

OUR GLOBAL IMPACT IN 2020

2020 was the year when COVID-19 swept the earth and changed the way we live our lives. But it was also a year filled with inspiring actions, resilience, and renewed commitments to women's reproductive choice.

As we reflect on this unprecedented year, we see not only the threat that the pandemic posed, but also the innovation and progress that came with it. We see the resilience of our team members and the rapid adaptation of our programmes and partners to ensure sexual and reproductive health services remained accessible. Because of these actions, we were able to protect the majority of services, reaching almost as many women as we did in 2019.

OUR IMPACT

Around the world, **32.6 million** people are using a method of contraception provided by MSI Reproductive Choices, and across the countries where we work, **one in five women** who want contraception are using a method provided by us. Despite daunting projections at the beginning of the pandemic warning that up to 80% of services could be disrupted, we reached **12.8 million** clients, across **34,000 sites**, with high-quality sexual and reproductive health services in 2020 alone. Every single day, we served **35,000 people** with the contraception, safe abortion and post-abortion care services that enabled them to continue to build the lives they want. One in every six clients were adolescents under the age of 20, a group that is still facing significant barriers to access around the world.

We are proud to be able to look back at 2020 and know that we did our utmost to continue to provide life-changing and life-saving services to as many women as we could, while partnering to prioritise access for communities often left behind by health systems. We are thankful to our providers and partners for the innovation and determination that made this possible.

WHAT WE LEARNT

COVID-19 has forced the healthcare sector to innovate, teaching important lessons that will shape our services beyond the pandemic. From introducing telemedicine to deliver home-based reproductive healthcare, to building new partnerships with governments to embed contraceptive services in national health programmes, COVID-19 has acted as a catalyst for change within MSI and across the healthcare sector. [Read more about the lessons we learnt providing services through a global pandemic.](#)



Above: Team member from MSI's programme in Kenya is holding up an IUD, a long lasting and reversible contraceptive method.

Across the 37 countries where we work, the services we provided in 2020 resulted in an estimated:

13.4M unintended pregnancies averted

5.6M unsafe abortions averted

35,000 maternal deaths averted

We use our innovative socio-demographic mathematical model [Impact 2](#) to estimate the impact of our work, and the wider social and economic benefits of providing access to contraception and safe abortion services.

“TODAY I WALKED FOUR HOURS TO DELIVER CONTRACEPTIVE SERVICES TO A WOMAN WHO CALLED ME ASKING ME TO COME OVER... NO PANDEMIC SHOULD PREVENT WOMEN FROM ACCESSING SEXUAL AND REPRODUCTIVE HEALTH SERVICES.”

Tika, provider, MSI Nepal

2020 IN NUMBERS:

32.6M

people are currently using a contraceptive method provided by MSI

12.8M

clients provided with high-quality sexual and reproductive health services in 2020

1 IN 6

of the clients reached were adolescents under the age of 20

34,000

service delivery locations where we provided care

£615M

additional healthcare costs saved by the services we provided in 2020

6

policy restrictions removed to improve access

MAKING REPRODUCTIVE CHOICE A REALITY FOR ALL

We know that access to reproductive choice can be transformational to a woman's life. Every day, our providers around the world witness first-hand how choice supports women and girls to live their lives on their own terms. And they know what's at stake if that choice is unavailable. Over the past five years, it is estimated that without our services, and if no other provider stepped in to fill the gap, there would have been 10% more maternal deaths across the countries where we work. The importance of access to reproductive choice is unquestionable.

At MSI, we are committed to a world where everyone is supported to make decisions about their own bodies and futures. From a choice of contraceptive or safe abortion method, to a choice over where and how to access care.

As we look ahead, we will build on the innovations from 2020 and continue to adapt to meet the needs of women. To make reproductive choice a reality for everyone.

INVEST IN WOMEN'S FUTURES

Our estimates show that it costs less than **2 pence/3 cents** per day to provide a young woman with a contraceptive method of her choice. It is a cost-effective investment that produces lasting and sustainable impact. By enabling girls to stay in school, supporting women to forge their careers, and better equipping communities to be resilient in the face of global challenges, from COVID-19 to the climate crisis, reproductive choice is foundational to building a more equal and sustainable world for all.

**“IF YOU EMPOWER A WOMAN OR A GIRL,
THEN YOU'VE EMPOWERED A HOME,
YOU'VE EMPOWERED A COUNTRY AND
YOU'VE EMPOWERED THE WORLD”**

Damaless, nurse, MSI Zambia



Above: A provider from MSI's programme in Madagascar is consulting a client in a COVID-19 safe way.

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