

MATERNAL HEALTH IN SSC

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KEY FACTS

- Every day

830

- 830 women, approximately die from preventable causes related to pregnancy and childbirth.

- Almost all

99 %

- 99% of all maternal deaths occur in developing countries

- Skilled healthcare

78%

- In 2016 an estimated 78% of all live births benefited from skilled care during delivery.

WHO

World not delivering quality maternal health care to poorest mothers - UNICEF

- *Millions of mothers at risk due to prohibitive health care costs, lack of access to services and skilled professionals, and child marriage. This has contributed to high MMR.*

A woman's lifetime risk of maternal death – the probability that a 15 year old woman will eventually die from a maternal cause



Where do maternal deaths occur?

- Almost all maternal deaths (99%) occur in developing countries.
- More than half of these deaths occur in sub-Saharan Africa and almost one third occur in South Asia.
- More than half of maternal deaths occur in fragile and humanitarian settings.
- Large disparities **between** countries, but also **within** countries, and between women with high and low income; and women living in rural versus urban areas.

LESSONS....

- High maternal death rates are an indicator of inadequate health care system, which is clearly **a direct violation of women's fundamental rights to life, health, and self determination.**
- Every year, **the world loses US \$15 billion to lost productivity** by letting women die in pregnancy and childbirth.

WHY DO WOMEN DIE?

The major complications that account for nearly 75% of all maternal deaths are :

- Severe bleeding mostly after childbirth;
- Infections usually after childbirth;
- High blood pressure during pregnancy (pre-eclampsia and eclampsia);
- Complications from delivery;
- Unsafe abortion;
- Others; associated with diseases such as malaria, and AIDS during pregnancy

HOW CAN WOMEN'S LIVES BE SAVED?

- All women need access to antenatal care in pregnancy; skilled care during childbirth; and care and support in the weeks after childbirth.
- Infection after childbirth can be eliminated if good hygiene is practiced and if early signs of infection are recognized and treated in a timely manner.
- Pre-eclampsia can be detected and appropriately managed before the onset of eclampsia and other life-threatening complications.

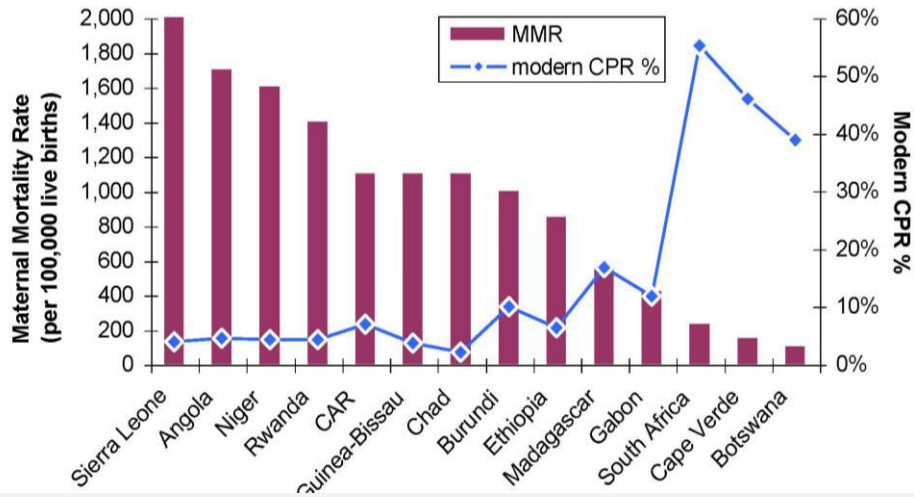
To avoid maternal deaths, it is also vital to prevent unwanted and too-early pregnancies. All women, including adolescents, need access to contraception, a full spectrum of reproductive health services and quality post-abortion care.

CALL TO ACTION

- Access to affordable, high quality maternal health services,
- Use of available evidence on the number and leading causes of maternal deaths, strength of the health system including human resources.
- Countries should design costed national plans for maternal and new-born health.
- Comprehensive EMOC services.
- Education of women and girls to empower them in decision making but also basic knowledge in nutrition, hygiene and positive health seeking behaviour.
- Availability of Family Planning Services.

Mortality Ratios

Family Planning Reduces Maternal Death Up to **40%**



Thank You for Listening