

## **The importance of leadership and management to support improved quality in maternal and newborn health care**

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# Innovating for Maternal and Child Health in Africa (IMCHA)

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## 1. Significance of Leadership & Management (L&M)

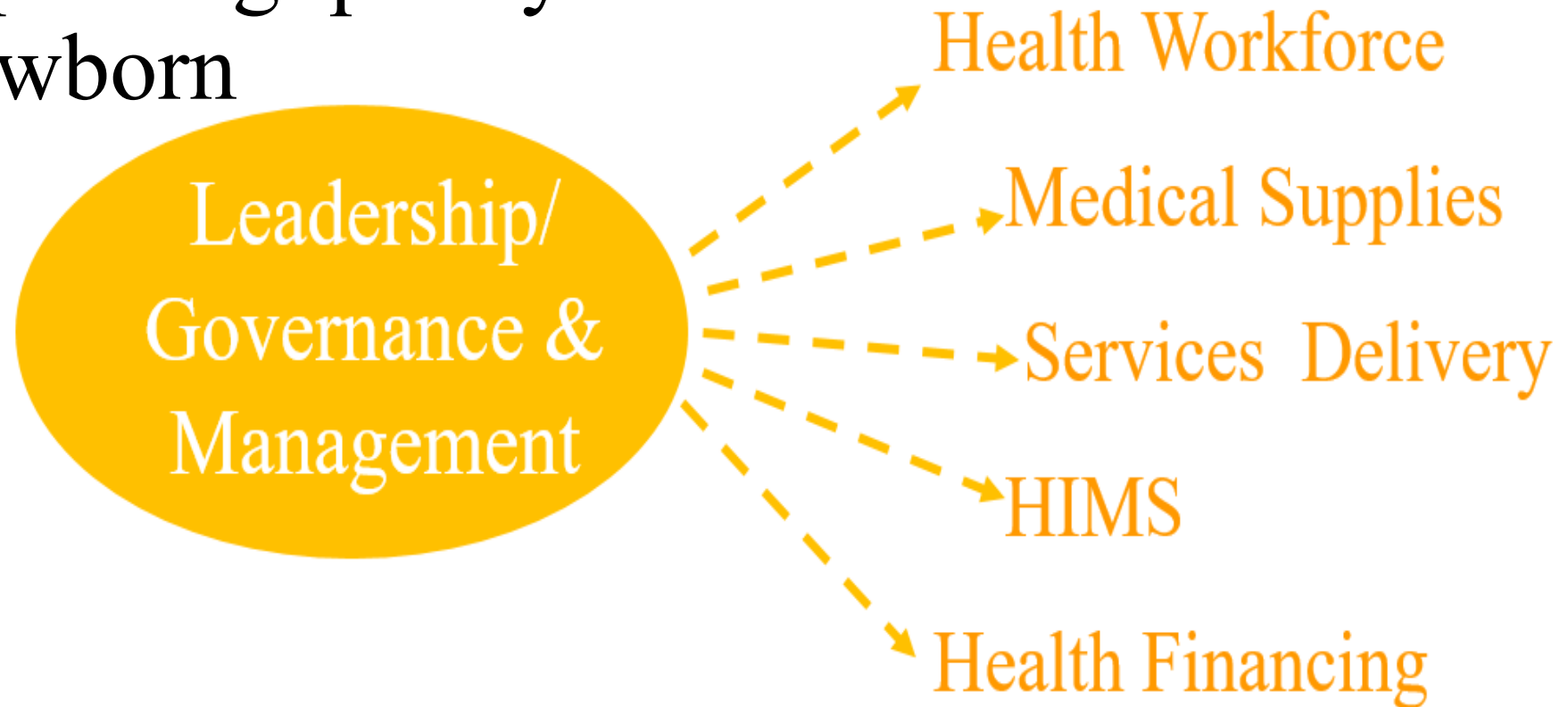


*“Good leadership is one of the key success factors for socio-economic development”*

J.K Nyerere, former president of Tanzania

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Effective leadership and management, across the system, have **a wide range of functions** in improving quality in maternal and newborn health care.



## 2. Underlying Context of L&M in Africa

- **Tanzania:** Leadership and managerial capacity strengthening for quality pregnancy and newborn outcomes in Tanzania: 2017 - 2021

Findings: Leadership is one of the most needed focus areas for strengthening the weak, resource-constrained health care system.

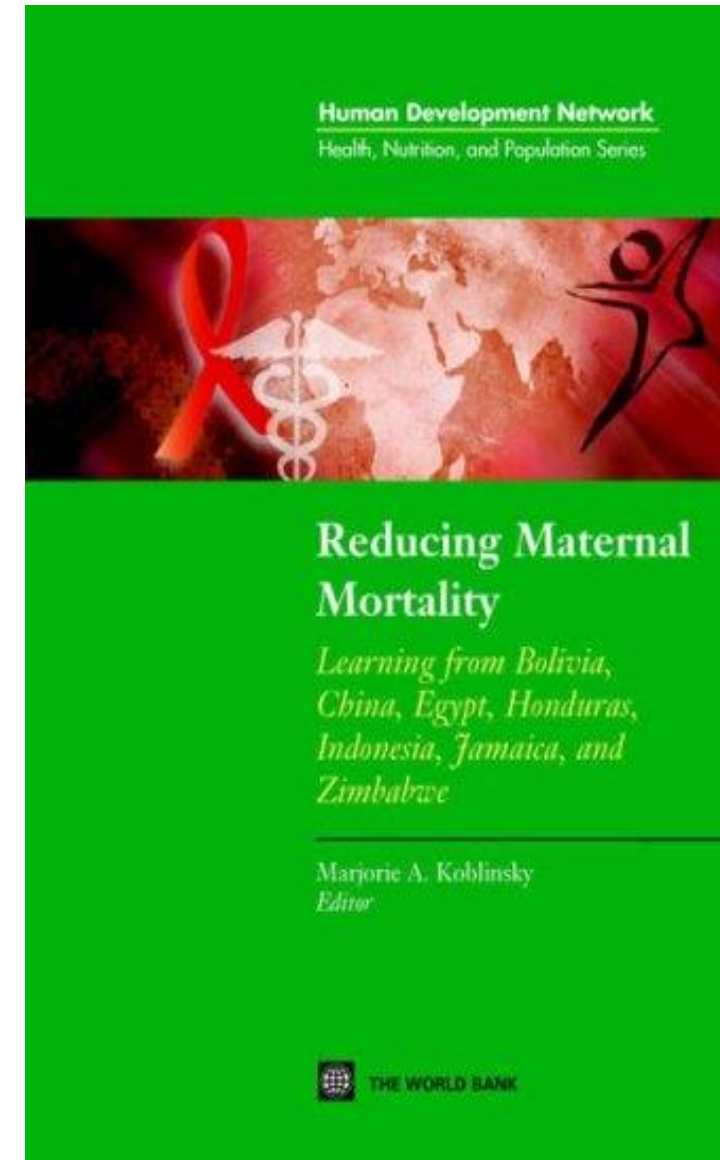
- Majority of health managers lack L&M competencies
- Maternal and perinatal adverse outcomes were attributed to ineffective L&M (ASDIT audits)





## The World Bank Report; 2003.

“When maternal and child health interventions lead to improved quality of obstetric and newborn care, **the success has been attributed to strong leadership in reproductive health** and accountability of both health providers, managers and key decision makers to the targeted population of women, children and families, and the presence of enabling policies”



## 3. Conclusions

In building an effective and efficient health system, leadership and management represent **a hub of all other building blocks.**

