

Maternal Health Thematic Fund





Cover photos:
Midwives in Uganda: From training to saving lives.
Small photo: Training of midwives with equipment supplied by UNFPA. UNFPA Uganda.
Large photo: Midwife at work in a refugee camp in Northern Uganda. Diego Goldberg, UNFPA.

UNFPA:

Delivering a world where every pregnancy is wanted, every childbirth is safe, and every young person's potential is fulfilled.

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We would like to extend our sincere appreciation to UN colleagues around the globe in the World Health Organization, UNICEF, the World Bank and UNAIDS, who are making a stronger and healthier partnership possible, including through the French and Canadian grants promoting maternal, newborn and child health, known as the Muskoka Initiative.

We are also grateful to our development partners for their collaboration and support in championing reproductive health issues and for their technical contributions. These partners include the International Confederation of Midwives, the International Federation of Gynecology and Obstetrics, Columbia University's Averting Maternal Death and Disability Program, Johns Hopkins University, Jhpiego, the Guttmacher Institute, the University of Aberdeen, the Woodrow Wilson International Center for Scholars, Women Deliver, EngenderHealth, Family Care International, Integrare, national and regional institutions, and private sector partners, including Intel Corporation.

We look forward to continuing these productive collaborations now and in the future.

ACRONYMS & ABBREVIATIONS

AMDD Averting Maternal Death and Disability Program (Columbia University)

CDC United States Centers for Disease Control and Prevention

DFID Department for International Development (United Kingdom)

EmONC Emergency Obstetric and Newborn Care (BEmONC = Basic; CEmONC = Comprehensive)

FIGO International Federation of Gynecology and Obstetrics

GPRHCS Global Programme to Enhance Reproductive Health Commodity Security

H4+ WHO, UNICEF, UNFPA, the World Bank, UN Women and UNAIDS

HPV Human Papillomavirus

ICM International Confederation of Midwives

ICPD International Conference on Population and Development

IESO Integrated Emergency Obstetrics and Surgery (Master's Program, Ethiopia)

INGO International Non-governmental Organization

Jhpiego Johns Hopkins Program for International Education in Gynecology and Obstetrics

LDCs Least Developed Countries

MNH Maternal and Newborn Health

MDG Millennium Development Goal

MDSR Maternal Death Surveillance and Response

MHTF Maternal Health Thematic Fund

MMRMaternal Mortality RatioMSFMédecins sans FrontièresNCDsNon-Communicable DiseasesNGONon-governmental Organization

PMC Population Media Center
RH Reproductive Health

SRH Sexual and Reproductive Health
SOWMR State of the World's Midwifery Report

UNAIDS Joint United Nations Programme for HIV/AIDS

UNFPA United Nations Population Fund

UNHCR Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees

UNICEF United Nations Children's Fund

USAID United States Agency for International Development

VIA Visual Inspection with Acetic Acid (a simple technique to detect pre-cancerous

lesions of the cervix to prevent cervical cancer)

WHO World Health Organization

FOREWORD

by Dr. Babatunde Osotimehin, Executive Director, UNFPA

Empowering and enabling women to proactively decide whether and when to get pregnant, to act on this decision, and to go through pregnancy and childbirth safely are human rights. They also constitute Millennium Development Goal No. 5. A number of countries still strive to reach the targets of this goal, which are to reduce maternal deaths and to achieve universal access to reproductive health, including family planning.

With the Maternal Health Thematic Fund (MHTF), UNFPA supports 43 high maternal mortality countries to achieve MDG 5 and to accelerate progress in reducing the number of women who die giving life or who suffer from associated morbidity. This report gives evidence to the progress that has been facilitated by the Maternal Health Thematic Fund, including the Midwifery Programme and the Campaign to End Fistula. The report also demonstrates the invaluable benefits brought about through partnerships, as the MHTF collaborates with global, regional and national champions in their respective fields of work.

The Maternal Health Thematic Fund and its twin sister—the Global Programme to Enhance Reproductive Health Commodity Security (GPRHCS)—constitute important contributions from UNFPA to MDG 5, to the UN Secretary-General's Global Strategy for Women's and Children's Health and to the UN Commission on Life-Saving Commodities for Women and Children. The MHTF and the GPRHCS also contribute to the implementation of the UNFPA Adolescent and Youth strategy and Family Planning strategy.

The many achievements featured in this report are the result of strong political commitment, particularly at the nation level, generous funding and enduring partnerships. I would like to take this opportunity to thank countries, donors, other partner organizations and colleagues for their productive collaboration now and in the future to save women's lives.

Dr. Babatunde Osotimehin

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