



“Providing migrant women and ethnic minorities the tools to understand their medical and psychological needs is essential to helping them achieve the highest state of well-being.”

RAMAZAN SALMAN
Executive Director, Ethno-Medical Center (Germany)

“We must do everything we can to help end maternal mortality. Bringing together European stakeholders to improve access to affordable, quality care will have tremendous benefit for women, families, and communities across Europe.”

DR. NAVEEN RAO
Team Lead, *MSD for Mothers*



MSD FOR MOTHERS

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OUR VISION IS A WORLD WHERE
NO WOMAN DIES GIVING LIFE



MSD for Mothers is our 10-year, \$500 million initiative that applies MSD's scientific and business expertise — as well as its financial resources and experience in taking on tough global healthcare challenges — to reduce maternal mortality worldwide.

In Europe, our goal is to partner with stakeholders and support programmes to promote equal access to quality maternal healthcare for all women across the region.

GLOBALLY

EVERY 2 MINUTES,
A WOMAN DIES FROM COMPLICATIONS
related to pregnancy and childbirth.

When a woman dies,
the effects on her family are enormous:
HER BABY IS 70% MORE LIKELY
TO DIE BEFORE THE AGE OF TWO
and her other children are up to 10 times more
likely to die prematurely.

EUROPEAN UNION

MORE THAN 5 MILLION WOMEN
give birth each year, however
1 IN 10 DO NOT HAVE ACCESS
to maternal health services
during the first months of pregnancy.

There were an estimated
1900 MATERNAL DEATHS IN 2013.

Of 8,656 women surveyed,
54% OF THE 310 PREGNANT WOMEN
seen at Doctors of the World clinics in
9 European countries
LACKED ACCESS TO ANTENATAL CARE,
and a large majority were living in poverty.

MSD FOR MOTHERS IN EUROPE

In collaboration with local MSD offices, we are providing more than €3.6 million to support maternal health organisations that link pregnant women to care and raise awareness of safe motherhood practices both in Europe and in developing countries.

FINLAND

Väestöliitto is working with foster care organisations to promote sexual and reproductive health among young girls living within these institutions through educational events.

GERMANY

Ethno-Medical Center is implementing the MiMi-Initiative for Maternal Health to reduce barriers to maternal healthcare among female migrant workers. The project is raising awareness of services and improving health professionals' cultural and linguistic competence. To date, the initiative has reached 7,200 women and their families in Germany.

UNITED KINGDOM

The British Pregnancy Advisory Service is leading a public awareness campaign in London, "As Soon as You're Pregnant," that encourages pregnant women to see a healthcare professional before the end of their first trimester. The campaign is helping women receive education on lifestyle factors such as diet, alcohol, and smoking to promote healthy pregnancies and improve newborn health. To date, 327 pharmacies and general practitioners, 113 retailers, and 125 children's health centers in London are supporting the campaign.

DEVELOPING COUNTRIES

Additionally, we are working with nine European NGOs in Belgium, Denmark, Ireland, Italy, Netherlands, Spain, Sweden, and Switzerland to advance maternal health in the Democratic Republic of Congo (DRC), Ethiopia, Malawi, Mozambique, Rwanda, and Tanzania. For example, **Concern Worldwide (Ireland)** is implementing community-based interventions to highlight the importance of seeking antenatal care that will reach up to 67,000 women in Malawi. **Maternity Foundation (Denmark)** is rolling out the Safe Delivery App, an innovative mHealth tool to enhance antenatal care and emergency obstetric care in Sub-Saharan Africa. The app has been developed in collaboration with researchers from the University of Copenhagen and the University of Southern Denmark. New research results show the health worker skills in handling most common complications such as postpartum haemorrhage and newborn resuscitation increased by more than 100% after 12 months of using the app. **Medics without Vacation (Belgium)** conducted 12 medical training missions to build the capacity of local health workers and increase access to second line maternal healthcare services among hospitals in South Kivu (DRC).

Women from ethnic minority groups in Europe tend to have higher incidences of maternal mortality and worse health outcomes overall:
LOW BIRTH WEIGHT (43%) + PRETERM DELIVERY (24%),
PERINATAL MORTALITY (50%) +
CONGENITAL MALFORMATIONS (61%)

OUR PARTNERS

PROGRAMMES

Programmes are being implemented in nine countries in partnership with 12 European NGOs — all contributing to our vision of a world where no woman dies giving life.

- **Belgium:** Medics Without Vacation – programme in the DRC
- **Denmark:** Maternity Foundation – programme in Ethiopia
- **Finland:** Väestöliitto – programme in Finland
- **Germany:** Ethno-Medizinisches Zentrum e.V – programme in Germany
- **Ireland:** Concern Worldwide – programme in Malawi
- **Italy:** Doctors with Africa Cuamm – programme in Ethiopia
- **Italy:** Comunità di S.Egidio ACAP Onlus – programme in Mozambique
- **Netherlands:** Health[e] Foundation – programme in Rwanda
- **Spain:** Organización Navarra Para Ayuda Entre Los Pueblos – programme in the DRC
- **Sweden:** World Lung Foundation – programme in Tanzania
- **Switzerland:** Swiss Tropical Public Health Institute – programme in Tanzania
- **U.K.:** British Pregnancy Advisory Service – programme in the U.K.

ALLIANCE FOR MATERNAL HEALTH EQUALITY

MSD for Mothers is a founding partner in the Alliance for Maternal Health Equality. The Alliance is a unique coalition of European stakeholders with an interest in ensuring all women in Europe have equal access to quality maternal healthcare. The Alliance aims to increase awareness and attract greater attention to this critical issue among policy makers and the public to help shape supportive policies.