Save Women’s Lives


Mrs. Robin Ribeiro
Mrs. Hedwig Bvumburah
What is a Millennium Development Goal (MDG)?

- In September 2000, a directive from the United Nations saw the birth of a global partnership commitment aimed at significantly reducing extreme poverty before the year 2015 by outlining a series of time-bound targets now referred to as the Millennium Development Goals.
Millennium Development Goals

1. Eradicate extreme poverty and hunger
2. Achieve universal primary education
3. Promote gender equality and empower women
4. Reduce child mortality
5. Improve maternal health
6. Combat HIV/AIDS, malaria and other diseases
7. Ensure environmental sustainability
8. Global partnership for development
A woman in sub-Saharan Africa has a 1 in 16 chance of dying in pregnancy or childbirth, compared to a 1 in 4,000 risk in a developing country – the largest difference between poor and rich countries of any health indicator.

MDG 5: Improving Maternal Health
Every year, over one million children are left motherless and vulnerable as a result of maternal mortality.

Ninety-nine per cent of these deaths occur in the developing world. In sub-Saharan Africa, a woman's risk of dying from treatable and preventable complications of pregnancy and childbirth is one in 22. Compared to one in 7,300 in the developed world.
A new maternal mortality study names HIV/AIDS as the cause of 1 in 4 maternal deaths in Zimbabwe.

The study showed that 725 Zimbabwean women out of every 100,000 who deliver, die due to complications.

“The study findings have confirmed our worst fears: that indeed the maternal mortality ratio and the perinatal mortality rate are high, and present the biggest challenge for attainment of MDGs,”

It found that nearly half the maternal deaths are avoidable through successful prevention & treatment of complications, & that “None of the interventions are complex or beyond the capacity of a functional health system in Zimbabwe.”
Improving Maternal Mortality

• Improved access to trained health care workers, during and following pregnancy, especially in rural areas of the developing world.

• Empowerment of women.

• Education with special focus on general sexual and maternal health to teach young men and women how to prevent unwanted pregnancies and reduce the spread of HIV and other sexually-transmitted diseases.

• Ensure that all political leaders meet their commitments to MDG 5

• Policy changes and sufficient funding.
How can we implement MDG 5?

- Malta needs an effective sexual health education program.
- Countries that have a strong and effective sexual health program have much lower rates of teen pregnancies.
For more information regarding SOS Malta and the Save Women's Lives Campaign, please visit:

www.sosmalta.org