



# Improving MiP Services Through Universal Health Coverage In Ghana

**Presenter: Mildred Naa Komey**

**National Malaria Elimination Programme**

**13<sup>th</sup> September 2022**

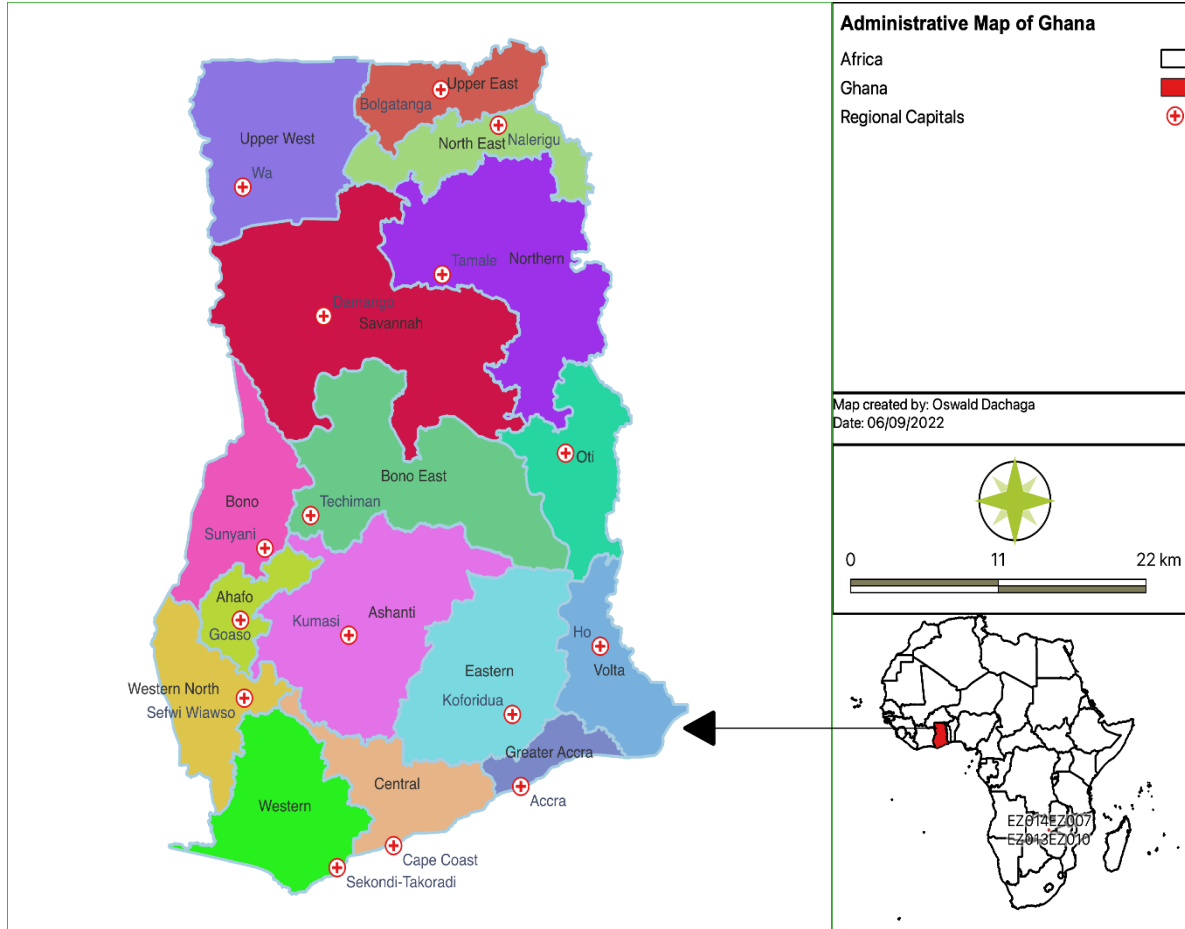
**Fiesta Royale, Accra**



# Presentation Outline

- Background
- Universal Health Coverage – definition, roadmap
- Efforts to improve access to health
- Progress on key indicators
- Challenges
- Key conclusions/takeaways

# Country Profile



- Population = 30,832,019 (GSS, 2021)
- 16 administrative regions
- WIFA = 7,399,685 (2021)
- Expected pregnancies = 1,233,281
- Institutional Maternal Mortality ratio= 112 per 100,000 live births (2021)

# Background

- WHO defines Universal Health Coverage as “ensuring that all people can use the promotive, preventive, curative, rehabilitative and palliative health services they need, of sufficient quality to be effective, while also ensuring that the use of these services does not expose the user to financial hardship.”
- UHC Declaration (World Health Report 2010)

# Ghana's Definition of Universal Health Coverage

***“All people in Ghana have timely access to high quality health services irrespective of ability to pay at the point of use.”***

- Ghana is committed to achieving the Sustainable Development Goals (SDG)/ Targets especially Goal 3
  - ✓ Targets: improve maternal neonatal health (1, and 2), end malaria, TB... pandemic, (3) and achieve UHC (8)
  - ✓ Targets interlinked, hence achievement in one impacts on others
  - ✓ E.g. UHC greatly impacts access to MiP services leading to reduction in malaria in pregnancy and its negative outcomes and improve maternal and neonatal health

# Ghana's Journey so Far.....

## Geographical Access



## Financial Access



*"Most disease problems that cause the high rates of illness and deaths among Ghanaians are preventable or curable if diagnosed promptly by simple basic and primary health care procedures. The major objectives (of the ministry) are to extend coverage of basic and primary health services to most people possible .... NHPU, 1977)*

# Policies, Guidelines and Interventions 1/2

- **Underlying local and international policies and documents:**
  - ✓ E.g. MDGs (2000), SDGs, (2015) Declaration on Primary Health Care in Astana (2018), National Health Policy (2019), Global Action Plan for Healthy Lives and Well Being, (2019), etc.
- **Social Interventions**
  - ✓ Implementation of the National Health Insurance Scheme (2003)
  - ✓ Malaria, TB, HIV opportunistic diseases are covered
  - ✓ Free maternal health policy (2008)
  - ✓ Integrated Social Services (ISS) -2019 through household visits by CHNs at the CHPS level and link to NHIS for free insurance for the poor and vulnerable households (LEAP)

# Policies, Guidelines and Interventions 2/2

- Expansion of CHPS (2000) to improve access to ANC and immunization services
- Protocols and Guidelines: Safe Motherhood (2016) and MiP (2020)
- Policy changes:
  - ✓ Focused Antenatal (2002)
  - ✓ IPTp (2004): Change from IPTp 2 to IPTp 3 (2014)
  - ✓ Increased ANC contacts from 4 to 8 (2016)
- Task sharing for Enrolled Nurses and Community Health Nurses
- Posting of midwives at the CHPS level to improve skilled delivery
- Reaffirmation of Ghana's commitment in current UHC policy (2020-2030)



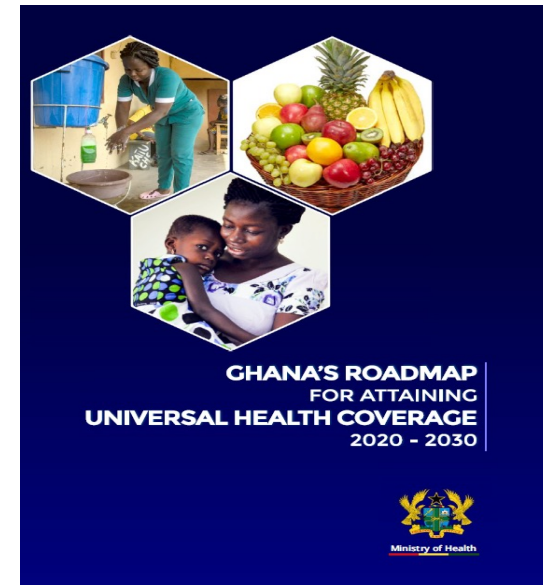
# Current Roadmap for UHC

## Ghana's Roadmap for Attaining UHC Policy (2020-2030)

**Goal:** Increase access to quality essential health care and population-based services for all by 2030

### Objectives:

- ✓ Universal access to better and efficiently managed quality health care services
- ✓ Reduce unnecessary maternal, adolescent and child deaths and disabilities
- ✓ Increase access to responsive clinical and public health emergency services

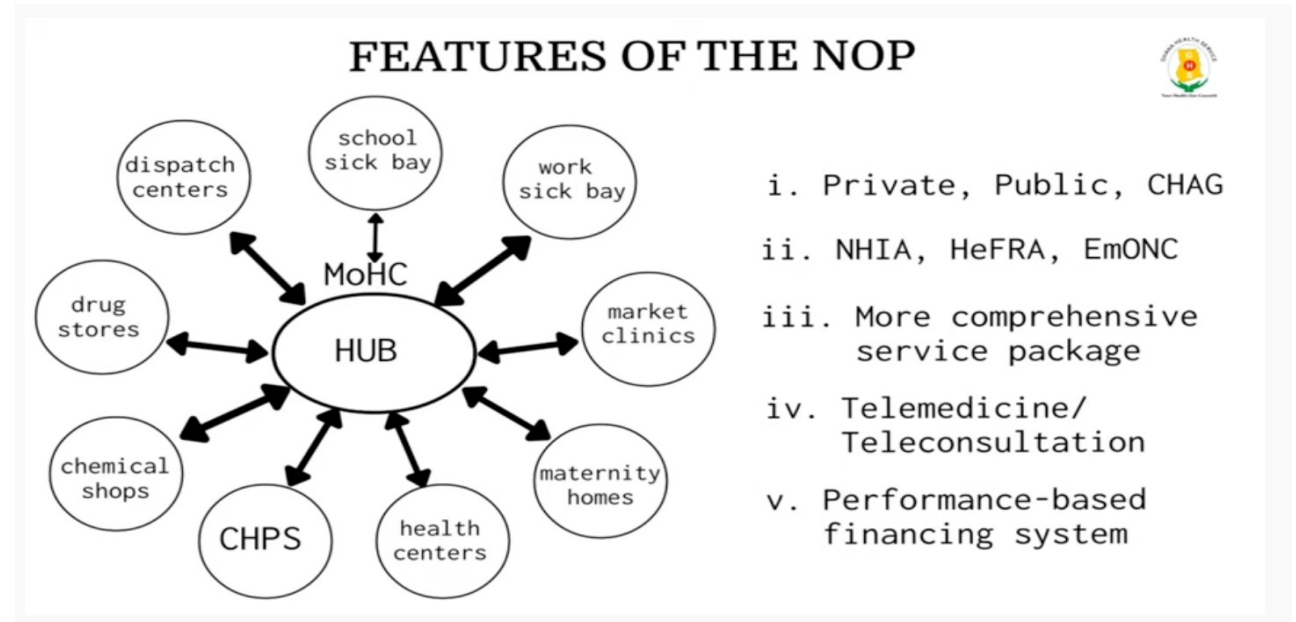
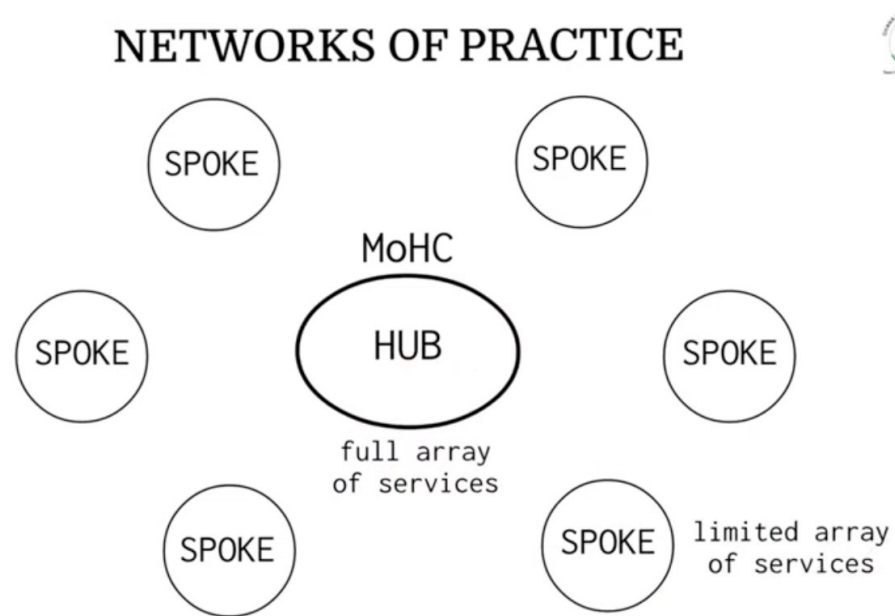


# UHC Key Components: Package of Care in Ghana

<p><b>Primary services</b></p>	<p><b>Preventive services</b></p>	<p><b>Rehabilitative services</b></p>
<p>All out patient care; birth deliveries and attendance; newborn care; acute respiratory tract infection, diarrheal disease, skin disease and ulcers, hypertension, sickle cell, rheumatism, anemia, intestinal worms disorders, fevers; ear, eye, nose and oral health services; diabetes mellitus; mental health, STIs including HIV/AIDS, asthma, cervical and breast cancer treatment; diagnostic and laboratory services; surgeries; fistula management, caesarean sections and management; blood and blood products</p>	<p>Growth monitoring, dietary supplement, immunization; mass residual spraying, chemotherapy and chemoprophylaxis including for helminths and vector borne diseases; screenings for cancers, HIV/AIDS, PMTCT, TB, sickle cell, hypertension and diabetes; family planning, antenatal and post-natal care, IPT for malaria in pregnancy, availability of water, sanitation and hygiene services</p>	<p>Optical aids, hearing aids, orthopedic aids, physiotherapy, dentures, geriatric care, pediatric cardio enablers, speech and language therapy; birth, burns and accidents reconstructive surgery; post-trauma and psychological therapy and counseling</p>
<p><b>Specialized and emergency services</b></p>	<p><b>Promotive services</b></p>	<p><b>Palliative services</b></p>
<p>Mental health; poisons, injuries, burns and pre-and-in hospital emergencies; incision and drainage of abscesses, and excision of lumps and hemorrhoidectomy; child cardiological and congenital surgeries; fistula management, cervical and prostate cancer case management; caesarean sections and management; blood and blood products</p>	<p>Control of use of alcohol, tobacco and harmful substances; awareness on: regular medical check-ups, mental health, cancers, diabetes, renal disease, safe sex, STIs and family planning, road safety, healthy eating, physical activity and wellbeing, gender-based violence, hygiene and sanitation and environmental safety</p>	<p>Home-based care of the aged; terminal point care</p>

# Network of Practice (NoP)

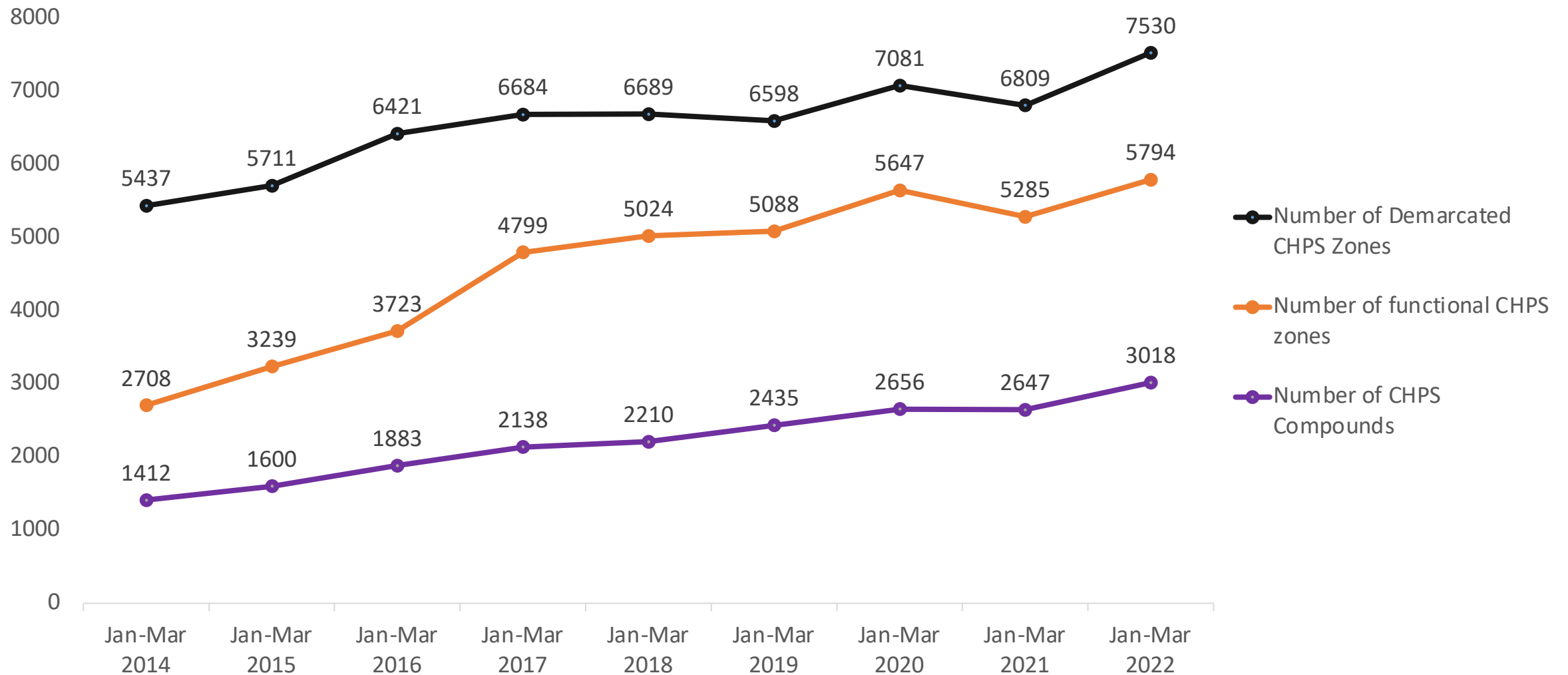
- The Network of Practice is a key design feature of Ghana's UHC Roadmap, and its goal is to reposition Primary Health Care as smart care for everyone regardless of socio-economic status.



- Establishment of “Networks of Practice” at the sub district level with a model health center at the hub

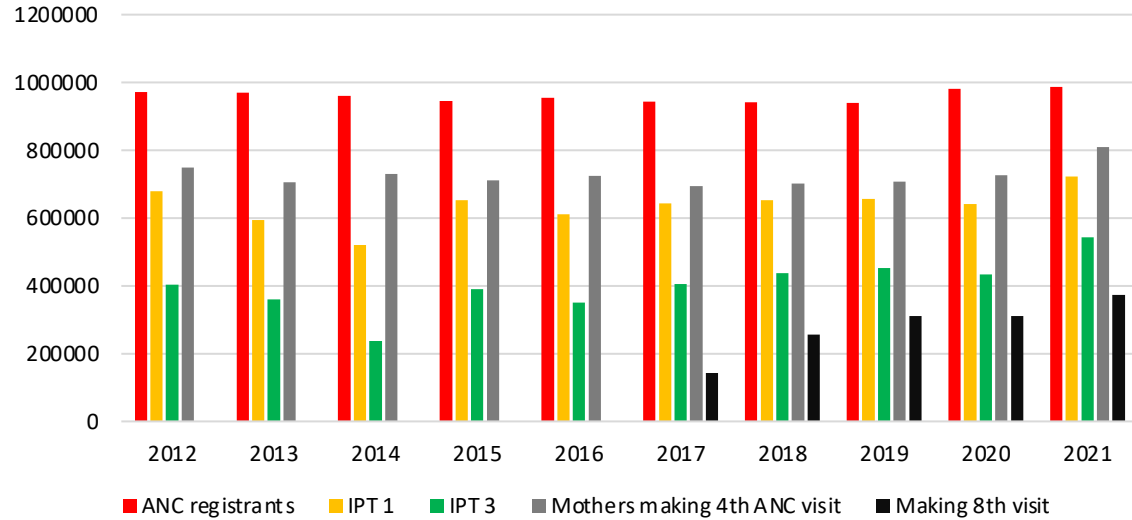
Progress

# Geographical Access: Progress in CHPS Implementation In Ghana to improve primary health care including maternal health services

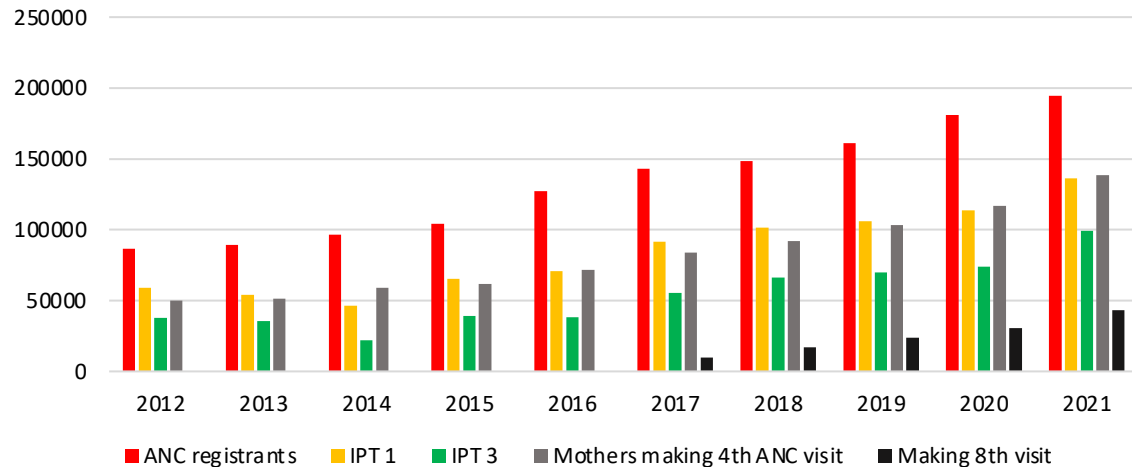


# Contribution of CHPS to ANC visits

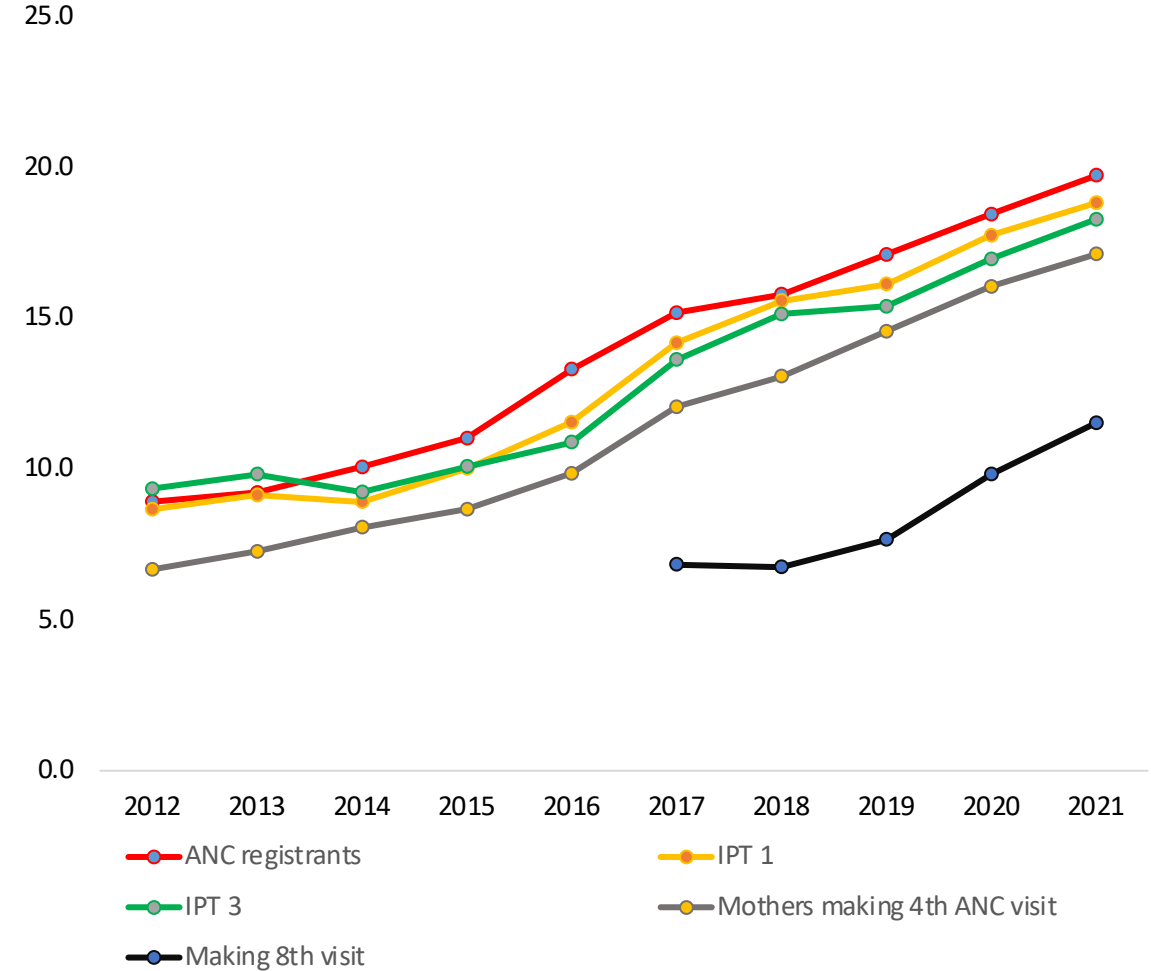
**Selected ANC Indicators for All Facilities, 2012-2021**



**Selected ANC Indicators for CHPS facilities, 2012-2021**

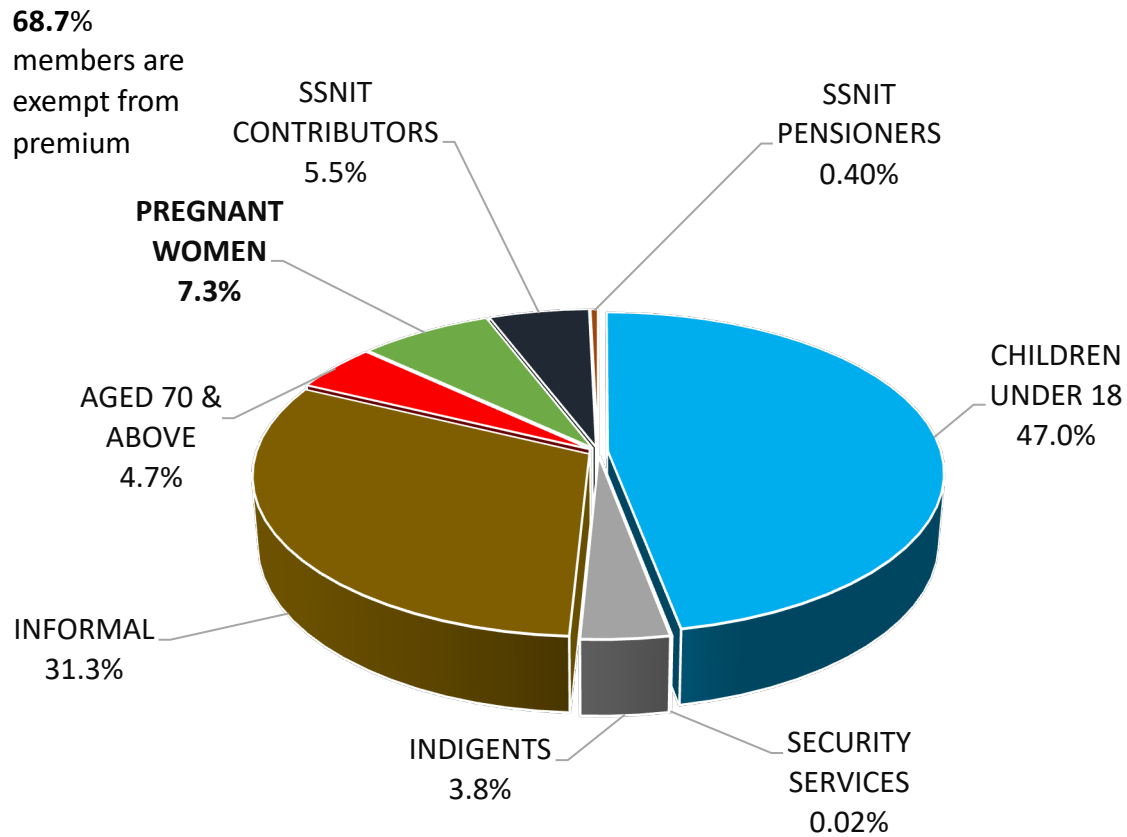


**Contribution of CHPS to Selected ANC Indicators, 2012-2021**

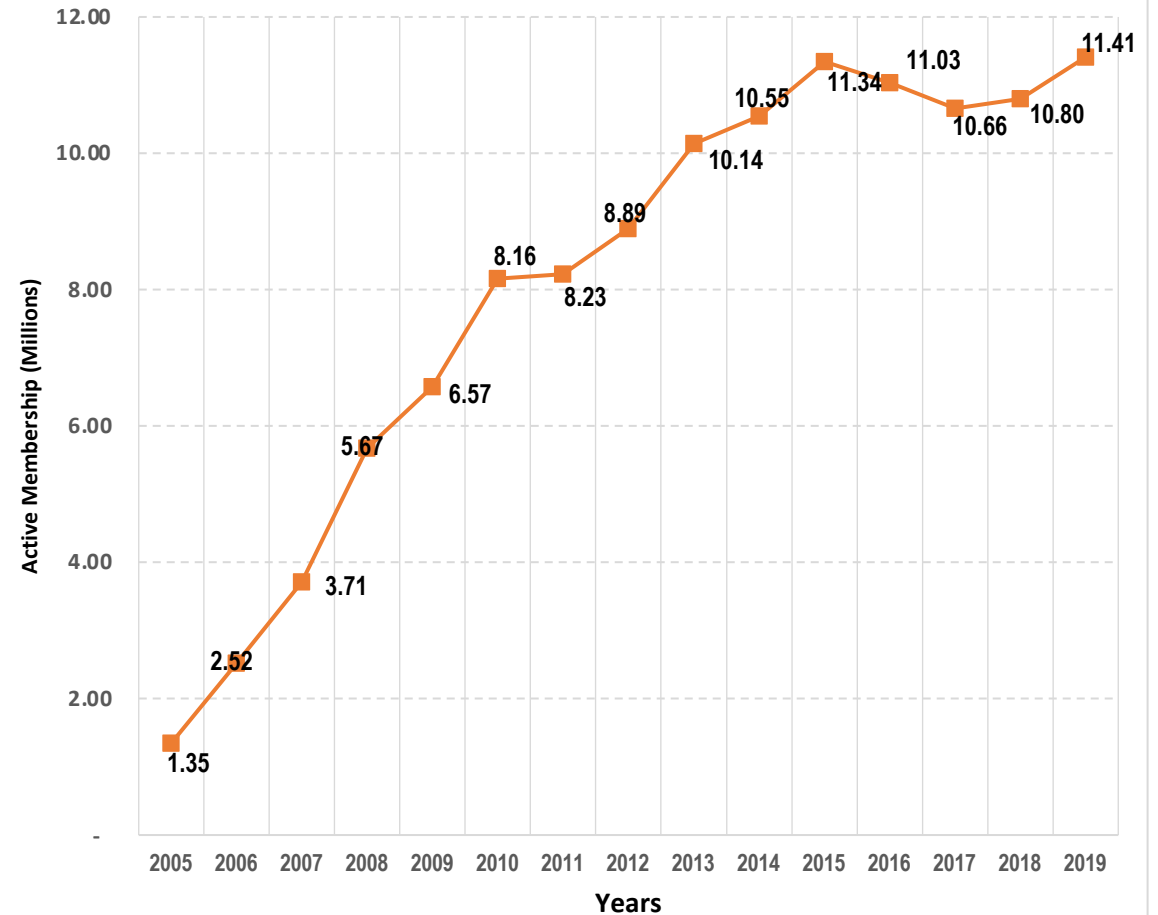


# Financial Access

## Public NHIS Active Membership by Category (2019)

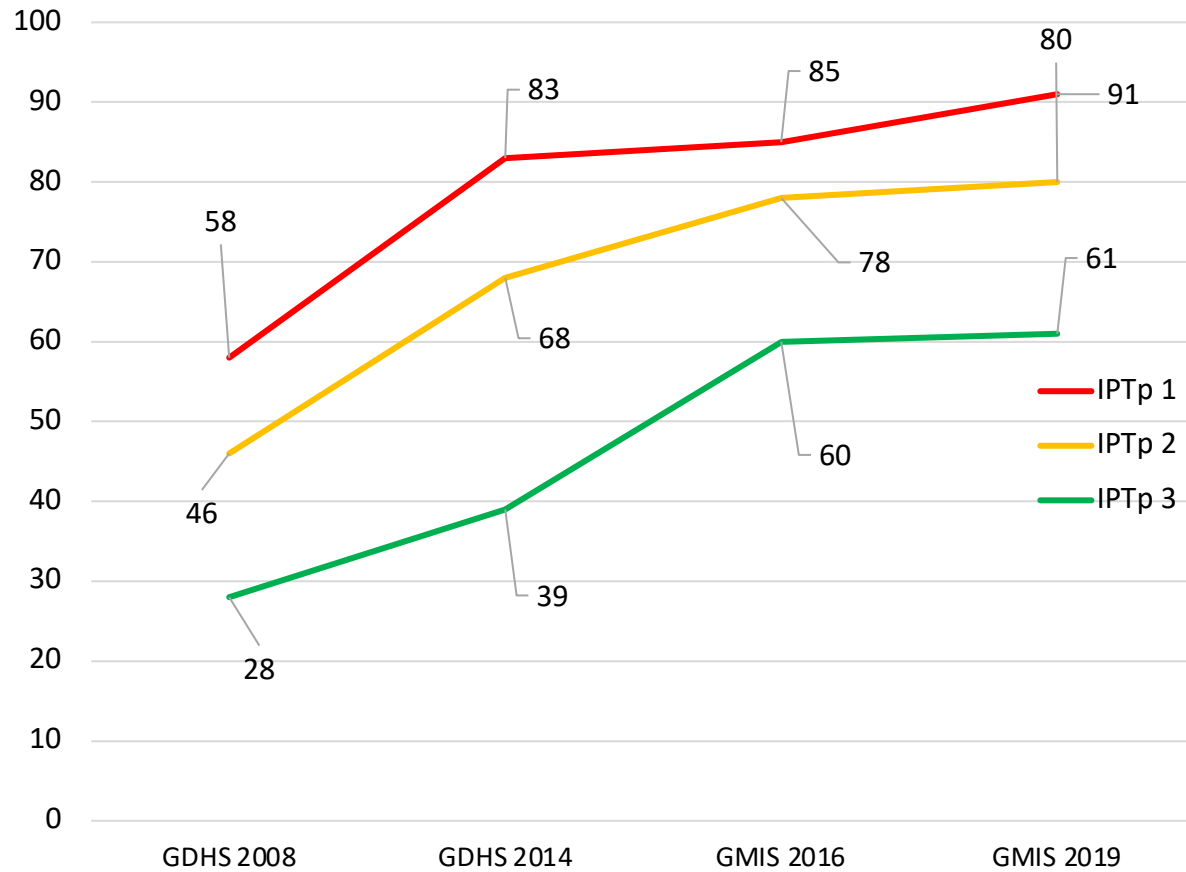


## Public NHIS Active Membership (2005 – 2019)

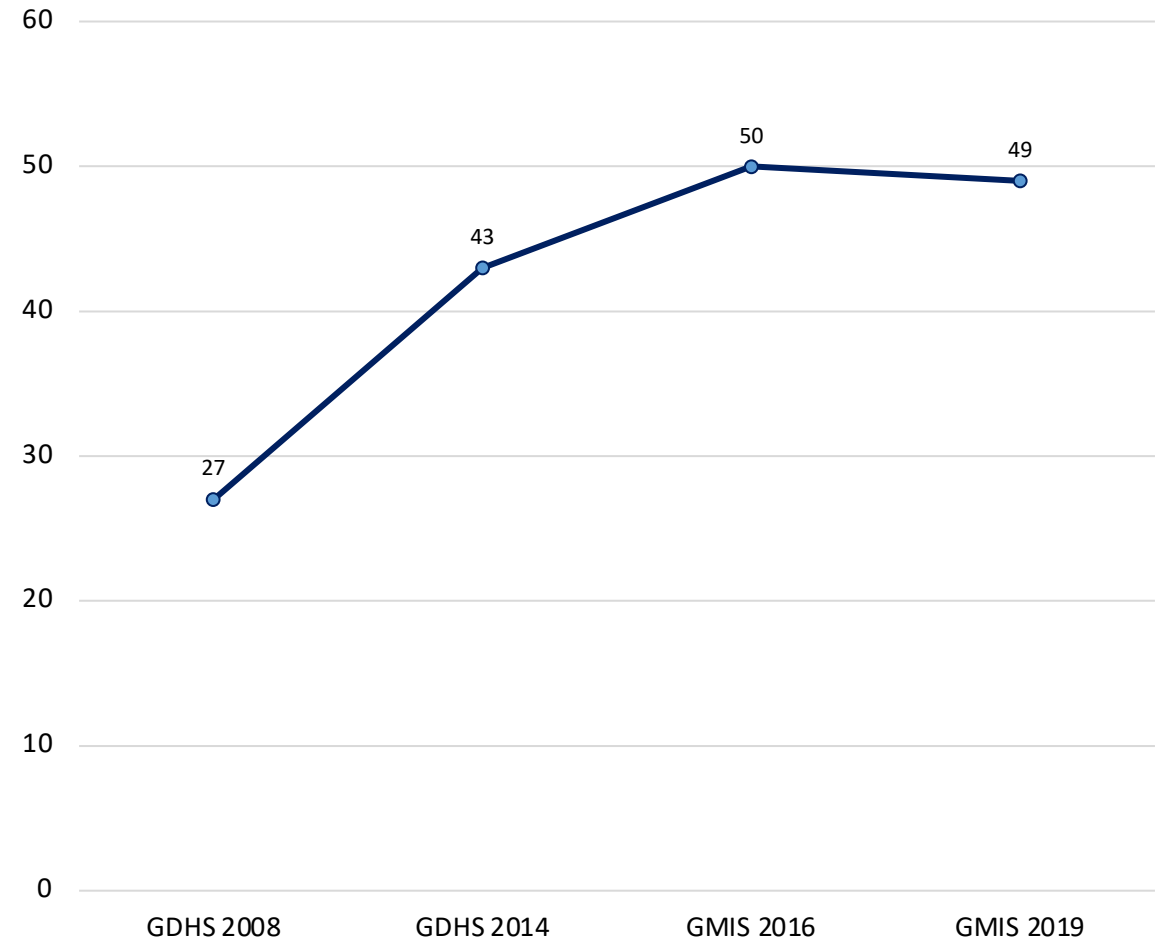


# Progress in MiP (Programme Outputs)

## Trends in IPTp use by pregnant women in Ghana



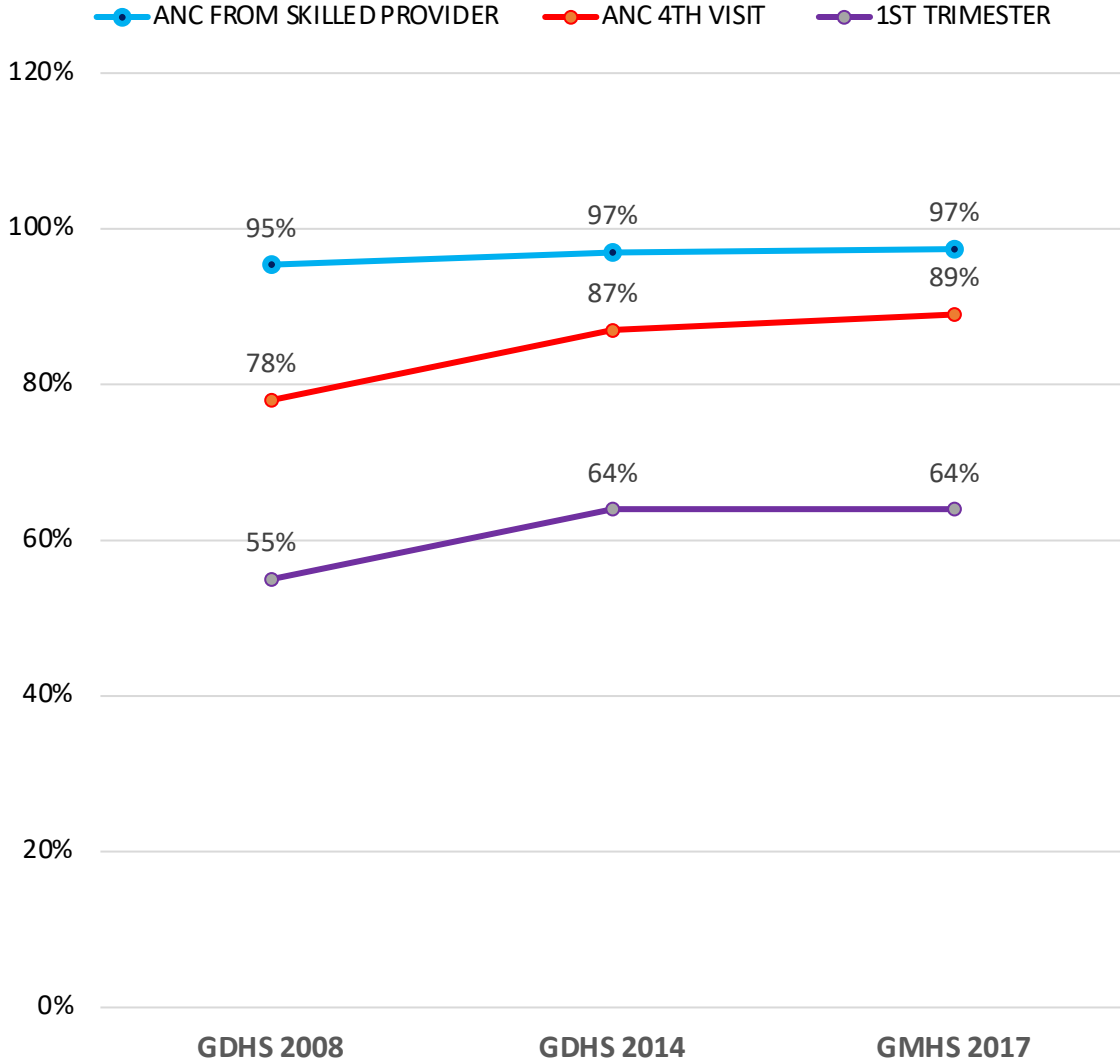
## Trends in ITN use by pregnant women in Ghana





# Progress in Maternal and Neonatal Health

Trends in ANC services by pregnant women in Ghana



Year	Still Birth Rate (HMIS)
2012	19.6
2013	17.9
2014	18.0
2015	16.7
2016	16.7
2017	15.0
2018	13.8
2019	12.6
2020	12.2
2021	11.8
2022	11.4

Source: HMIS

# Challenges

<b>Area of Focus</b>	<b>Challenges</b>	<b>Actions Taken/Way Forward</b>
<b>Geographical Access</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Provision of services in riverine communities especially during rainy season</li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Increase community outreach by CHNs in such communities</li><li>• Strive to increase demarcated CHPS to become functional CHPS</li></ul>
<b>Quality of Care</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Capacity of staff at the CHPS level e.g. (CHO)</li><li>• Delay of logistics</li><li>• Acute emergency referral system</li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Quality of Care training, network of practice, task shifting in midwifery skills</li><li>• Improvement in repayments for logistics such as medicines</li><li>• Provision of community-based emergency referral systems</li></ul>
<b>Financial Access</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Sustainability of the NHI scheme</li><li>• Delay in reimbursement to service providers</li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Additional funding</li><li>• Shorten claims processing and payment time</li></ul>

# Conclusion

- Ghana's commitment to the SDGs is on course and achieving universal health coverage is crucial
- Universal Health Coverage is essential to improving maternal health, including MiP services
- Breaking geographical and financial barriers for pregnant women is key
- Gaps still exist in ensuring quality health care services such as sustained funding for quality of care
- Commitment from all partners and stakeholders is needed

# Key Takeaways

- Political commitment: bi-partisan buy-in very critical
- Sustainable funding to break the financial barrier (NHIS?)
  - ✓ Economic growth: to create conducive environment for tax revenue
  - ✓ Structure of the economy: large informal sector poses difficulties for assessing potential members for equitable premium and its collection
- Availability of health services to guarantee the benefit package for members
- Solidarity, community engagement and participation
- Innovation and Adaptation

# THANK YOU

