

The Campaign to End Fistula: Looking back, moving forward...



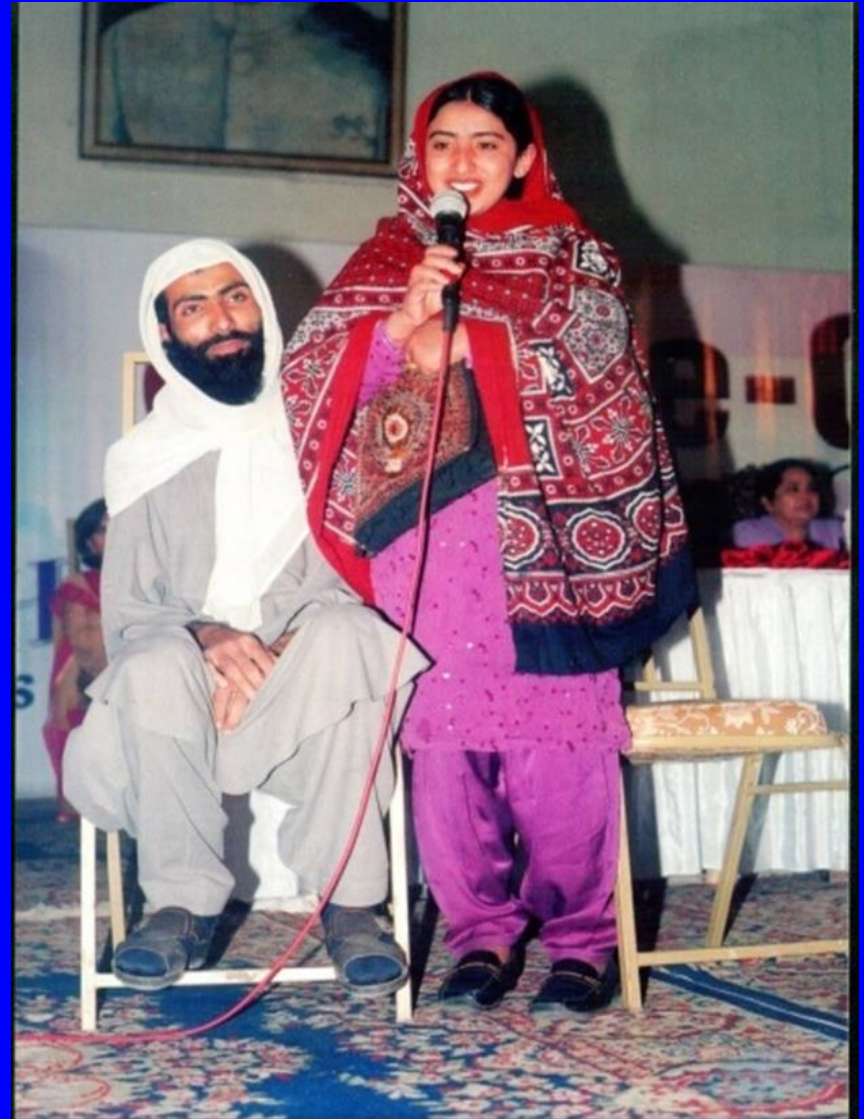
**Woodrow Wilson Center
(Washington, D.C. – 14 July 2015)**

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Campaign to End Fistula Vision

- No new cases
- Existing cases successfully treated
- Survivors reintegrated into society & followed up
- Incurable/inoperable cases supported



Campaign to End Fistula - Coverage



- **50+ countries**
- **90+ int'l. partners (+ 100s of local partners)**
- **57,000+ repairs**

Key Strategies: The “3 pillars”



Prevention

Midwives
EmONC
FP



Treatment

Social Reintegration & Follow up

Midwives are key to ending fistula!

1) Prevention:

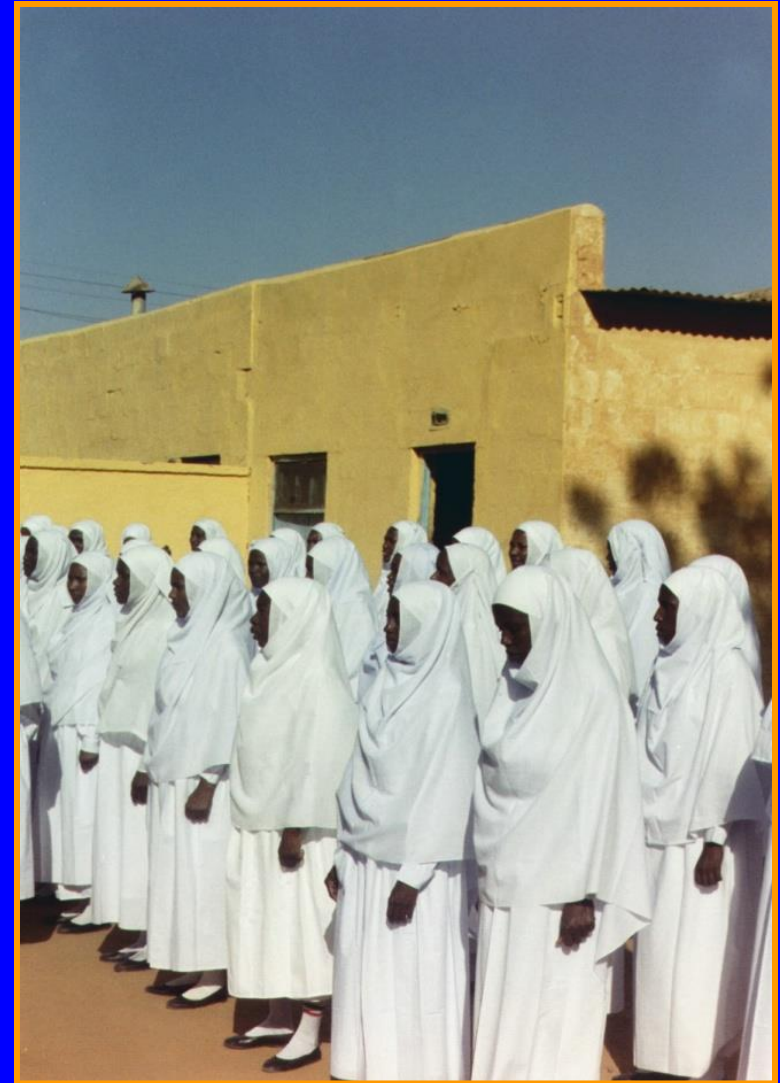
- Monitoring labour (partograph)
- Timely referral for C-section
- Family planning
- Birth planning & preparedness

2) Management:

- Bladder catheter for fresh fistula &/or to prevent fistula
- Identification of fistula cases

3) Referral:

- To skilled, trained, expert fistula surgeon for repair
- Ensure recovered fistula patients get C-section in subsequent pregnancies



“End fistula in our lifetime”: Advocacy

International Day to End Obstetric Fistula (May 23rd 2015)



Photo: Olivier Girard/ UNFPA

Hosted by the Permanent Missions of Ethiopia, Iceland and Liberia to the United Nations in Geneva, UNFPA and WHO

Going from global to local – National leadership and strategies toward ending fistula

WILLAD Side Event on the state of the art in the fight toward fistula at international and national levels

Speakers include:

Singer and actress Natalie Imbruglia, spokesperson for the Campaign to End Fistula

Ms. Razia Shamshad, fistula survivor (Pakistan)

Dr. Catherine Hamlin, co-founder of the Addis Ababa Fistula Hospital

Dr. John Mulbah, lead surgeon of the Liberia Fistula Project

H.E. Amb. Martin Eyolfsson, Permanent Representative of Iceland

Dr. Addis Tamire Woldermariam, Director General, Office of the Minister of Health of Ethiopia

Representative, Ministry of Health of Liberia





Improving access & follow-up



The “power & potential” of MOBILE PHONES to help fistula sufferers

- Wiring money to pay patient transport costs to treatment (Tanzania)
- Toll free help-line (Sierra Leone)
- Follow up with mobile phones: recovery, reintegration, future pregnancies

mFistula film released (IDEOF, 2014) →



Enhancing quality of care

UNFPA Fistula Repair Kits

- * Kit 1 – instruments
- * Kit 2 – extra, specific materials for 20 repairs & their post-op care

<http://www.myaccessrh.org/products>



Kit 1



Kit 2

2014: UN Secretary General's Report on Obstetric Fistula

United Nations

A/69/256



General Assembly

Distr.: General
5 August 2014

Original: English

Sixty-ninth session
Item 27 of the provisional agenda*
Advancement of women

Supporting efforts to end obstetric fistula

Report of the Secretary-General

Available at:
http://www.un.org/ga/search/view_doc.asp?symbol=A/69/256
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Summary

The present report has been prepared in response to General Assembly resolution 67/147. Obstetric fistula is a devastating childbirth injury that leaves

2014 UN Secretary General's Report: Key Highlights ...

- Progress, yet urgent action & increased support needed...
- Predictable & sustained financing
- Health systems strengthening & access = critical
 - Midwives+
- Increased availability of fistula surgeons
- Nat'l. strategies, action plans (+ policies + budgets)
- Tackle root causes : poverty, inequity, vulnerability
- Call to make OF a nationally notifiable condition...



Priorities - 2015 & beyond...



- Supporting scale up of national capacity – prevent, treat, & reintegrate
- National strategies/action plans for ending OF (costed, time-bound)
- National Task Force for Fistula (MoH-led)
- Advocacy & awareness raising → increased support
- Improved availability + quality of data

Challenges



- Lack of political will & weak policy environment
- Insufficient financial resources
- Inadequate human resources and expertise (including fistula surgeons)
- Backlog of ~2 million cases
- Lack of social reintegration services (incl. “inoperable/incurable”)
- Preventing fistula returning to its former Neglected status



Thank you!