In 2021, in the face of evolving crises and a growing anti-choice opposition, MSI’s bold providers supported more people than ever before with their sexual and reproductive health and rights. From delivering medical abortion in women’s homes in Nepal during another wave of the pandemic, to protecting access to contraception for communities on the frontline of the climate crisis in Senegal, our teams went above and beyond to protect reproductive choice in their communities.

**MSI’S GLOBAL IMPACT**

In 2021, in partnership with governments, civil society organisations and implementing partners, MSI supported 19.4 million people to access healthcare across 37 countries. This included 17.3 million clients who accessed a contraception, abortion or post-abortion care service. That’s 67,000 clients supported with reproductive choice every day. We estimate that these services prevented more than 14.1 million unintended pregnancies and 6.6 million unsafe abortions, saving the lives of 39,500 women.

We reached millions often left behind by healthcare systems. Over 70% of our contraceptive services were delivered to underserved communities and 1.7 million of our clients were adolescents – a group often excluded from sexual and reproductive healthcare, but for whom we have tailored programmes, ensuring young people can determine their own futures. Our teams also worked to protect access to women’s healthcare in humanitarian settings, including Afghanistan and Myanmar.

This impact goes beyond service delivery. For every student that we reached, we are proud to have supported a young person to avoid an unintended pregnancy and continue their education.

For every woman we have assisted with reproductive healthcare, we are proud to have supported their bodily autonomy, so they can make the choices that are right for them, their careers, and their futures.

“**WOMEN SHOULD HAVE THE RIGHT TO DO WHAT THEY WANT WITH THEIR OWN BODY. THOSE WHO HAVE USED MY SERVICES COME TO ME AND SAY I’VE SAVED THEIR LIVES.”**

Pragati Khanal, an MSI Lady who scales mountains in Nepal every day to deliver choice.

By reducing the number of pregnancy-related deaths and supporting access to girls’ education and women’s economic empowerment, this impact is contributing towards the sustainable development goals, and progress towards achieving a fairer, more gender-equal world for all.
Above: Maureen

LEADING THE WAY IN ABORTION CARE

In 2021, 4 million clients accessed an abortion or post-abortion care service with MSI, meaning we delivered access to one in five women seeking an abortion or post-abortion care service in the countries that we work in. We reached these clients by expanding the options available, ensuring access to quality care and the ability to choose the service that best suits their needs.

We improved access to early medical abortion outside of facility settings, supporting clients with a continuum of care provided by our global contact centre network. In the UK, through our telemedicine programme, we supported women to take both abortion pills in the comfort of their own home. 8 out of 10 clients reported that the route was preferable, while a study of over 50,000 UK clients found that at-home abortion care was just as safe and effective as in-facility care.

In tandem, nearly half (45%) of abortion clients in our centres opted for a surgical method, proving the importance of protecting access to both medical and surgical options. To ensure we can offer choice in the long-term, in 2021, we made significant strides towards achieving financial sustainability in our global centre network: for every £1 our centres spent on operating costs in 2021, 80% was self-generated by service income. This protects access for clients who would prefer or require a surgical procedure, for example, those facing complications from a previous unsafe abortion attempt.

PARTNERING FOR SUSTAINABLE ACCESS

This impact would not have been possible were it not for our partners and donors, with whom we have advocated for change and delivered quality care. Using our voice as a healthcare provider, our national teams have partnered with civil society organisations to achieve 10 changes in policy, law, regulation, and financing, expanding access to sexual and reproductive health and rights. These changes included expanding access to abortion for unmarried women and survivors of rape in India and advocating for the inclusion of contraception in Ghana’s National Health Insurance Scheme.

Through our health system strengthening work, we have partnered with national governments to put these changes into action. In 2021, we supported Ministries of Health to train providers in reproductive healthcare and instil quality assurance mechanisms across more than 5,200 public sector delivery sites, reaching 5 million clients. Through our public sector partnership, we have expanded access in underserved communities and made inroads towards national ownership of contraception and comprehensive abortion care.

“IF IT WAS NOT FOR THE IUD, I MIGHT HAVE DROPPED OUT OF SCHOOL DUE TO UNWANTED PREGNANCY... YOUNG PEOPLE HAVE BIG DREAMS AHEAD OF THEM. WITH CONTRACEPTION, THEY CAN ACHIEVE THEIR GOALS.”

Maureen, an 18-year-old client who accessed contraception with MSI Zambia

INVEST IN WOMEN’S FUTURES

Although we are hugely proud of the impact achieved by our programmes in 2021, we know our work is far from complete. Globally, there are still 218 million people who want to be using modern contraception but have no access. In low- and middle-income countries, there are 14 million adolescents who are looking to prevent unintended pregnancy but have no access. We need partnership and action today, to transform access for these women and girls tomorrow.

It only costs £6 per year - or 2 pence / 3 cents per day – for MSI to provide someone with life-changing reproductive healthcare, giving them the power to decide if or when to become pregnant. This reproductive choice helps girls to stay in school, supports women to lead, and helps build more equal communities for all. Support our work to enable reproductive choice globally.

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