Overview of our work

In support of the Ministry of Health (MOH) and together with our partners, Seed Global Health works to scale up and strengthen health worker capacity to provide quality emergency care and reproductive, maternal, newborn, and child health (RMNCH) services.

Country context

In Uganda, rapid urbanization, a high fertility rate, and a youthful population (70% under the age of 30) threaten to overwhelm an already overstretched health system. The leading causes of death and poor health are acute childhood illnesses, injuries, and maternal health conditions. While maternal mortality has steadily declined from 336 to 189 deaths per 100,000 live births between 2016 and 2022, partly due to increased skilled birth attendance (from 73% to 91%), obstetric and newborn emergencies, such as postpartum hemorrhage and hypertensive disorders, still contribute the most to maternal deaths. Road traffic injuries make up 48% of all emergencies, and Uganda is prone to epidemics such as Ebola. In addition, noncommunicable diseases account for 40% of the disease burden.

Uganda’s Health Strategic Plan prioritizes strengthening human resources for health and improving access to coordinated services for communicable and non-communicable diseases, with a focus on RMNCH and emergency medical services.

Country objectives

1. Medical, nursing, and midwifery training programs in RMNCH and emergency care are sufficiently and sustainably resourced and graduate high-quality health workers.

   • **Train 120 emergency medicine doctors** (30% of the national target) in three training institutions to meet the need for emergency medicine specialists by 2030.

   • **Provide in-service training to strengthen the capacity of 27,000 health workers** (20% of the national target) to provide quality adult, RMNCH, and emergency care services by 2030.
The clinical facilities in which students and health workers train and practice demonstrate excellence in service delivery, continuous education, and implementation of evidence-based innovations, resulting in improved clinical outcomes.

- **Achieve a 30% reduction in the preventable institutional maternal mortality ratio** at five Seed-supported referral hospitals by 2030.

- **Achieve a 30% reduction in the preventable institutional perinatal mortality ratio** at five Seed-supported referral hospitals by 2030.

- **Achieve a 30% reduction in the preventable institutional child mortality ratio** at five Seed-supported referral hospitals by 2030.

- **Achieve a 30% reduction in 24-hour mortality in adults from emergency conditions** at two Seed-supported referral hospitals by 2030.

The Ministry of Health (MOH) and health system stakeholders plan and resource appropriately for the absorption, deployment, and retention of doctors, nurses, and midwives in order to build a resilient, climate-smart health system and accelerate progress toward universal health coverage.

- Advocate for the MOH to create positions at three additional referral hospitals (from 17% to 35% of referral hospitals) to absorb more qualified emergency medicine doctors by 2030.

- Support the MOH to strengthen health workforce planning and management in order to reduce vacancy rates, improve retention, and develop career ladders for doctors, nurses, midwives, and new specialties by 2030.

- Support the MOH to develop an evidence-based climate change framework and resource plan to adapt to, mitigate, and integrate the impacts of climate change at all levels of the health system.

- **Strengthen the capacity of health workers to recognize and address the health threats** created by climate change by 2030.

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**About Seed Global Health**

Seed Global Health partners with governments, health professional schools, hospitals, and clinics to educate health workers, strengthen the quality of health services, and support policies that enable health professionals to deliver high-quality services to those in need.

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**Seed Global Health, Uganda**

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