# mHealth Checklist:

## 7 questions to ask at the start

1. **Does your mobile phone solution directly help you achieve your key health objectives?** Does it directly improve the availability, quality or utilization of health care services? Does it address the critical events (e.g., labor and delivery) that directly influence mortality?

2. **Does your solution address key health program constraints?** List the programmatic steps involved in one of your health activities and identify the major bottlenecks. Then identify the causes of these bottlenecks and brainstorm ways to overcome them through the use of mobile phones. See mHealth Brainstorming Tool, attached.

3. **Was your solution developed with the help of your target users, and will it make their lives better?** The most successful solutions will be the ones that users spontaneously adopt and continue using. And those are likely to be applications that help them do whatever they're already doing, but more easily, quickly and accurately.

4. **Before designing your solution, did you first look for solutions that are already working well elsewhere?** What are the costs and benefits of implementing a new solution versus improving an existing one?

5. **Does your solution focus on functions that the mobile phone can perform better than existing tools?** For example, real-time communications, simultaneous communication with multiple individuals, data transfer? Or does it try to replace something that's already pretty good (e.g., flipcharts, checklists, flowcharts)?

6. **Is your solution replicable and scalable?** It's important to design for scale from the start. How long does it take to train each user? How will you handle illiteracy? How will you manage issues of privacy and data sharing? How will the MOH benefit? How much will it cost at scale?

7. **Do you have an M&E plan in place?** Especially at this early stage, we need to share experiences and learn from each other's successes and failures. The plan should include indicators related to traditional health outcomes as well as intermediate outputs indicative of feasibility at scale (e.g., usability, cost).