

Agenda

Responding to Women's, Newborns', Children's, and Adolescents' Health Needs in Conflict Settings

Eastern Mediterranean Regional Multi-Stakeholder Virtual Workshop

October 12-13, 2021

Background

In conflict-affected contexts, with high levels of insecurity, population movement, disruptions in supply chains, and exacerbations of pre-existing shortages of human and financial resources, access and availability of health and social services become a challenge especially for women, children, and adolescents. Those challenges have become more pronounced during the COVID-19 pandemic by further reducing access to essential services, driving up their risk of falling into poverty, reducing access to education and essential nutrition services, and driving up violence against women and mental health issues, among other issues.

In light of the urgent need to address the impact of conflict on women, newborns, children, and adolescent's health, the BRANCH (Bridging Research & Action in Conflict Settings for the Health of Women & Children) Consortium, the Partnership for Maternal, Newborn and Child Health (PMNCH) and the Knowledge to Policy (K2P) Center at the American University of Beirut (AUB) organized this virtual regional workshop in the Eastern Mediterranean Region (EMR).

Goal

This multi-stakeholder virtual workshop brings together policymakers, academia, non-governmental organizations, donor organizations, private sector, civil society, healthcare institutions among other stakeholders with the aim to join forces for a common vision for women, newborns, children, and adolescent's health in conflict settings in the EMR.

The over-arching intent of the short multi-stakeholder virtual workshop is to disseminate findings of recent evidence from BRANCH on women, newborns, children, and adolescent's health in conflict settings and build relationships among partners from various constituencies in the EMR to further an action-oriented research and evidence-based advocacy agenda to meet the needs of women, newborn, children and adolescent health and advance policy dialogue.

Approach

Day 1 (3 hours) will begin with a plenary session on the context of women, newborns, children, and adolescent's health in the EMR region and followed by moderated group discussions guided by policy briefs (*please check supporting information section below*). **Day 2** (2 hours) will begin with an overview of findings from Day 1 and will be followed by facilitated dialogues to discuss the way forward for WCH in the EMR region.

Agenda

Day 1 (2pm-5pm Beirut time, 1pm-4pm CET)

Time	Topic	Speaker
2:00-2:05	Official welcome and open remarks	Dr. Fadi El-Jardali, <i>Professor of Health Policy and Systems – American University of Beirut & Founder & Director – Knowledge to Policy (K2P) Center - 5 mins</i>
2:05-2:15	Overview of BRANCH & Regional Context, evidence and findings from BRANCH	Dr. Zulfiqar Bhutta, Founding Director Institute for Global Health and Development, AKU and Co-director , Centre for Global Child Health, Sick Kids Hospital, and BRANCH Consortium – 10 mins
2:15-2:20	Utilization of contextualized evidence for policy action in the EMR region	Dr. Etienne Langlois, <i>Team Lead, Evidence and Knowledge – Partnership for Maternal, Newborn & Child Health (PMNCH) – 5 mins</i>
2:20-3:05	Regional Expert Panel: Responding to Women's, Newborns', Children's, and Adolescents' Health needs in Conflict Settings in the EMR - lessons learned and course ahead	<p>Dr. Hyam Bashour, <i>Health Systems Strengthening Officer, WHO, Syria</i></p> <p>Dr. Hala Ghattas, <i>Associate Research Professor and Interim Director of the Center for Research on Population and Health at the American University of Beirut (Syria Case Study)</i></p> <p>Dr. Hannah Tappis, <i>Senior Measurement, Evaluation and Learning Advisor at Jhpiego an affiliate of Johns Hopkins University, and associate faculty in the Department of International Health (Yemen Case Study)</i></p> <p>Dr. Mushtaq Khan , <i>Health Advisor Asia & Reproductive Health Advisor MENA – International Rescue Committee (IRC)</i></p>
3:05-3:15	Virtual Break	
3:15-3:20	Overview of moderated breakout groups	Ms. Clara Abou Samra, <i>Instructor of Public Health and Evidence Lead Specialist- Knowledge to Policy</i>

		(K2P) Center- American University of Beirut
3:20-4:35	<p>Moderated breakout groups:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Pre-presentation on the Policy Briefs • Focused discussions on the opportunities and challenges and based on three themes: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Engaging and Empowering a Localized Innovative Health Workforce 2. Strategic, Adaptable, and Multi-sectoral Leadership, Governance and Coordination 3. Comprehensive, Sustainable and Needs-based Health Financing 	<p>Participants</p> <p>Moderated by: Dr. Kyaw Aung, <i>Chief of Health and Nutrition-UNICEF Lebanon</i></p> <p>Ms. Ruby Syal, <i>Research Coordinator, Sick Kids/BRANCH</i></p> <p>Dr. Teesta Dey, <i>Technical Consultant, Knowledge Team PMNCH</i></p>
4:35-4:50	Reporting back on breakout group	Moderated breakout groups Rapporteurs
4:50-5:00	Next steps for Day 2	Dr. Fadi El-Jardali

Day 2 (2pm-4pm Beirut time, 1pm-3pm CET)

Time	Topic	Speaker
2:00-2:15	Welcome and overview of findings	Dr. Fadi El-Jardali
2:15-3:50	<p>Facilitated Dialogue (cross-cutting theme discussion):</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Discussion on findings from opportunities and challenges • Way forward: Policy priorities and context-specific recommendations 	<p>Dr. Fadi El-Jardali</p> <p>Ms. Clara Abou Samra</p>
3:50-4:00	Next steps and closing remarks	<p>Dr. Etienne Langlois, <i>Team Lead, Evidence and Knowledge – Partnership for Maternal, Newborn & Child Health (PMNCH)</i></p> <p>Dr. Paul Spiegel, <i>Director of the Johns Hopkins Center for Humanitarian health and Professor of practice in the department of International Health at the John Hopkins Bloomberg School of Public health and member of the BRANCH Consortium</i></p> <p>Dr. Fadi El-Jardali, <i>Professor of Health Policy and Systems – American University of Beirut & Founder & Director – Knowledge to Policy (K2P) Center</i></p>

Supporting Information

Each group will have the opportunity to discuss a set policy briefs provided in English, Arabic and French (which are also Required Readings) that focus on the following topics:

1. **Policy Brief 1** - Women's and Children's Health in Conflict Settings: Engaging and Empowering a Localized Innovative Health Workforce ([EN](#), [AR](#), [FR](#))
2. **Policy Brief 2** - Women's and Children's Health in Conflict Settings: Strategic, Adaptable, and Multi-sectoral Leadership, Governance and Coordination ([EN](#), [AR](#), [FR](#))
3. **Policy Brief 3** - Women's and Children's Health in Conflict Settings: Comprehensive, Sustainable and Needs-based Health Financing ([EN](#), [AR](#), [FR](#))

These documents have been provided in the “reading package” document sent by email.

Additional resources can be found at: www.branchconsortium.com/resources

Note:

Kindly make sure you use your first name, last name and your organizations name when signing in to the zoom link of the workshop.