Supplementary file 2. Methods for developing the case study

A country working group, led by VillageReach and with representation from Malawi's Ministry of Health, was established to analyze the main factors leading to CCPF's successful collaboration.

Quantitative and qualitative data collection was structured around the conceptual framework and semi-structured questionnaire in the case study methods guide.¹ . Relevant programme data, reports, and evaluations, and other peer-reviewed and grey literature were used as data sources. Additional inputs were gathered through 14 purposively sampled key informant interviews conducted between April and June 2018 with CCPF donors, staff and stakeholders, to fill identified data gaps. Qualitative data were coded according to a priori and emergent themes. Data were triangulated with CCPF programme reports and presentations, published and grey literature, monitoring and evaluation data, and through direct correspondence with CCPF staff and partners. These data were used to develop a working paper on the collaborative process.

An executive summary of the working paper was shared with CCPF's key stakeholders and a multistakeholder review meeting was held in June 2018 with 15 participants to appraise and refine the report's content, suggest additional sources of data, and provide feedback on the process of developing the case study. The multistakeholder review process drew on both the methods used in the first Success Factors study series² and the PMNCH guide for multistakeholder dialogues.³ The multistakeholder review meeting was scheduled to coincide with CCPF's second 2018 quarterly steering committee meeting. Mobile phone network provider Airtel was unable to participate, but all other key stakeholders were represented, including Ministry of Health and service users. The multistakeholder review was used together with the semi-structured questionnaire to ensure that the case study was evidence-based, with triangulation of information and perspectives, and that it was representative of a collaborative exercise.

¹ PMNCH. Methods guide for country case studies on successful collaboration across sectors for health and sustainable development. 2018. http://www.who.int/pmnch/knowledge/case-study-methods-guide.pdf.

² Frost L, Hinton R, Pratt BA, et al. Using multistakeholder dialogues to assess policies, programmes and progress for women's, children's and adolescents' health. *Bull World Health Organ* 2016;94(5):393-5. doi: 10.2471/BLT.16.171710 [published Online First: 2016/05/06]

³ PMNCH and WHO. Multistakeholder dialogues for women's and children's health: a guide for conveners and facilitators. 2014.