



Supporting the Reduction of Newborn, Child and Maternal Mortality in Ethiopia

EVERY ONE child should survive



Partnering for Change: Our aim is to see a significant reduction in newborn, child and maternal deaths

Led by the Ethiopian Ministry of Health with support from Save the Children, UNICEF, the Ethiopian Nurse Midwives Association and many other partners (listed below), the aim of this five year campaign is to see a significant reduction in newborn, child and maternal deaths in the country -- in line with global Millennium Development Goals 4 and 5.

We will work together with other key government ministries, donors, media, concerned citizens including faith-based organisations, children and young people, health professionals and affected communities, and corporations to build a strong movement to create a strong and active constituency.

The EVERY ONE Campaign seeks to educate and inform women and their families on the importance of seeking professional care before, during and after the birth of a baby. Additionally the Campaign is focused on mobilizing resources from donors, the private sector and individuals to support the implementation of key policies and programs that will dramatically reduce newborn, child and maternal deaths.

Problem statement:

Ethiopia has decreased the under-five (U5) mortality rate by 40% since 1990, but the country's mortality rates are still among the highest in the world. In 2007 381,000 children under five years of age died, and 120,000 of these children were in the first month of life. Twenty-six thousand women die annually of complications in pregnancy, the number one cause being hemorrhage. Most of these deaths occur at home.

Although U5 mortality rates are coming down, the high population growth rate (2.9%), inadequate food security and nutrition interventions and an inadequate health care system, mean that the number of children actually being saved each year has been decreasing.

The top four killers of children under-5 are pneumonia, complications during and post delivery, malaria, and diarrhoeal diseases (DHS 2005).

More Facts and Figures

- One in eight children in Ethiopia dies before his or her 5th birthday
- 94% of women give birth at home without any professional care
- 6% of babies receive postnatal care
- One in three families have access to a health centre, but even for those who do the centre may be up to 25km away
- 28% of Ethiopian women have access to prenatal medical care
- 14% of married women practice any family planning method

No woman should die while giving life

People are the key



Twenty-four year old Tigist Akalu is a Health Extension Worker (HEW) in Kuntuta which has a population of 4,165. She is one of the 30,000 young women deployed across the country as part of the government's plan to provide health care access to people living in the rural areas of Ethiopia (85%). HEWs like Tigist are now receiving training and support to help pregnant women who come to her for assistance during labour and for post-natal care.

Please join us - EVERY ONE of us has a role to play

Early marriage and early pregnancy and a lack of access to reproductive health, specifically family planning, also contribute to high rates of child and maternal mortality. The likelihood of babies dying during birth is significantly impacted by the age of the mother and the space between births.

We will work with the government, donors, private sector, partners and civil society to:

- Increase the numbers of pregnant women and mothers receiving health care assistance
- Increase the budget for health expenditure to 15%
- Consistent coverage of health system delivery throughout the country, with an emphasis on the poorest and most marginalised
- Address the key causes of under-five child illness and death through community management of illness by health extension workers
- Reduce the incidence of early marriage
- Adopt internationally-recognised standards on maternal and child health

For more information on the EVERY ONE Campaign, please contact Hiwot.E@scuk.org.et

As part of the Federal Ministry of Health Campaign on Safe Motherhood and Child Health, EVERY ONE is supported by:

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