**MSD for Mothers in**

**LATIN AMERICA & THE CARIBBEAN**

Responding to Local Maternal Health Needs

*MSD for Mothers* is MSD’s $500 million global initiative to help create a world where no woman dies giving life. We deploy the company’s business and science expertise to infuse private sector approaches that could help solve the longstanding challenge of maternal mortality. We do not accept business as usual and push ourselves and our partners to invest in new and creative ideas that disrupt the status quo and that can sustain gains in women’s health for years to come. Over the past several years, *MSD for Mothers* has helped improve access to quality maternity care and modern contraception for more than nine million women in over 45 countries around the world.

**PROGRAMS AND PARTNERS**

**Argentina, Colombia, Mexico** | The Pan American Development Foundation developed a policy toolkit on maternal mortality to inform the work of key stakeholders and foster greater collaboration on maternal health issues in the region. The foundation identified pilot projects in Mexico, Colombia, and Argentina to apply the policy toolkit and test best practices.

**Colombia** | Sinergias Alianzas Estrategicas para la Salud y el Desarrollo Social is helping to assure comprehensive prenatal, labor, postpartum, and newborn care in 40 of the most vulnerable municipalities of Bolivar, Cauca, and Cordoba. The program focuses on consistent technical assistance, information technologies, and decision making support.

**Costa Rica** | The Paniamor Foundation is strengthening the institutional capacity of the National Women’s Hospital “Adolfo Carit Eva” and its service network to offer a robust inter-institutional response to the high rate of child and adolescent pregnancy, from a human rights perspective, to reduce maternal and infant mortality.

**Haiti** | Centre de Coopération Internationale en Santé et Développement is increasing access to quality maternal healthcare by strengthening three health facilities in the Artibonite region.

**Haiti** | St. Boniface Haiti Foundation working to reduce maternal mortality in Southern Haiti by expanding access to high-quality peripartum care, including surgery, labor and delivery, pre- and postpartum care, family planning and clinician training.

**Jamaica** | INMED Partnerships for Children is tackling maternal mortality and morbidity among high-risk adolescents in rural Jamaica through peer-to-peer outreach and educational campaigns.

**Mexico** | Sociedad Mexicana de Salud Publica is working to increase knowledge about reproductive and maternal health among adolescents and women over 35 years of age through integrated community interventions.

**Data from the WHO’s Trends in Maternal Mortality Report (2015)**

**67 MATERNAL DEATHS PER 100,000 LIVE BIRTHS**

**50% REDUCTION IN MATERNAL MORTALITY SINCE 1990**

**1 IN 670 CHANCE OF A WOMAN DYING IN PREGNANCY AND CHILDBIRTH**

**CHALLENGES: LOW SOCIOECONOMIC BACKGROUNDS, REMOTE LOCATION AND LOW LEVEL OF EDUCATION.**

These programs are funded by *MSD for Mothers*, MSD’s $500 million initiative to help create a world where no woman dies giving life. *MSD for Mothers*, known as Merck for Mothers in the U.S. and Canada, is an initiative of Merck & Co., Inc., Kenilworth, NJ, USA.
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**Peru**

Pathfinder International is conducting obstetric and neonatal trainings, and providing technical assistance to improve supply chain and strengthen electronic medical records (EMR) for 104 facilities in 12 health networks. This program is strengthening links from the community to the formal health sector to increase uptake in services and decrease delays in seeking maternal health care.

**Puerto Rico**

Puerto Rico Obstetrics & Gynecology (PROGyn) is providing physician training programs and patient education programs on prevention and early identification of hypertension and preeclampsia.

**Venezuela**

Universidad Central de Venezuela is creating an e-health platform (SOS Telemedicine for Venezuela) and conducting distance learning trainings to build the capacity of health workers in maternal health.

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**PARTNER SPOTLIGHT**

Brazil | ANS (National Health Agency), Albert Einstein Hospital and the Institute for Healthcare Improvement (IHI)’s Projeto Parto Adequado (“Proper Birth”) are identifying innovative and viable models of care during labor and delivery, incentivizing normal delivery and reducing unnecessary C-sections rates in maternity hospitals. A public hospital lowered its maternal death rate by 54 percent after implementing new care models for labor and delivery, the model is being expanded to 24 additional public hospitals in the next phase.

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