

Module E. Policy objectives, Annex 17: Policy markers, at end of annex, below Trade development page/box, **insert the following section/box and FAQs and examples on RMNCH:**

<b>REPRODUCTIVE, MATERNAL, NEWBORN AND CHILD HEALTH</b>	
<b>DEFINITION</b> An activity should be classified as RMNCH if:	<p>It contributes to achieving improved maternal, newborn and child health based on the “continuum of care” concept: The "Continuum of Care" for reproductive, maternal, newborn and child health (RMNCH) implies a life-cycle approach and includes integrated service delivery for women and children from reproductive health to pre-pregnancy, delivery, the immediate postnatal period, and childhood. Such care is provided by families, households and communities as well as through inclusive outpatient services, clinics and other health facilities on district and national level. The Continuum of Care recognises that reproductive choice and safe childbirth are critical to the health of both the woman and the newborn child - and that a healthy start in life is an essential step towards a sound childhood and a productive life.</p>
<b>CRITERIA FOR ELIGIBILITY</b>	<p>The activity contributes to <b>any</b> one of the following:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a) Improved access for women and children to a comprehensive, integrated package of essential health interventions and services along the continuum of care;</li> <li>b) Strengthening health systems in order to improve access to and deliver integrated high-quality RMNCH specific services;</li> <li>c) RMNCH specific workforce capacity building, ensuring skilled and motivated health workers in the right place at the right time, with the necessary infrastructure, drugs, equipment and regulations.</li> </ul> <p><i>Note: as good practice, in their project text, donors should indicate which of the above criteria is addressed in their activity.</i></p>
<b>EXAMPLES OF TYPICAL ACTIVITIES</b>	<p><u>Essential interventions and services</u> such as:</p> <p>Family planning, contraception; Antenatal, newborn, and postnatal care; Emergency obstetric and newborn care; Skilled care during childbirth at appropriate facilities; Safe abortion services (where not prohibited by law); Prevention of mother to child transmission of HIV and other STIs; Combating reproductive tract infections, reproductive health-related cancers, and other gynecological morbidities; Infertility treatment; Prevention and treatment for major childhood illnesses including acute respiratory infections and diarrhea; Improving infant and child feeding practices; Promoting exclusive breast-feeding; Providing ready-to-use therapeutic foods and key vitamins and minerals, including Vitamin A and iodized salts.</p> <p><u>Health Systems Strengthening:</u></p> <p>Removal of financial, social, and cultural barriers to access health care (including advocacy); Improving service delivery to RMNCH and increasing access to adequately equipped health centres; Supporting national plans and priorities regarding RMNCH; Implementing monitoring and evaluation mechanisms; Training, retraining and deploying health workers.</p> <p><u>These activities contribute to the RMNCH-continuum of care through important interventions outside the health sector:</u></p> <p>Promotion of standards of comprehensive sexual education; Targeted food security programmes tailored to the needs of pregnant women, mothers and their children; Programmes that address most vulnerable population groups, such as internally displaced persons or ethnic minorities that suffer from displacement, with regard to their sexual and reproductive health needs; Improving access to clean water and hygienic sanitation for pregnant women, mothers and their children; Provision of maternal and child health services such as birthing kits or the dispatch of midwives and obstetricians which forms part of humanitarian aid emergency response; Collection of census data where specific development has occurred to target accurate reporting of vitals, i.e. the number of births and the number of “live” births.</p>

**N.B.** Activities that can be assigned one of the following sector codes justify, by definition, at least a value of 2: Population policy and administrative management (13010); Reproductive health care (13020); Family planning (13030); Personnel development for population and reproductive health (13081). Activities that cannot be assigned one of the above sector codes nor one of the following sector codes could only justify a score of up to 2: All health sector purpose codes (12xxx), STD control including HIV/AIDS (13040), Basic drinking water supply and basic sanitation (14030), Basic drinking water supply (14031) and Basic sanitation (14032).