



Safe motherhood means ensuring all women receive the care they need to be safe and healthy throughout pregnancy and childbirth and during postpartum period. Motherhood is a time of expectation and joy for a woman, her family, and the community.

The theme of this year's celebrations of Safe Motherhood Day is "Midwife beside Mother: Helps in Reducing Maternal Death". Midwives are addressing the pillars of reducing maternal death which includes promotion of family planning and ensuring skilled attendance at birth. Through them, important steps are taken towards ensuring care and building awareness of mothers, families and community on safe motherhood and thereby improvement of maternal and neonatal health in Bangladesh.

Over the past years, the Government of Bangladesh has significantly increased the provision and access to Midwifery care services and Emergency Obstetric Care (EmOC) services along with appropriate referral of obstetric complications.

WHO remains committed to closely collaborate with the Government, to further accelerate the improvements in midwifery services through capacity building with evidence based practice for providing all women in Bangladesh access to Safe Motherhood.

I wish every success for Safe Motherhood Day in Bangladesh.

Dr Bardan Jung Rana
WHO Representative