

# SAVING THE LIVES OF WOMEN, GIRLS AND NEWBORN BABIES



## STOP WOMEN DYING IN CHILDBIRTH

Across East and Southern Africa, more than

# 49 million

women who want to plan their families cannot get access to modern family planning.



# 830 women and adolescent girls die needlessly every day

because of complications in pregnancy and childbirth.



## THE RIGHT ACTION TODAY WILL IMPACT THE LIVES OF MILLIONS OF WOMEN, CHILDREN, FAMILIES AND COMMUNITIES

AS MEMBERS OF PARLIAMENT, YOU CAN SAVE LIVES BY DIRECTING FUNDS TO:



Cut unintended pregnancies by

# 32%

(modern contraceptive use prevented an estimated 15 million unintended pregnancies in 2021)



Prevent an additional

# 32%

unsafe abortions (modern contraceptive use prevented an estimated 3.6 million unsafe abortions in 2021)



Lower maternal and child deaths by

# 33%



These investments will save more than **31% in direct health-care costs**



To achieve this, the region would need to spend **\$1.5 billion<sup>1</sup>**



## WE CAN ACHIEVE THIS TOGETHER

We need to ensure that all women, especially rural and poor young girls and adolescents, have access to different types of safe and good quality contraceptive medicines.

UNFPA is partnering with governments to finance contraception and family planning. Members of Parliament (MPs) are important for the success of these partnerships as they ensure government commitment to contribute domestic financial resources to buy medicines and other supplies.

MPs are critical for mobilizing and allocating government resources (national budgets, appropriate legislation, Compact Agreements, etc), and for using their goodwill with the private sector and other partners to raise additional local funds to do the following:

- Improve access to and choice in quality reproductive health medicines and contraceptives: Through community engagement in their constituencies, MPs should ensure that communities know where and how to get services and supplies.
- Strengthen supply chains: Ensure sufficient numbers of trained staff and infrastructure to estimate the correct types and quantities of supplies, store them safely and distribute them in a timely manner and in good condition, to all communities that need them, starting with the most excluded and poorest.
- Ensure greater government commitment: In addition to mobilizing, allocating and disbursing national government resources, recognise reproductive health as key to sustainable development.

<sup>1</sup>Country-specific expenditure: Angola \$55m, Burundi \$15.5m, Comoros \$1.1m, DRC \$89m, Eritrea \$4.6m, Ethiopia \$245m, Kenya \$226m, Lesotho \$14m, Madagascar \$89m, Malawi \$77m, Mozambique \$105m, Rwanda \$38m, South Sudan \$6.4m, Tanzania \$185m, Uganda \$114m, Zambia \$65m, Zimbabwe \$167m.

# HOW YOU CAN HELP YOUR COMMUNITIES

## SERVING THOSE WHO ARE MOST IN NEED

A more coordinated approach is required to get reproductive health supplies to the communities that need them.

UNFPA is only able to achieve this in partnership with people who have influence on the ground and in communities. We need your help as a representative of local communities to:

- Create awareness of the Supplies Programme in communities.
- Talk about the importance of what we do.
- Speed up government programmes serving your communities.
- End mother and newborn deaths, improve family planning and end gender-based violence and harmful practices.



## UNFPA SUPPLIES PRODUCES STRONG RESULTS



Since the programme's inception in 2007, UNFPA has organized more than US\$1.8 billion for family planning and maternal health supplies. Between 2008 and 2020, the Supplies Programme in the East and Southern Africa region has helped avoid an estimated:

**37 million**  
unintended pregnancies

**12 million**  
unsafe abortions

**107,000**  
maternal deaths

**832,000**  
child deaths

## WHAT YOU CAN DO

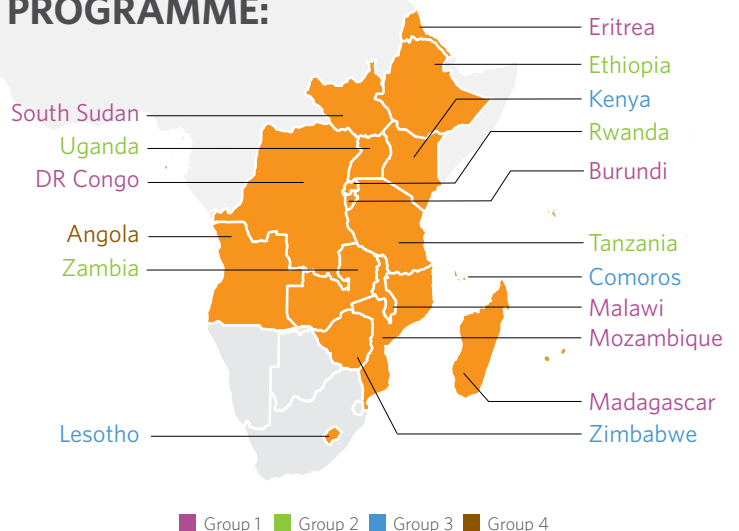
Phase III of the UNFPA Supplies Programme (2021-2030) is about strengthening partnerships, and improving transparency and accountability.

You are in a unique position as a lawmaker to improve the lives of your communities by allocating the needed funding and promoting better sexual and reproductive health practices.

You have the power to:

- Influence the national budget for family planning programmes, especially contraceptives.
- Promote accountability for your nation's allocations and expenditure on supplies.
- Legislate for less restrictive import duties, taxes and other fees on contraceptives.

## COUNTRIES PARTICIPATING IN PHASE III OF THE UNFPA SUPPLIES PROGRAMME:



## CALL TO ACTION

- Rally support from government, the private sector and other partners for the distribution of family planning and maternal health supplies.
- Work with your Ministries of Health and Finance to maximize the impact of family planning interventions.
- Raise awareness in local communities on the UNFPA Supplies Programme, how it helps them and how to take part.