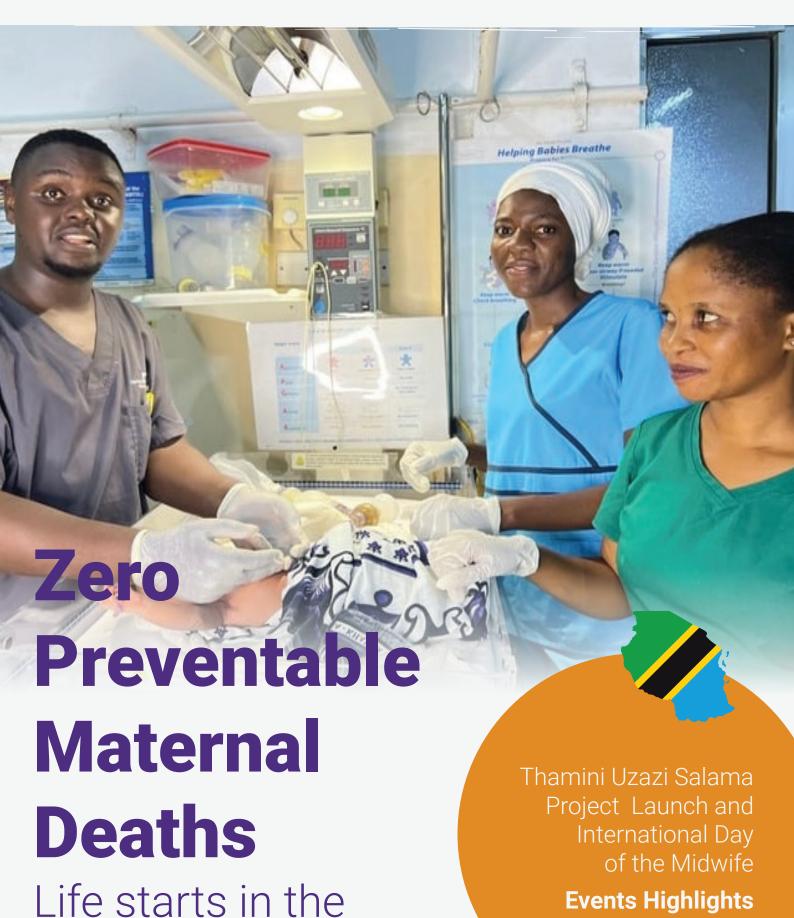




hands of the midwife







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"Think of a midwife: what comes to mind? Excellent teamwork, competence, good judgement and caring...In a world where every two minutes a woman or girl dies during pregnancy, childbirth or its aftermath – as our latest data attests – the midwife is always the hero of the story".

Dr. Natalia Kanem, UNFPA Executive Director





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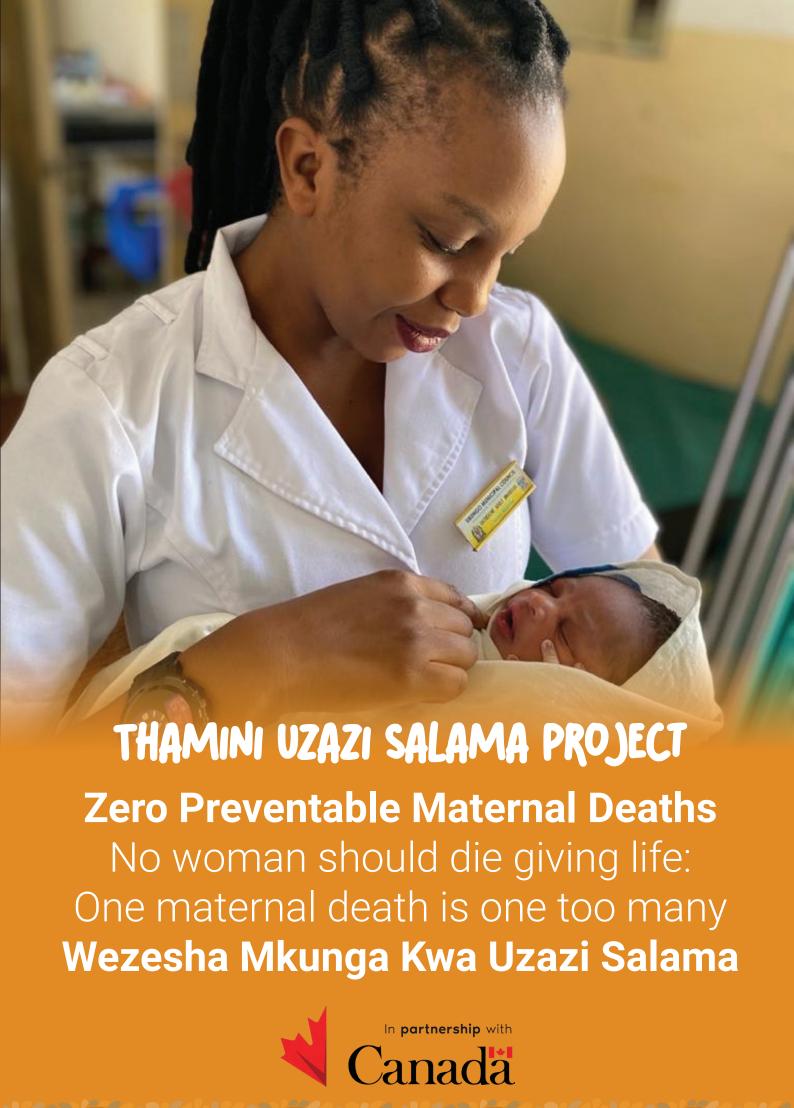
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Life Starts in the Hands of the Midwife!







Deaths during pregnancy and childbirth, along with newborn deaths, remain a major public health crisis globally. In Tanzania, despite a decline in maternal deaths, newborn deaths haven't reduced.

The Thamini Uzazi Salama - Strengthening Midwifery in Tanzania (SMIT) Project, a 7-year initiative, aims to change this. A collaboration between UNFPA, Amref Canada, and the Canadian Association of Midwives, Thamini Uzazi Salama Project will focus on three districts in Shinyanga and three municipal councils in Dar es Salaam. By increasing the number of skilled midwives and working with local partners, the project aims to improve healthcare delivery and provide comprehensive reproductive, maternal, newborn, child, and adolescent health services (RMNCAH).

The May 3rd, 2024 launch event at Mnazi Mmoja Hospital marks a new chapter. Through presentations, media engagement, and stakeholder discussions, the launch aimed to raise awareness, garner support, and mobilize action to achieve Thamini Uzazi Salama Project's goals: ensuring quality care and support for every mother and newborn.

By bringing together key players and fostering collaboration, the Thamini Uzazi Salama Project has the potential to make a significant impact on maternal and newborn mortality rates in Tanzania. This initiative represents a collective effort to save lives and build a healthier future for mothers and babies.



The High Commission of Canada in Tanzania and UNFPA, the United Nations sexual and reproductive health agency, today in Dar Es Salaam, Tanzania, have launched the 7 year, Thamini Uzazi Salama Project - Strengthening Midwifery in Tanzania' (SMIT) Project. The Thamini Uzazi Salama Project was developed to address challenges in availability of skilled midwives in the country, to contribute to the reduction of maternal and newborn mortality. Every two minutes, a woman dies from pregnancy-related causes - either during pregnancy, childbirth or immediately after childbirth. And the presence of a skilled midwife can save her. Additional midwives are needed to improve maternal health, reduce child mortality, and combat HIV.

"Life starts in the hands of midwives. No woman should die giving life, and even one maternal death, is one too many.

Melissa McNeil Barrett, UNFPA Deputy Representative, in the United Republic of Tanzania



Project Purpose and objectives: 'Strengthening Midwifery in Tanzania' project intends to increase the availability of skilled and empowered midwives to contribute to the reduction of maternal and newborn mortality and provide a full range of other reproductive, maternal, new-born, child, and adolescent health services. The project will focus on strengthening a gender responsive working environment for midwives, both pre- and in-service. In-services midwives will be offered opportunities to upgrade their skills through continuous professional development.

In addition to delivering care throughout pregnancy, during childbirth and in the post-delivery period, midwives also provide comprehensive sexual and reproductive health services, such as family planning counselling. All these services reduce maternal death rates and improve child survival. The

"On the occasion of this project launch, the Government, Global Affairs Canada and UNFPA confirm their commitment to work together to strengthen midwifery in the country specifically in Dar Es Salaam and Shinyanga regions. The government and development partners (Canada and UNFPA) recognize that Tanzania needs skilled midwives now more than ever, in order to protect the lives of women and babies".

Hon. Albert Chalamila, Dar Es Salaam Regional Commissioner.

project builds on, and amplifies the work already being done by UNFPA and partners including Amref Canada and Canadian Association of Midwives (CAM), and their collaborators, in advocating for quality midwifery services and recognition of midwifery as a distinct profession within the health care system.

The project will be implemented in three districts of the Shinyanga region (Shinyanga rural, Kahama, and Kishapu) and three municipal councils of the Dar es Salaam region (Temeke, Ilala, and Kinondoni); Direct beneficiaries: 1,071,852 pregnant women delivering in the targeted health facilities and 805,945 new-borns delivered in the project targeted health facilities. The project will benefit 180 dispensaries, 28 health centres and 12 hospitals in these two regions. Additionally, the project is expected to benefit communities living in 28 wards and 112 villages/streets in these two regions. The Government of Canada financially supports this 7-year project through the Global Affairs Canada (GAC) with budget worthy CAD \$11,750,000 (Equivalent to USD \$8,564,000 or TZS 22,085,065,000).

"Midwives do not only need supplies and equipment. They also require extensive training to safely manage childbirth and to be able to recognize life-threatening complications".

Helen Fytche, Head of Cooperation and acting High Commissioner Canada in Tanzania.



Key Pillars of the Project: Pre and in-service education programme for midwives in Tanzania; Health service delivery by midwives and Enabling environment to facilitate gender-responsive midwifery practice in Tanzania. The 'Strengthening Midwifery in Tanzania (SMIT) Project' launched today is officially titled: "Thamini Uzazi Salama Project" which translates to Value Safe Motherhood, with its tagline "Wezesha Mkunga Kwa Uzazi Salama" which translates to Empower the Midwife for Safe Birth.

"The presence of a midwife at birth can mean the difference between life and death, and protects the life of the mother and the child by recognizing problems early, when the situation can still be controlled, and by intervening quickly"

Melissa Mc-Neil Barrett, Officer in-charge- UNFPA Deputy Representative in the United Republic of Tanzania





Maternal deaths: Canada partnering with UNFPA in 22bn/-midwife project on skills

A Joint initiative involving UNFPA, AMREF, and the Canadian Association of Midwives has initiated a midwifery project to reduce maternal deaths and newborn mortality in the country. Billed at \$12m the project is intended to reduce maternal and newborn mortality by increasing the availability of skilled midwives, working with the Tanzania Midwives Association to strengthen their capacity to advance the midwifery profession. Among the key objectives of the project are to develop a robust training program for midwifery tutors, and refurbish learning and teaching infrastructure in training institutions such as computer labs, classrooms, libraries, preceptors' corners, and skills labs.

Albert Chalamila, the city regional commissioner, urged the Health Ministry and the regional secretariat to ensure the project is a success. He stated that regional and district council health teams need to work with teams sent to particular places where the project is implemented to supervise the proper use of resources. Melissa McNeil-Barrett, the UNFPA deputy representative, said that the project is geared towards increasing the availability of skilled midwives. She explained that it will strengthen local capacity to advance the midwifery profession and develop a robust training program for midwifery tutors. In her remarks, Head of Cooperation and acting high commissioner of Canada in Tanzania, Ms. Helen Fytche, said midwives do not only need supplies and equipment. They also require extensive training to safely manage childbirth and to be able to recognize life-threatening complications. *All media*

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Nipashe Digital | Mei 03, 2024









The Guardian | Mei 04, 2024



Three students die in maize tank storage fiasco



Fishing set to stop for three months in Lake Tanganyika

These species need a period of three to four months to reach the level of being optimally harvested

PM reminds top officials of Maternal deaths: duty to inform the people



We have the responsibility to educate the public about environmental conservation

UNFPA leads in 31bn/- midwife project on skills





Social media coverage for the Launch of the Thamini Uzazi Salama Project

UNFPA Tanzania @UNFPATanzania

📌 "This funding from @Canada 🙌 comes at an opportune moment. The presence of a skilled birth attendant is one of the most important factors in the survival of a mother & her baby. Yet about a third of all births continue to take place without a midwife or other skilled



MelissaMcNeilBarrett and 9 others



Thamini Uhai Project "Midwives do not only need supplies & equipment. They also require extensive training to safely manage childbirth & to be able to recognize life-threatening complications" @HelenFytche Head of Cooperation & acting High Commissioner #Canada 🙌 in Tanzania 🜌



UNFPA Tanzania @UNFPATanzania

Zero preventable maternal deaths 🌠

"Life starts in the hands of Midwive"

Helen Fytche and 9 others





UNFPA Tanzania @UNFPATanzania

Zero preventable maternal deaths 🌠





#MidwifreyProjectLaunch

@CanadaDev partnering with UNFPA to support maternal health services in Tanzania

One woman dies every two minutes during pregnancy or childbirth. And the presence of a midwife can save her.







I am committed to saving the lives of mothers and newborns



Los of the Midwife, recognizing their critical role in ensuring healthy mothers and newborns. This global event, led by the International Confederation of Midwives (ICM), unites governments, development partners, and stakeholders to champion midwifery's importance in health systems.

With healthcare landscapes constantly evolving, the call to empower midwives is louder than ever. Their leadership aligns perfectly with sustainable development goals, promoting both health equity and environmental stewardship.

"Canada applauds the actions taken by the Government of the United Republic of Tanzania and stakeholders to respond to the challenges posed by climate change. We encourage all midwives to join in this work and to advocate for action towards a healthier planet and healthier communities".

Helen Fytche, Head of Cooperation and acting high commissioner of Canada in Tanzania. The 2024 theme, "Midwives: A Vital Solution for Climate Change," highlights their unique role in tackling interconnected challenges. By integrating climate resilience into their care, midwives not only improve health outcomes but also contribute to environmental sustainability. Beyond childbirth, midwives play a vital role in sexual and reproductive health. They educate, provide contraception, and offer comprehensive abortion care. Recognizing them as climate solutions advances the goal of equitable, resilient, and sustainable healthcare.

However, a significant shortage of skilled midwives persists. Advocacy efforts aimed at policymakers and stakeholders are crucial to address this gap. Ensuring the availability of skilled midwives is essential to saving lives and strengthening community-based services.



Life Starts in the Hands of a Midwife!

In celebration of International Day of the Midwife, UNFPA in the United Republic of Tanzania extends its gratitude to midwives everywhere for their unwavering commitment and positive impact on our communities. This year, we acknowledge midwives as a vital climate solution. They are indispensable professionals in safeguarding the health and well-being of mothers and newborns, regardless of the circumstances; whether she is at home or forced to flee due to disasters, floods, displacement, and extreme weather. When disasters strike, midwives are most often the first responders for women, representing the single most effective way to avoid preventable maternal deaths.

"Midwives play a crucial role in delivering essential healthcare services, particularly during pregnancy, childbirth, and the postnatal period. Midwives are the foundation for achieving the transformative goal of ending preventable maternal deaths, and their contributions are invaluable".

Hon. Majaliwa Kasim Majaliwa, Prime Minister of the United Republic of Tanzania.



Prime Minister, Honorable Kassim Majaliwa, opened the commemorative event with an appeal to midwives and other healthcare workers to improve the quality of care they provide in facilitating safe deliveries to further reduce maternal and neonatal deaths. A woman who dies during pregnancy or childbirth is a tragic loss of a life that can be saved with the presence of a midwife. Midwives are not just healthcare providers; they are the frontline warriors, providing culturally sensitive health care, significantly impacting the health and well-being of mothers and their newborns.

Honourable Minister Ummy Mwalimu highlighted that midwives have greatly contributed to the significant reduction in maternal and infant deaths recorded in the 2022 Tanzania Demographic and Health Survey, from 556 to 104 maternal deaths per 100,000 live births and 43 to 33 infant deaths per 1,000 live births between 2015/16 and 2022.

The United Republic of Tanzania has also made commendable progress in improving the proportion of deliveries attended by skilled health professionals. Approximately 84% of deliveries now take place in health facilities. This shift ensures that mothers and newborns receive necessary medical care and attention during childbirth. Minister Ummy Mwalimu thanked the Hon. President of the United Republic of Tanzania, Her Excellency, Dr. Samia Suluhu Hassan, for supporting the health sector in improving health services, especially maternal and child health services.

"The world must urgently invest in creating an environment that enables midwives to do their important work by establishing pathways to quality education, providing necessary resources and empowering them to act as full partners across health systems everywhere".

sol

Ms. Melissa Mc-Neil Barrett, UNFPA Deputy Representative in the United Republic of Tanzania.

In support of the national efforts to sustain its progress and further reduce maternal and newborn mortality, Canada and UNFPA recently launched the 'Strengthening Midwifery in Tanzania' project, which aims to increase the availability of skilled midwives in the country. The Canadian \$12 million project, which is a joint initiative of Global Affairs Canada, UNFPA, Amref Health Africa Canada, and the Canadian Association of Midwives, titled "Thamini Uzazi Salama Project" will be implemented in collaboration with government, non-governmental organizations, civil society partners, and healthcare providers in the regions of Shinyanga and Dar es Salaam.

The President of the **Tanzania Midwifery Association (TAMA), Dr. Beatrice Mwilike,** also commended the government for the major improvements in health sector infrastructure that have enabled the provision of quality services.



The aim is to cultivate an environment that empowers midwives, ensures comprehensive and climateresilient healthcare services for women, and cherishes every pregnancy and childbirth as a safe and desired experience. The government continues to improve key maternal and child health interventions to increase their impact and provide better maternal and child health outcomes.





Minister: Midwifery cadre to be separated from nursing

The government has agreed to a long-time request of the Tanzania Midwives Association (TAMA) to separate midwifery and nursing cadres and will soon establish a diploma in midwifery. Health minister Ummy Mwalimu, making this announcement at the professional gathering for the International Day of the Midwife in Dar es Salaam yesterday, said the government's efforts to transform the health sector have helped reduce maternal and child mortality by 80%. Prime Minister Kassim Majaliwa, opening the commemorative event, appealed to midwives and other hospital officials to increase efficiency in facilitating safe deliveries to further reduce maternal and neonatal deaths. The premier urged TAMA to be at the forefront to address incidents in which some midwives are violating ethics and impairing the provision of health services in the country, pointing out that all health cadres are governed by restrictions, professional ethics, and guidelines. TAMA president Dr Beatrice Mwilike commended the government for the major improvements in health sector infrastructure for the provision of quality services, while Melissa McNeil-Barrett, deputy representative of UNFPA praised the role played by midwives. This year's International Day of the Midwife focuses on climate disasters in relation to maternal and newborn care, she said, pointing out that midwives serve as champions of reproductive health. *All media*

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The Guardian | May 6, 2024





WATAHINIWA KIDATO CHA SITA WAONGEZEKA ASILIMIA SITA UK3

USAFIRI DAR-LINDI KUREJEA SAA 72, _{UK8} ' 170 WAOKOLEWA



Majaliwa ataka weledi huduma za afya

Daily News | May 6, 2024 PM reminds

midwives to work professionally

By SOPHIA KUMKANA

PRIME Minister Kassim Majaliwa has called on midwives and other health professionals in the country to work profes-sionally and increase efforts

stonally and increase efforts in serving the citizens.

Mr Majaliwa made statement yesterday, during an occasion to mark the International Day of the Midwife and general meeting of the Tanzania Midwives Association (TAMA) held at the Julius Nyerere International Convention Centre (JNICC)

in Dar es Salaam.

"All health professions are guided by ethics, values and guidelines, so ev-

The government halso made a lot of effort in buying medical nent, medicines as well as ambulances, to fadlitate referrals in service centres when there is an emergency." Mr Majaliwa

eryone should make sure they

eryone should make sure they adhere to the specific instruc-tions to improve work perfor-mance," Mr Majaliwa said. Midwives perform a vital service in providing care and support to women and their families while pregnant

The Guardian | May 6, 2024

Minister: Midwifery set to be separated from nursing

FROM PAGE 1
out that all health cadres are
governed by restrictions, professional ethics and guidelines.
'So everyone should make
sure that he/she follows the
specific instructions for efheient work,' he stated, reminding the gathering that the
government has in the past
few.years.done a great-job ofdimpnyaling infastructure and it
the service provision environment.

Güardian

Quality of midwifery silent factor in number of delivery-time deaths

PM reminds midwives to work professionally

The Guardian | May 6, 2024



Habari Leo | May 6, 2024

Majaliwa ataka weledi huduma za afya

Na Mwandishi Wetu

AZIRI Mkuu, Kassim Majaliwa ametoa mwit ametoa mwito kwa wakunga na wataalamu wengine wa afya wafanye kazi kwa weledi.

Majaliwa alisema hayo Dar es Salaam jana wakati wa maadhimisho ya Siku ya Mkunga Duniani na Mkutano Mkuu wa Chama cha Wakunga.

zinasimamiwa na miiko na maadili ya taaluma na miongozo iliyowekwa hivyo kila mmoja azingatie maelekezo mahususi ya utendaji wa kazi. Majaliwa alihimiza Chama

cha Wakunga kiwe mstari wa mbele kukemea wakunga wanofanya kazi kinyume na maadili ya taaluma zao.

Alisema serikali ime-fanya kazi kubwa kuboresha miundombinu na mazingira

va kutolea huduma ikiwemo kujenga majengo mapya, ku-fanya ukarabati wa majengo ya zamani na kujenga nyum-ba za watumishi karibu na vituo vya kutolea huduma ili kuhakikisha watoa huduma wanapatikana wakati wote. "Serikali imeweka juhudi

kubwa katika kununua vifaa kubwa katika kununta vilaa tiba, dawa na magari ya kusafirisha wagonjwa kurahi-sisha rufaa kati ya vituo vya kutolea huduma na wakati

Alisema serikali imeimarisha mfumo wa rufaa kwa kushirikiana na wadau unaojulikana kama M-Mama.

Aidha, alisema maboresho hayo yamezingatia sehemu za kutolea huduma za mama na mtoto na kuhakikisha wodi za watoto wachanga na wenye matatizo zinajengwa kwenye hospitali za mikoa, wilaya na baadhi ya vituo

a afya. Waziri wa Afya, Ummy Mwalimu alisema Serikali ya Awamu ya Sita imefanya kazi kupunguza vifo vya mama na mtoto kwa zaidi ya asilimia

Ummy alisema serikali imeridhia maombi ya muda mrefu ya Chama cha Wakun-ga ya kutofautisha kada ya

wauguzi na wakunga. "Naomba nitoe taarifa kwako tumepokea maoni

hususani katika mafunzo ya wakunga ngazi za chini, tunayo changamoto tunaenda kuibadilisha ili tuanzishe stashahada ya ukunga,

Awali, Rais wa Chama cha Wakunga Tanzania (TAMA), Dk Beatrice Mwilike aliipongeza serikali kwa kue-ndelea kufanya maboresho katika miundombinu ya sekta ya afya.

Social media coverage for the International Day of the Midwives event



Meet #Theodora, a midwife with unwavering passion 🖣

Despite the challenges. Theodora remains dedicated to delivering life-saving care during the mudslide in #Hanang' - #Manyara 🗷. Ahsante sana Shujaa 🦾

#MidwivesSaveLives

#IDM2024





UNFPA Tanzania @UNF... · 2d Life Starts in the Hands of a Midwife V

"Midwives are critical health workers who ensure that essential reproductive and maternal health services remain accessible and responsive to the needs of communities".

Hon. @ummymwalimu Minister of Health #Tanzania 💆

#IDM2024





UNFPA Tanzania @UNF... · 2d In collaboration with the International Confederation of Midwives, UNICEF, the World Health Organization & a host of global partners and donors, UNFPA is developing a Global **Midwifery Acceleration** Roadmap, which will be launched at the World Health **Summit in October 2024** #Midwife







UNFPA Tanzania @UNF... · 2d Midwives: A Vital Climate Solution!

This International Midwives Day, we recognise the role midwives play in saving lives & promoting environmental sustainability.

Hongera kwa Wakunga wataalam Kutoka Hanang' -Manyara na Rufiji Mkoa wa Pwani #Tanzania 💆

#MidwivesSaveLives





UNFPA Tanzania @UNF... · 2d TWhen climate disasters strike #midwives are the frontline providers of lifesaving health care for #women

Today we celebrate our unsung heros in #TZ 🔀 #WakungaWataalam

Hongera sana #Theodora from recognition 6

@KassimMajaliwa_ @ummymwalimu





UNFPA Tanzania @UNF... · 3d Happening now in Dar Es Salaam 🔣

Heri ya Siku ya Wakunga Duniani 💄

Midwives are key to ending preventable maternal & newborn deaths. Yet, the world faces an acute shortage of these essential providers.

#DayoftheMidwife

Mkunga Mtaalam ni Daraja kati ya Mama na Mtoto.







baada ya kujifungua. Tunamshukuru Mhe Waziri Mkuu, Mhe Kassim Majaliwa kwa kujumuika... Show more



UNFPA Tanzania @UNF... · 2d Midwives are the heroes on the frontline of the global climate crisis, reaching pregnant women & delivering babies safely.

Today we celebrate you! #AnyenyisheMakiao a midwife from #Rufiji ≥ thank you for saving lives of the mother & newborn during the floods...

#Midwives4All



UNFPA Tanzania @UNF... · 2d #Midwives are the single most important factor in stopping mothers and babies from dying during childbirth.

> This #DayOfTheMidwife, join @UNFPA to celebrate the heroes who make #motherhood safer: unf.pa/mid



UNFPA Tanzania @UNF... · 3d Heri ya Siku ya Wakunga Duniani

> Kauli Mbiu ya Mwaka huu ni Wakunga: Suluhisho la Mabadiliko ya Tabia ya Nchi

Tunafurahi kuwa na Mgeni Rasmi Mh. Waziri Mkuu @KassimMajaliwa_ Waziri wa Afya Mh. @ummymwalimu , Mkuu wa Mkoa wa Dar Es Salaam Mh Albert Chalamila pamoja na Wadau





UNFPA Tanzania @UNF... · 2d #DayOfTheMidwife is a reminder to recognize midwives as heroes

Speak out with @Atayeshe and see why the need for midwives is more urgent than ever: unf.pa/sfu

#ClimateAction





UNFPA Tanzania @UNF... · 2d "Today on #IDM2024, we salute the resilience & dedication of the #Tanzania 🔀 midwives!

They provide crucial care amidst displacement & disaster, ensuring mothers & babies have support even in the toughest times". Hon @KassimMajaliwa_ Prime Minister #TZ™

#MidwivesSaveLives





UNFPA Tanzania @UNF... · 2d **Midwives: A vital Climate** change solution 🗸

Pamoja Wakati wa Dharula 🙏

Midwives are the heroes of millions of stories.

Meet the unsung hero's #Midwives who save the lives of mother & newborn #Rufiji floods #Hanang mud slide in #TZ

Life Starts in the Hands of a Midwife &







UNFPA Tanzania @UNF... · 3d Midwives deliver safe and environmentally sustainable health services and are first responders when climate disasters hit.

For this reason, the theme for this year's International Day of the Midwife (IDM), is Midwives: A Vital Climate Solution.

Mkunga Okoa Maisha 🙏













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