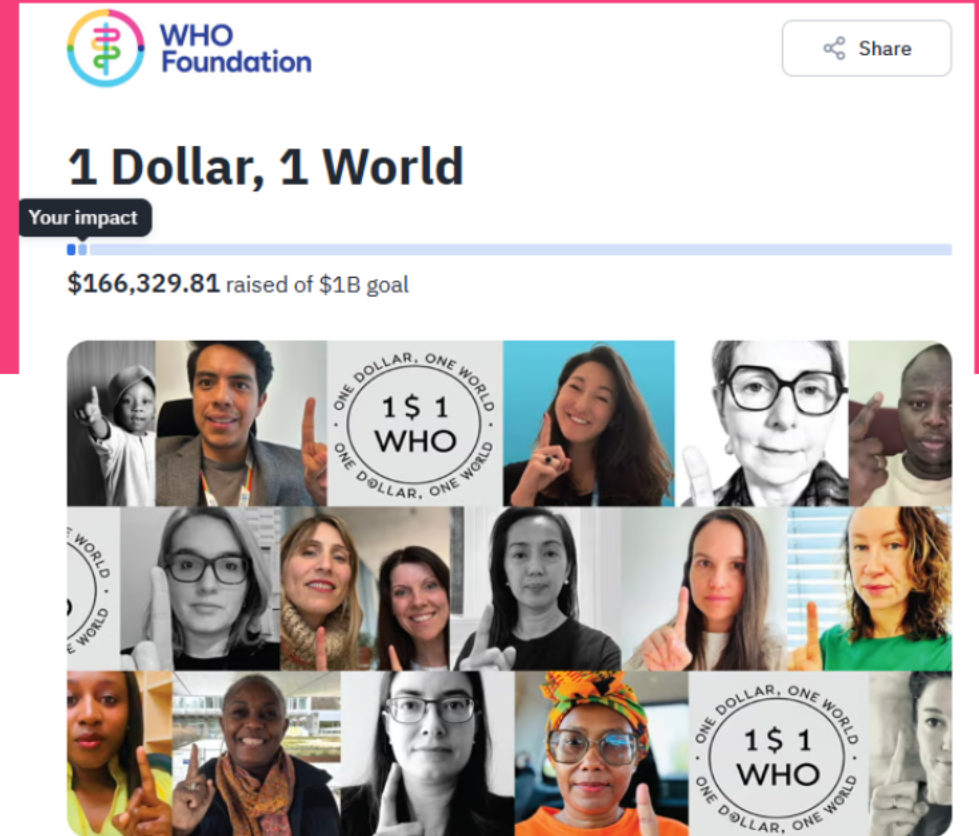


1 Dollar, 1 World Campaign has raised over 166,000 USD

1- **Donate** - Scan QR code to donate now.

2 - **Share** – Share your support on your personal channels with a photo holding up one finger to symbolize unity. Use the hashtags #1Dollar1World and #HealthForAll

3 - **Amplify** – Encourage at least 5 friends, colleagues, influencers or supporters to do the same.



WHO Foundation

Share

1 Dollar, 1 World

Your impact

\$166,329.81 raised of \$1B goal

ONE DOLLAR, ONE WORLD
1 \$ 1
WHO
ONE DOLLAR, ONE WORLD

Scan QR code
to participate



WHO Nursing and Midwifery Global Community of Practice
Live Learning Webinars

Transitioning to Midwifery Models of Care

20 March 2025
14:00-15:15 CET



World Health
Organization



WHO Collaborating Centre for
Digital Learning in Health Emergencies



Dr Ulrika Rehnström Loi
Technical Officer
World Health Organization, HQ

Disclaimer

The views and opinions expressed in this event are solely those of the speakers and do not represent those of their affiliation or WHO.



WHO Collaborating Centre for
Digital Learning in Health Emergencies



World Health
Organization



Dr Allisyn Carol Moran

Team Lead

Department of Maternal, Newborn, Child
and Adolescent Health and Ageing
World Health Organization, HQ

Presentation of the Transitioning to Midwifery Models of Care: A Global Position Paper



Sally Pairman

MNZM, D.Mid, MA, BA, RM, RGON.

Former Chief Executive

**International Confederation of Midwives
(ICM)**

Transitioning to midwifery models of care

Dr Sally Pairman

Consultant, International Confederation of Midwives
Co-Chair, WHO Working Group on Midwifery Models of Care



What is the problem?

High maternal & newborn mortality & morbidity

- 800 maternal deaths daily
- 5,400 stillbirths daily
- 6,500 neonate deaths daily
- 27 million morbidity episodes annually due to 5 most frequent complications of childbirth
- Most deaths/morbidity outcomes are **avoidable**

Poor quality care

- Poor quality, discontinuous routine care by multiple providers with inadequate links with community & wider health system
- Global shortage of at least 900,000 midwives (worst in Africa)

Women's unmet demands

- Women want access to competent, better supported midwives providing respectful, dignified and non-discriminatory care

Midwives are an answer – from research evidence

- Midwives working in a **midwifery model of care** improve outcomes and save costs
- **Midwives leading the care** of women and newborns across the childbirth continuum
 - Antenatal period, labour, birth, postnatal period
- Midwives working across their **full scope of practice**
 - Educated, competent, regulated/licensed
 - Autonomous and accountable
 - Collaborative with specialists when needs of women and/or newborns require specialist care (and midwife has reached boundaries of scope of practice)
- Midwifery models of care are **supported by wider health systems**
 - Continuity of midwife care, birth centres, community-based services, private practice

The case for midwifery models of care

Cochrane systematic review: Continuity of midwife care models Sandall et al., 2024

Continuity of midwife care vs other model of care



Increased maternal satisfaction

High level of overall satisfaction with care



Improved maternal health outcomes

More vaginal births, fewer C-sections and instrumental births



Cost-savings

Fewer medical interventions

STAGE Working Group Midwifery: Membership

Co-chairs

Jane Sandall – STAGE
Sally Pairman - ICM

STAGE members



Experts in midwifery, SRMNACH and health systems



STAGE
MIDWIFERY
WG

Professional organizations

FIGO
IPA
ICN
COINN

UN partners

UNFPA
UNICEF

Women's voices

From Slovakia and Zimbabwe



Global position paper: collaborative process



- Authored and published by WHO, 15 October 2024
Aligned with WHO documents & strategies
- Endorsed by WHO STAGE :
Strategic Technical Advisory Group of Experts for Maternal, Newborn, Child and Adolescent Health & Nutrition
- Contribution of 90+ individuals and partners
including women's groups and among which:



Global position paper: aim



Provide policymakers and healthcare leaders with comprehensive information about midwifery models of care

- including definition, guiding principles and the “case”-

to improve the quality of maternal and newborn care and ultimately contribute to better health outcomes for women and newborns

Global position paper: content



Conclusion

5

Guiding principles

4

1

Background

Definitions

Who is a midwife?
What do midwives do?
What are midwifery models of care?

2

3

The case for midwifery models of care

WHO definition of models of care WHO 2020

The way health services should be delivered to meet the health needs of individuals and communities.

- **Who** provides care
- **Where** care is provided
- **How** care is provided
- **What** resources are required

To ensure people receive quality and person-centered health services.



© UNFPA

Definition



Midwifery models of care:

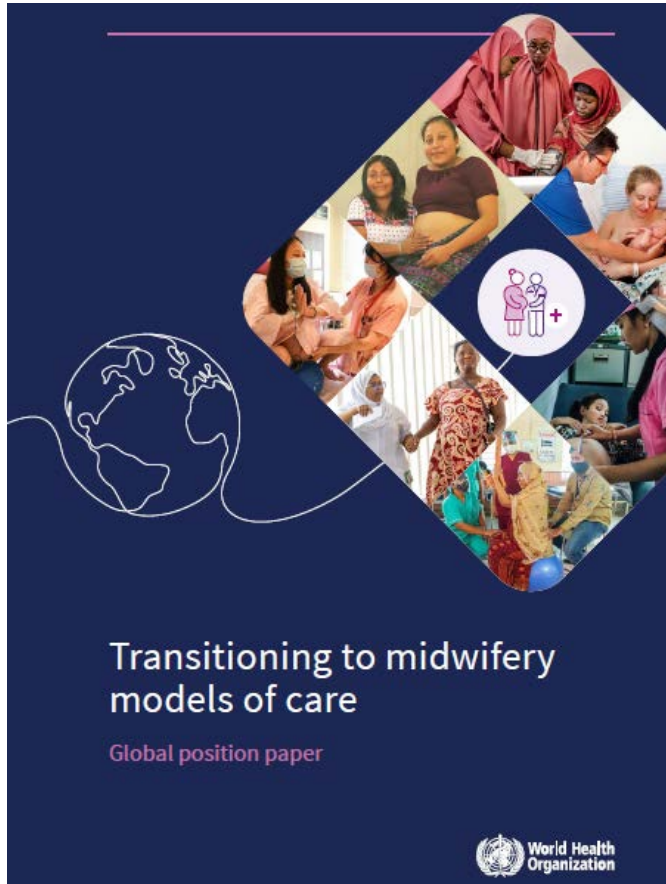
Midwives, who are educated, licensed, and regulated, are **the main care providers for women and newborns from pre-pregnancy to the postnatal period**. They **provide respectful, high-quality care** based on midwifery principles that focus on:

1. A person-centered approach.
2. Building partnerships with women.
3. Supporting natural processes.
4. Using interventions only when necessary.

Midwifery care is **tailored to individual needs**, delivered within well-functioning health systems with proper resources and referral processes. Midwives **collaborate with other healthcare professionals** in teams built on trust and respect, ensuring personalized care for every woman and newborn.

This care model works across all settings—homes, communities, hospitals, and crisis environments—making it accessible, equitable, and culturally relevant for women, families, and communities worldwide.

The case



Midwifery models of care

SAVE LIVES



save lives & improve health & well-being

of women, newborns, partners, families and communities

HUMANIZE CARE



humanize care

and are responsive to the needs of women

ADVANCE HUMAN CAPITAL



contribute to a better society

and advance human capital in an uncertain world

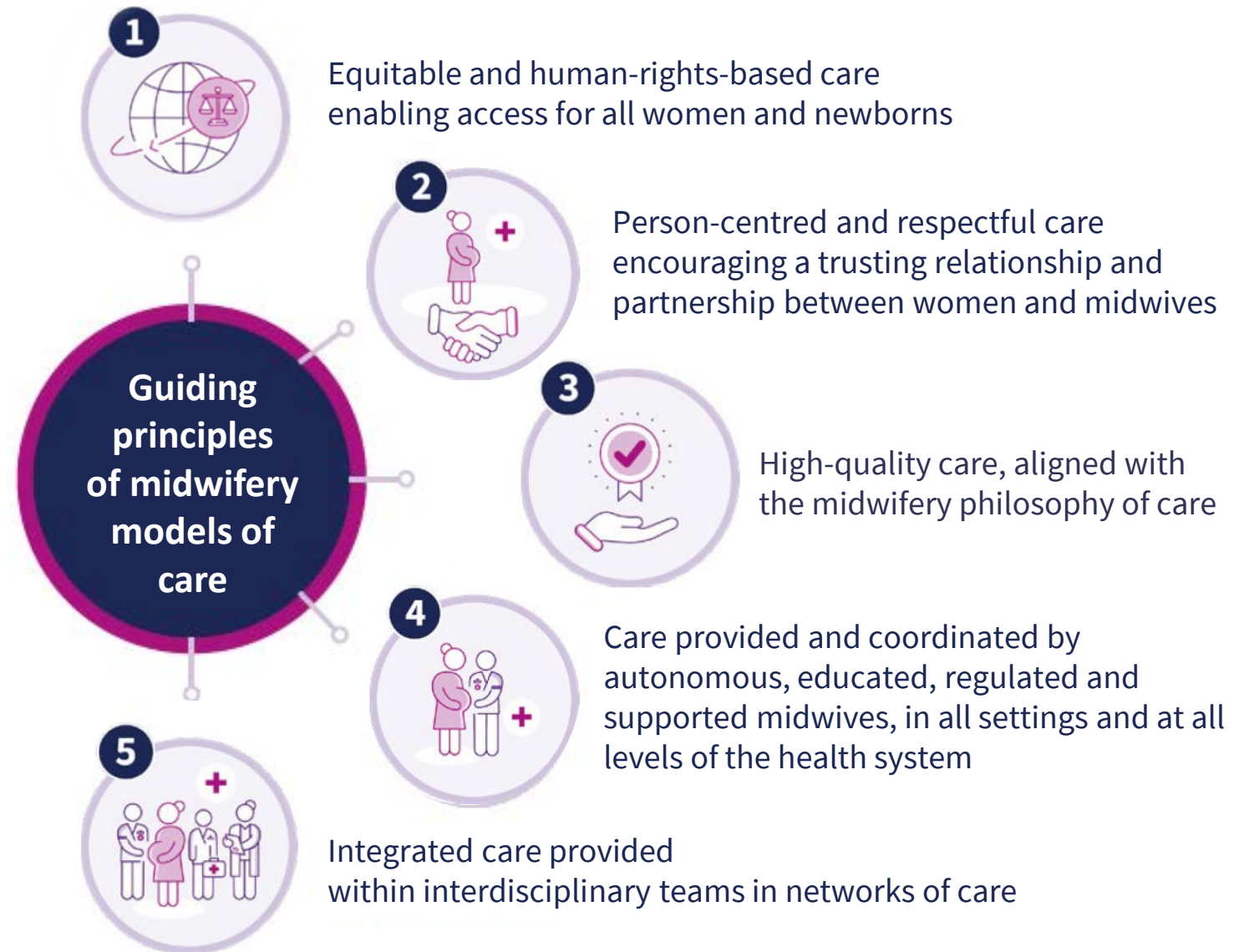
ECONOMIC BENEFITS



are a cost-effective intervention

with potential long-term economic benefits

Guiding principles



Every midwifery model of care should thrive to be informed by these guiding principles.

What is the difference between MMoC and standard midwife care?

- Midwives leading the care as main care providers, making independent decisions
- Care across childbirth continuum
- Midwives working across full scope
- Autonomous decision-makers in partnership with each woman

Responsible, Accountable,
Collaborative



Technical guidance

Global position paper on MMoC



Directors in MoH
CNMO / CMO
Policymakers
Key stakeholders

WHAT & WHY

Definition
Guiding principles
Case for MMoC

1

Implementation guidance



CNMO / CMO
Program managers
Implementers
Health workers
Women's groups

HOW

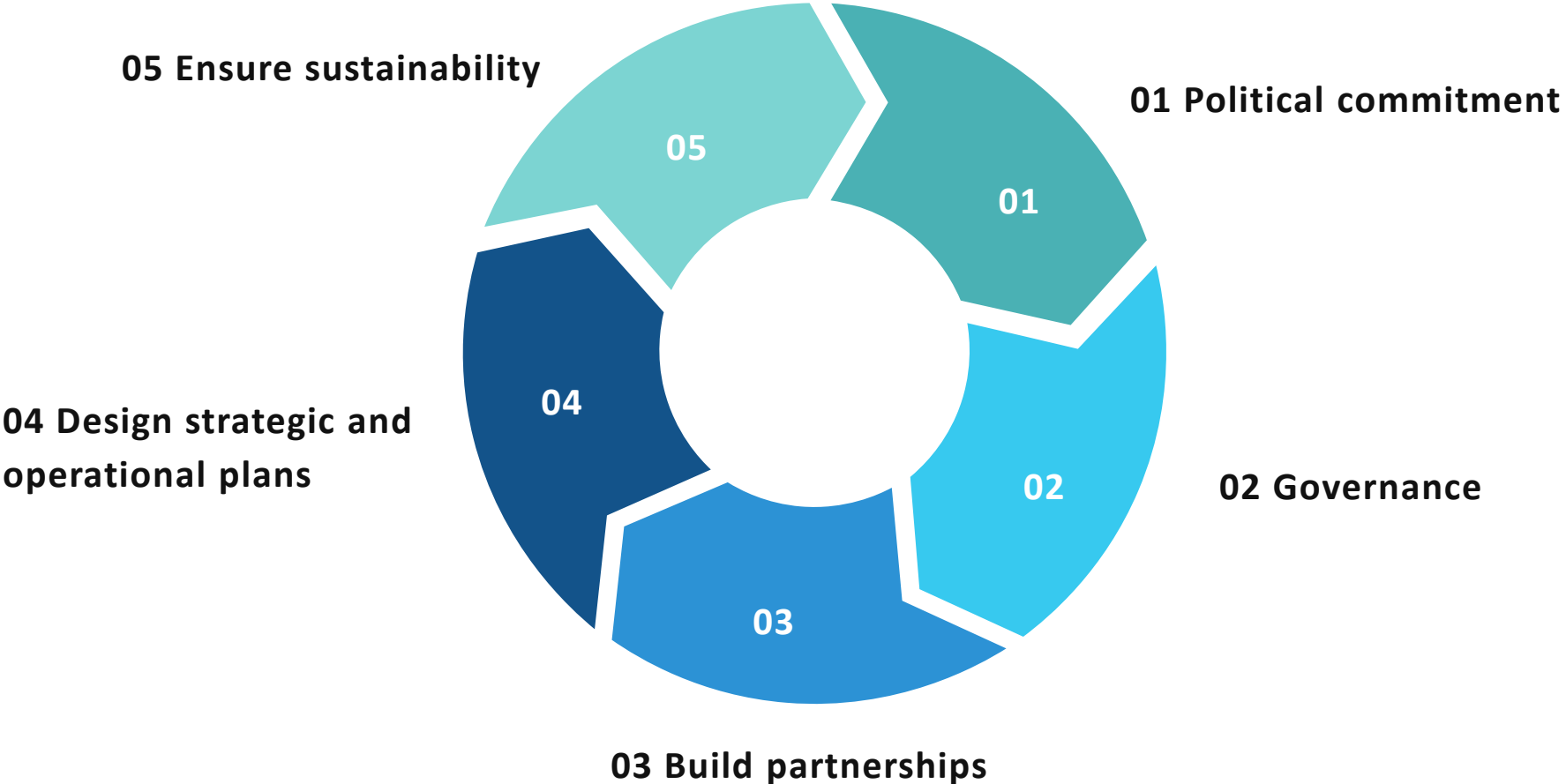
Concrete tools

IMPLEMENTATION

2



Foundational elements for transition to MMoC

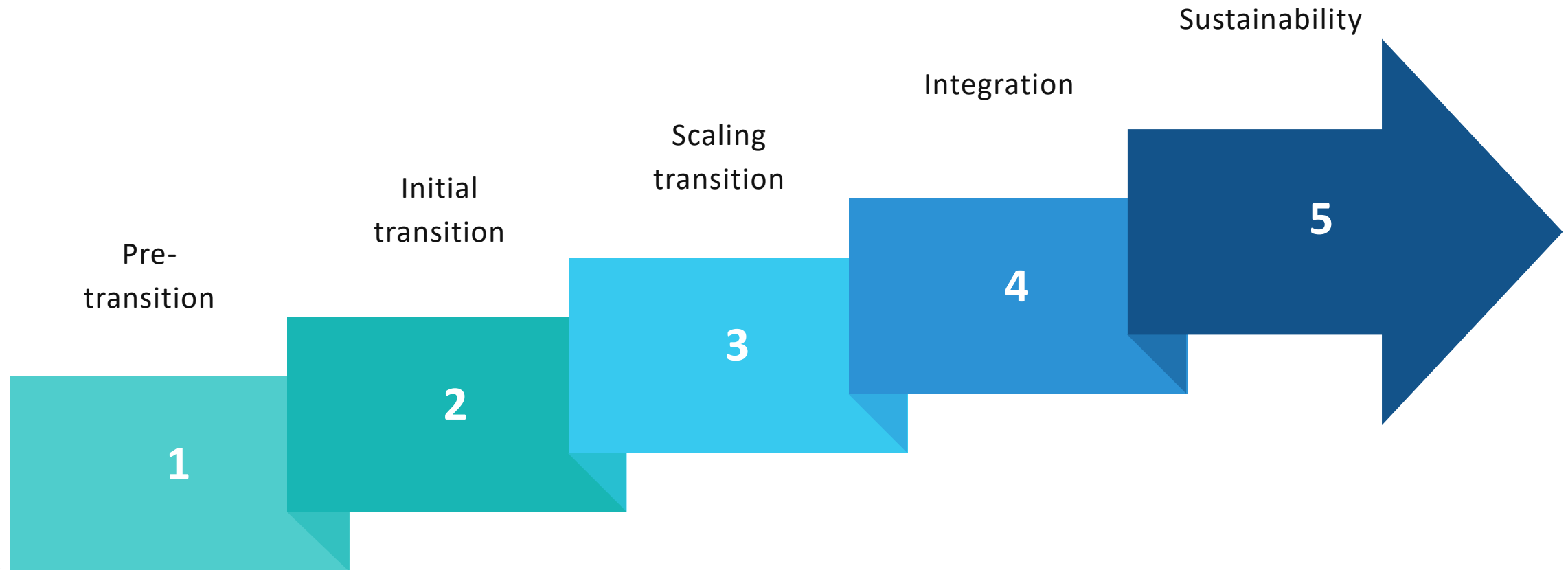


Interdependent focus areas for transitioning to MMoC



Key focus areas progressing through transition phases

5-Step Process



Panel discussion: Midwives working in MMoC



World Health
Organization



© UNICEF and Fernandez Foundation Hospital, © WHO/Luis Talo, © WHO/Bente Biederup, © WHO/Carlo Bruno Santos, © WHO/Yoshi Shimizu, © ICM/Noriko Hayashi, © ICM/Carla Molina

Panel discussion: Country Stories: Midwifery Models of Care in Action

Insights from Uganda, Indonesia & Nepal

Country Spotlights: Presentations on successfully implemented midwifery models of care.

Lessons Learned: Insights into the strategies that worked and pitfalls to avoid.



Sarah Namyalo

President

Uganda Private Midwives Association



Euis Baiduri

Obstetric Technical Officer

Emergency Department of the Maternal
and Newborn Health Department
Regional Public Hospital in West Nusa
Tenggara, Indonesia



Rakhi Byanju Shrestha

Midwifery Officer

Kathmandu University School of
Medical Sciences, Nepal



Anna af Ugglas

Chief Executive

International Confederation of Midwives
(ICM)



World Health
Organization

Nursing and Midwifery

GLOBAL COMMUNITY OF PRACTICE

<https://nursingandmidwiferyglobal.org>

© Ilyas Ahmed

