



Save the Children

Health Workers Count!

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Save the Children



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Who is Save the Children?

Save the Children Australia is a member of Save the Children International, the world's largest independent child rights development organisation, working in more than 120 countries towards a world in which every child attains the **right to survival, protection, development and participation.**



Madalitso Masa ~ Malawi



Our Vision and Goal



Globally **8.1 million children** under five years old died in 2009.

Our vision is that **no child** under the age of five **dies** from **preventable or treatable causes**.

Our goal is that **Millennium Development Goal 4** to reduce child mortality is achieved.





Basis of our Work

Article 6, UN Convention on the Rights of the Child

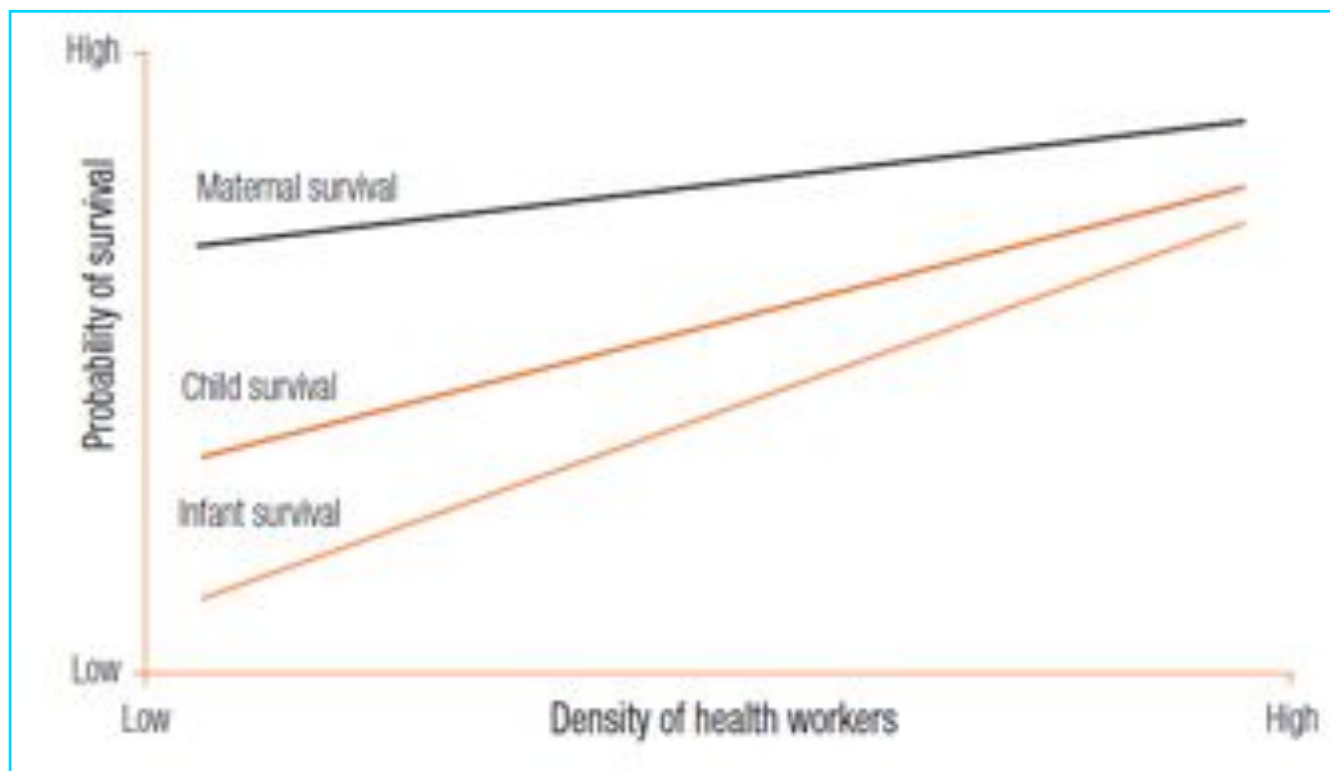
1. States Parties recognize that every child has the inherent right to life.
2. States Parties shall ensure to the maximum extent possible the survival and development of the child.

Millennium Development Goal (MDG) 4

Reduce by two-thirds, between 1990 and 2015, the under-five mortality rate.



Why focus on Health Workers?



The World Health Organization (WHO) recommends **a minimum of 2.3 doctors, nurses and midwives for every 1,000 people** in order to deliver essential maternal and child health services.



Our Message to the World

*To stop the needless deaths of newborn babies and children and achieve the fourth Millennium Development Goal, we need **a health worker within reach of every vulnerable mother and child**, who is trained, equipped and supported to deal successfully with the principal threats to that child's survival through the first five years of life*



Who are the Health Workers?



The Role of Health Workers



Health workers include **doctors, nurses, midwives and community health workers.**

Provide essential services that **promote good health, prevent diseases** and deliver primary health care to children, families and communities.

Improve access and quality health care **for EVERY ONE!**



Community Health Workers

- Promote healthy behaviours such as **breastfeeding, hand washing** and **immunisation**
- Help families **recognise warning signs** of a life-threatening illness
- **Diagnose and treat** infections and malnutrition, **supply basic medicines** and **micronutrients**
- **Refer** children to clinics



Global Health Worker Crisis

Over **one billion people** in the world lack access to a health worker including more than **40 million children** under the age of 5.



Health Workers **WANTED!**

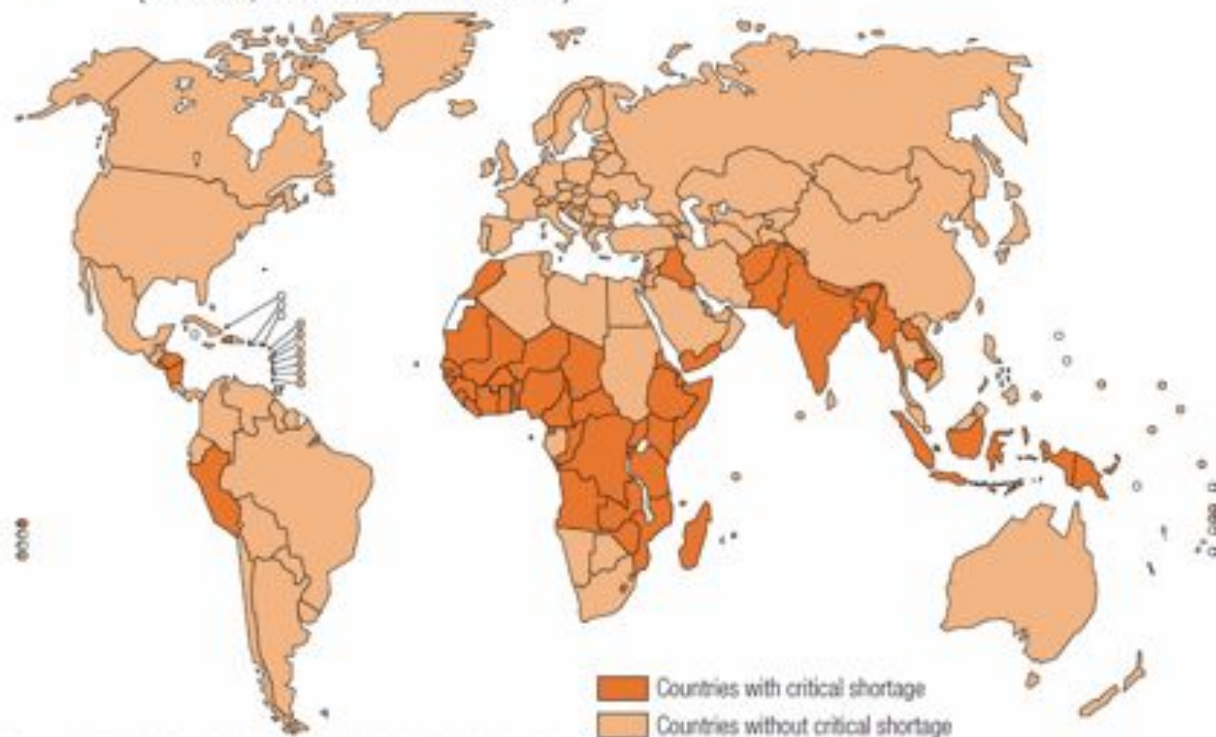


More than **3.5 million health workers** - including 2.5 million doctors, nurses and midwives and 1 million community health workers – need **recruited, trained and deployed** to the poorest countries by 2015 to achieve the health-related MDGs.



Where we need health workers

Figure 3 Countries with a critical shortage of health service providers (doctors, nurses and midwives)



Data source: World Health Organization, *Global Atlas of the Health Workforce* (<http://www.who.int/globalatlas/default.asp>).

- | | |
|-------------------|---------------------|
| El Salvador | Afghanistan |
| Nigeria | Lesotho |
| Honduras | Nepal |
| India | DRC |
| Peru | Eritrea |
| Cameroon | Cote d'Ivoire |
| Iraq | Gambia |
| Nicaragua | Guinea-Bissau |
| Uganda | PNG |
| Angola | Bangladesh |
| Myanmar | Central African Rep |
| Morocco | Senegal |
| Lao PDR | Madagascar |
| Kenya | Rwanda |
| Pakistan | Haiti |
| Ghana | Mozambique |
| Cambodia | Bhutan |
| Yemen | Togo |
| Indonesia | Chad |
| Congo | Malawi |
| Comoros | Liberia |
| Zimbabwe | Mali |
| Equatorial Guinea | Ethiopia |
| Benin | Tanzania |
| Mauritania | Burundi |
| Burkina Faso | Sierra Leone |
| Zambia | Niger |
| Djibouti | Somalia |



What Save the Children is doing

Globally, Save the Children will participate in the training and support of **400,000 health workers** in developing countries by 2015. We have already trained or supported almost **85,000 health workers**.



What Save the Children is doing



Our **Village Health Worker Project** in Vanuatu improves access to basic health services for children and families in rural or remote communities.

Funded by AusAID and in partnership with the Ministry of Health, we **provide training and medical supplies to health workers** in 210 aid posts across Vanuatu.

In 2010, **over 31,000 people** were reached through this program.



What Governments can do

Make a commitment under the UN Secretary-General's **Global Strategy on Women's and Children's Health**



Developed countries should increase long-term aid to support health workers and end the active recruitment of health workers from countries with shortages.

Developing countries should develop and implement fully-costed health plans with targets and timetables to expand and strengthen their health workforce.



What you can do!



- **Write to your MP** and ask them to address the global health worker shortage
- **Sign the global petitions** for more health workers at:
www.healthworkerscount.org
and <http://bit.ly/rao7eM>
- **Learn more** about the issue at: www.savethechildren.org.au



No Child Born to Die Campaign

Our goal to address the health worker shortage is part of **Save the Children's biggest ever global campaign, EVERY ONE**, working in over 50 countries to ensure that millions of children's lives are saved.



All the Way to Five

