

Table 1 Objectives, methods and sample selected for the study to assess the effectiveness of the implementation of Pakistan's Maternal, Newborn and Child Health (MNCH) Programme

Objectives	Data type	Sample
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Determine the role assigned to the community in the CMW Programme policy, planning and implementation strategies 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Secondary data: document search and analysis 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Guiding documents identified in Research and Advocacy Fund document Maternal and newborn health—the policy context in Pakistan [13]
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Assess the perceptions of Programme policy-makers and managers towards the role of the community in the Programme Record managers' views and suggestions for establishing the role of the community in the Programme Evaluate the criteria used for candidates' selection for training as related to sociocultural norms and practices Determine community representation in the structures established for implementation of the CMW programme—selection methods, supervision and monitoring Determine the role assigned to the community in conflict resolution and accountability of CMWs Identify the different mechanisms in place for pay and incentives to CMWs 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Qualitative data: in-depth interviews with health and MNCH Programme managers and health and population professionals associated with MNCH Programme 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Available health and MNCH Programme managers. Other professionals associated with MNCH Programme were identified by Programme managers Planned to interview 18 people; interviewed 15 (national MNCH Programme managers became unavailable owing to devolution; provincial MNCH Programme managers were unavailable owing to an official inquiry)
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Get feedback from CMWs regarding community's attitudes, acceptability and utilization of their services Record CMWs' views and suggestions on community participation 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Qualitative: FGD with a group of 10–12 CMWs (not done) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> No group was selected owing to absence of CMWs in the study union councils
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Determine the status of CMWs in the community Record community's perspectives on its role in the CMW programme Document community suggestions about institutionalization of the CMW programme 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Qualitative: FGD with community groups, LHWs and LHV.s. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 14 FGD done: 4 with women opinion-makers; 4 with male opinion-makers; 2 with poor mothers and mothers-in-law; 2 with non-poor mothers and mothers-in-law; 1 with LHWs; 1 with LHVs
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Compare the level of satisfaction of mothers with the care provided by CMWs and other MCH providers Get feedback from relevant stakeholders in the community on the quality and cost of care provided by the CMWs and other service providers 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Quantitative: women who had deliveries after CMWs were deployed. FGD with mothers and mothers-in-law. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> All women who delivered in the period 01/10–31/03/11 were identified and selected for interviews. Total 757 women

CMWs = community midwives; LHWs = lady health workers; LHVs = lady health visitors; MCH = maternal and child health; FGD = focus group discussions.