

# Zimbabwe's approach to VMMC sustainability

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Webinar on VMMC Sustainability Zimbabwe's Experience

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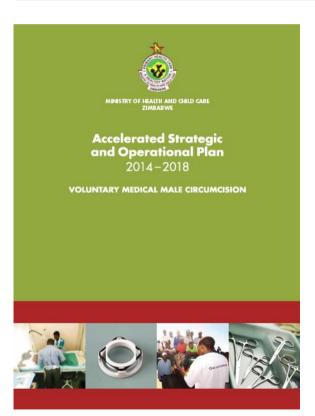
# **Presentation Outline**

- Overview of the VMMC Programme
- From ASCOP to STIP
- Preparation for the sustainability Implementation plan
- Lessons so far
- Sustainability Dash Board



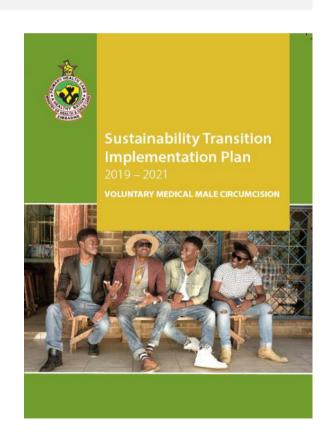
## From a period of scaling up to transition towards sustainable implementation

- A 'business unusual' operational plan (ASCOP) guiding programme scale up came to an end in 2018
- In 2018, we embarked on developing another plan that will guide implementation going forward (STIP)



Each strategic pillar of the programme was evaluated using the framework below:

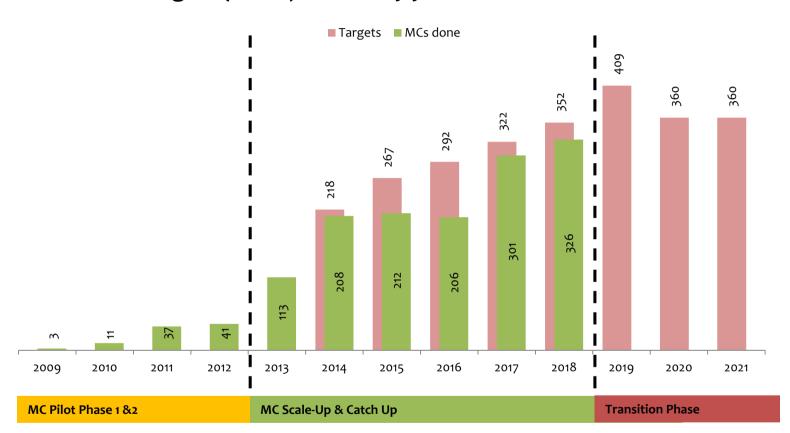
- ✓ What did we initially set out to do. ASCOP objectives evaluation
- ✓ What did we achieve and what were the challenges?
- ✓ What still needs to be done? What are the key outstanding questions for scale up and sustainability?
- ✓ How can this be achieved and maintained? Activities required to address outstanding questions/gaps



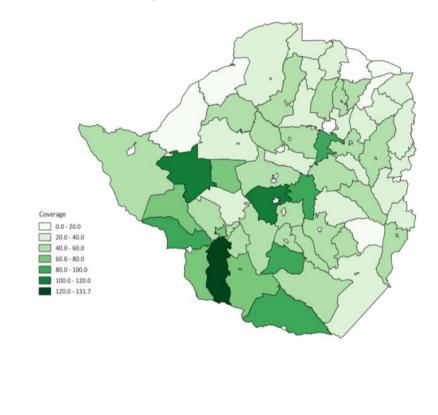




#### Total MCs & targets (x1000) to date by year



#### Estimated VMMC Coverage as at Dec 2018 (DMPPT2.0)



#### **Key observations**

- There has been a gradual increase in the annual MCs across the years with 2014 and 2017 having the highest percent achievement of target at (96%) and (93%) respectively while 2018 had the highest absolute MC achieved in a single year
- There is significant geographic variation in MC coverage at district level with the southern region generally being closer to saturation than the north

### What we did Jan-Dec 2018



#### National Sustainability Kickoff meeting

2. National & sub-national data extraction

3. Data consolidation and analysis

> 4. Strategy development

#### **Objectives**

- To share global guidance on sustainability and provide a country overview
- To agree on what a country definition of VMMC sustainability should include for Zimbabwe
- To agree on where we are and what aspects of VMMC sustainability still need to be addressed
- To map a way forward on the next steps towards the transition to sustainability

#### **Key Informant Interviews**

 National and sub-national key informant interviews were conducted to collect information on desired state of sustainability across all operational pillars(PMDs, PHEs, DHEs, Programme Partner Directors (Funders and IP), MOE, UN partners (WHO, UNAIDS, UNFPA, UNICEF)

#### **Community Focus Group Discussions**

 Gathering of points of views of potential VMMC clients and their caregivers on how they would want the programme to evolve moving forward; participants interacted in a facilitated discussion in a group setting.

#### **Literature Review**

Deep dive into existing VMMC literature and sustainable programming broadly

#### **Facility Level Data Extraction**

Capacity related data collected at facility level across all provinces

# Defining Sustainability for VMMC

- Key sustainability thematic areas were highlighted and validated with stakeholders
- The new plan aims to bridge the gap between the current state of the program and the desired sustainability characteristics

## What have we learnt so far? Enablers of transition



- Planning for transition should happen upfront with appropriate allocation of resources (funding, time, management etc) We should have started earlier!
  - Developing the STIP took about 10 months (this was somewhat not enough), we identified aspects of the programme that still required significant additional investment for them to move to a state where we can talk about sustainability)
- Technical support and managerial buy-in is required to strengthen the health system to allow for effective in coordination, management and implementation of the programme
  - However we are clear that sustainability/transition is not the absorption of everything donors fund (and their implementers) or do into domestic systems
- Involvement of all key stakeholders (including strong collaboration with funders) during planning, implementation and monitoring of transition is critical

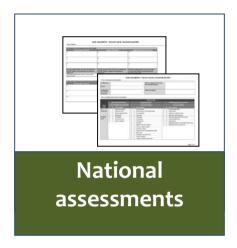


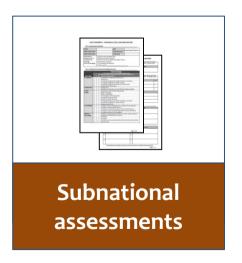
## **Sustainability definition**

The managerial, financial and operational ability to deliver and maintain 80% voluntary medical male circumcision coverage to ensure long-term health benefits and reduction in new HIV infections. This is achieved through conformity to social norms, local ownership rendering the programme affordable, accessible and acceptable to all.

# A Transition Assessment Dashboard is being developed in order to assess progress towards a defined sustainability state







#### Transition Dashboard

The VMMC Transition
Assessment Dashboard will be a tool that provides visual representation of the status of the program transition across VMMC implementation pillars from scale-up to sustainability.

The tool will highlight where gaps, bottlenecks and challenges exist in the transition process

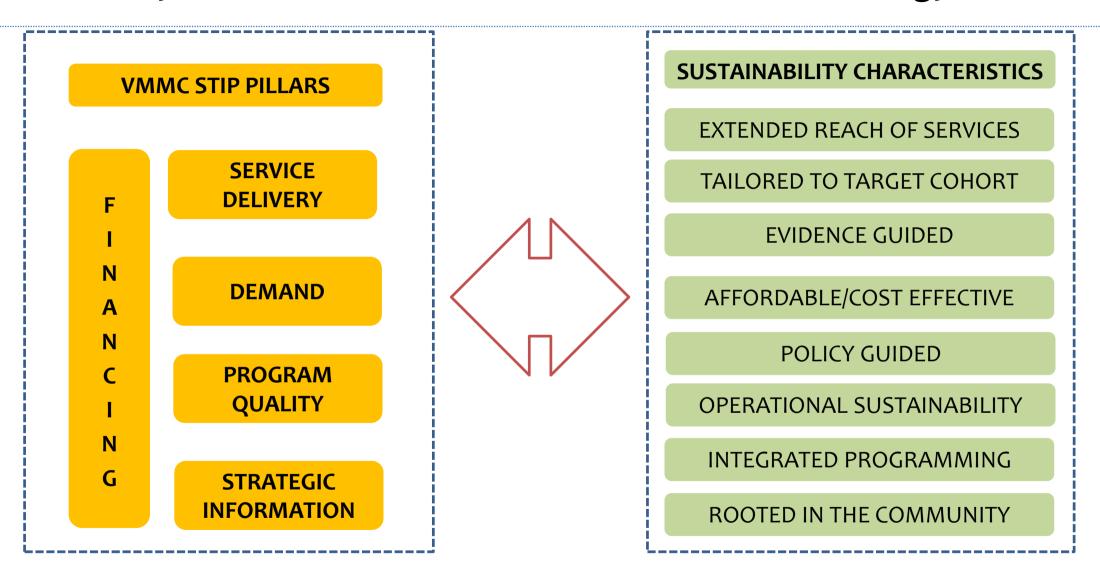
#### **Expected Outcomes**

2.

- Provide clear vision of what is currently happening based on indicators that were put in place
- making
  Understand what is
  happening and make
  informed decisions, based on
  facts and evidence

**Evidence-based decision** 

# Each assessment will be based on the VMMC programme theory of change and the sustainability characteristics as outlined in the national strategy



As highlighted above we are clear that

- Sustainability/transition is not the absorption of everything donors fund (and their implementers) or do into the domestic system
- Sustainability is an on-going process, applicable to both scale up and maintenance districts rather than a distinct phase following
  saturation as previously thought

10

### **Transition Assessment Dashboard Literature Review**

Which sustainability assessment tools are we reviewing?

	Tool name	Source	Funder
1	Sustainability Index Dashboard	<u>PEPFAR</u>	PEPFAR
2	Transition and Sustainability of HIV and TB Responses in Eastern Europe	Eurasian Harm Reduction Network	Global Fund
3	Transition Readiness Assessment- Malaria	Malaria Elimination Initiative UCSF	Global Fund
4	Transition Preparedness Assessment Framework	Curatio International Foundation	Global Fund
5	Checklist for Transition Planning of National HIV Responses	World Bank	World Bank
6	Sustainability Assessment Tool for NTD Control Programs	Dalberg	CIFF
7	Guidance for Analysis of Country Readiness for Global Fund Transition	Aceso Global & APMG Health	Global Fund
8	Social Purchasing Diagnostic Tool	APMG Health	Global Fund
9	Readiness Assessment: Moving towards country-led, country-financed HIV response for key populations	AIDS Data Hub	USAID 11

# Acknowledgements

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- The Bill Melinda Gates Foundation
- USAID (Dr C.Ajay)
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Thank you