



Saving Women's Lives in Egypt

USAID supports the Government of Egypt's neonatal and safe motherhood programs by establishing essential obstetric care and neonatal services in public hospitals in nine Upper Egypt governorates. The Healthy Mother/Healthy Child project involves upgrading delivery and operating rooms, as well as neonatal units of general and district hospitals, where women are admitted with life threatening emergencies related to childbirth. These activities have saved the lives of thousands of Egyptian women and babies. To date, USAID has invested about \$20 million to implement this program in 51 hospitals and 182 primary health care facilities.

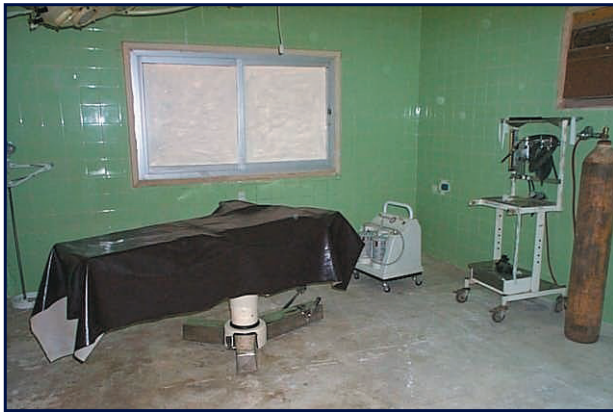


Photo: Healthy Mother/Healthy Child Project

Before

In the Mallawi District Hospital of the Minya Governorate, the operating room had cracked dirty floors, old malfunctioning equipment, a torn delivery table, insufficient light, and no available life saving anesthesia machines. The consequences were poor infection control and serious complications during operative procedures that caused the deaths of many women.

After

This newly renovated operating room has easy-to-clean floors and wall tiles, an upgraded plumbing and sewage system, new basic life saving equipment, and proper and adequate supplies. Data indicates a declining rate of maternal mortality at clinics where such programs were implemented as compared with other areas in Egypt.



Photo: Healthy Mother/Healthy Child

Before and After