

## **2.4. Reproductive, Maternal, Newborn, Child and Adolescent Health**

Maternal, Newborn, Child and Adolescent Health is central to the agenda of Health Care. Women and children's health remains a main concern of the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs), as evidenced by the strong commitment to end preventable newborn, child and maternal deaths by 2030. Issues of sexual and reproductive health-care services including family planning, information and education are unfinished. In Sub-Saharan African countries including Ethiopia, maternal, newborn and under-five mortality are still the major concern. In addition, concern of sexual, reproductive and adolescents' health including HIV/AIDS continue to be health issues. Pregnancy during the period of adolescence is associated with an excess risk of poor outcomes, including low birth weight and prematurity. Adolescents are exposed to a range of risks and suffer from a variety of illnesses including HIV/AIDS and many health behaviors adopted during adolescence have lasting impacts on health throughout their lives. However, there is scarcity of information about these problems that calls for continued effort in generating up-to-date information for relevant intervention. Therefore, in this sub-theme the following potential research areas are given priority.

- Adolescent pregnancy and birth outcome;
- Health care uptake and reasons for seeking delayed maternal and neonatal health care services;
- Exclusive breastfeeding, duration of breastfeeding, and the course of weaning;
- Childhood illnesses and disorders with a particular focus on under five years;
- Substance use, Adolescents Health and Technology (Social media; Mobile, Facebook);
- Child abuse, orphans and street/homeless children;
- Unwanted pregnancy, abortion and post abortion care;
- The extent and determinant of risky sexual behavior among adolescents.