A consensus agenda to promote safety and quality

- Participants in the FC+/MHTF global technical consultation developed a 13-point action agenda responding to the presented findings presented and emerging key priorities.

- This was not an HRH-focused group or forum, yet most of the action points reflected HRH needs related to the SAO workforce.
A consensus agenda to promote safety and quality

1. Encourage maternal health and safe surgery communities to **collaborate** to fill gaps and achieve higher efficiency.

2. Establish **minimum criteria** for facilities offering cesarean section; conduct standardized national assessments and establish accreditation platforms.

3. Ensure women’s access to high-quality care throughout pregnancy, including through **midwife-led** labor management.

4. Expand health workforce, meeting workforce density needs through **rational recruitment and retention** strategies.

5. Support the SAO/SBA workforce for QI through **mentoring, supervision, and in-service training**.

6. Support transition to **academic, accredited curricula** for all SAO workers, including **professional development** for cadres delivering task-shifted surgical care.
A consensus agenda to promote safety and quality

7. Produce and disseminate evidence-based, user-centered **guidelines and job aids** for safe, high-quality labor management, decision making, and cesarean care.

8. Promote improved **quality assessment and assurance** for EmONC, especially in contexts of widespread **task shifting**.


10. Strengthen local health information systems to collect and use standardized data for **accountability across public and private facilities**.
11. Strengthen facilitated **referrals** among sites providing obstetric care (e.g., via information/communication technology).

12. Increase **demand** among women for higher quality maternity care without over-intervention.

13. Campaign against cesarean overuse, raising **awareness** about individual and public health impacts.
How to promote and act on this agenda?

• Share the action agenda with:
  – Global/regional professional and advocacy associations (e.g., WHO, FIGO, SAFOG, White Ribbon Alliance)
  – Country-level professional associations and academic medical/nursing/midwifery communities (e.g., OB-GYN society conferences, EmONC working groups)

• Bring the maternal/OB-GYN perspective to global safe surgery events, (e.g., WHO Global Initiative for Emergency and Essential Surgical Care - Mozambique, December 2017)

• Advocate for midwife-led delivery care through national/regional professional associations and academic institutions
How to promote and act on this agenda?

• Disseminate experiences of task shifting and professionalizing surgical roles of non-physician clinicians in surgical obstetric care.

• Share evidence/guideline gaps (e.g., no benchmarks for SBA workforce) with agenda-setting institutions.

• Strengthen pre-service SBA curricula to reflect practice realities – e.g., retain alternatives to cesarean skills and address contextual challenges.
THANK YOU

Meeting reports available at: https://fistulacare.org/resources/program-reports/cesarean-section-technical-consultation/