality care**



**Stronger referral systems to ensure patients are directed to appropriate care for complications/emergencies**



**Policymakers accessing integrated data from the frontlines to inform resource allocation and decision making**



**Innovations integrated into service delivery and financing reforms to build health system resilience and sustainability**

**Resilient health systems and expanded access to quality care for all women, children and adolescents**

# Reflections

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- Rwanda
- Laerdal
- UNICEF
- Private Sector
- Sierra Leone





[www.globalfinancingfacility.org](http://www.globalfinancingfacility.org) | [✉ gffsecretariat@worldbank.org](mailto:gffsecretariat@worldbank.org) | [🐦 @thegff](https://twitter.com/thegff)

