

WHO_AFRICAN PARTNERSHIPS FOR PATIENT SAFETY

Ruaraka Uhai Neema Hospital, North Kinangop Catholic Hospital (Kenya)

Siena Teaching Hospital

Global Health Center, Tuscany Region

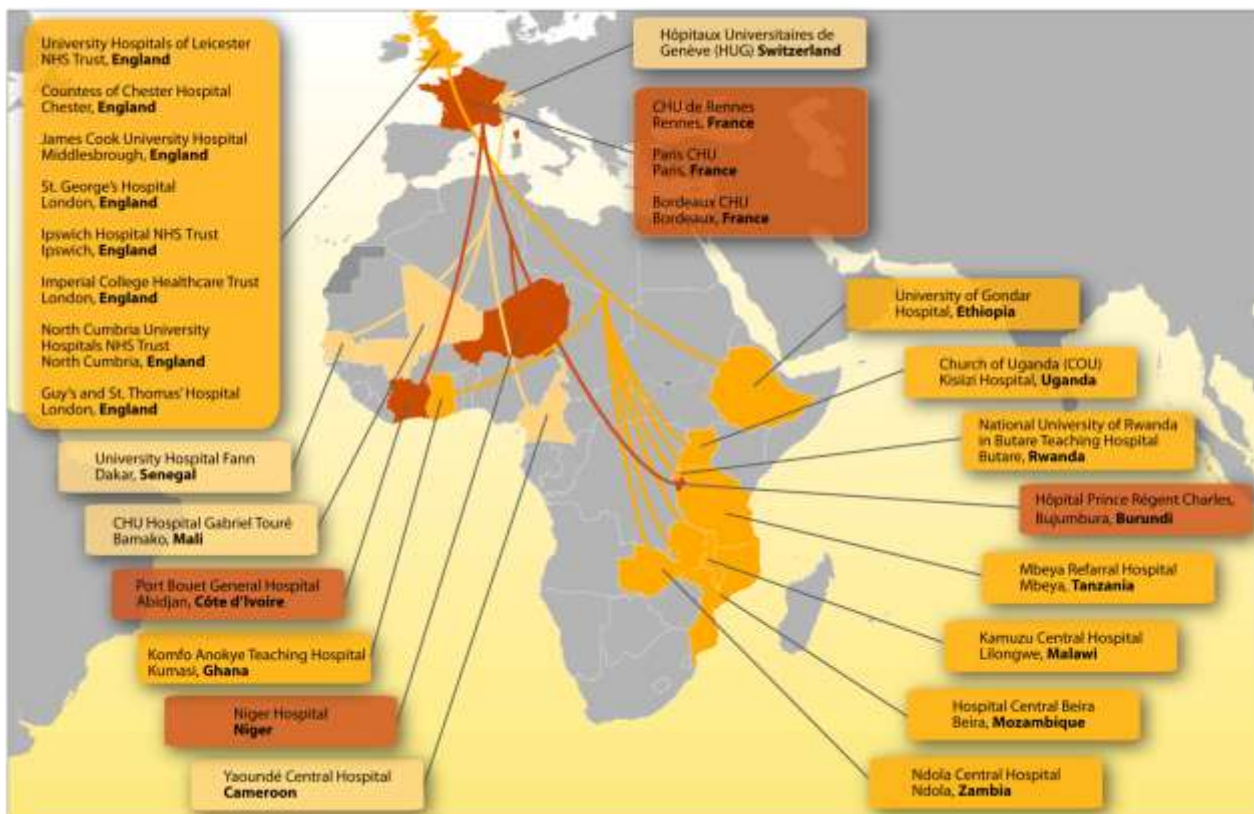
Center for Clinical Risk Management and Patient Safety, Tuscany Region

The programme

African Partnerships for Patient Safety (APPS) is a WHO Patient Safety Programme building sustainable patient safety partnerships between hospitals in countries of the WHO African Region and hospitals in other regions (<http://www.who.int/patientsafety/implementation/apps/en/>)

APPS is concerned with advocating for patient safety as a precondition of health care in the African Region and catalyzing a range of actions that will strengthen health systems, assist in building local capacity and help reduce medical error and patient harm. The programme acts as a **channel for patient safety improvements that can spread across countries**, uniting patient safety efforts.

African Partnerships for Patient Safety (APPS) is part of the WHO Service Delivery and Safety Department. Since the programme's inception in 2008, the number of partnerships has expanded from an initial six countries in the WHO African Region to 14, and is set to expand dramatically during 2014 and beyond to cover all countries in the African Region.



Countries involved in the programme by 2013

The Objectives

WHO Patient Safety's African Partnerships for Patient Safety (APPS) Programme has **three core objectives**:

- to strengthen partnerships between hospitals in Africa and Europe, focusing on patient safety;
- to implement patient safety improvements in each partnership hospital around 12 patient safety action areas;
- to facilitate the spread of patient safety improvements across each country.
- Impact of APPS on achieving MDGs

APPS relies on the establishment of a **formal patient safety partnership between two hospitals**. Partners work together to establish the **patient safety baseline in their respective hospital**. The results of the analysis are then examined to **identify gaps which might contribute to patient harm, and decide on priorities for action**. Once priorities are agreed, an action plan is developed with the involvement of both partner hospitals, and action is taken to address the patient safety gaps.

In order to fulfill the WHO proposed 12 patient safety actions, **the Siena Teaching Hospital, the Ruaraka Uhai Neema Hospital, the North Kinangop Catholic Hospital along with the scientific support and coordination of the Clinical Risk Management and Patient Safety Center and the Global Health Center of the Tuscany Region, have drafted a detailed programme to implement patient safety culture and to define together priority activities to be carried out in Kenya.**

The programme has the general aim of developing some **WHO campaigns** and to propose **instruments to support patient safety** development. Cognitive support instruments (Table 1), have been developed by Center for Clinical Risk Management and Patient Safety following WHO directions and can be **adapted to different context**. The partnership has indeed the aim of exchanging good practices among partners, form and inform caregivers, find patient safety solution suitable for specific clinical context and to create the opportunity to share knowledge.

12 WHO PATIENT SAFETY ACTION AREAS	HYPOTHETICAL AREAS OF INTERVENTION	CAMPAINGS & TOOLS
Health systems strengthening <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Patient safety and health services and systems development ○ National patient safety policy ○ Patient safety surveillance and research ○ Knowledge and learning in patient safety 	Maternal and neonatal care	Safe Childbirth Checklist
Capacity Building <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Preventing healthcare-associated infections ○ Health worker protection ○ Health-care waste management ○ Safe surgical care ○ Medication safety 	Surgery	Surgical safety checklist
	Infections prevention	Clean Care is Safer Care
	Pediatrics	Integrated Therapeutic Chart
		Pediatric Early Warning Score
Advocacy e Resource Mobilization <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Patient safety awareness raising ○ Patient safety partnerships ○ Patient safety funding 		

Table1

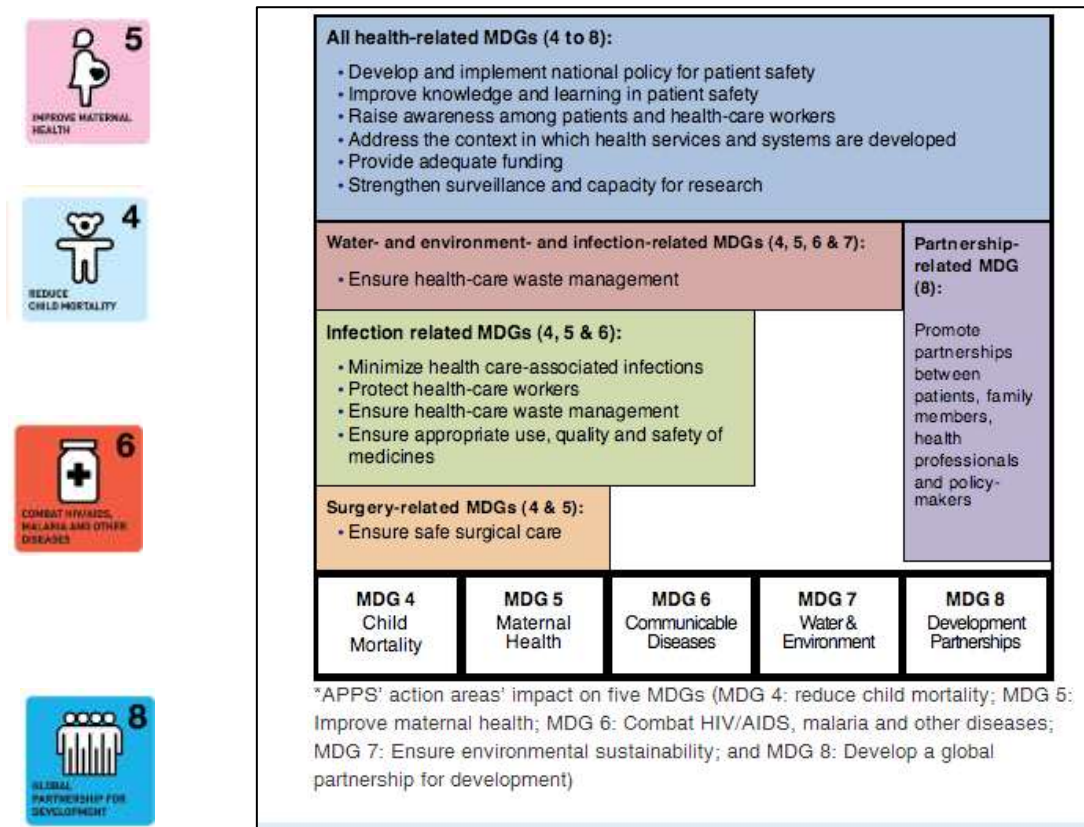
The impact of APPS on achieving MDGs

The impact of APPS on achieving MDGs is measurable on five fronts.

First, the "APPS Approach", which emphasizes **bidirectional and intercontinental transfer of knowledge, experience and solutions** between front line health-care workers, is particularly suited to the "global spirit" of the Millennium Declaration. Second, the APPS focus on patient safety spread in national health systems is well suited to achieving change in entire systems through the "amplification" provided by an APPS partner hospital.

Third, half of the APPS 12 patient safety action areas can contribute to **progress in MDGs 4 to 8**.

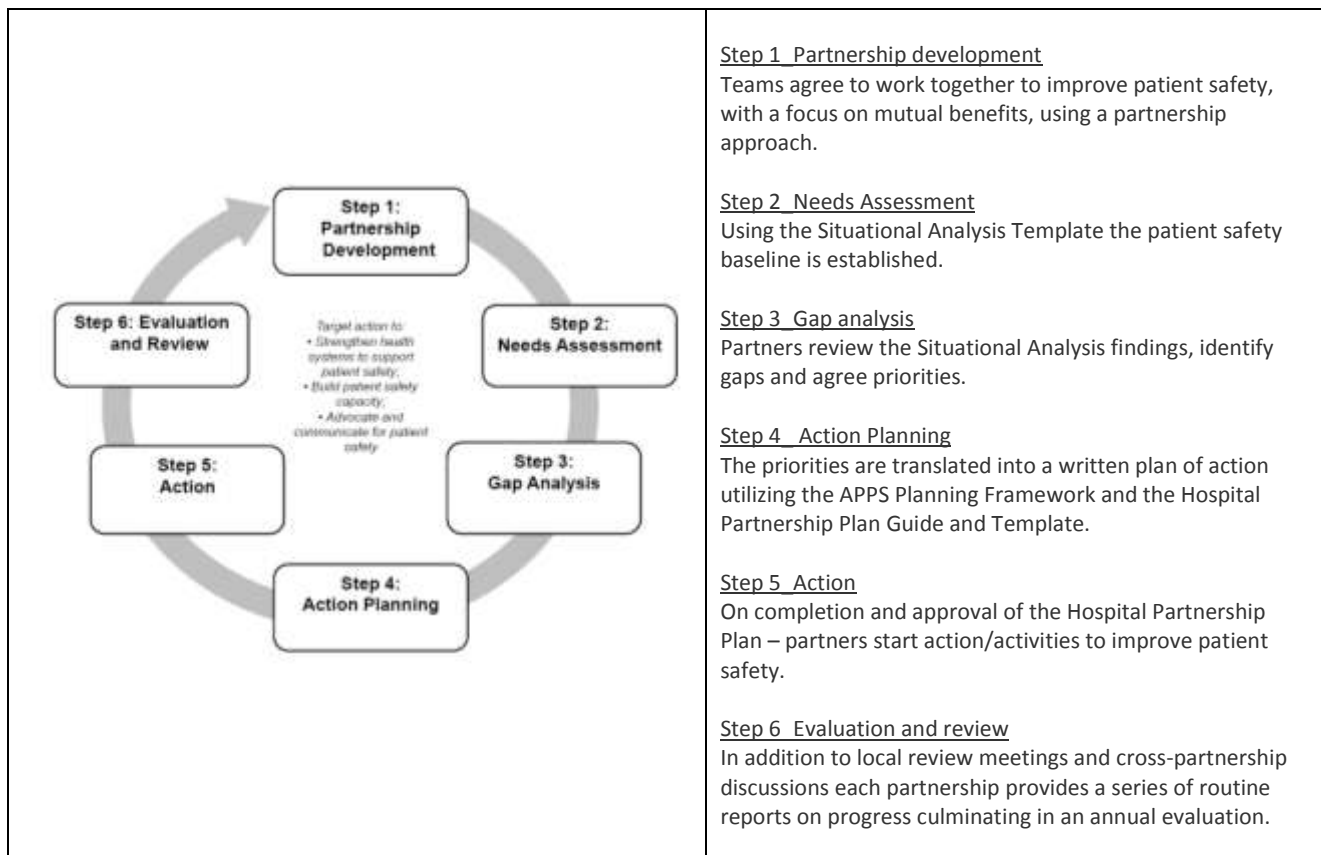
Fourth, a number of patient safety action areas **impact the MDGs related to communicable diseases** (MDGs 4-6). These include action areas on health **care-associated infections, health worker protection, medication safety, and health-care waste management**. Finally, specific patient safety action areas impact individual MDGs. The patient safety action area on "health-care waste management" impacts MDG 7. The patient safety action area on "**safe surgical care**" impacts **MDGs 4 & 5**. The patient safety action area on "promoting partnerships" impacts **MDG 8**.



Potential Contribution to MDG progress

Programme implementation

The entire process can be summarized in six steps



From September 2015 the Siena Teaching Hospital (Italy), Ruaraka Uhai Neema Hospital (Kenya), North Kinangop Catholic Hospital (Kenya), the Global Health Center and the Center for Clinical Risk Management and Patient Safety of the Tuscany Region (Italy) are formally members of the WHO_African Partnership for Patient safety program.

Partners have concluded the Needs Assessment in both Hospitals of Kenya and are now working on Gap Analysis and the Action Plan.