

# Innovating for Maternal & Child Health in Africa

Every day in sub-Saharan Africa, complications from pregnancy and childbirth kill more than 500 women, and more than 8,000 children under five die from preventable causes (World Bank, 2019). Research supported by the Innovating for Maternal and Child Health in Africa (IMCHA) Initiative identified realistic and effective solutions that improved the health of women, newborns, and children.

## An 8-YEAR, \$36 MILLION PARTNERSHIP (2014-2021)

### 19 Research Teams

Research teams are led by an African principal investigator (PI), collaborating with a Canadian researcher co-PI and an African decision-maker co-PI

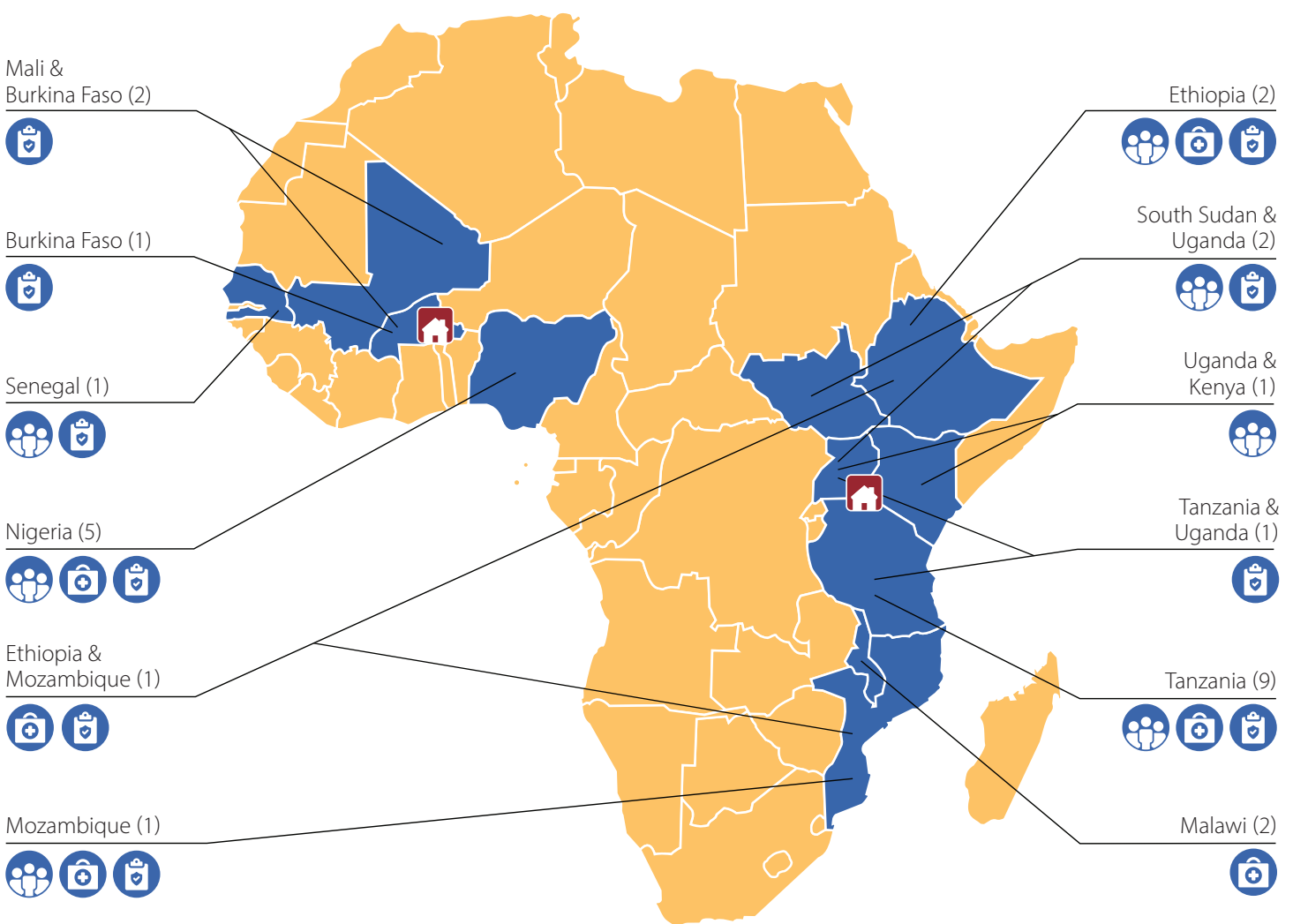
### 28 Research Projects

- Engaging communities
- Improving the quality of health services
- Strengthening the policy environment

### 2 Health Policy & Research Organizations



Health Policy and Research Organizations support research teams in capacity strengthening and policy uptake



## EXAMPLES OF IMPACT



### Engaging communities

300% increase in the number of women receiving prenatal care in intervention areas in Edo State, Nigeria.

MCH is now a permanent agenda item in village meetings in intervention areas in Mtwara, Tanzania.



### Improving the quality of health services

25% increase in births assisted by a skilled birth attendant in intervention areas in Tanzania's Mwanza region.

Mental health services are now part of primary health care in Oyo State, Nigeria, including for MCH.



### Supporting better policy making and implementation

Fifteen Ministers of Health in West Africa adopted a resolution to use evidence in developing health care policies, plans, standards and protocols.

In Mali, authorities can now systemically identify women and children eligible for free health services.