

MARIE STOPES INTERNATIONAL: BACKGROUND INFORMATION

**EVERY YEAR
HUNDREDS OF
THOUSANDS
OF WOMEN
DIE FROM A
PREGNANCY
RELATED CAUSE.**

What does Marie Stopes International do?

Marie Stopes International (MSI) delivers family planning and sexual healthcare to women throughout the world. In many countries that means providing contraception, safe abortion and mother and baby care to the poorest and most vulnerable. We want to make sure that women everywhere have a choice when it comes to having children.

We have been delivering family planning and sexual healthcare for over thirty years. Because we employ and train local people, we are able to work in some really remote and difficult places, like Afghanistan, Sri Lanka and Sierra Leone. Wherever we work, we make sure the millions of women we see every year get the same high quality services.

Why do we do what we do?

Every year hundreds of thousands of women die from a pregnancy related cause.

Most of these deaths are preventable; all that's needed is access to family planning and high quality healthcare. Marie Stopes International delivers both.

How does Marie Stopes International work?

Marie Stopes International provides high quality family planning and sexual healthcare to ordinary women in more than 40 countries around the world. We use sound business principles and always work towards making our clinics self-sufficient once we've set them up.

We work with governments and other aid agencies to provide training, shape policy and share expertise. For us, it's about making a national impact and transforming the lives of ordinary women around the world.

**IN 2009, 98% OF
OUR IMPACT WAS
IN DEVELOPING
COUNTRIES.**





**WE ARE
CONTRACTED
OUT BY
GOVERNMENTS
IN COUNTRIES TO
PROVIDE QUALITY
SERVICES ON
THEIR BEHALF.**

What is our impact?

Serving the underserved

- in 2009, 98% of our impact was in developing countries. Two thirds of that impact was in hard to reach communities
- we jointly co-ordinate a multi-agency, multi-country programme called RAISE that brings together 10 leading service delivery and advocacy organisations to ensure comprehensive reproductive healthcare is available in conflict and crisis settings.

Working in partnership

- we work in partnership with governments to multiply the benefits of sexual and reproductive health services, extend existing capacity and increase cost-efficiency
- we are contracted out by governments in countries such as India, Kenya, Malawi, Pakistan, South Africa, Tanzania and the UK to provide quality services on their behalf
- in Kenya, we are a service provider in an output based aid voucher scheme aimed at increasing access to safe delivery and long-acting contraception services via our clinics and outreach teams. In just over two years, more than 60,000 babies were safely delivered in Kenya through the voucher scheme

- our BlueStar social franchise initiative identifies existing or potential providers of quality services, trains them in state of the art service delivery, and regularly monitors them to ensure that Marie Stopes International quality standards are maintained. So far, we've set up franchise networks in nine countries: Ethiopia, Ghana, Kenya, Madagascar, Malawi, Pakistan, the Philippines, Sierra Leone and Viet Nam.

Innovations

- through our clinics, mobile outreach services, and BlueStar network of over 1,000 private health providers, the number of long acting and permanent methods of contraception (LAPMs) we delivered increased by 51% from 1.2 million in 2008 to 1.8 million in 2009
- we delivered 73% of our total LAPM services in rural, resource-poor or remote settings, challenging the prevailing notion that LAPMs are costly, labour intensive and confined to urban clinical settings.

Where can I find more information?

For more information on Marie Stopes International and the work that we do please contact:

t: +44 (0) 20 7636 6200
e: info@mariestopes.org

Alternatively, visit our website:
www.mariestopes.org

