



Investing in Women's Right to Health

Tuesday 19 May 2015, 10:00 AM EDT

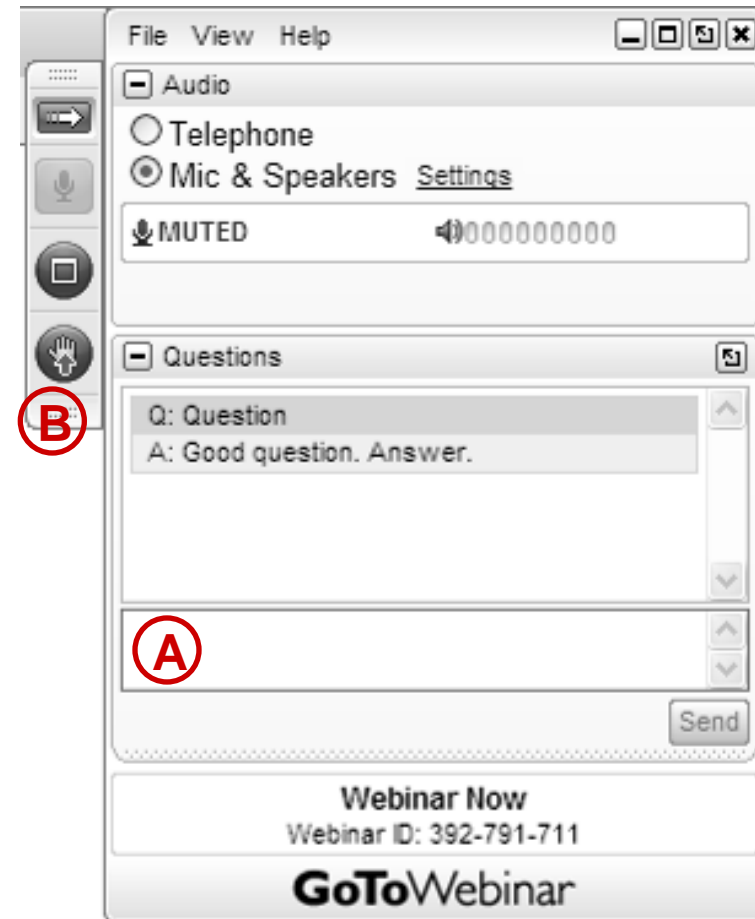


Questions

Technical Difficulties: If you have technical issues, please let us know by typing a message in the Questions pane (A). You can raise your hand (B) if we do not respond.

Q&A: We will be taking questions on content at the end, but you can send them to us throughout the webinar by using the Questions pane (A). Please specify to whom the question should be directed.

Example: *Question for John Doe: What are the Guiding Principles?*



Agenda



Introduction to The Women's Empowerment Principles

Ms. Danielle Leavy, Women's Empowerment Principles, UN Global Compact



Why Investing in Women's Health is Important

Ms. Jacqueline Bryld, International Political Adviser, The Danish Family Planning Association



Company Examples

Ms. Stephanie Kotin, Senior Manager, Stakeholder Engagement and Public Policy, Levi Strauss & Co.

Ms. Kim Almeida, Program Manager, Levi Strauss Foundation

Mr. Naveen Rao, Lead, Merck for Mothers



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Committed to Saving Lives

Discussion/ Q&A

Women's Empowerment Principles



WEPEs in Brief:

1. Establish high-level corporate leadership for gender equality.
2. Treat all women and men fairly at work – respect and support human rights and nondiscrimination.
3. Ensure the health, safety and well-being of all women and men workers.
4. Promote education, training and professional development for women.
5. Implement enterprise development, supply chain and marketing practices that empower women.
6. Promote equality through community initiatives and advocacy.
7. Measure and publicly report on progress to achieve gender equality.

Principle 3: Ensure the health, safety and well-being of all women and men workers



Health, Safety and Freedom from Violence

- Taking into account differential impacts on women and men, provide safe working conditions and protection from exposure to hazardous materials and disclose potential risks, including to reproductive health
- Establish a zero-tolerance policy towards all forms of violence at work, including verbal and/or physical abuse and prevent sexual harassment
- Strive to offer health insurance or other needed services - including for survivors of domestic violence - and ensure equal access for all employees
- Respect women and men workers rights to time off for medical care and counseling for themselves and their dependents
- In consultation with employees, identify and address security issues, including the safety of women traveling to and from work on company-related business
- Train security staff and managers to recognize signs of violence against women and understand laws and company policies on human trafficking, labour and sexual exploitation

Partners on the Call to Action



DFPA



IPPF International
Planned Parenthood
Federation

- Is the Danish member of the world's 2nd largest non-governmental organization, International Planned Parenthood Federation, IPPF.
- Works to promote sexual and reproductive health and rights both nationally and internationally through both advocacy and programs.
- Has worked in developing countries for nearly 20 years to promote sexual and reproductive health of men and women.



DFPA The Danish Family
Planning Association

Why should companies invest in the empowerment of women and right to health including sexual and reproductive health?



Right to health, including sexual and reproductive health, is a basic human right – businesses also must respect them



Improved health care for women can increase the productivity



Investing in women and their health not only is a good societal investment but also makes good business sense and has shown to give a good return on investment

What are the key challenges?

- Gender inequalities
- Unwanted pregnancies
- Unsafe abortions
- Lack of access to comprehensive information and counselling about family planning methods, prevention of unwanted pregnancies and STIs including HIV and AIDS



What impact do these have on business?

- Unwanted pregnancies
- STIs

Absenteeism

- Maternity leave
- Maternal deaths

Higher turnover

- Illness
- Disabilities

Lower productivity and motivation



What can companies do to increase cost-effectiveness and empower women?

1. Identify and document employees' health **needs**
2. Initiate and/or strengthen **interventions** at company level that are strategic and integrated into the core business
3. Review the current **business operations** with a health and gender perspective and address gaps – provide information, training, access to services, health insurance etc.
4. Review **policies and standards** – what does your maternity policy provide for?
5. Integrate women's empowerment and health, including sexual and reproductive health, into your **code of conduct** and monitor suppliers' compliance on these issues

INVESTING IN WOMEN'S HEALTH

**LEVI STRAUSS
FOUNDATION**





*“LEVI’S IS THE
EMBODIMENT
OF THE ENERGY
AND EVENTS OF
OUR TIME...”*





Why is women's health important?

- Worker surveys confirm that women's health is a common concern and need for apparel workers.
- Studies from factories in Egypt and Pakistan show that for every dollar invested in women's health programs – specifically HERhealth - four dollars of return are realized by reduced absenteeism and lower turnover rates.
- Healthier workers are more productive.



HERhealth training in Haiti

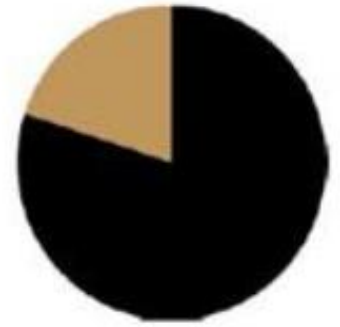


IMPROVING WORKER WELL-BEING TARGETS



140,000

80%



2020



Private Sector Engagement In Women's Health

Dr. Naveen Rao

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Lead, *Merck for Mothers*

May 19, 2015



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MECTIZAN Donation Program



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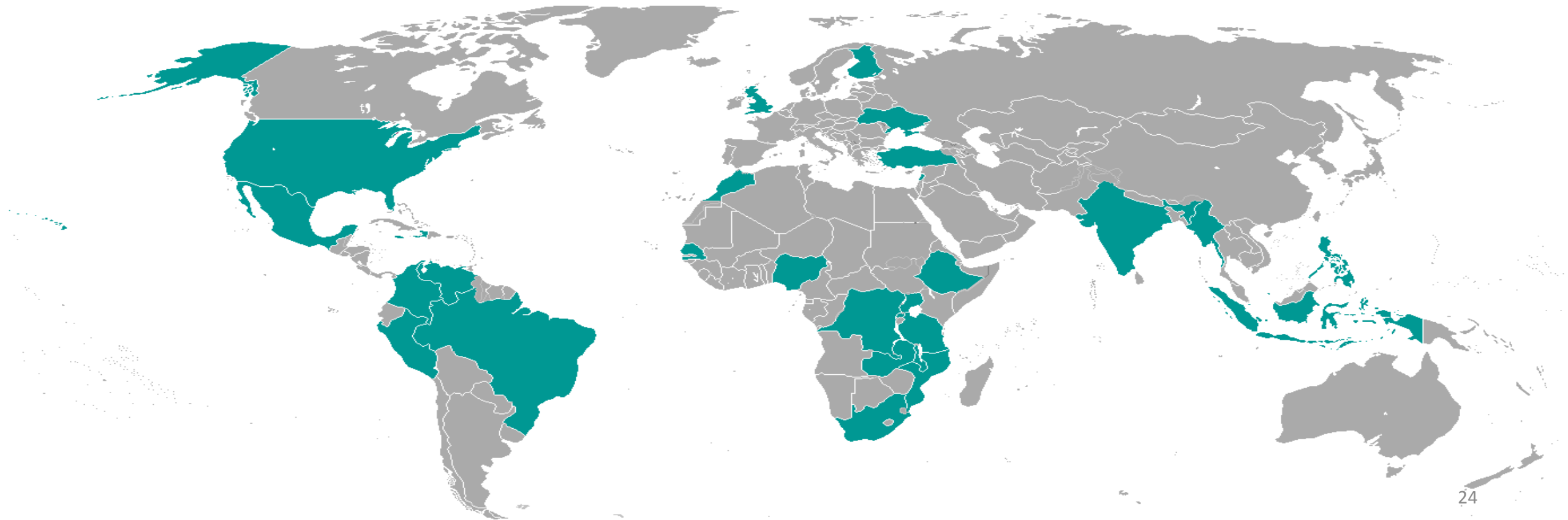


Maternal Mortality Overview

- **Every day, 800 women die** from complications related to pregnancy and childbirth
- In the next decade, it is estimated that nearly **three million women will die** from complications of pregnancy and childbirth
- Up to **90% of maternal deaths** in the developing world are **preventable**
- In low- and middle-income countries, complications from pregnancy and childbirth are a **leading cause of death among girls aged 15-19 years**



A 10-year, \$500 million initiative
to reduce maternal mortality in a sustainable way by applying the company's scientific and business expertise as well as its financial and human resources





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WEAR IT.

HAVE CHILDREN BY CHOICE,
NOT BY CHANCE.
EMBRACE FAMILY
PLANNING

CANCER
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CERVIX
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TEL: 0772974353

Maternal Health is a Right!

Right to Life:
Pregnant women should be supported to make sure that women do not die while pregnant or during and after delivery.

Right to Choose:
Women should be supported and given health services they need at all times in safe pregnancy and delivery.

Right to Respect:
Health workers have a responsibility to respect women when they are seeking healthcare services.

Right to Reproductive and Sexual Decision-Making:
Every woman has a right to health services whether they are regarded to be rich, poor, of a different religion or tribe or whether they are men or women or young or old.

Right to Decide the Number and Spacing of Children:
Women must decide how often to have children and the number of children they want.

International Health Issues to Be a High Priority:
Governments have the responsibility to provide enough funding and support to prevent maternal loss during child-bearing.

Right to Information:
Every woman and girl has a right to be given all information regarding their health and pregnancy.

Right to Privacy and Confidentiality:
In the course of treatment, people's information should not be given out without their permission. Health facilities should have private rooms where mothers can be supported and treated.



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Experimentation



Products and Technologies



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Private Sector Engagement In Women's Health

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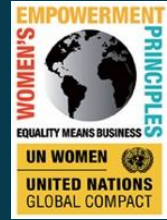
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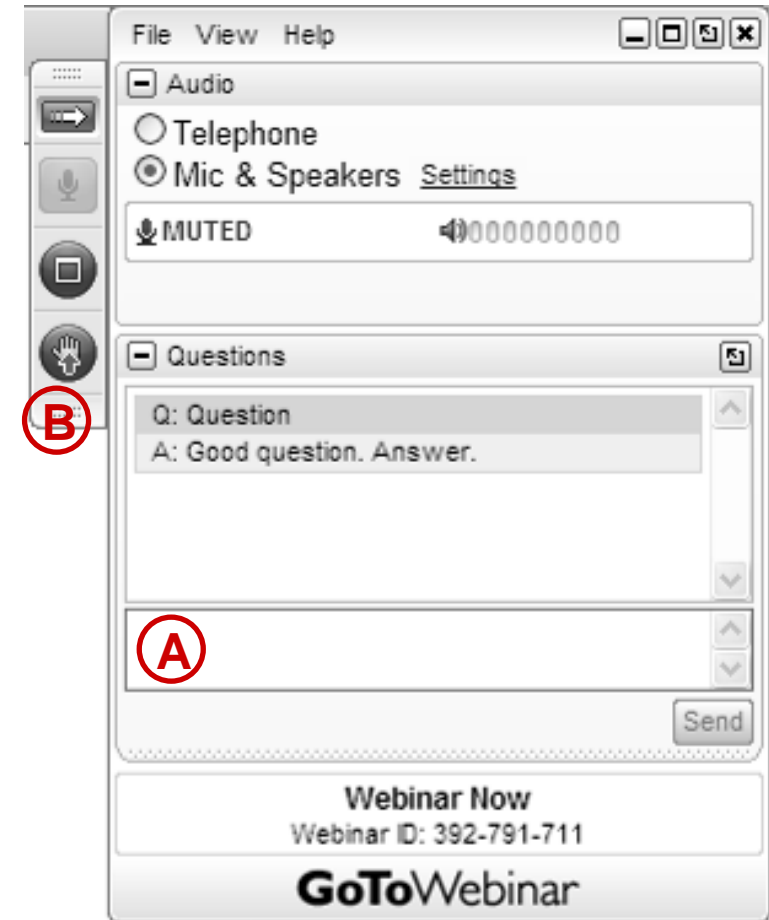
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Questions & Answers



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Thank you for joining us today.

Presentation slides and a recording of the webinar will be available on the WEPs website: www.WEPrinciples.org

Be sure to check out our new Health resources:

[1\) Call to Action: Investing in Women's Right to Health](#)

[2\) Company Annex](#)