

A CASE FOR ZERO

Because every woman and girl has the right to determine her own sexuality, reproductive health, and future.



Our goal is **ZERO** unsafe abortions.

Each year, 25 million women and girls around the world have unsafe abortions. We aim to bring that number to zero by expanding access to safe abortion and contraception.

Across Africa, Asia, and the Americas, we work with local partners to improve reproductive **health** care, increase **access** to safe services, and expand sexual and reproductive **rights**.



Join the fight for **ZERO**

SAFE ABORTION

A fundamental human right

“ One Sunday after church, I returned to the hospital where I worked as a doctor. At the gate, I saw a woman with her young daughter. Both were crying. The daughter had gotten pregnant as the result of sexual abuse and was seeking abortion care. They had sought services nearer their home, three hours away, but had been turned away. Now they were at my hospital and didn't know where to go or what to do.



I took a detailed history, and provided counseling and safe abortion services. It was an emotional experience, and made me understand that so many other people are in her situation and need abortion access and quality services. A year or two later, I joined the Ipas Ghana staff and am proud to now be part of the global movement for reproductive health and rights. In Ghana, we're working hard to break the cultural silence around abortion, because reproductive health care, including safe abortion, is a fundamental human right.”

— **Dr. Pius Ato Essandoh**

National Program Manager, Ipas Ghana

HEALTH

Safe abortion and contraception save lives.

We train health workers, support public health facilities, and ensure high-quality abortion services are available and accessible.

ACCESS

Women and girls deserve accurate information.

We partner with community organizations to connect people with life-saving information.

RIGHTS

Everyone has a right to safe abortion.

We advocate for safe, legal abortion around the world and support and train local champions of abortion rights.



Photos clockwise from top: © Ipas Nepal; © Benjamin Porter; Ipas photo

HEALTH

Each year, 44,000 women and girls die from unsafe abortions, and millions more suffer serious, often permanent injuries. But it doesn't have to be that way. Our priority is to ensure that public health facilities are equipped to provide safe, patient-centered abortion care. We train health professionals, keep clinics stocked with supplies, and develop standards for clinical care.

Our focus areas for ensuring high-quality abortion care include:

- Monitoring the quality of reproductive health care.
- Identifying, developing, and improving access to the best reproductive health technologies.
- Expanding outreach to rural communities.
- Improving care for women and girls who experience rape and other forms of gender-based violence.

In 2018 alone, Ipas helped avert an estimated 298,000 unsafe abortions and 316,000 unintended pregnancies in 20 countries.

Join us in our work to save lives.



Nurse-midwives participate in a training at a hospital in Bichi, Nigeria. © Ipsas

We've already changed the world. Let's do it again.

Our work began in 1973, with the provision of life-saving reproductive health technologies for public health facilities in several countries. Since then, we have experienced amazing growth and change as an organization, but our singular commitment to expanding women's and girls' access to safe, legal abortion has remained constant.

Today we have 20 offices on four continents committed to meeting the reproductive health needs of women and girls.



Join us in increasing access to safe abortion and contraceptive care worldwide.



ACCESS

KNOWLEDGE IS POWER, especially for women and girls making decisions about their sexual and reproductive health. Lack of accurate information is often the biggest barrier to safe abortion and contraceptive care. We break down barriers to access for women and girls around the world, including those in remote regions.

Ipas and our partners reach millions of women and girls with the health information and care they need.

With your help, we will reach millions more.

Our focus areas for increasing access include:

- Providing accurate information that builds knowledge and confidence.
- Advocating for comprehensive sexuality education programs to include unbiased information on safe abortion.
- Increasing access and improving care for women living in conflict settings, where the risk of rape and unintended pregnancy is high.
- Conducting research to understand women's wants and needs about their reproductive health—and how they make decisions about abortion and contraception.

A sexual and reproductive health and rights information session with women and girls in Bangladesh. © Farzana Hossen

Community members participate in an abortion stigma-reduction workshop in Tororo, Uganda. © Ipas

RIGHTS

Criminal abortion laws don't reduce abortion—they simply drive those who need care to resort to unsafe methods, risking death or injury. Women and girls can't exercise their reproductive rights without laws and policies that support access to safe abortion and contraception. Our work to make abortion legal and available helps women and girls fully realize their rights.

Our focus areas for expanding women's rights include:

- Educating policymakers about the need for safe abortion and contraception.
- Training police, lawyers, and judges to uphold women's rights within their legal systems.
- Partnering with local groups that advocate for sexual and reproductive rights.

“

Abortion is, above all, an issue of rights—a woman's right to make decisions about her body. A woman who wants to end her pregnancy will do so. What is at stake is whether she will put her life and wellbeing at risk, or whether health facilities will begin to provide quality services that uphold the rights to health and freedom of choice.”



Photo by Juliana Faggi

— **Dr. María Paula Botta**

physician and abortion provider in Argentina

Ipas and our partner, Miles, organize "Women's Circles," workshops that equip students with the skills they need to grow as the next generation of safe abortion champions in Chile. © Corporación Miles



Will you join our fight for the rights of women and girls across the world?

Toyoba's story

Over 700,000 Rohingya refugees have fled Myanmar since August 2017, seeking refuge in Bangladesh. Many are women and girls who have been victims of sexual assault and torture and who are in desperate need of basic health services, including reproductive health care.

With partners, Ipas began working in late 2017 to improve refugees' access to reproductive health services by training paramedics, midwives, and doctors to provide menstrual regulation (as abortion is known in Bangladesh) and treatment for complications of unsafe abortion.

Toyoba was 22 when she fled to Bangladesh. She left Myanmar with her husband, three children, and other family members. Her brother was killed by the army and many of her relatives are still missing.

In the refugee camp, Toyoba realized she was pregnant but knew she didn't want to have a child amid what she called "an anxious life." She received menstrual regulation with pills at a health-care center staffed by Ipas-trained health workers.

26 million women and girls of reproductive age—like Toyoba—are living in humanitarian settings, often with little or no access to contraception and safe abortion care.

Together, we will change this story.





YOUR SUPPORT MATTERS

Abortion is health care. At Ipas, we are unapologetically focused on women and girls who want contraception or abortion, and we build our programs around their needs and how best to support them. When you contribute to Ipas, you give women and girls everywhere the opportunity to determine their own futures.

Support from donors like you is transformative. Because we do not receive funding from the U.S. government, unrestricted contributions from a broad base of individuals, private foundations, and foreign governments is essential. Whether you are interested in combatting abortion stigma or training health workers in refugee camps, your support has a major impact.

Join the fight for **ZERO**

Ipas holds an orientation for health activists like Jyoti Rameshwer. Health activists play an important role in educating rural women on sexual and reproductive health and safe abortion. © Ipas Development Foundation (IDF)

You can help increase access to safe abortion and contraception by making a tax-deductible donation.



Donate by mail.

Send your check to: Ipas, P.O. Box 9990, Chapel Hill, NC 27515 USA.



Donate online at www.ipas.org/donate.

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Email gifts@ipas.org for more information about this high-impact way to support Ipas.



Make a planned gift.

Ensure our impact for decades to come with an estate gift.

Join us in making unsafe abortion a thing of the past.



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