

TGLF/Bridges and ZD CoP/SP3  
Coverage & Equity WG Event  
Series:

## Gender Barriers to Immunization and Primary Health Care Services



Reaching  
Zero-dose  
Children



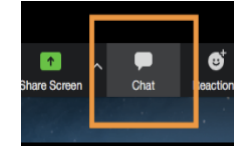


# Guide for participation

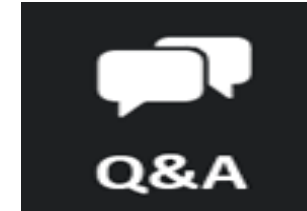
1. **Ensure that your name is correctly displayed** and rename yourself if it isn't.

How to rename:

2. **Introduce yourself** with **affiliation** and **location** in the chat



3. **Write and vote for questions in the Q&A function**



4. **Participants cannot unmute**, but you can type in the Q&A function or raise your hand

We will use Mentimeter for interactive exercises

Please open the Mentimeter app at the start of the session:

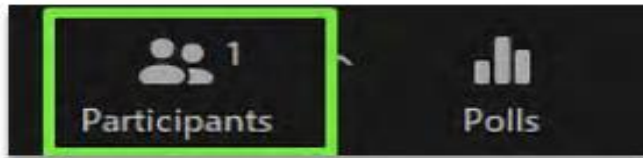
[www.menti.com](https://www.menti.com)

and type in the code:

**5310 1309**

# How to change your name in Zoom

- 1.) To change your name after entering a Zoom meeting, click on the “Participants” button at the top of the Zoom window.



- 2.) Next, hover your mouse over your name in the “Participants” list on the right side of the Zoom window. Click on “Rename”.



- 3.) Enter the name you’d like to appear in the Zoom meeting and click on “OK”.



# Chair and Speakers



**Jean Munro**  
*Senior Manager,  
Gender, GAVI*



**Shoubo Jalal**  
*Senior Advisor,  
Gender Equality,  
UNICEF New York*



**Deepa Risal  
Pokharel**  
*Senior Adviser,  
Social & Behaviour  
Change, Team Lead-  
Immunization  
Demand, Health  
Section, Programme  
Group, UNICEF New  
York*



**Alyssa Sharkey**  
*Lecturer, Princeton  
University and  
Consultant, UNICEF*



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*Team Lead,  
Demand and  
Behavioural  
Sciences,  
Department of  
Immunization,  
Vaccines and  
Biologicals, WHO,  
Geneva*



**Khawaja Aftab  
Ahmed**  
*Health Specialist  
- Health System  
Strengthening,  
UNICEF Pakistan*



# Social Gender Barriers to Immunization

Session 1 for the  
Zero Dose Community of Practice  
2 June 2022



Go to [www.menti.com](https://www.menti.com) and use the code 5310 1309

# How familiar are you with the topic "gender-related barriers to immunization"?

 Mentimeter



Go to [www.menti.com](https://www.menti.com) and use the code 5310 1309

**Tell us where you work (or are currently based, if you work in multiple countries)**

 Mentimeter





# The difference between SEX and GENDER

## SEX

The biological and physiological fact of being male or female



## GENDER

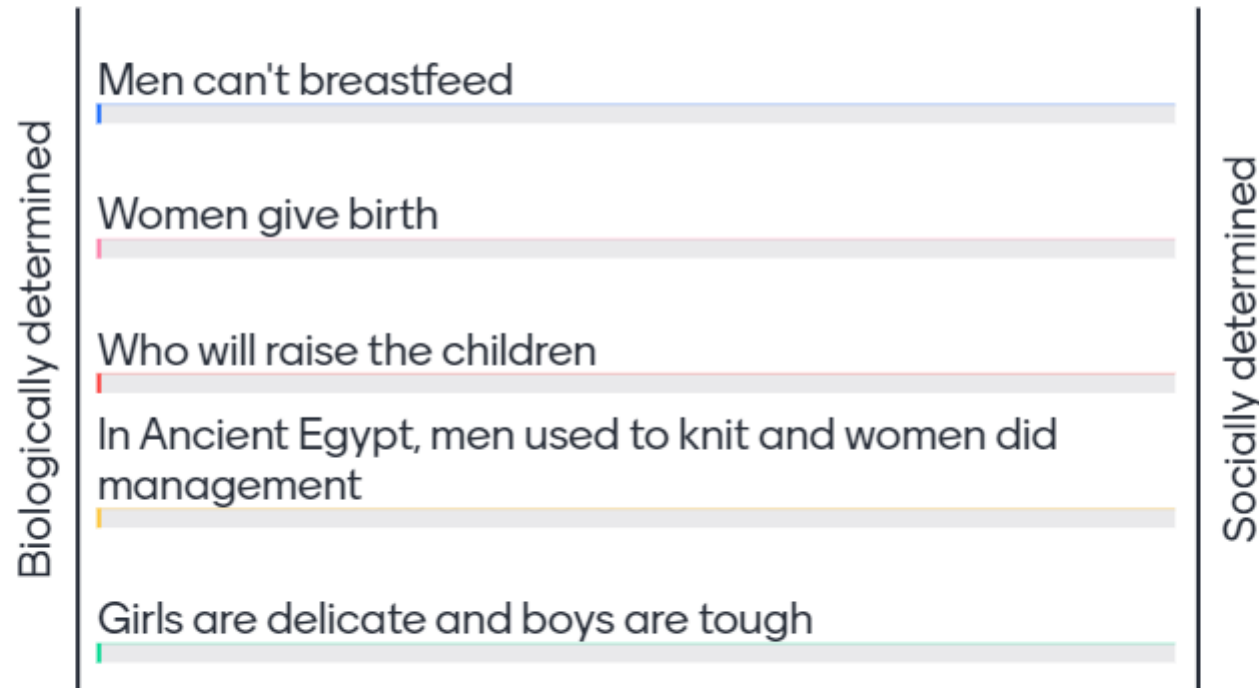
The socially constructed norms, roles and responsibilities assigned to men and women



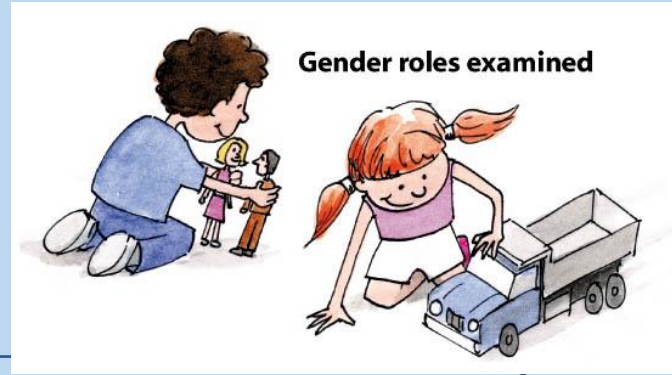
Go to [www.menti.com](https://www.menti.com) and use the code 5310 1309

 Mentimeter

# Sex versus gender: Which of these are biologically determined versus socially determined?



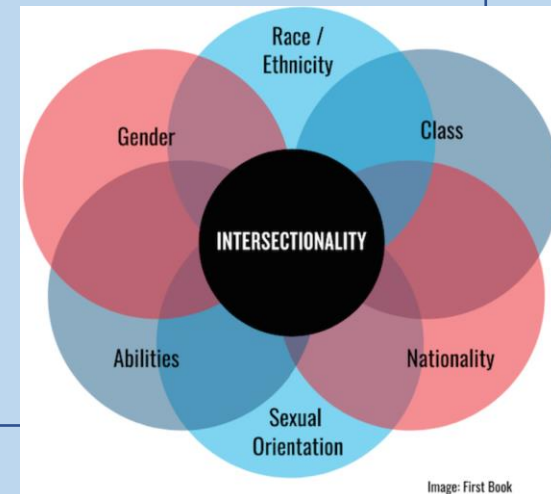
# Some concepts



**Gender discriminatory roles and practices:** Unwritten and written rules, behaviours, and expectations that differentiate between boys and girls, men and women so as to limit their rights, well-being, and opportunities.

**Mainstreaming a gender perspective:** The process of assessing the implications for girls, boys, women and men of any planned action, including legislation, policies or programmes, in all areas and at all levels.

**Intersectionality:** Gender intersects with other dimensions of inequity to further disadvantage certain groups.



# Gender in Vaccination Programmes





# Vaccination objectives

Infants & Under-5s

Childhood vaccines

Adolescents

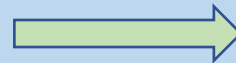
Td, HPV, Cholera

Women / Adults

Td/TT, cholera, COVID-19,  
typhoid ...

ALL children

Full protection



Do we need to  
consider gender ?

# What we already know



REMOTE RURAL



URBAN



AFFECTED  
BY CONFLICT

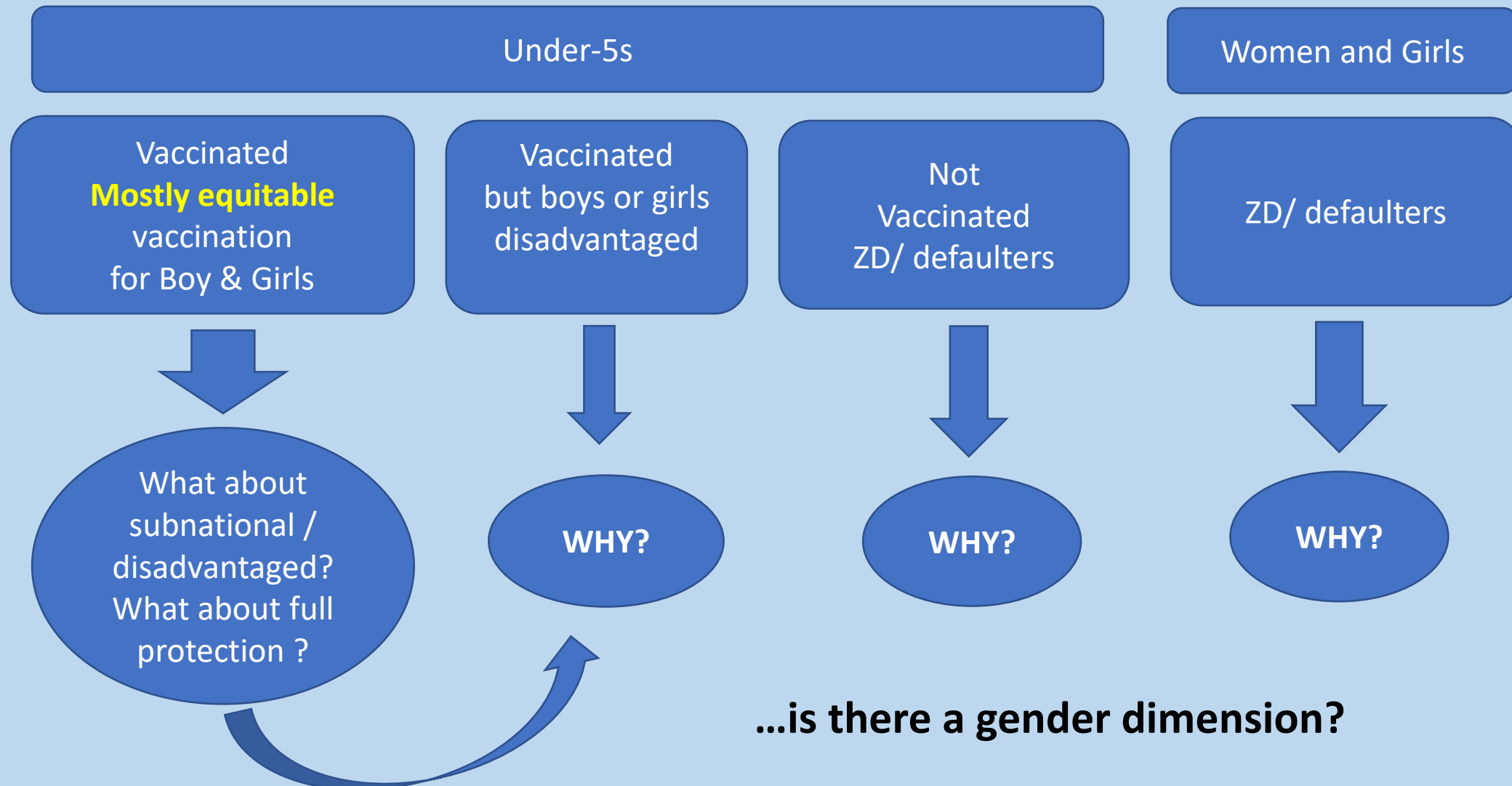


GENDER

- ✓ Gender intersects with other dimensions of exclusion
- ✓ Children of mothers who are poor, uneducated, illiterate or very young are significantly less likely to be immunized

...but what else?

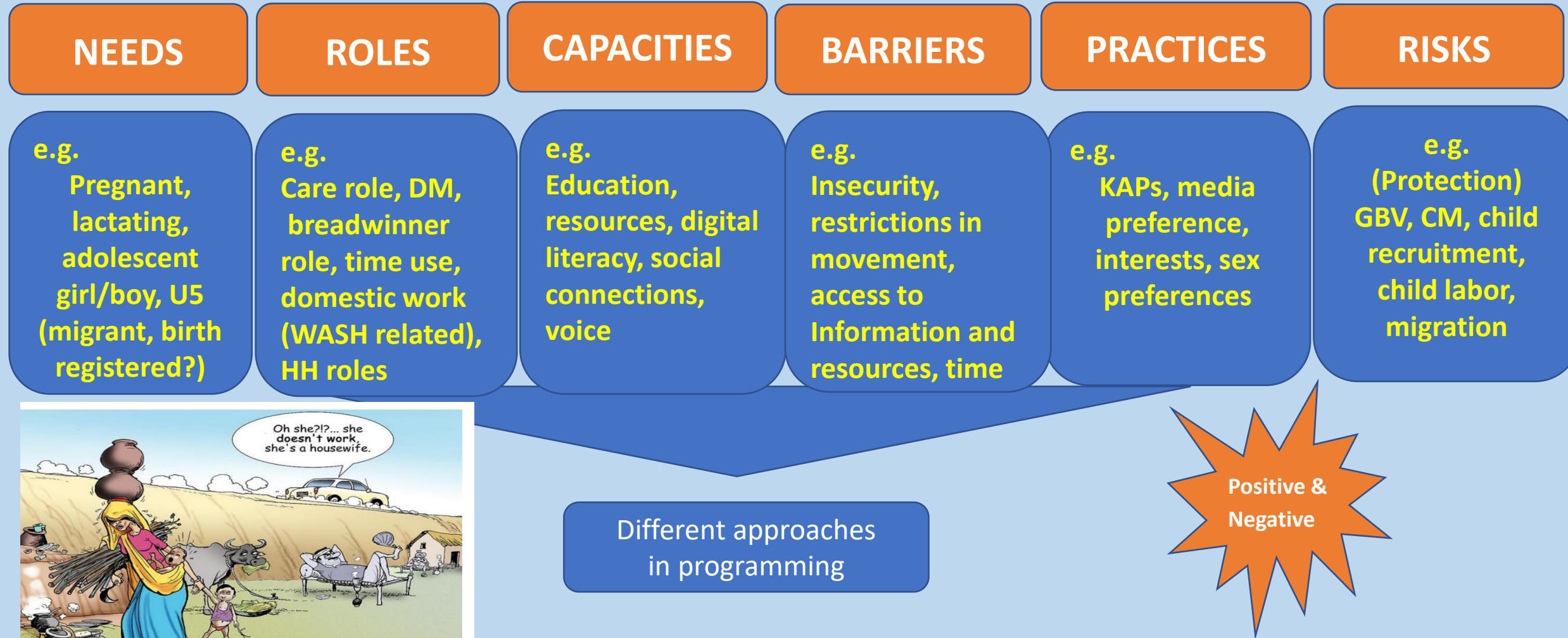
# Key question: is there a gender dimension ?





# Gender dimensions and implications for programmes

There can be differences in....

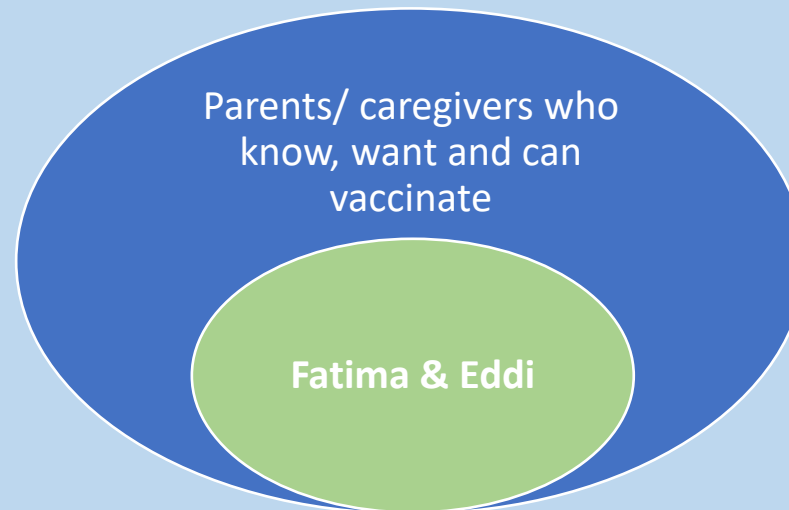


# Unpacking gender dimensions/ Multi-layer barriers

A green oval logo with a thin white border, containing the text "Fatima & Eddi" in white.

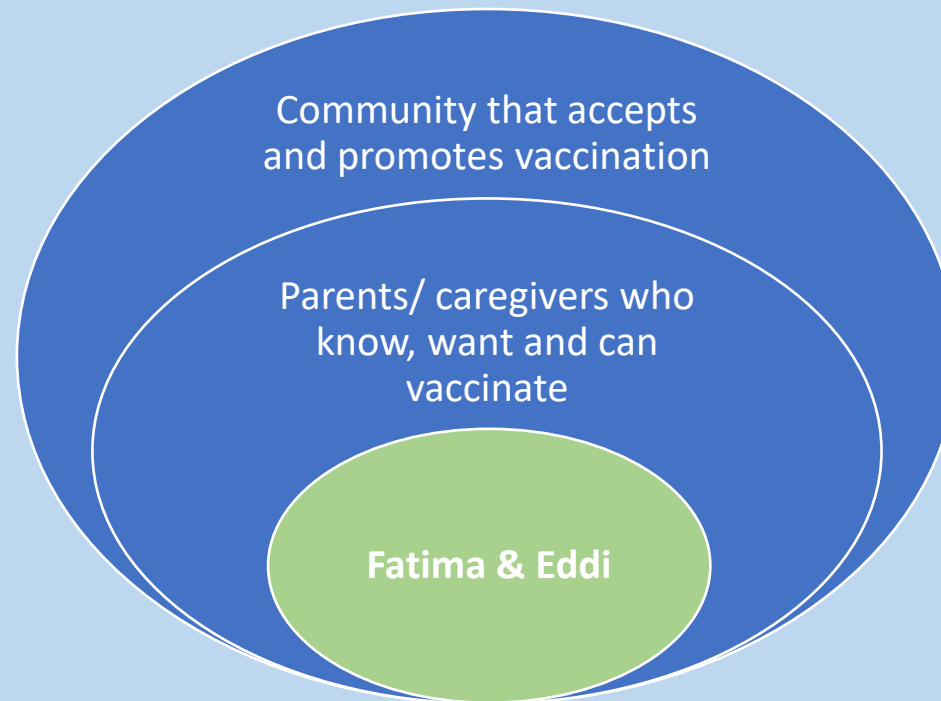
Fatima & Eddi

# Unpacking gender dimensions/ Multi-layer barriers

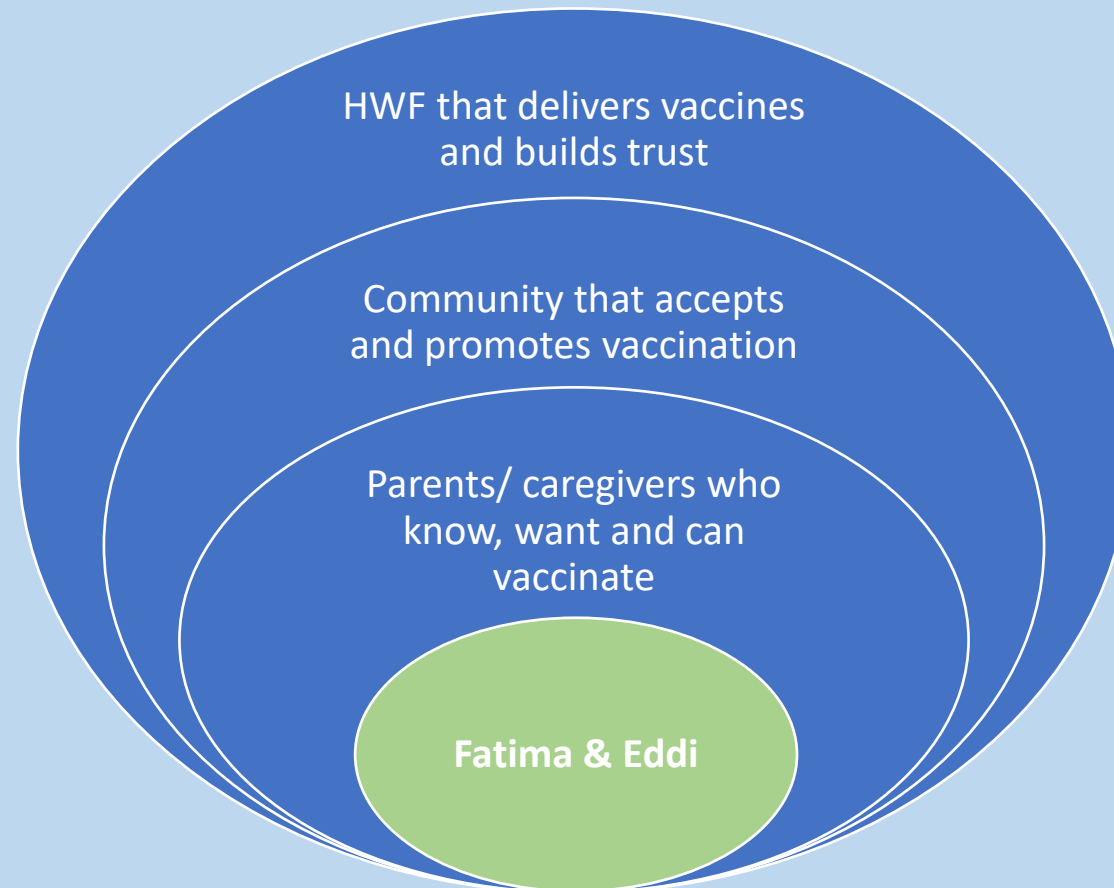




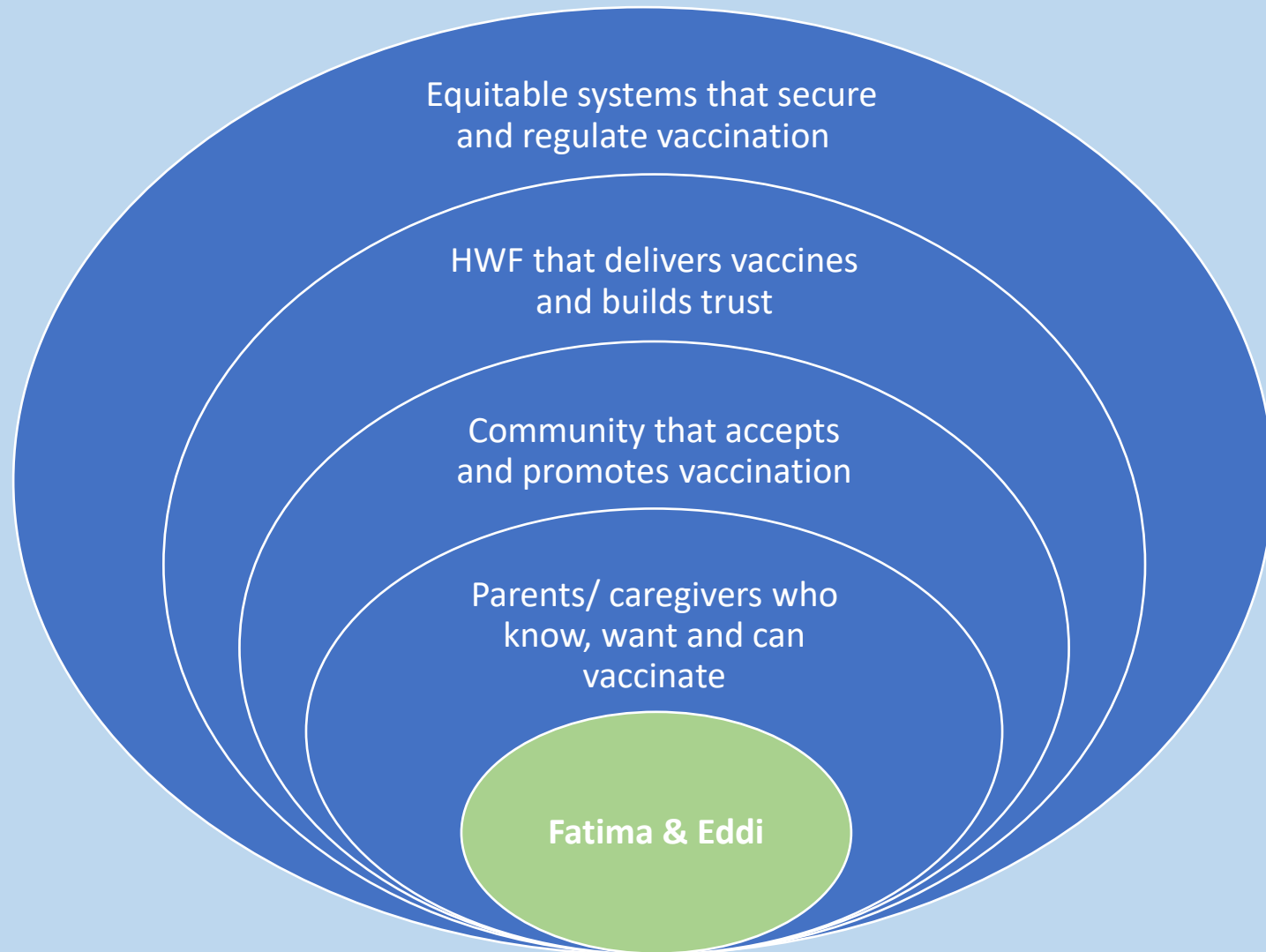
# Unpacking gender dimensions/ Multi-layer barriers



# Unpacking gender dimensions/ Multi-layer barriers

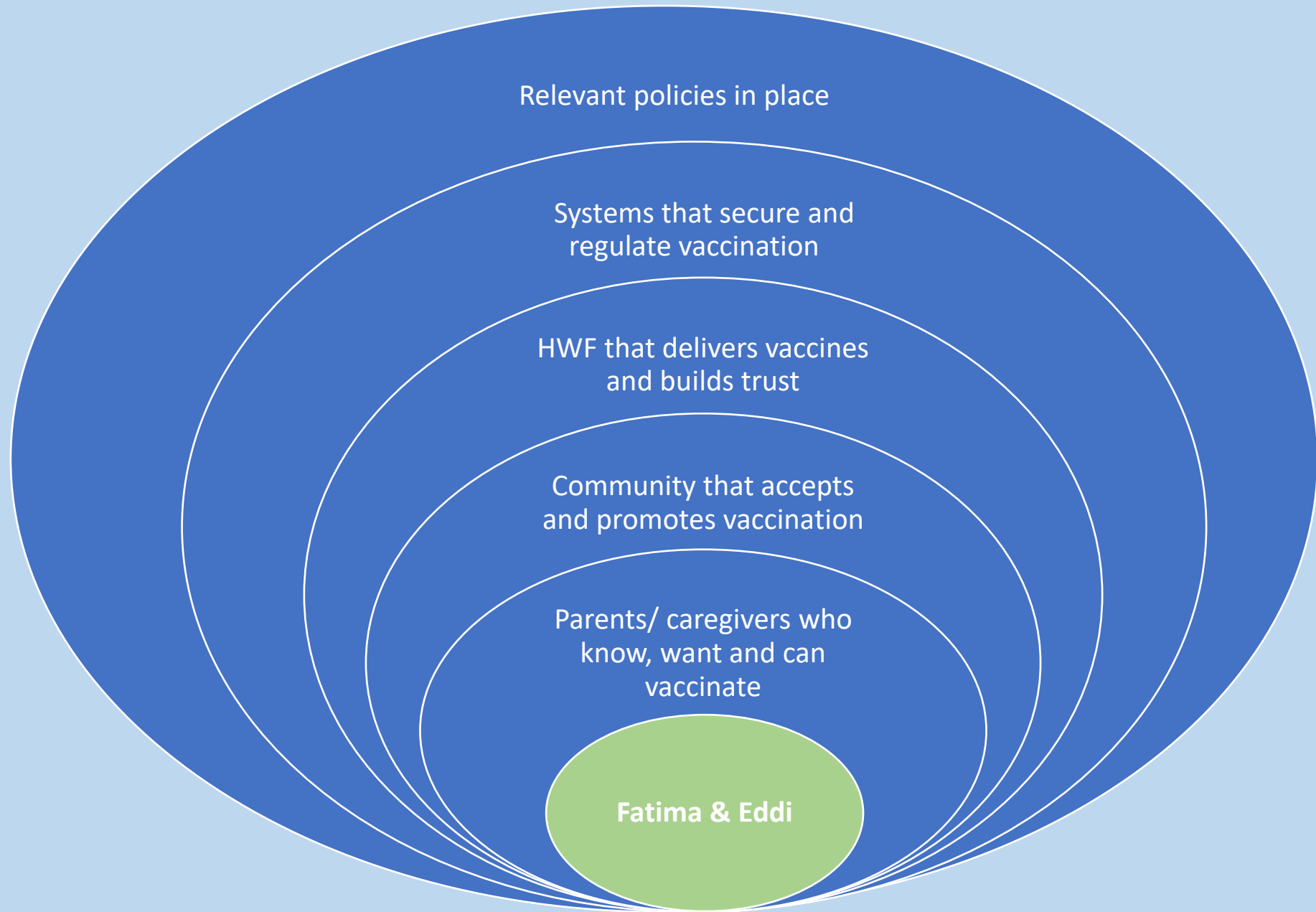


# Unpacking gender dimensions/ Multi-layer barriers





# Unpacking gender dimensions/ Multi-layer barriers



# Exercise to reflect on different barriers

In country X, the following message was aired frequently on TV channels:

**“Measles is a highly contagious and deadly disease affecting children, The MOH is organizing a measles immunization campaign for under-five children through fixed health centers from 8:00-12:00 each day for the period 2- 5 June 2022.”**

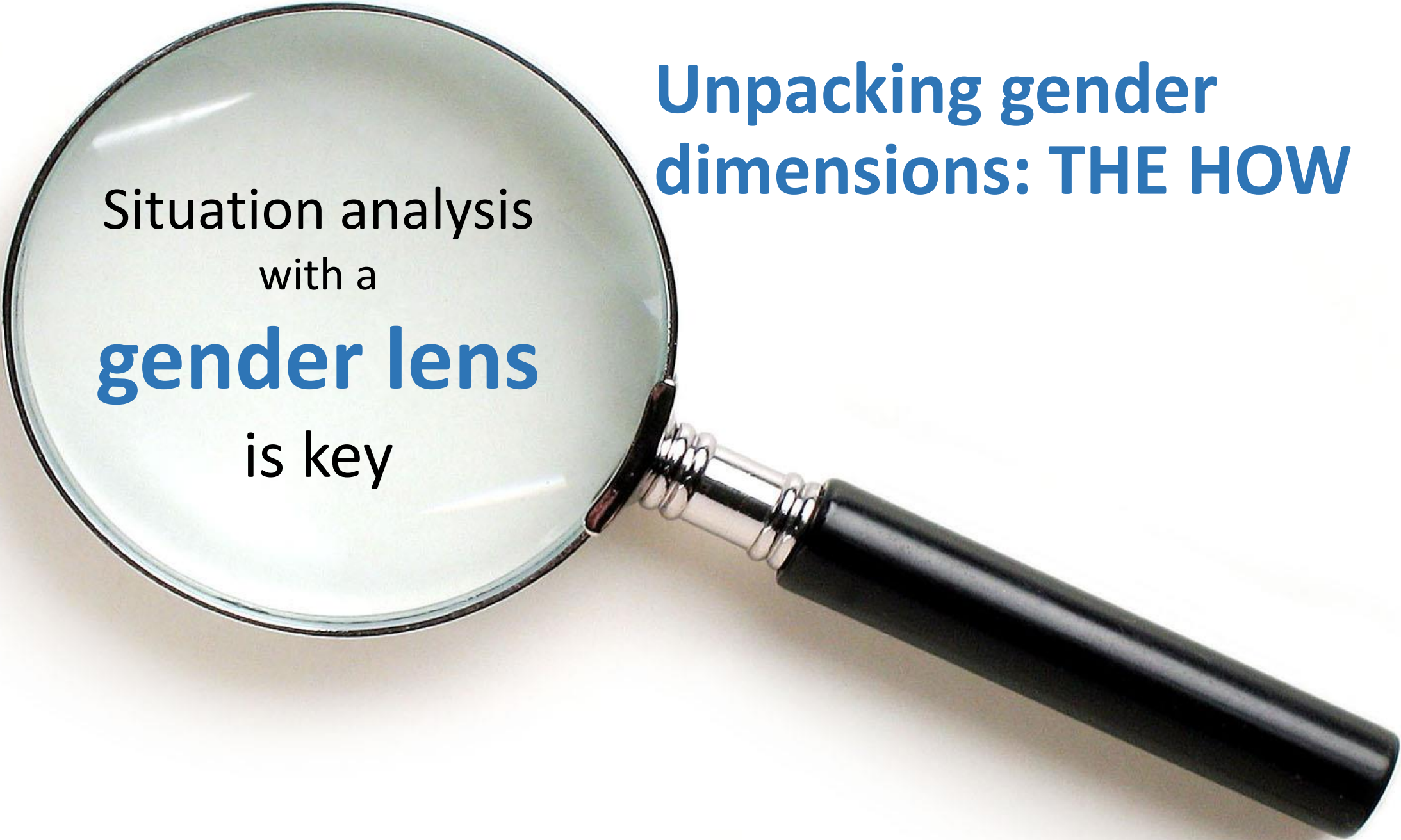
# Which of these parents is likely to vaccinate their children based on the TV advertisements?

Yes	Shereen, 16 years, illiterate, mother of 12-month-old baby, need husband's permission to go	No
	Abduh, a migrant father with two children under-5	
	Patricia, 36 years, literate, works on farm, mother of 6 children (2 under-5)	
	Ahmed, his child experienced side effects from a previous vaccination	
	Anne is willing to vaccinate her child, but little Shella does not have a birth certificate	
	Ider, father of 3 children under-5, poor from remote rural village	



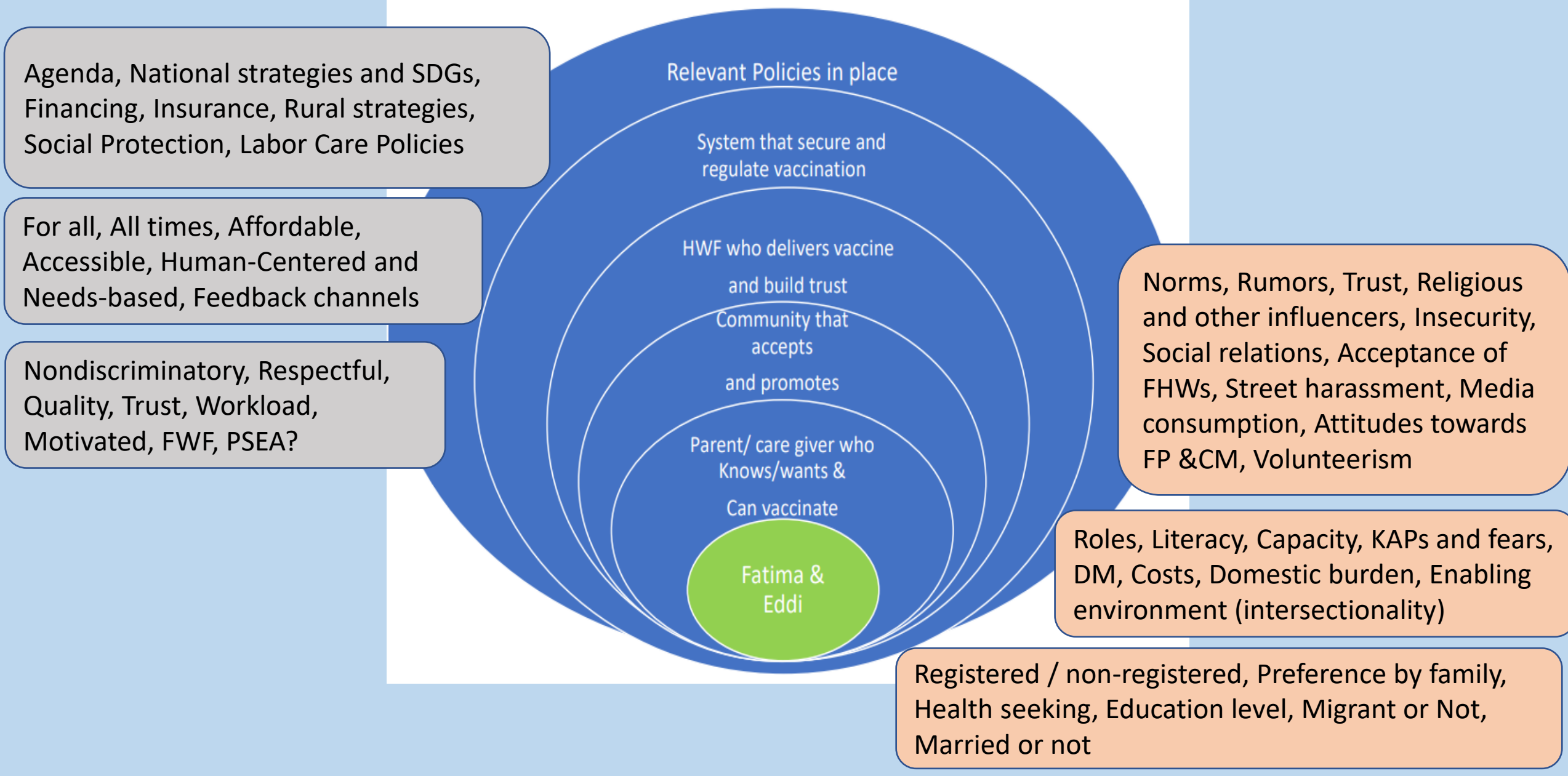


# Unpacking gender dimensions: THE HOW

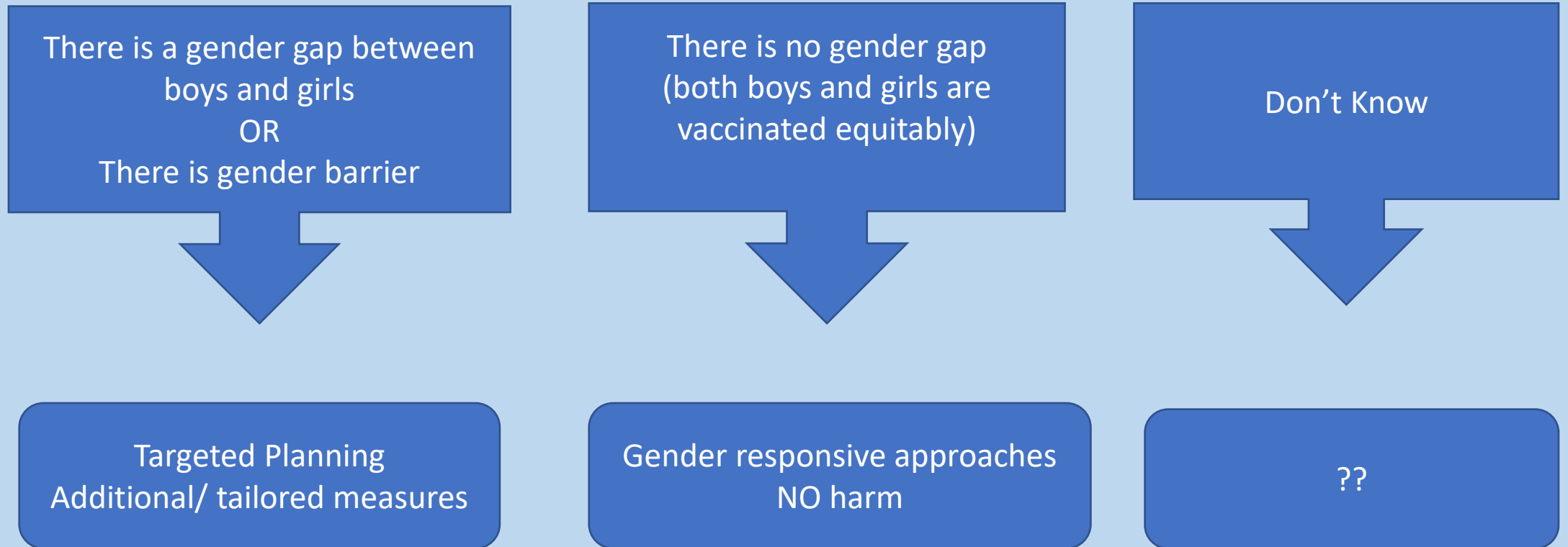


Situation analysis  
with a  
**gender lens**  
is key

# Unpacking gender dimensions: Gender Analysis



# From analysis to programming

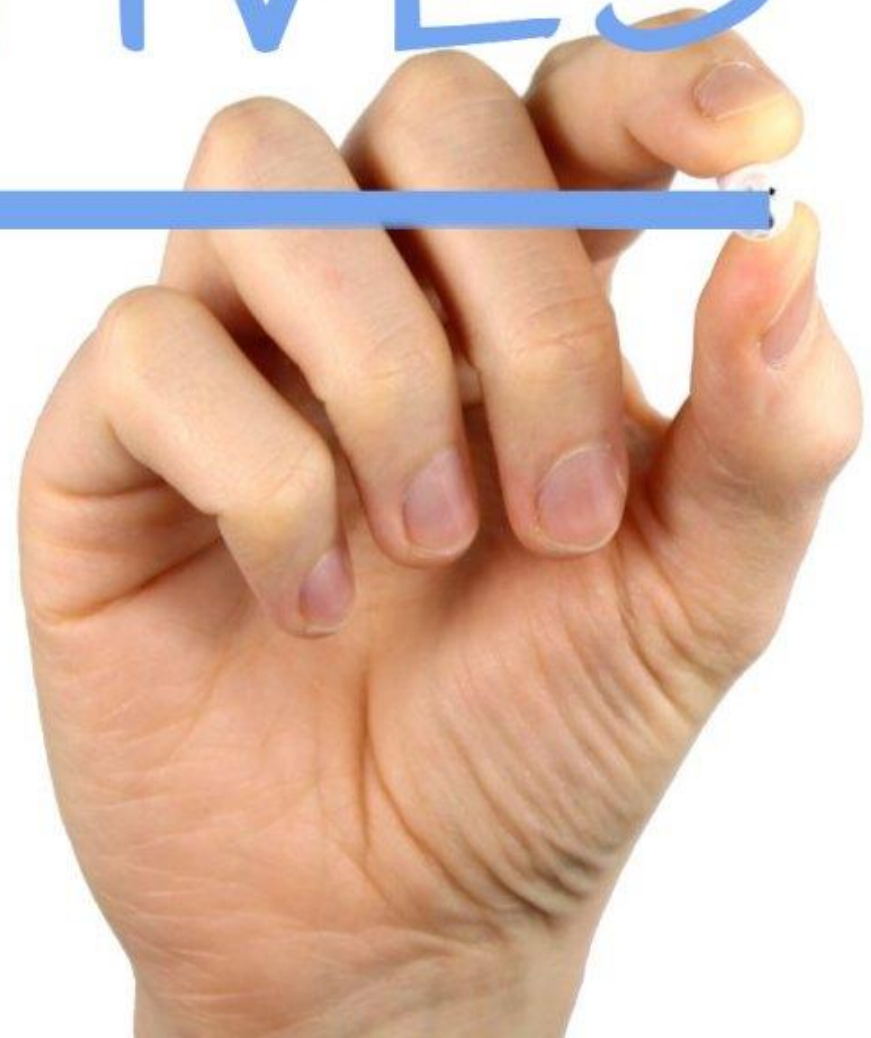


# OBJECTIVES

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**Which “Gender Barriers” do we want to address as priority?**

**Understanding the Practical versus Strategic needs**



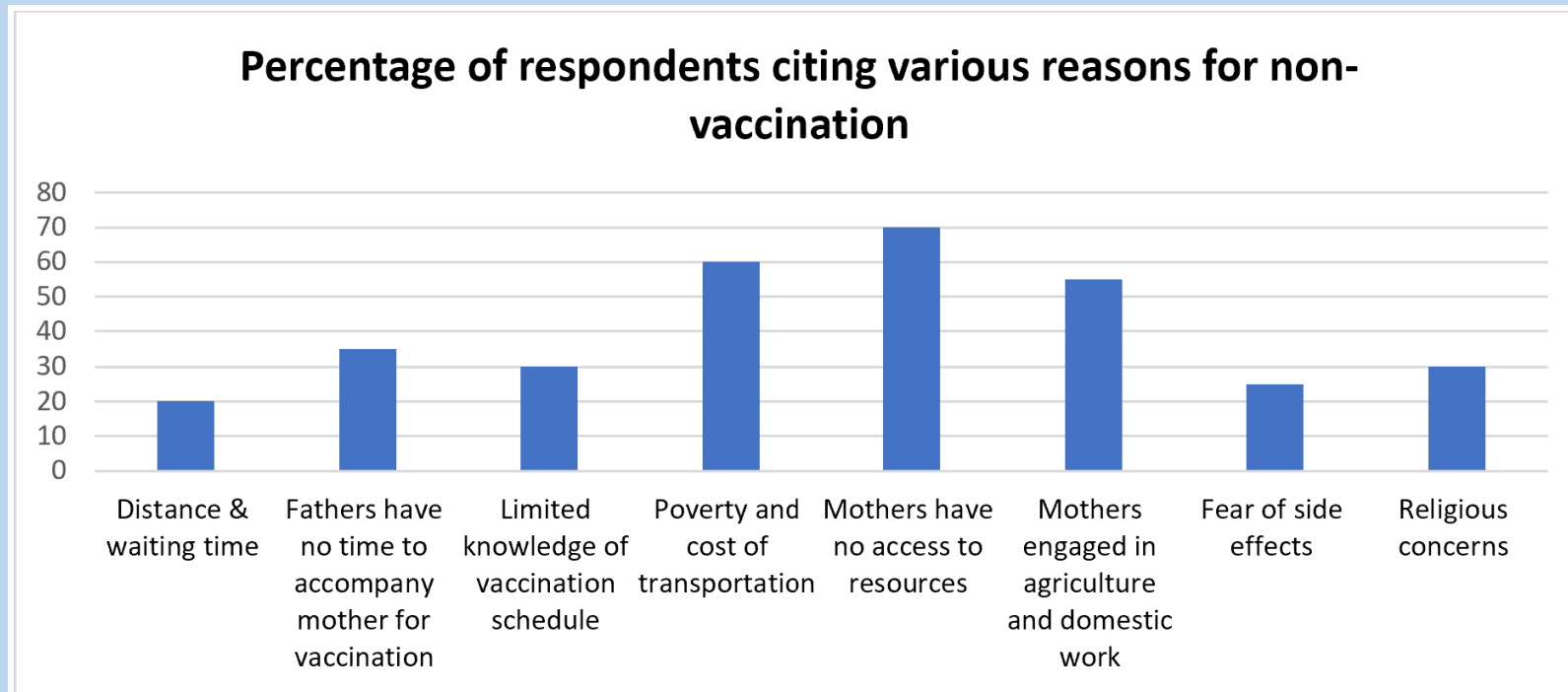


# Gender programming results

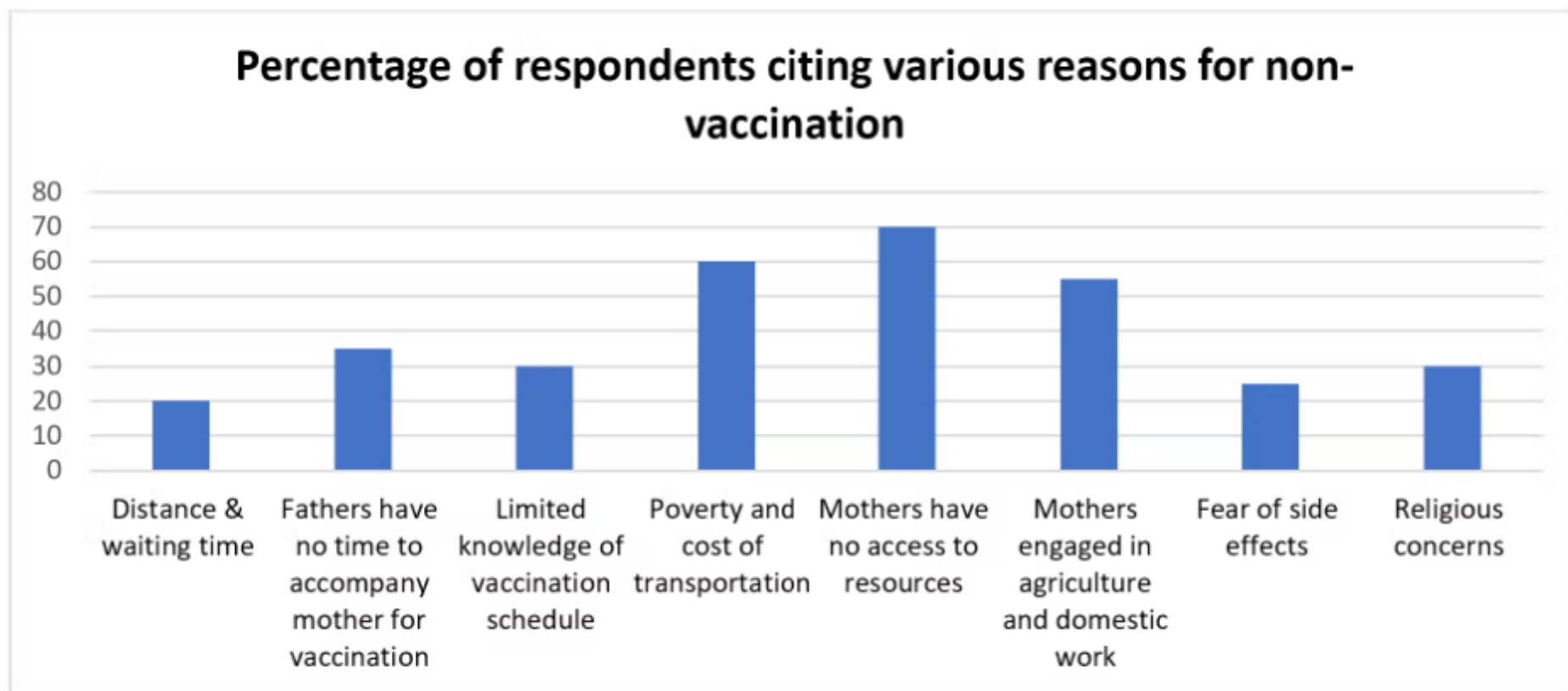


# Exercise to reflect on prioritization

Village Zoom is a community with a population of 200,000 people, with a high fertility rate and child marriage prevalence. Village Zoom has been identified as a Zero Dose community with multiple barriers identified as reasons for non-vaccination. In this scenario, which of the various gender barriers would you prioritize?



# Which of the following barriers would you prioritize?



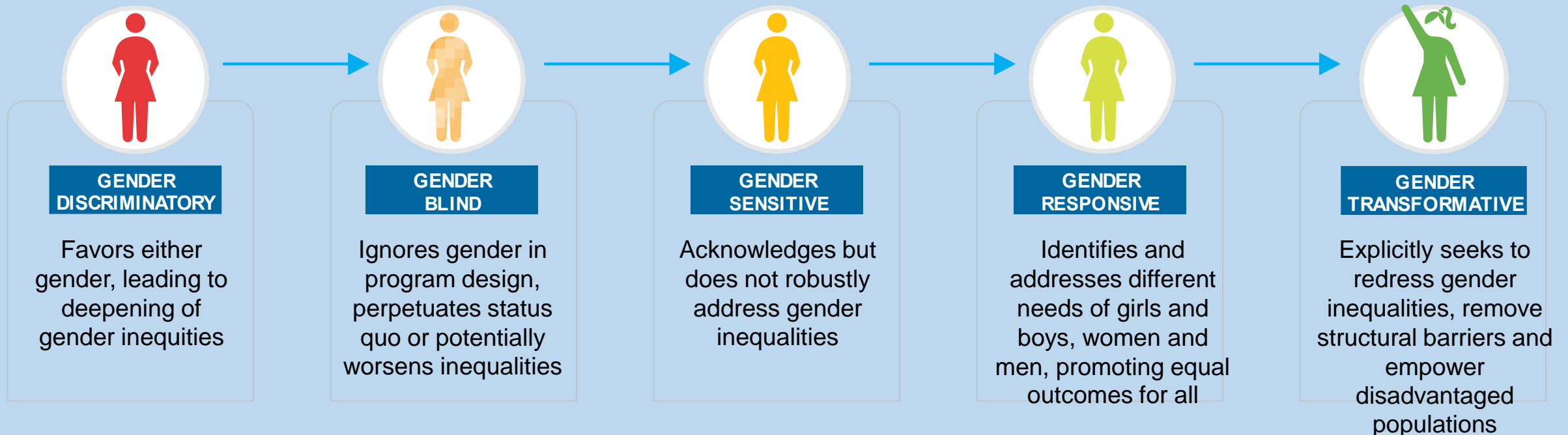
# Responsive versus transformative programming

31

**Gender-transformative programming** aspires to **tackle root causes** of gender inequality and moves beyond self-improvement among girls and women to **redress power dynamics and structures** that serve to reinforce gender inequalities



UNICEF applies the **Gender Continuum diagnostic tool** to **evaluate the effectiveness** of a development or humanitarian intervention in addressing gender inequalities in program design, implementation, monitoring or evaluation







In the first image, it is assumed that everyone will benefit from the same supports. They are being treated **equally**



In the second image, individuals are given different supports to make it possible for them to have equal access to the game. They are being treated **equitably**



In the third image, all the three can see the game without any supports or accommodations because the cause of inequity was addressed. **The systemic barrier is removed**

# Immunization Programme - Empowerment Opportunities

- Female health workers
- Female community health workers / volunteers
- Participation in programme planning and design (community-based solutions)
- Engaging fathers in their children's immunization and health care
- Community-based empowerment through local engagement
- Engaging local NGO partners
- Empowerment through knowledge and skill building programmes
- Economic empowerment through social protection

Shared child care responsibility  
HH enabling environment

# From Diagnosis to Treatment

How can we programme  
for social barriers?





# Localization is key



# Addressing gender social barriers – some suggestions

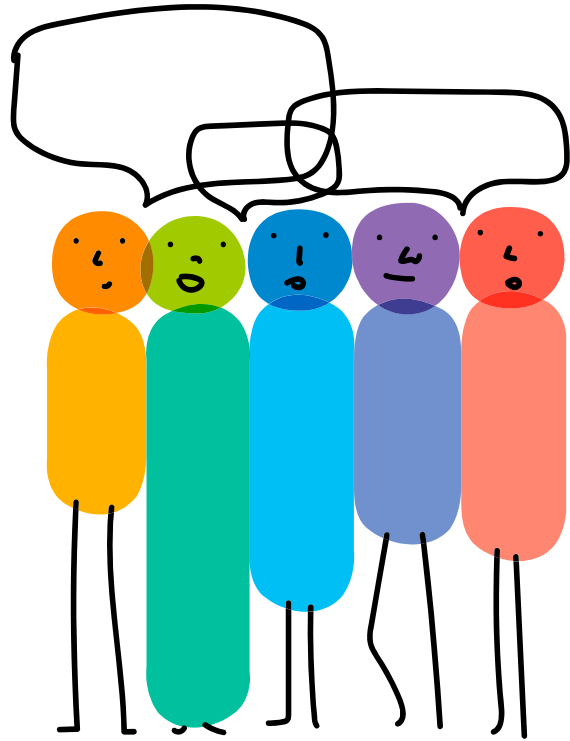
Gender social barriers	Example solutions
Limited education/health literacy – access to information	Targeted Gender Responsive Campaigns for <b>SBC</b> Affordable access to ICT ( <b>Private sector</b> )
Limited agency and decisionmaking	Women empowerment programmes, <b>LSCE</b> Engage fathers in the vaccination of their children <b>SBC</b> <b>ECD</b> and positive parenting programmes <b>Community based solutions, GBV programmes</b>
Domestic burden (WASH, crops, caregiver role ....)	Promote shared “care responsibility “with <b>SBC</b> PSS with <b>Protection</b> Work with other programmes (e.g., <b>WASH</b> ) Outreach to marginalized communities <b>Community based solutions</b>
Poverty, limited access to resources	Conditional <b>social protection</b> programmes, cash programmes, livelihood programmes, <b>community solutions</b>
Norms restricting mobility or utilization	Women’s support groups (Going as group for immunization) <b>Community-based solutions</b> (escorted, transportation) Programmes that promote value of health outcomes for boys and girls
Trust	<b>Community campaigns</b> HWF communication skills

Community-based solutions

Multi-sectoral work



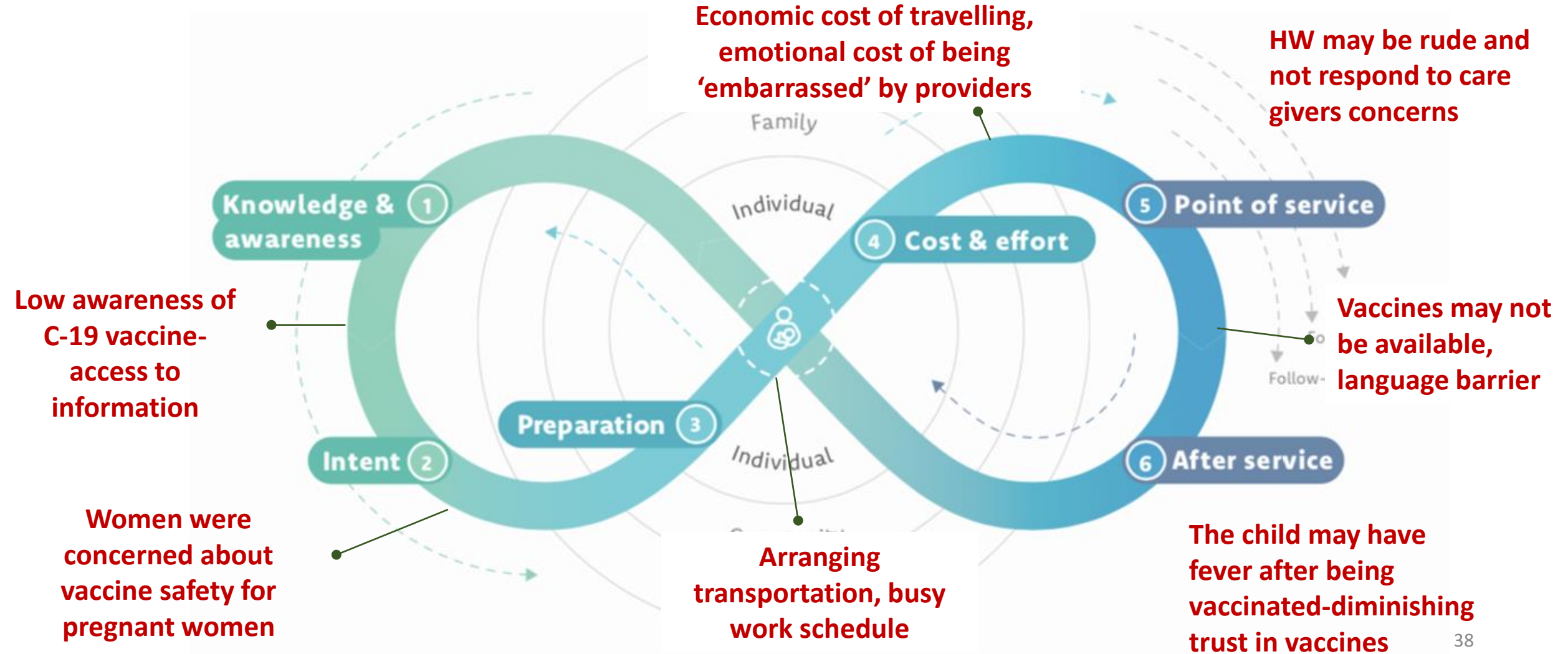
# 5 actions human centred design:



<https://www.hcd4health.org/>

- Keep people at the center
- Plan & solve with a systems view
- Make research quick, interactive, personal, and action-oriented
- Identify solutions that align with habits and motivations
- Test solutions with users, learn, adjust, test again

# Mapping Barriers onto UNICEF's Caregiver Journey Conceptual Framework



**What are your recommendations for increasing uptake?**



## SOMALIA: Engaging community to help caregivers overcome gender barriers

- Men play an influential role in decision-making including on health care seeking.
- **HCD** rapid enquiry-collected multiple perspectives within each community to understand decision-influencing factors.
- Breakthrough Insight: **Men, while deeply motivated to care for their family and community, were not included in conversations regarding child health.**
- Team decided to conduct more rapid inquiry sessions with fathers to discuss their roles and responsibilities in getting children vaccinated
- **Immediate action:** In-progress training manuals for frontline workers **being updated to ensure role of the male is well emphasized and recognized, esp during home visits.**
- **Father-to-father meetings**, involving fathers in important planning decisions, recruiting fathers to offer transportation and convincing fathers to help with tasks at home while the mother is at the clinic.



# HCD: Integrating local perspective to address gender and inequities

**Nepal:** In the Chepang community of the country, female community health volunteers don't always feel safe traveling alone to conduct their activities in the community

Local Solutions: Female HWs to be accompanied to visit communities;

An unlikely advocate – money lenders – see themselves as protectors of the community and are up for the job of ensuring safe passage for these health workers.

- **Removing the barrier of illiteracy in Mali:** In Mopti, many mothers are illiterate so their main form of reminder for follow-up visits – the vaccination card – is of little use.
- Local solution: Developing creative ways to count days between appointments allows other family members, such as grandmothers, to get involved in care-seeking responsibilities

**Sudan:** In conservative communities of **Sudan**, it is inappropriate for women to ask for the children to be vaccinated – their husband must initiate the discussion and grant permission.

- Local solution: Engaging men where they gather and incorporating the practice of vaccinations into local traditions can make it more widely accepted.

Go to [www.menti.com](https://www.menti.com) and use the code 5310 1309

The code lets your audience join the presentation. It expires in 2 days.

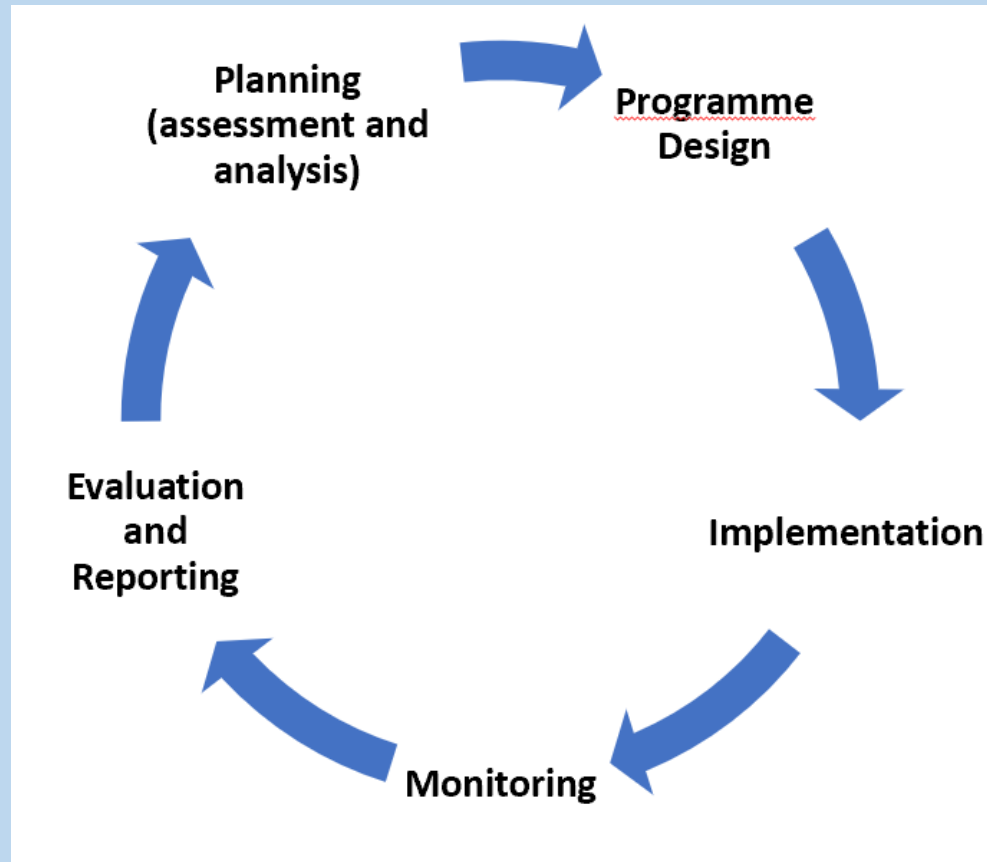


# Actively encouraging fathers to come to their children's vaccinations is an effective gender transformative strategy





# Measurement



Programmes need to identify, measure and monitor gender-related barriers to immunization within their broader efforts to understand and service zero dose communities

# Measuring /Reporting changes in social barriers

**Individual level /household levels**

**Community levels**

**Empowerment** (i.e., does the programme contribute to individual empowerment results?)



# Potential sources for gender-related data

- Censuses (assess ownership)
- Big data (crowdsourcing, mobile phone/social media transactional)
- Household surveys (including measurement of social and behavioural drivers)
- Public opinion polls (gender norms/attitudes)



- Administrative data
- Service provision assessments
- Other special surveys including remote data collection
- Social listening
- Qualitative assessments

# Using behavioural and social drivers (BeSD) *to understand and address gender-related barriers*

## Gender webinar for the Community of Practice on Zero Dose

2 June 2022

Lisa Menning, Team lead, Demand and behavioural sciences, Department of Immunization, WHO Headquarters

[menningl@who.int](mailto:menningl@who.int)

# Tools and guidance on BeSD

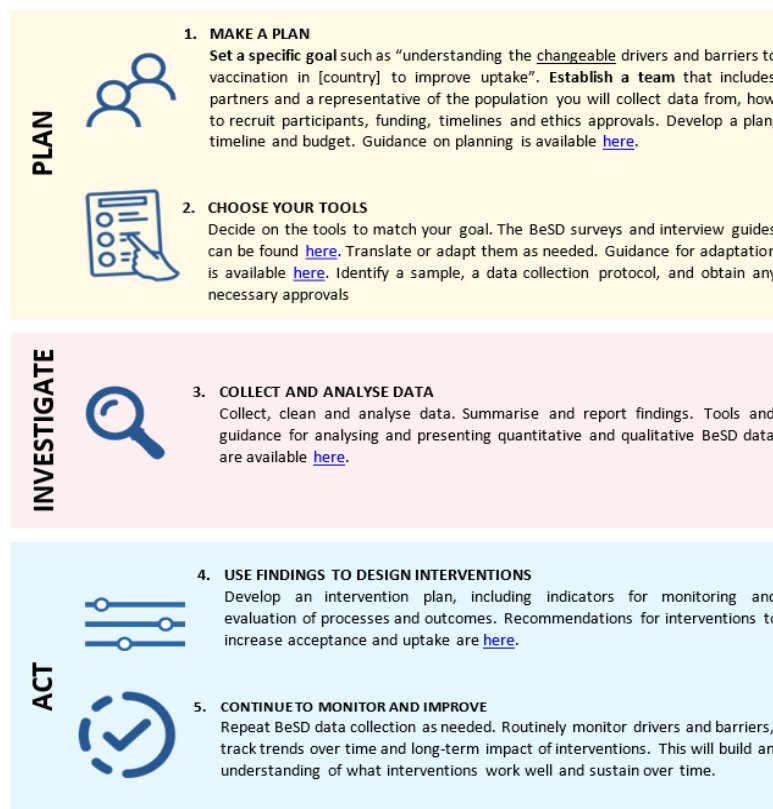
## Childhood vaccination tools

- **Survey:** for parents of children under 5 years
- **Qualitative tools:**  
1) parents, 2) health workers, 3) community stakeholders, and 4) authorities

## COVID-19 vaccination tools

- **Surveys:** for 1) adults, 2) health workers
- **Qualitative tools**

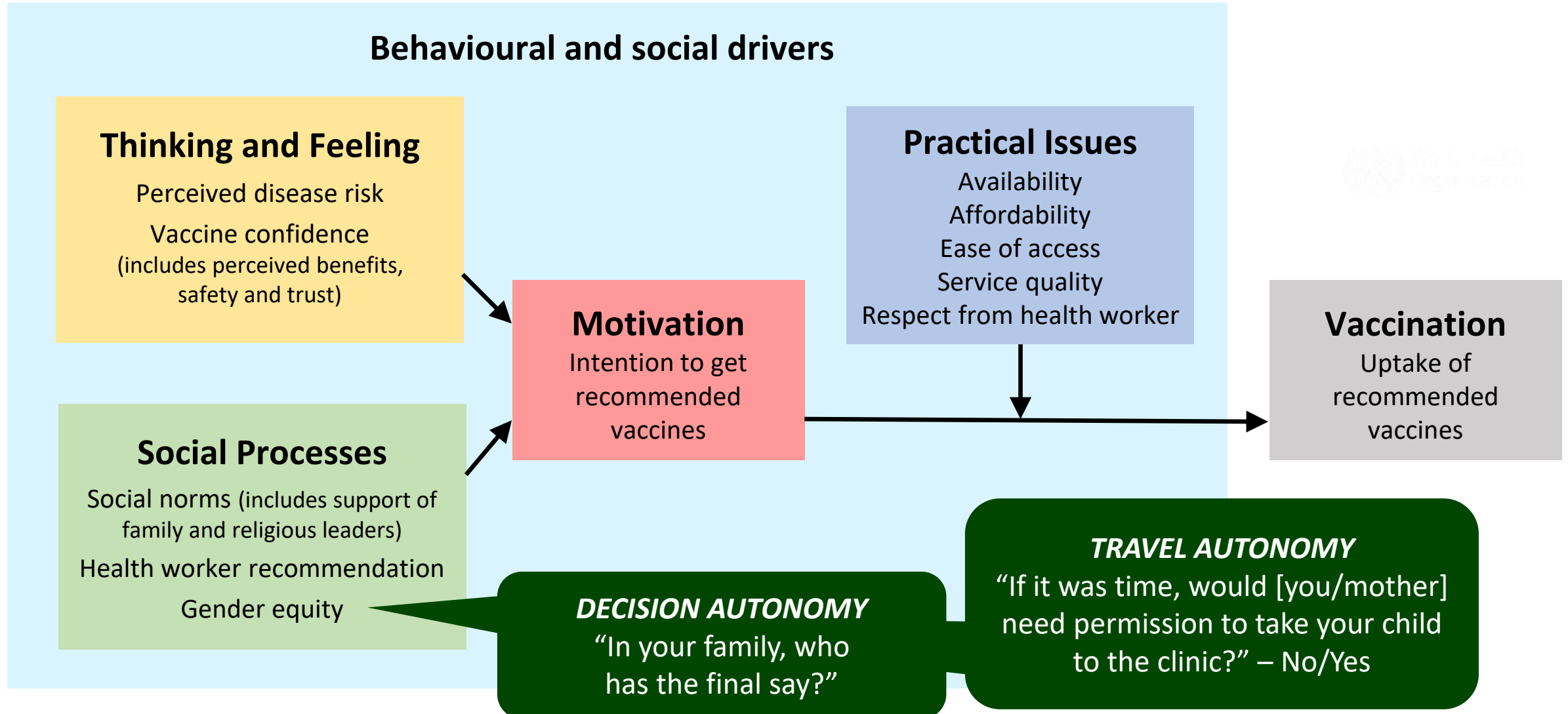
## Practical implementation guidance



Access all tools and guidance here: <https://apps.who.int/iris/handle/10665/354459>



# What drives vaccine uptake?



# Summary of all topics measured:

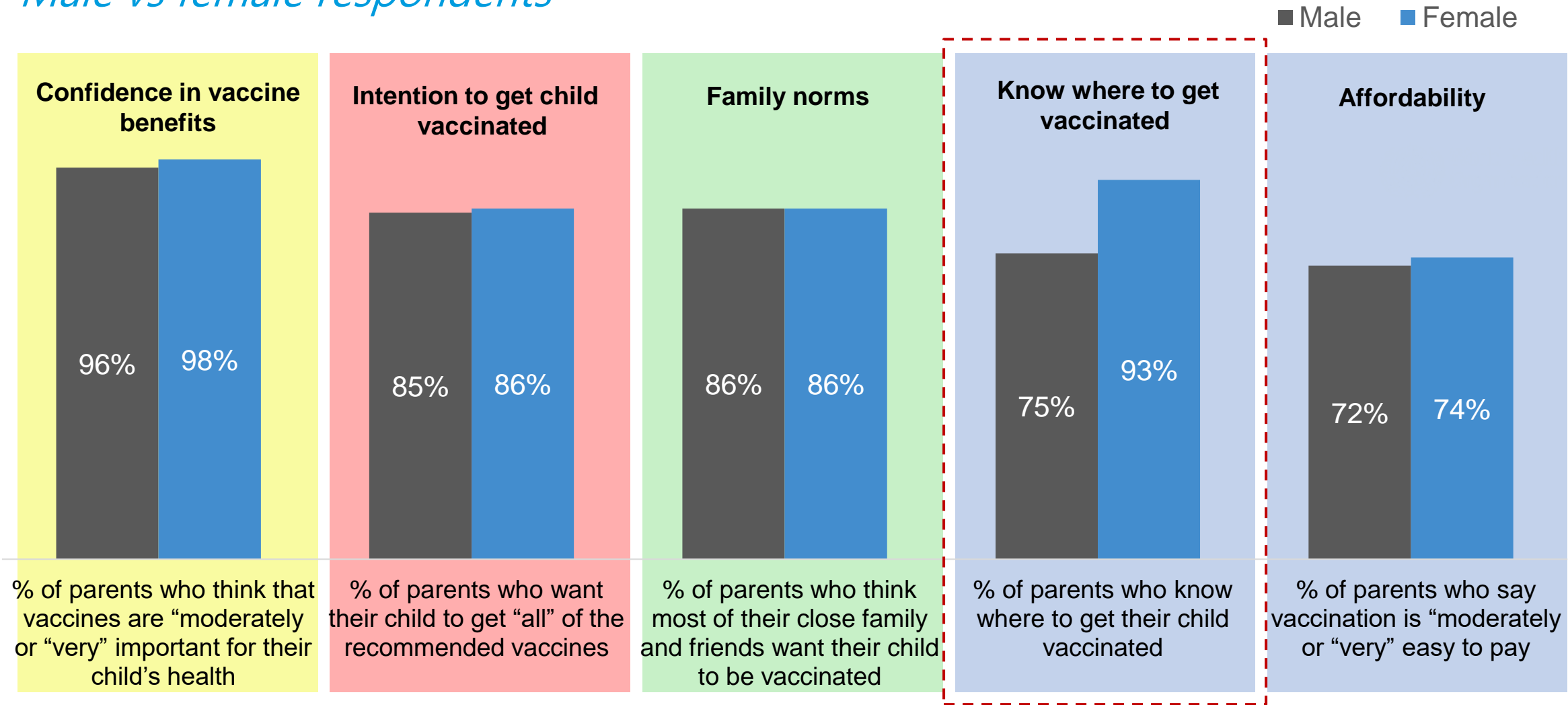
## Childhood vaccination survey

Thinking and feeling	Motivation	Social processes	Practical issues	Demographics
★ Confidence in vaccine benefits	★ Intention to get child vaccinated	★ Family norms	★ Know where to get vaccination	Age
● Confidence in vaccine safety		● Health worker recommendation	★ Affordability	Gender
○ Confidence in health workers		● Peer norms	● Took child for vaccination	Parent/caregiver
		● Community leader norms	● Received recall	Number of children under 5
		○ Religious leader norms	● Ease of access	Relationship to child
		○ Mother's travel autonomy	● Reasons for low ease of access	Age of child
			● Vaccine availability	Gender of child
			● Service satisfaction	Vaccination status
			● Service quality	

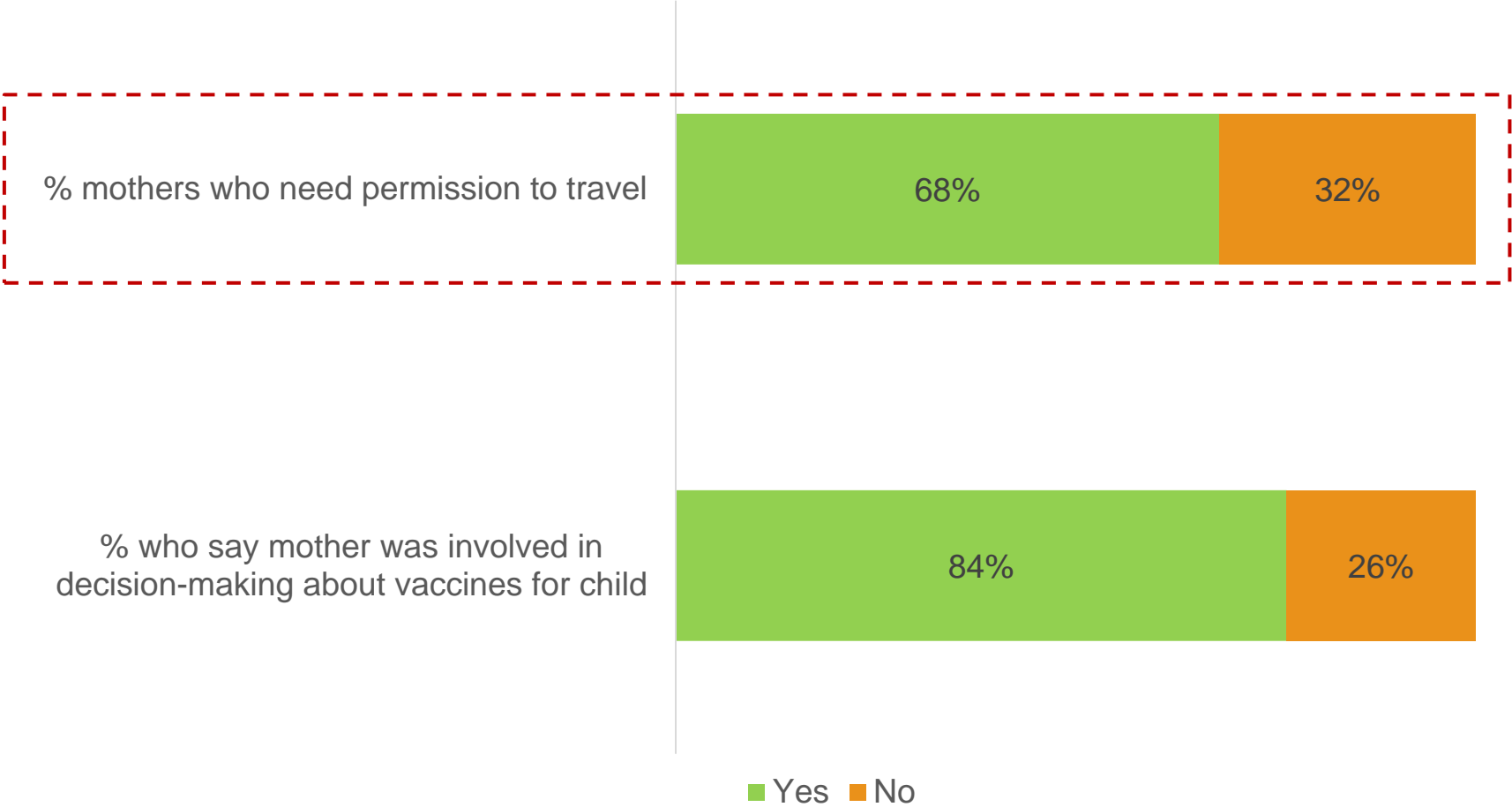
- Main survey question.
- ★ Priority question in main survey.
- Optional question.

# BeSD priority indicators, childhood vaccination

*Male vs female respondents*



# Social processes – further findings



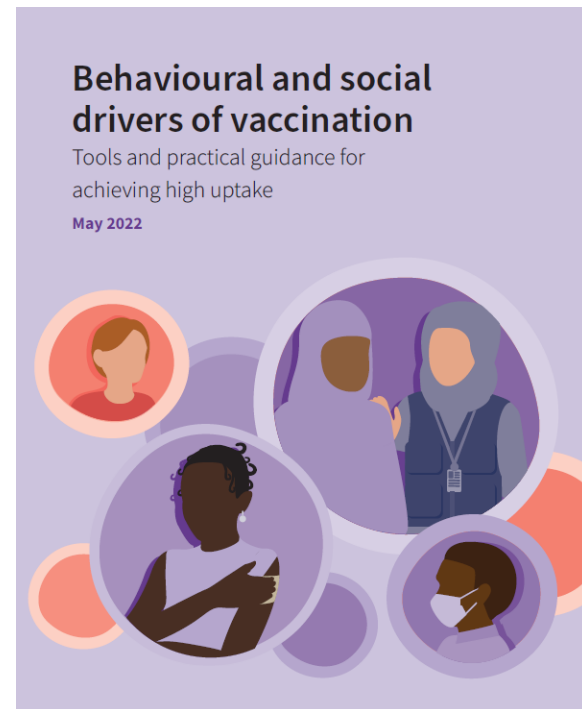
**86%** of women want “all” or “some” of the recommended vaccines for their child, but **68%** lack the autonomy to act on this intention.

*“Yes, my husband is involved in the decision and no other person. I talk about vaccination with some other mothers in the village and church to know which one they are giving children at the moment. It’s also good to talk to others about it” – Caregiver 3*

# Increasing confidence and demand

## Understanding and addressing behavioural and social drivers (BeSD) of vaccination

### New publications:



<https://www.who.int/teams/immunization-vaccines-and-biologicals/essential-programme-on-immunization/demand>



# Thank you



# Pakistan

Insert Aftab's slides here

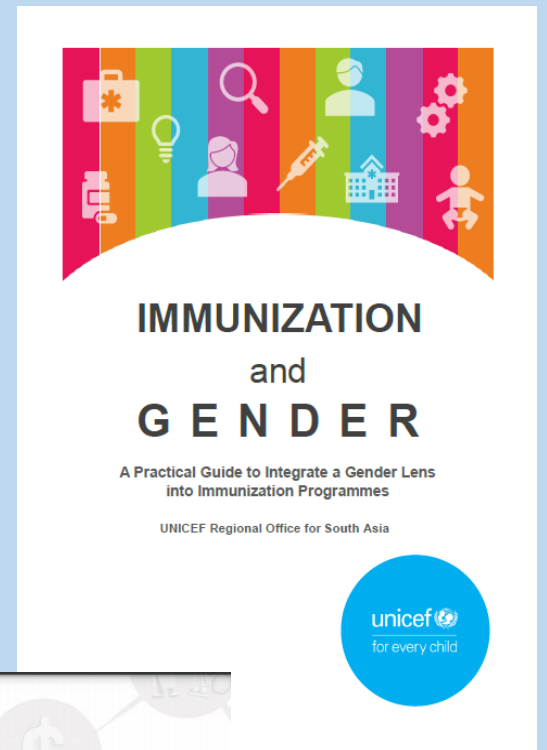
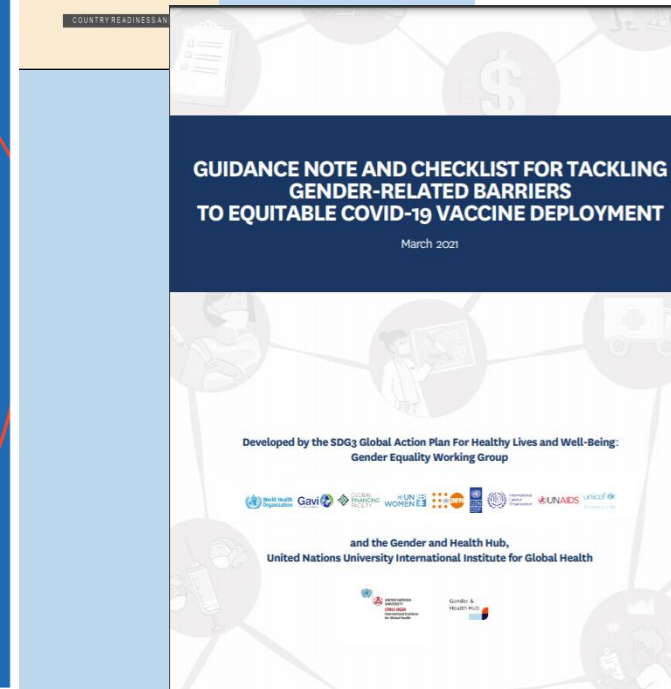
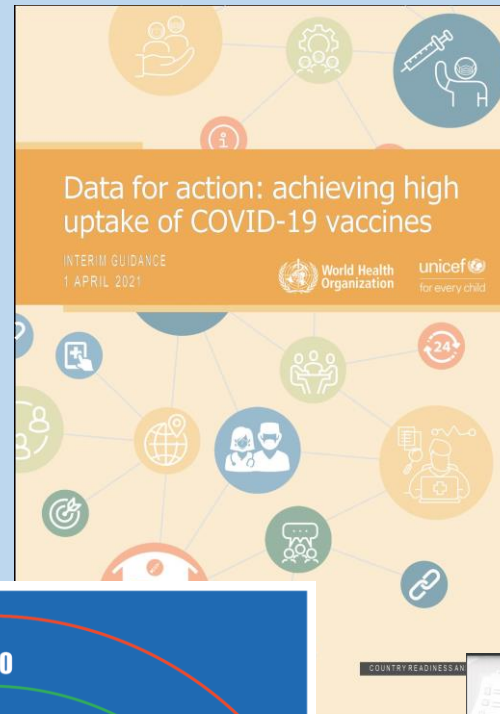
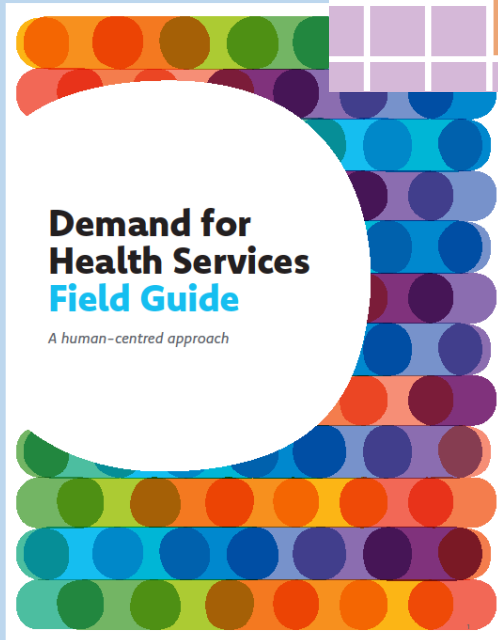
Go to [www.menti.com](https://www.menti.com) and use the code 5310 1309

# Exercise: Is gender a separate programme?

 Mentimeter



# Resources





# Thanks for caring for us effectively





# Discussion and experience sharing

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# Zero-dose.org

We encourage you to register on the Zero Dose Community of Practice platform to continue to the discussion and to join future events





Thank you!



**Reaching  
Zero-dose  
Children**