

National Care System Assessments to inform strategy and build collaboration

Changing the Way We Care (CTWWC)

GCP Measurement Task Force presentation September 2021

Changing
THE WAY WE
care



Changing THE WAY WE *care*

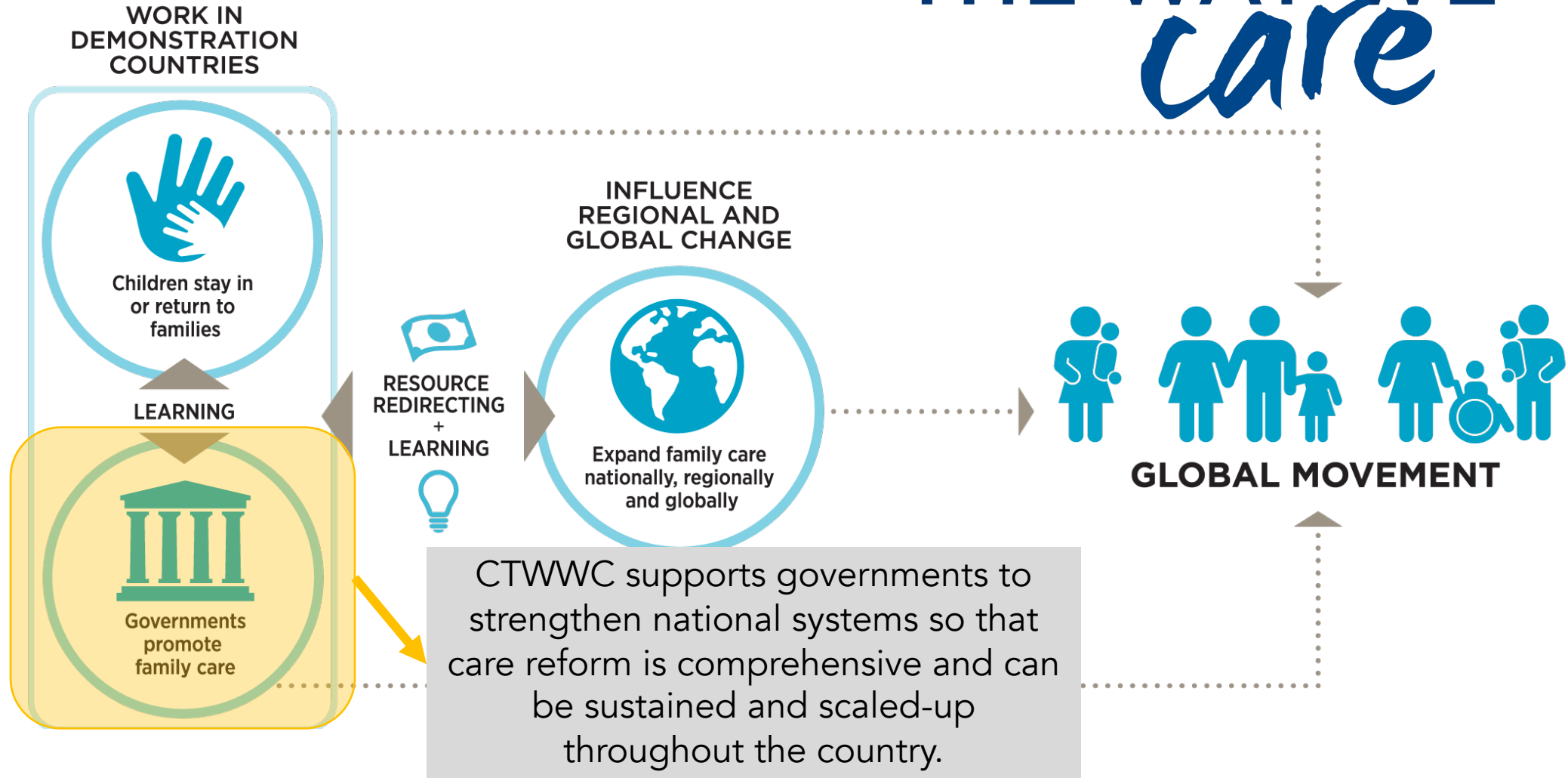
Envisions a world where all children thrive in safe and nurturing families

Demonstrates how to enable children to stay in or return to families who are able to provide for their care with support of governments that promote family care

Influences national, regional and global bodies, donors and faith-based actors towards a shifting of commitment, practices and resources to family care

Changing the Way We CareSM is funded by USAID, MacArthur Foundation and the GHR Foundation, and implemented by Catholic Relief Services and Maestral International with key partners such as national governments, Lumos Foundation, Better Care Network, UNICEF, Boston College, Kenya Society of Care Leavers, Faith to Action and others.

Changing THE WAY WE *care*



CTWWC system strengthening framework

...was informed by multiple existing tools and resources from other sector experts

System Components:



Areas of care:

- Prevention of unnecessary child-family separation
- Child-family reunification and reintegration
- Kinship care
- Foster care
- Other forms of alternative care
- Independent living
- Adoption
- Residential care
- Transitioning residential care facilities to family care

Country-specific context + broader child protection system + the U.N. Guidelines on Alternative Care

Source: adapted from Evaluation. Cannon, M; Hickman, M. MEASURE Evaluation. Alternative Care System Assessment Framework. 2017

Demonstrating in three different country care contexts



Kenya Government:
centralized NCCS;
decentralized DCS

45,000 children in
residential care; 850 private
and 30 Statutory children's
institutions



Guatemala Central
government: SBS + PGN;
independent government
bodies: CNA + OJ

4,200 children in residential
care; 126 private and 19
public child protection
homes



Moldova Government:
centralized MLSP; 35
decentralized rayonal
directorates for social
assistance and family
protection

747 children in residential
care; 46 public protection
homes, including 19 old-
type residential institutions

Three approaches to assessing care systems



National care system
assessment: completed July
2020

Government-led participatory
self-assessment workshop
with CSOs and development
partners



National care system
assessment: completed June
2020

CTWWC facilitated separate
thematic assessment
meetings with government
and CSOs



National care system
assessment: completed June
2018*

CTWWC conducted
supplementary research: KAP,
social services, reunification,
case management, laws and
child assessments

* Conducted by the USAID-funded MEASURE
Evaluation project before CTWWC was working
in Moldova

Three stages of progress in **system development**

(as of Sept. 2021)



2017 moratorium on new residential facilities increased momentum from government & partners

National strategy endorsed by senior leadership August 2021

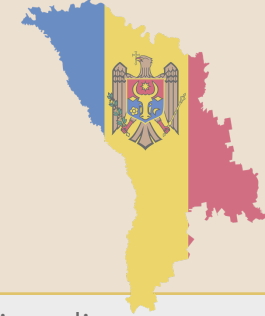
Government-led "Core Team" centralized coordination mechanism



2017 orphanage fire brought attention and recognition of need to change

National government action plans developed on an annual basis

Government coordination on service delivery for specific areas of care



1996 - first directorates for child rights protection, training and employment of social assistants and foster carers

National Child Protection Programme 2022-2026 in progress

Collective Impact and collective financing approach in progress

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Addressing the National Care Reforms Strategy Senior Leaders Consultative Forum in Naivasha, Labour Cabinet Secretary Simon Chelugui was emphatic that due to the nature of family care, children learn to interact better with the community and are better equipped to face life challenges than those placed in institutions.

Government Committed To Keep Children In Homes And Community – CS Chelugui

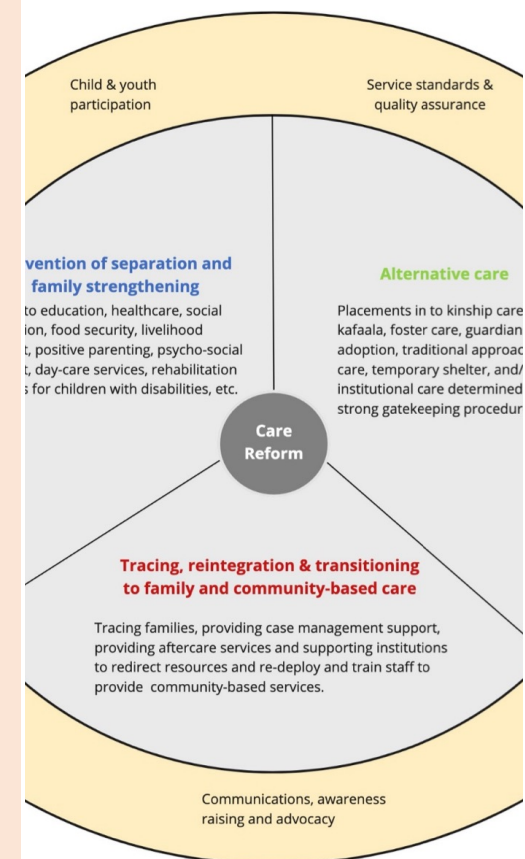
Albert Kasembeli, 1 month ago | 0 | 2 min read | 1303 |

By Elizabeth Angira

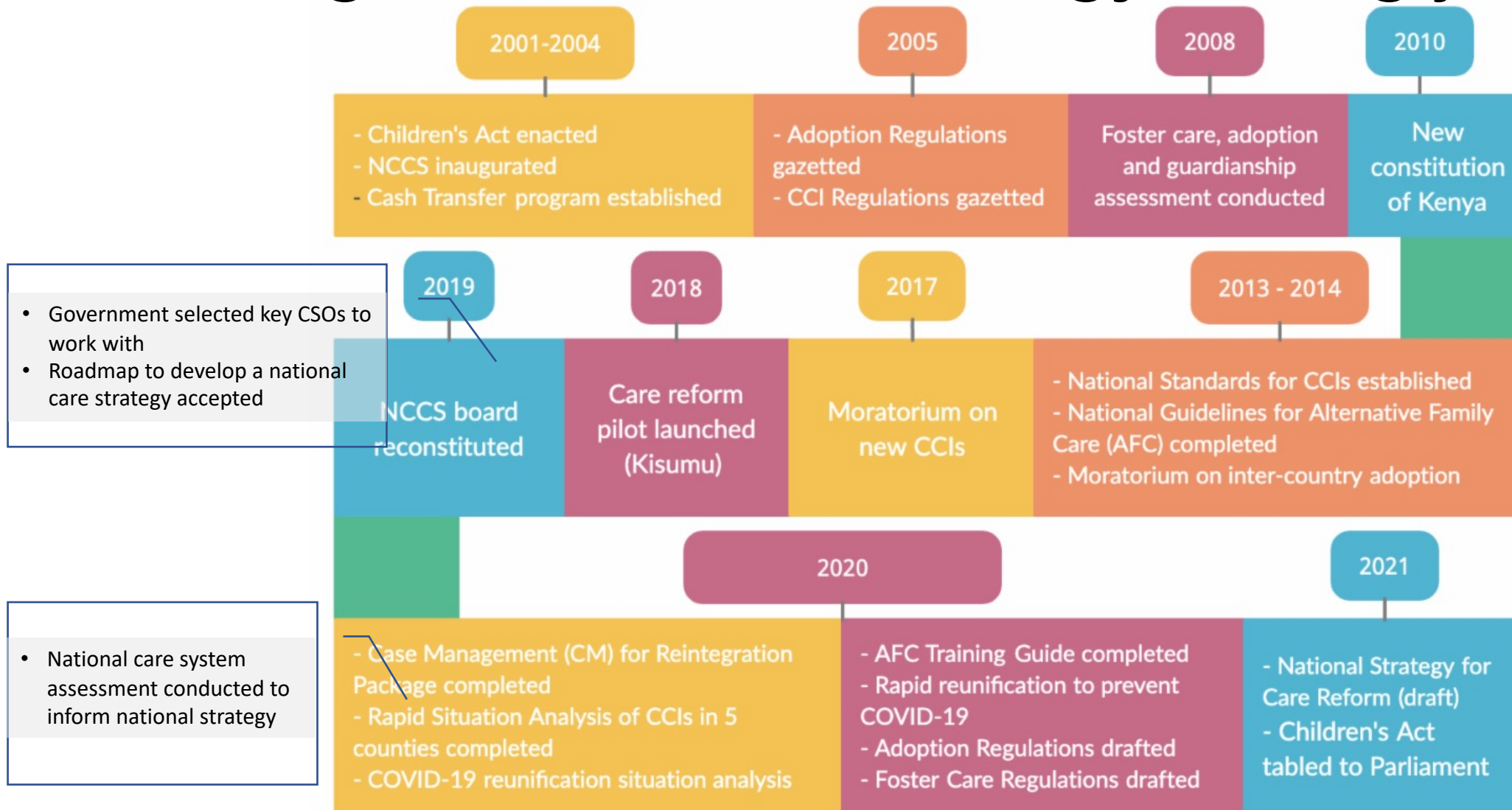
Kenya National Care Reform Strategy authorized in August 2021

“The strategy prioritizes *childcare systems transformation*, strengthening of legal frameworks, emphasizes the importance of family-based care arrangements, *calls for child care system reform*, and transitioning of children from residential care facilities, improved tracing and reunification of children, *support for vulnerable families to prevent separation*, expands family-based alternative care options, and promotes institutional and workforce capacity-building initiatives across the country.” – Hon. Simon K. Chelugui, Cabinet Secretary, Ministry of Labour and Social Protection speech, August 19th, 2021

Strategic approach to care reform



Getting to a national strategy: a long journey



Source: Better Care Network. Newsletter, March 2021. Accessible: <https://bettercarenetwork.org/news-updates/newsletter/bcn-newsletter-march-2021>

Getting to a national strategy: Core Team formed with mandate to develop national strategy



"To succeed in care reform, you have to bring **everybody** on board; all the stakeholders." – DCS Officer, DGD Submission 2021

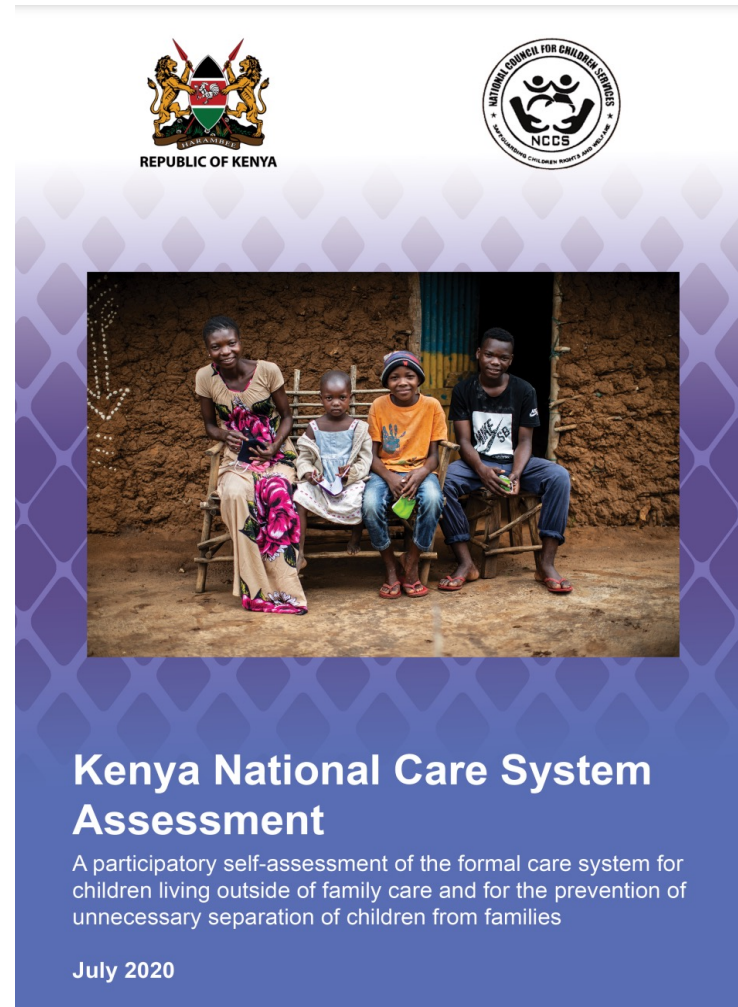
"It is through coordination that the State/Non-state actors monitor and achieve systems change targets with precise actions, which leverage the resources and capacities of each." - NCCS, BCN Newsletter 2021

Core Team description

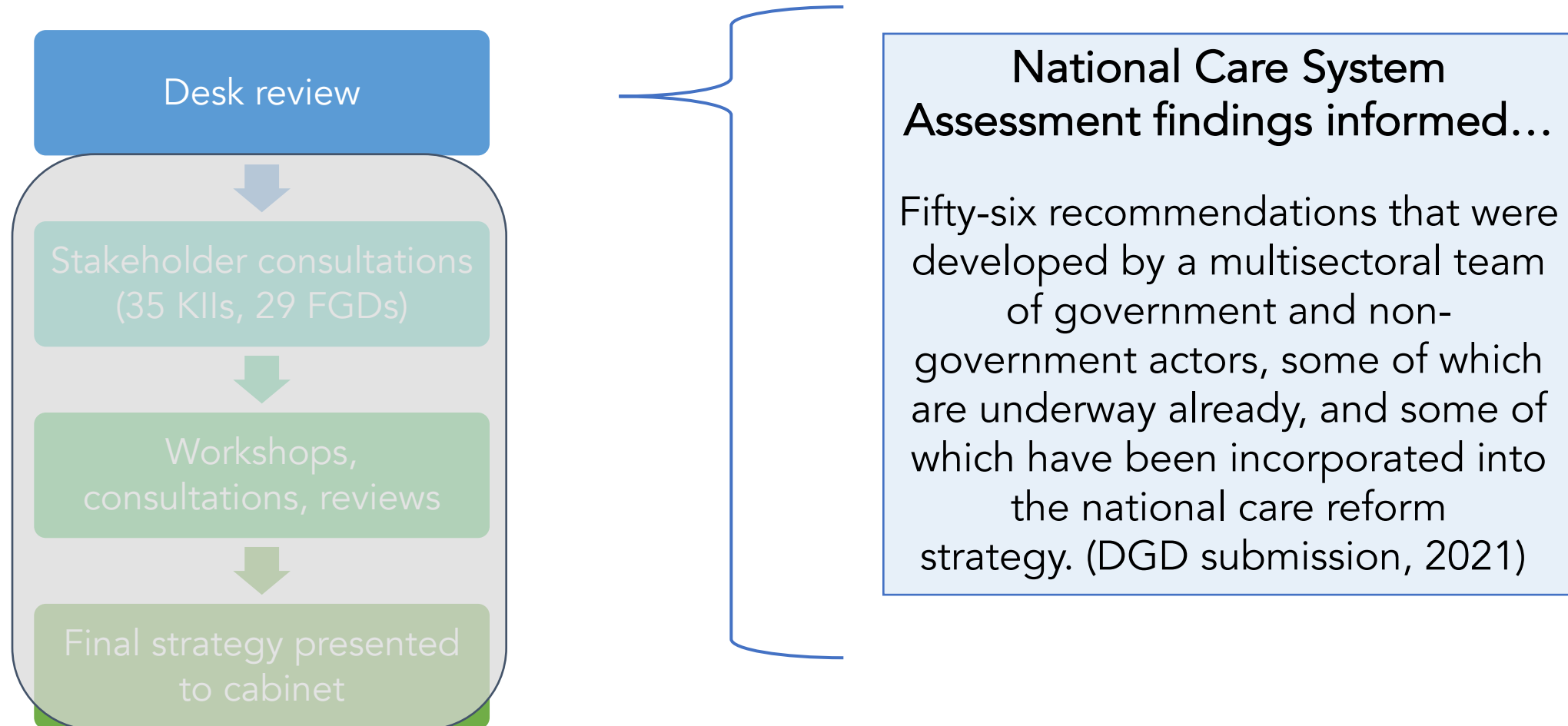
- Established by NCCS
- Members: inter-ministerial, CSOs, UNICEF, representatives from disability and careleaver groups
- Regular coordination meetings to share, coordinate, monitor, discuss, plan and adjust

Getting to a national strategy: Care System Assessment to inform national strategy

- 37 stakeholders participated (20 govt, 17 civil society)
- Core Team lead on assessment preparations: adapting assessment framework to context, planning workshop
- 3-day assessment workshop
- Data analysis and report writing



Getting to a national strategy: Care System Assessment to inform national strategy



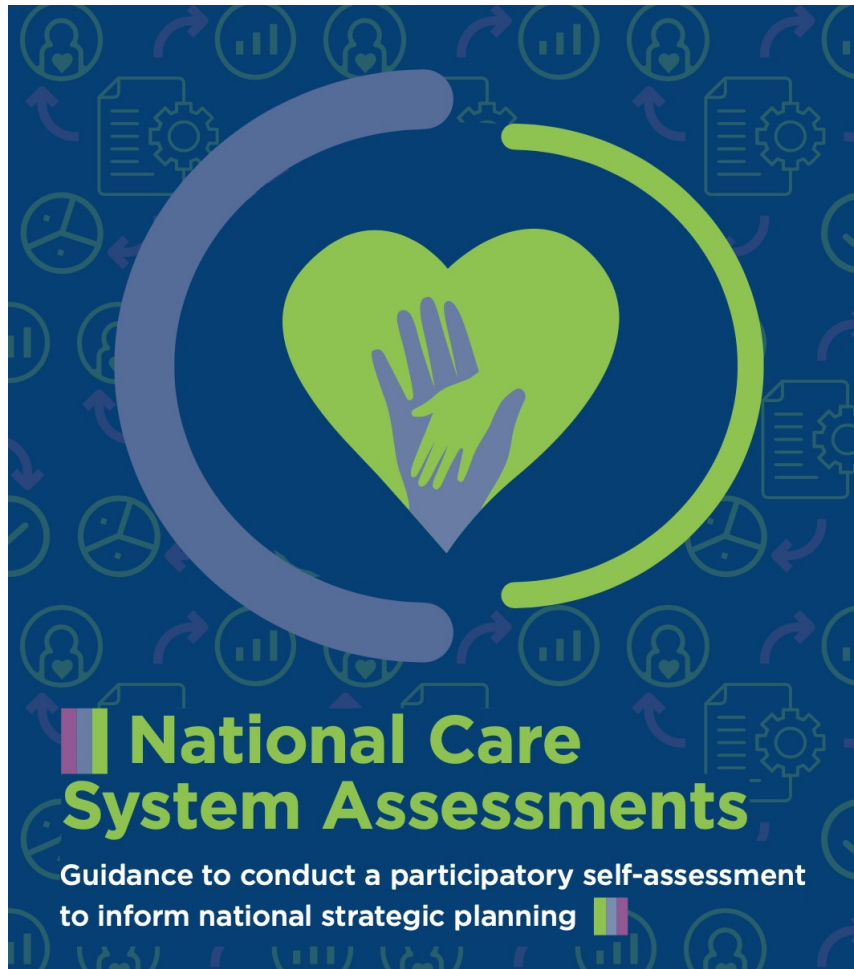
** Strategy development lead by NCCS with support from UNICEF; CTWWC participated in the development process and supported by drafting and reviewing the strategy*

Next steps to ensure implementation of national strategy

NCCS, with CTWWC and broader support, will:

- Develop a National Care Reform **M&E framework**
- **Cost** the National Care Reform Strategy
- Include key **routine data collection** in the national child protection information management system (CPIMS)
- **Disseminate national care reform strategy to county** level

CTWWC Care System Assessment Resources



- **Care System Assessment Framework** (Excel document with assessment questions)
- **Guidance document** (to support actors to implement the care system assessment)
- **Training Modules** (to orient key actors in a country on the assessment purpose, process and use of results)

Coming in October 2021!