

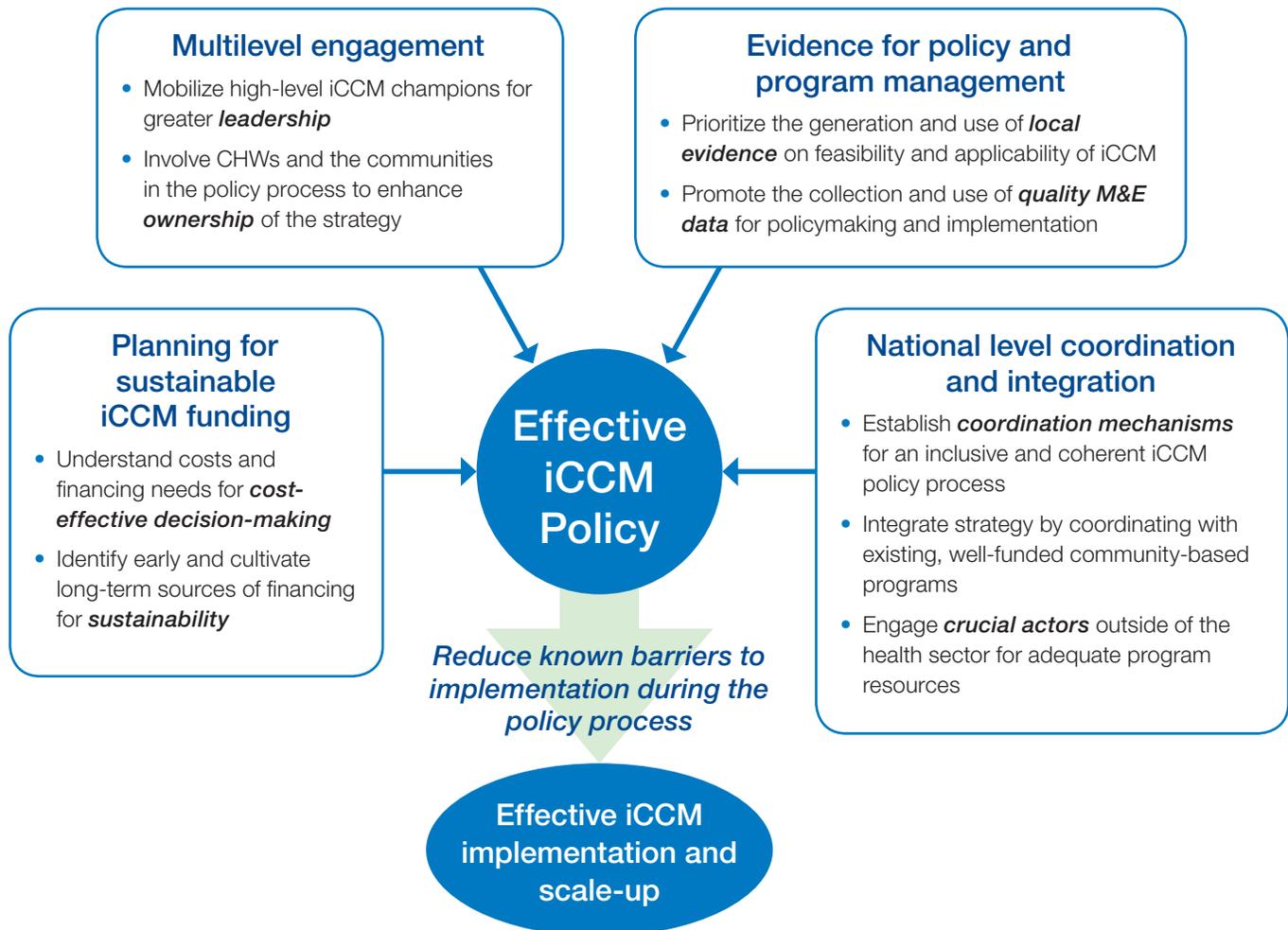


Disseminating iCCM research findings:

Briefing policymakers and program managers on lessons learned from three TRAction studies

The **Translating Research Into Action** (TRAction) project recently commissioned three studies that explored various areas of iCCM policymaking and program management in Sub-Saharan Africa. The three studies analyzed the iCCM policy process to identify facilitators and barriers to iCCM policy reforms and program development; developed a model to estimate program costs and assess financing needs of introducing and expanding iCCM; and examined innovative approaches to improve program monitoring based on the analysis of M&E system capacities. Policy conclusions with high relevance to iCCM implementation were included in two briefs targeted at 1) program managers and 2) high level policymakers.

1) Linking effective iCCM policy to effective implementation: recommendations for program managers



A key message is that barriers to iCCM implementation, whether they are linked to limitations of the health systems or overarching challenges posed by the use of CHWs, should be planned for through the policy process, making issues easier to address should they arise. Managers have a key role to play in this early task, to create an enabling environment for iCCM that allows for the full iCCM potential.

2) Tackling the challenge of child mortality through iCCM – A brief for policymakers

Policymakers provide the required leadership and coordination and help ensure that iCCM is part of high level issues such as planning for human resources and financing. By engaging in participative iCCM development and addressing barriers to implementation, they can lead the way to improved access to care and better health outcomes.



iCCM is a strategy that is driven by some of the most fundamental public health principles: protecting the most vulnerable and reducing child mortality. Because it relies on frontline health workers and seeks to extend coverage, it requires, by essence and to varying extent, changes in the care delivery system. The TRAction studies highlighted that framing iCCM for a customized fit to a specific health system, while ensuring that the resulting policy lies on solid human, technical, and financial grounds, may lead to a greater success in program implementation and scale-up.