

NEAPACOH 2018

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LABODE

MATERNAL MORTALITY RATES TARGET

- **DEFINITION:** Maternal Mortality is defined as the death of a woman while pregnant or within 42 days of termination of pregnancy, irrespective of the duration and the site of the pregnancy.
- **GLOBAL TARGET:** Sustainable Development Goal-70 maternal deaths per 100,000 live births.
- **NATIONAL TARGET:** By 2030 individual countries should have reduced their MMRs by at least two thirds from their 2010 baseline estimates.

OPPORTUNITIES

- INCREASED CONTRACEPTIVE PREVALENCE RATES:
- HIGH ANTINATAL SERVICES COVERAGE:
- INCREASED NUMBER OF WAITING MOTHER'S SHELTERS.
- INCREASED NUMBER OF WOMEN DELIVERING IN HEALTH INSTITUTION.
- GOVERNMENT SUBSIDY ON BLOOD PRODUCTS.

CONTINUED

- SADC RESOLUTION ON THE CHILD MARRIAGE MODEL LAW COMES TO LIFE IN TH REGIONS.
- ADVOCACY FOR THE PROVISION OF SAFE ABORTION IS GAINING MOMENT. A MOVEMENT OF PRO-CHOICE ACTIVISTS HAS BEEN GALVANISED.
- ACCESS TO POST ABORTION CARE IS ALMOST BECOMING UNIVERSAL HEALTH CARE COMPONENT

CHALLENGES

- LACK OF POLITICAL WILL. DONOR DEPENDANCY AND HYPOCRICY.
- LEGAL FRAME WORKS NOT SUPPORTIVE OF SRHR.
- LOW UPTAKE OF CONTRACEPTIVES AMONG THE YOUTH INCREASING TEENEGE PREGNANCIES.
- INCREASE IN THE NUMBER OF YOUTH SEX WORKERS LEADING TO AN INCREASE IN ILLEGAL ABORTION AND STDS and HIV incidence
- RELIGIOUS AND CULTURAL BELIEFS INCLUDING POVERTY WILL REMAIN A HUGE STUMBLING BLOCK TO COUNTRIES ACHIEVING THEIR SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT GOALS.
- INEFFICIENCY USE OF EXISTING FUNDING.

A UNIVERSITY STUDENT QOUTE

- “PLEASE UNDERSTAND THAT MY LIFE IS TRAPPED IN A CIRCLE OF POVERTY. I HAVE TO DO WHAT I MUST DO TO PAY MY SCHOOL FEES INCLUDING UNSAFE SEX AND UNSAFE ABORTIONS. IF ALL THESE THINGS DO NOT KILL ME THEN POVERTY WILL KILL. EITHER WAY I AM A DEAD PERSON” (Zimbabwe University female Student)