



GLOBAL IMPACT

© Richard Lord

Founded in 1973, Ipas is an international non-governmental organization whose **mission is to reduce deaths and injuries of women from unsafe abortion and to increase women's ability to exercise their sexual and reproductive rights, especially the right to safe abortion.**

Ipas works with governments and other partners around the world to increase the availability, accessibility and quality of comprehensive abortion care – including safe elective abortion, treatment for complications of unsafe abortion, contraception and links to other reproductive health services.

Ipas's comprehensive human rights-based approach encompasses:

- **training and support to health systems** to promote integration of woman-centered abortion care into national health systems, with emphasis on capacity-building for both public- and private-sector providers, quality of care and sustainability, including the reliable supply of abortion-related commodities
- **work in and with communities**, including hundreds of community-based organizations, to ensure that women have the knowledge, skills, social support and sources of care to make and act upon their reproductive decisions safely and to challenge social and cultural norms that impede women's rights
- **support to local, regional and global partners advocating** for laws and policies that embody human rights principles and ensure women's access to comprehensive abortion care and their ability to prevent unwanted pregnancy.

In addition to technical expertise in these areas, Ipas is a leader in **abortion research and knowledge generation** for improvements in abortion policies and programs. Across our work in all areas, **Ipas prioritizes the needs of young women**, who face unique barriers in accessing sexual and reproductive health information and care, and who suffer disproportionately from unsafe abortion.

HEALTH

In the last three years, Ipas supported **clinical training of more than 20,000 health-care providers** in abortion-related care in countries around the world. To maximize women’s access to these critical services, we:

- train and empower nurses, midwives and other midlevel health-care workers,
- provide direct technical assistance to thousands of service-delivery facilities, mostly at the primary level,
- address clinical, management and other logistical issues at all levels of the health system,
- support governments in developing national standards and guidelines for comprehensive abortion care, in partnership with other civil-society organizations.

Ipas also actively promotes the availability and accessibility of **abortion-related commodities**. Through our non-profit partner WomanCare Global, we support manufacture and global distribution of **reusable manual vacuum aspiration (MVA)** instruments and other reproductive health technologies. **Last year, more than 150,000 MVA instruments were distributed in more than 80 countries**, enabling safe abortion care for millions of women. Ipas also facilitates the availability of **medical abortion** drugs, services, and information in numerous settings across our program countries,



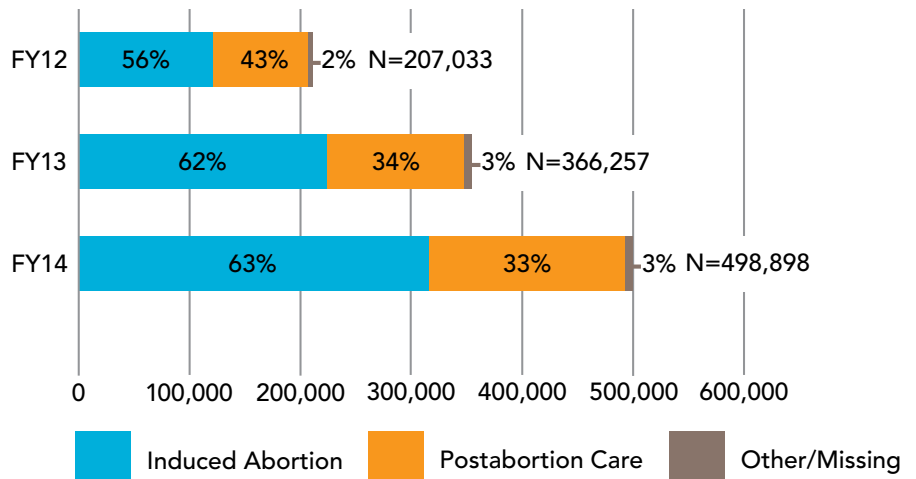
© Richard Lord

helping ensure that more women benefit from this transformative technology.

Millions of women have been served worldwide through Ipas’s support for improved service delivery in health facilities – nearly half a million in FY14 alone. The chart below indicates the numbers of women served with both safe induced abortion and postabortion care at Ipas-supported health-care facilities in just the last few years. In FY14, 42 percent of women served at Ipas-supported facilities were 24 years old or younger.

More than three-quarters of women served received modern contraceptive methods at the time of care to help them **prevent future unintended pregnancy**. This rate compares very favorably to national contraceptive prevalence rates in countries where we work, which are much lower.

NUMBER OF WOMEN SERVED WITH UTERINE EVACUATION PROCEDURES IN IPAS-INTERVENTION SITES, FY12- 14



ACCESS

Ipas promotes the involvement and support of women's and community groups, helping to build grassroots movements for change. In the past several years, for example, Ipas has provided direct technical, financial and capacity-building support to hundreds of community groups and networks to increase women's knowledge, skills and social support related to sexual and reproductive health and their legal and human rights. **Since July 2011, Ipas has partnered with nearly 260 community-based organizations in 22 countries, 25% of them for two or more years.**

Ipas links communities to health systems, works to influence the broader social environment, helps reduce abortion stigma and increases women's knowledge of how to use and access medical abortion. We use innovative approaches such as mhealth, social and mass media, training police and other community leaders, and participatory methods of community engagement to achieve these objectives. In all such activities, we emphasize empowering women and young people as leaders and advocates for their own sexual and reproductive health needs.



© Ipas Nepal

RIGHTS

Ipas supports local, national, regional and global partners around the world who are advocating to reform restrictive abortion laws and policies, safeguard women's current legal rights, and ensure governments' commitments to implementing existing laws. **Ipas has contributed to liberalizing abortion laws in Ethiopia, Kenya, Mozambique, Bolivia and Mexico, for example, and to improved policies on abortion in Ghana, Nigeria, Uganda, Bangladesh, Nepal, and Pakistan, among others.** Our policy work with partners helps **focus the attention of the international community on safe abortion**, including at major United Nations and global health conferences.



© Ipas/Sara Gómez

Ipas also works to **integrate comprehensive abortion care into the agendas of other health and development organizations** working at the regional and global levels.

RESEARCH AND KNOWLEDGE GENERATION

Ipas **conducts policy- and program-relevant research on abortion** in collaboration with diverse global, regional, national and local partners. Ipas's contributions to the global evidence base on abortion include groundbreaking national abortion incidence and morbidity studies, operations research on measures to improve the cost-effectiveness and quality of abortion services, and evaluation of community-based interventions. Ipas also works to strengthen **service-delivery monitoring and evaluation** within national health systems to help improve programs and measure impact.

PARTNERS AND DONORS

Ipas collaborates with a wide range of global, regional and local organizations, including ministries of health, health professional organizations, health and development NGOs, women's health networks, legal professionals, youth groups, research organizations and journalists. Our work is currently supported by individuals, private foundations, international organizations and governments, including Finland, France, the Netherlands, Norway, Sweden and the United Kingdom.

IPAS COUNTRY PROGRAMS

The graphic features a light orange world map with three circular inset photos of women. The first photo is on the left, the second is in the center over Africa, and the third is on the right over Asia. Text labels for each region are placed around the map.

- US: Ipas Global**
- LATIN AMERICA AND THE CARIBBEAN**
 - Bolivia
 - Central America
 - El Salvador
 - Guatemala
 - Honduras
 - Nicaragua
 - Mexico
- AFRICA**
 - Africa Alliance
 - Kenya
 - Mozambique
 - Tanzania
 - Uganda
 - Ethiopia
 - Ghana
 - Malawi
 - Nigeria
 - Sierra Leone
 - Zambia
- ASIA**
 - Bangladesh
 - India
 - Myanmar
 - Nepal
 - Pakistan

Photos: © Richard Lord Map: © Vector Open Stock/ www.vectoropenstock.com

For more information and resources, please visit www.ipas.org.



P.O. Box 9990 • Chapel Hill, NC 27515 USA
1.919.967.7052 • info@ipas.org • www.ipas.org

The photographs used in this publication are for illustrative purposes only; they do not imply any particular attitudes, behaviors, or actions on the part of any person who appears in the photographs.

© 2015 Ipas

IPASIMP-E15