

From
the People of Japan



TOLISABO PROJECT 2020-2021 OUR BENEFICIARIES TESTIFY



DALLY

*Senior Midwife of the Maternity
in Ambovombe Regional
Referral Hospital Center*



MEDARD

*Psychosocial Assistant during the
fistula surgical repair campaign*



TEZASOA

*Training
in goat breeding beneficiary*



NORIA

*Mobile clinic's services
beneficiary*



DELICIA

*Woman repaired from
obstetric fistula*



MIRANA

*Woman repaired from
obstetric fistula*



EVISE

*Woman repaired from
obstetric fistula*



SOANIERA

*Mobile clinic's services
beneficiary*



DALLY, MIDWIFE

In this context of COVID-19, I contributed to the achievement of transformative results: zero maternal death and zero unmet need for Family Planning!

DALLY, SENIOR MIDWIFE OF THE MATERNITY IN AMBOVOMBE REGIONAL REFERAL HOSPITAL CENTER

Dally is one of three midwives based at CHRR Ambovombe, in the Androy Region, in the south of Madagascar. She was integrated into this hospital since 2018 thanks to the better collaboration between the Ministry of Public Health and UNFPA. Having a sense of leadership; she became the major of this maternity.

"I dreamed of becoming a midwife when I was child. I'm committed to my life-saving job and I did not have many difficulties. I do everything to better meet the needs of patients even in times of health crisis. Their health comes first! »

2020 has been hard for health workers because of the health crisis. However, this did not prevent Dally and her team to serve women in need while respecting the barrier gestures put in place by the government: wearing a mask and visor, frequent washing of hands. Devoted and committed, they were able to save 116 pregnant women, 51 of whom presented with obstetric complications, thanks to the support of UNFPA through funding from the Government of Japan.

"In this maternity hospital, the number of midwives remains insufficient. Even though I am no longer part of the guard team, I come to the hospital when I am called or when there is an emergency. We were also provided with equipment and materials, namely solar panels and an ambulance. It has helped us a lot in our work and allowed us to achieve these results. Before, we had problems during childbirth when there was a power cut but with the solar panels we can now comfortably carry out our work"

Compared to family planning and maternity services; more specifically, the model family planning center continues to welcome and serve women in need. On average, 20 women per week use these services; most of them are between 20 and 24 years old.



"Every week, there is a calendar for FP services but this is not fixed because given the heavy tasks of the women in this region, especially those who are abandoned by their partners, they cannot keep their appointments. They can come to the hospital according to their availability. We welcome them and give them the necessary services".

In Ambovombe, attendance at health facilities is not systematic. This is due to social practices already anchored in this society, namely the consultation of matrons and retired midwives. However, when there are any complications, cases are referred to health centers. So, Dally addresses these messages to:

- Girls who are attending school: adopt contraceptive methods to prevent early pregnancy!
- Pregnant women: consult the health centers for regular prenatal consultations in order to monitor your state of health and the baby!

The Ambovombe Regional Referral Hospital Center including the maternity unit and the FP model center has been supported by UNFPA Madagascar with funding from Japan since 2019 so that maternal deaths are avoided and family planning needs are met. This support is reflected in the installation of solar panels, the supply of contraceptive products, rehabilitation and extension works, the recruitment of qualified midwives, the provision of an ambulance and mobile clinics.



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Ensuring rights and choices for all

MEDARD, PSYCHOSOCIAL ASSISTANT

Psychosocial care for women survivors of obstetric fistula is a therapeutic action

MEDARD, PSYCHOSOCIAL ASSISTANT

Since 2017, I have participated in the Obstetric Fistula Surgical Repair Campaign in Androy. I provide psychosocial care to the survivors before, during and after their operation. I have been doing this job for five years. I am convinced that the efforts made for these survivors contribute to their psychological restoration and strengthen their resilience capacities to face the various challenges they live every day (poverty, drought, violence, famine and other diseases,..)

"I love my neighbor, I love my compatriots, these are my leitmotiv"

This dictates my way of acting and thinking towards our beneficiaries and their companions because our work consists not only in taking care of the victims but also to sensitize their loved ones so that they are not marginalized in their families and their respective communities.

Empathy, being non-judgmental, a sense of adaptability and patience are among the qualities required for this profession because the work aims at relieving the suffering of these women, strengthening their self-esteem.

"It is not easy to stay longer with women suffering from obstetric fistula. It takes love and humility. Note that many of them are rejected by society and even by their partner. Their social reintegration is my priority".

Actually, the approach used is the individualized care of patients who come to Ambovombe Regional Referral Hospital Center in a climate of trust and with respect for confidentiality. Generally, Medard approaches beneficiaries every day without a fixed schedule but according to their needs.



«Women victims of obstetric fistula who have experienced constant belittling and marginalization want to be heard. They are waiting for their suffering to be relieved. How moving it is! I must always be available for them at all times on the accommodation site because psychosocial care is also a therapeutic action »

Like any profession, there are certainly difficulties because for example in this time of COVID-19, we must respect barrier gestures while holding their hands could comfort them. However, I try to fill this gap with other gestures and words of encouragement."

"Almost every woman I talked with admitted that the advice I gave them allowed them to move forward. Dear ladies! Take charge of your life; Be optimistic and empowered!"

The surgical repair for women victims of obstetric fistula is a main activity within the framework of the TOLISABO project funded by the Japanese Government through UNFPA and in partnership with the Ministry of Public Health. For the year 2020-2021, 99 women were repaired in Ambovombe Regional Referral Hospital Center.



TESTIMONIAL FROM WOMEN REPAIRED FROM OBSTETRIC FISTULA



DELICIA, 24 Years old

"My name is Delicia, I got fistula after a difficult delivery leading to premature childbirth and swelling in my abdomen preventing urine. The night we were discharged from the hospital, the first urine leakage occurred. Because of this illness, I no longer dare to leave my home. Fortunately, I have a midwife friend who told me about this campaign. I am satisfied with the services offered to me because after 6 days, I did not observe any leakage. The care was effective. When I get home, I will continue the treatment and get back to my daily activities as soon as I am well.



MIRANA, 20 Years old

"I had obstetric fistula after a difficult delivery. I was teased by my cousins who always told me I smelled like urine. It was very hard for me to live with this situation. I isolated myself from the community because I was ashamed, I could not stand it anymore. I did not dare go out anymore. I heard from the social workers that a repair campaign would take place, so I did not hesitate to go to the hospital".



EVISE, 18 Years old

"My name is Evise, I am 18 years old and I live in Manankoliva, in the municipality of Beraketa located 140 km from Ambovombe. It has been 2 years since I had this disease. Having been sensitized by the community agents of our village, I did not hesitate to go here to take care of myself because I suffer from mockery and hurtful words from my neighbors. I have always locked myself up at home; I did not dare to go out even if I wanted to. In addition, my partner abandoned me. Now, I am healed and I am going to use family planning to prevent unwanted pregnancy and relapse. When I arrive in my village, I would like to set up a mini restaurant as an income-generating activity to satisfy my needs".



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TESTIMONIAL FROM BENEFICIARIES



TEZASOA,
Training in goat breeding

"My name is Tezasoa, I am 17 years old, I am single and I have no children yet. Due to lack of financial resources from my parents, I had to give up my studies at the age of 10. For us, from the "Antandroy" tribe, goats are symbols of wealth. My desire to succeed motivated me throughout the training during which I was dynamic. My goal is to become an entrepreneur in goat breeding by 2024 "



NORIA,
Mobile clinic's services
beneficiary

" In our village, many young girls of my age and my class are victims of early pregnancy and have had to drop out of school. I have been told many times to practice family planning but since I am at school all the time, I have not had time to see the doctor. Moreover, I am ashamed and I do not dare to talk about it to anyone, not even to my parents. Thanks to this mobile clinic, I knew that family planning is a right and everyone can enjoy it. Immediately, I decided to practice FP and I chose depo provera (injectable). I am happy to have this chance which will allow me to finish my studies and achieve my dreams. "



SOANIERA,
Mobile clinic's services
beneficiary

"I am expecting my fifth child. I'm taking advantage of these mobile clinics to do the prenatal consultation because I do not even know what month of pregnancy I am currently. What I know is that my delivery day will be soon since my belly is starting to disturb me"



OUR ACHIEVEMENTS

Proximity health services/ Mobile clinics



The two mobile clinics provided by the Government of Japan



Provision of services in 119 Municipalities in the Great South of Madagascar

Mobile clinic's results

4,003 New Family Planning Users

3,199 Pregnant women benefited from free pre and post natal consultations

2,602 Women of childbearing age and men benefited from free treatment of STI cases

19,160 Women and girls were informed and sensitized on Family Planning

9,227 Men were informed and sensitized on Family Planning



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OUR ACHIEVEMENTS

Access to Maternal and Newborn Health



128 981 Reproductive Health Consultations performed
(Pregnancy, childbirth and postnatal)



16 694 Safe deliveries performed



**Preservation of the environment through the use of the Photovoltaic Solar Center
for Ambovombe Regional Referral Hospital and
Regional District Hospital of Tsihombe**



**620 cases of obstetric complications including
Caesarean Operations were supported**



OUR ACHIEVEMENTS

Access to Maternal and Newborn Health



104 women repaired from obstetric fistula



10 000 women received individual delivery and hygiene kits



OUR ACHIEVEMENTS

Access to Family Planning



Youth Friendly Health Center set up in Beloha



22 048 New Family Planning Users



OUR ACHIEVEMENTS

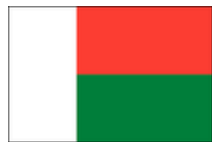
Prevention and care of Gender-Based Violence
Women's Empowerment



126 GBV survivors received medical care



80 Young girls benefited from training in goat breeding & have become actresses for the promotion of Family Planning



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Japan is a privileged partner for UNFPA.
Together we are saving the lives of women and girls through
access to maternal care and restoring their dignity!