GCGO: HealthCare

The problem:⚠

Limited access to essential healthcare services in rural Sub-Saharan Africa leads to preventable deaths and hinders socioeconomic progress

The Why: 💡

The lack of healthcare in rural Sub-Saharan Africa not only violates the fundamental human right to medical care but also perpetuates a cycle of suffering and high mortality rates.
This critical issue demands attention because equitable access to healthcare should be a universal standard, irrespective of location or economic status.

A Specific Group Impacted by the HealthCare Problem

How is the group impacted by this

Rural Pregnant Women in Sub-Saharan Africa

Rural pregnant women often face life-threatening challenges due to the scarcity of prenatal care, skilled birth attendants, and emergency services, leading to one of the highest maternal mortality rates in the world.
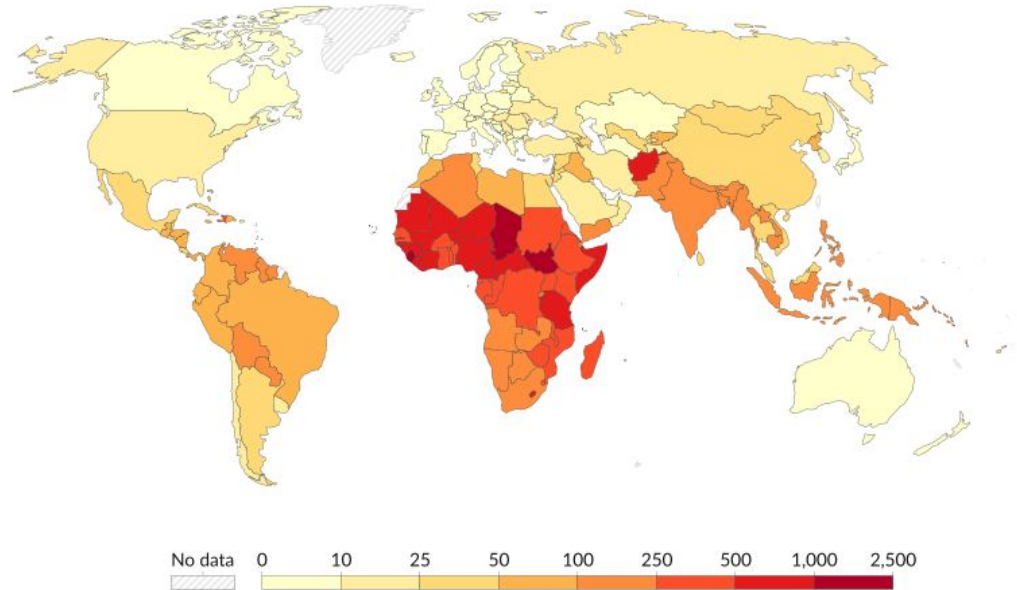
Factual information:

The maternal mortality rate in Sub-Saharan Africa is significantly higher than the global average, with approximately 533 maternal deaths per 100,000 live births (Ballard Brief).

Maternal mortality ratio, 2017

The maternal mortality ratio is the number of women who die from pregnancy-related causes while pregnant or within 42 days of pregnancy termination per 100,000 live births.
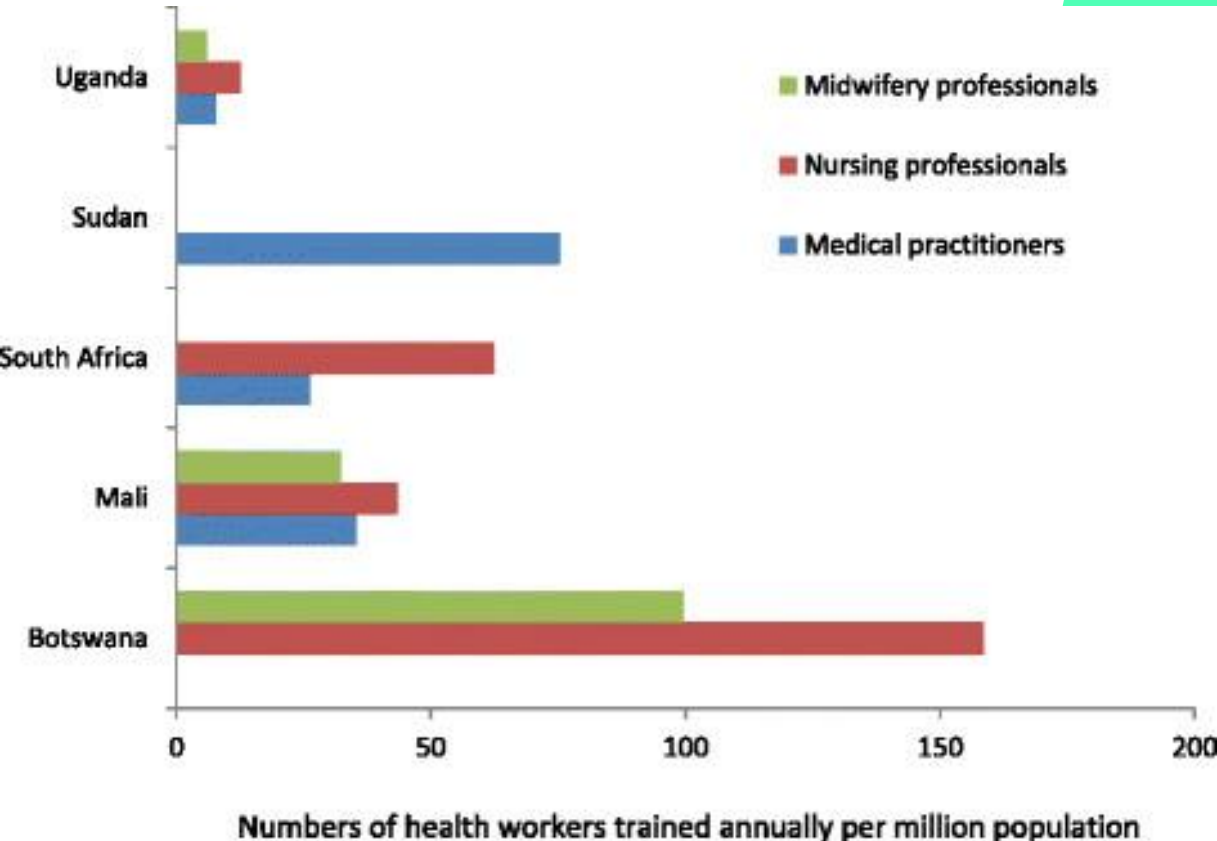
Our World in Data

No data   0   10   25   50   100   250   500   1,000   2,500

Data source: World Health Organization (via World Bank)

OurWorldInData.org/maternal-mortality | CC BY

Factual information:

Only 35% of rural Africans live within 5 kilometers of a health facility, significantly impacting healthcare access in these regions (BMC Health Services Research).

Factual Information:

Numbers of health workers trained annually per million population

Legend:
- Midwifery professionals
- Nursing professionals
- Medical practitioners

The shortage of healthcare workers in rural Sub-Saharan Africa is a significant barrier to healthcare access, with an estimated deficit of 800,000 healthcare workers in the region (Digital Commons Law Umaryland).

Personal description of skills and attributes

Skills:
- Healthcare Advocacy and Policy Knowledge: Deep understanding of healthcare systems, policies, and advocacy strategies to enact meaningful change.
- Interdisciplinary Understanding (Psychology, Nutrition, Innovation): Knowledge across multiple disciplines.

Attributes:
- Empathy and Compassion: Ability to empathize with diverse communities and individuals to understand their healthcare needs.
- Leadership and Initiative: Willingness to take charge, inspire others, and drive forward initiatives aimed at societal improvement.

Assets:
- Access to Community Networks: Established connections within healthcare, theater, and advocacy communities to leverage for support and collaboration.
- Financial Support or Grant Opportunities: Secure funding sources to sustain initiatives and scale up projects for maximum impact.
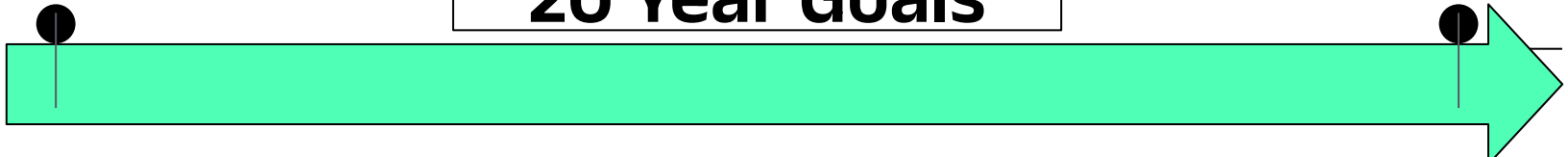
Knowledge:
- Understanding of Healthcare Systems and Policies: Comprehensive knowledge of healthcare structures, policies, and challenges, particularly in the target region..
- Interpersonal and Conflict Resolution Skills: Proficiency in navigating interpersonal dynamics and resolving conflicts to foster collaboration and cohesion within communities.

SMART Goals 1 : Establish a non-profit organisation dedicated to improving healthcare in Sub-Saharan Africa through innovative approaches by 2044. This will be achieved by obtaining legal registration in at least three countries in the region by 2042, establishing partnerships with local healthcare organisations and government agencies by 2042, and implementing at least five sustainable healthcare programs targeting different healthcare disparities by 2044.

SMART Goal 2: Develop sustainable programs that address healthcare disparities and promote holistic well-being in Sub-Saharan Africa through creative expression by 2044. This will involve designing and implementing at least three pilot programs in different countries in the region by 2042, each serving a minimum of 1,000 beneficiaries annually, securing long-term funding sources from international donors and philanthropic organizations by 2040.

20 Year Goals

10 Year Goals

SMART Goal 1: Obtain a Master's degree in Public Health with a focus on healthcare policy and advocacy by 2034. This will be accomplished by enrolling in a reputable university's MPH program with a focus on global health by 2030 and completing a thesis or capstone project focused on healthcare interventions in Sub-Saharan Africa by 2034.

SMART Goal 2: Garner significant funding and support for healthcare initiatives in Sub-Saharan Africa through strategic partnerships and grant opportunities by 2034. This will involve securing at least $1 million in grant funding by 2032, establishing partnerships with at least five major international NGOs or healthcare organisations working in the region by 2032, and increasing annual revenue by 25% each year starting from 2030.
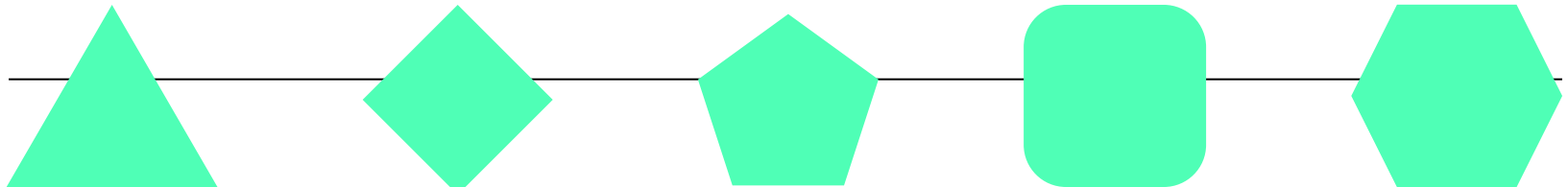
5 Year Goals

SMART Goal 1: Complete a Bachelor's degree in Global Health Studies with a focus on Sub-Saharan Africa by 2029. Actively participating in at least two research projects or internships related to healthcare in Sub-Saharan Africa by 2028, and completing coursework focused on healthcare disparities, epidemiology, and global health policy by 2029.

SMART Goal 2: Gain leadership experience through organizing community events and initiatives that promote healthcare awareness and advocacy for Sub-Saharan Africa by 2029. This will involve leading a team of volunteers in organizing at least three fundraising events or awareness campaigns focused on healthcare issues in the region by 2027, actively participating in a leadership development program or workshop focused on global health by 2028, and documenting leadership achievements through testimonials or awards by 2029.

1 Year Goals

SMART Goal 1: Enroll in relevant courses or workshops to deepen understanding of healthcare policies and advocacy strategies for Sub-Saharan Africa by the end of 2025. This will involve researching and enrolling in at least two online or in-person courses related to global health policy and advocacy in the region by June 2025, actively participating in course discussions and assignments, and applying acquired knowledge to ongoing advocacy projects focused on Sub-Saharan Africa by December 2025.

SMART Goal 2: Establish a small-scale healthcare initiative addressing a specific healthcare issue in Sub-Saharan Africa to raise awareness and build connections by the end of 2025. This will involve identifying a relevant healthcare issue affecting the region by March 2025, forming a project team consisting of local volunteers and experts by April 2025, and implementing a pilot project by December 2025, documented by positive feedback and increased community engagement.