





On May 5, we celebrated International Day of the Midwife by highlighting the need to invest in midwives during COVID-19.



**Investing in midwives** saves lives. Despite COVID-19, we must continue to invest in midwives and ensure their services are available and accessible to women of reproductive age, including pregnant mothers, across Bangladesh.

Dr Asa Torkelsson Representative, UNFPA Bangladesh











## INTERNATIONAL DAY OF THE MIDWIFE (IDM) 2021

VIRTUAL
CELEBRATION
ORGANIZED BY
BANGLADESH
MIDWIFERY
SOCIETY



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On International Day of the Midwife, it was our joy to participate in an event organized by Bangladesh Midwifery Society, where we celebrated the fearless, life-saving work that midwives continue to perform amidst COVID-19. Hundreds of midwives from around the country, as well as high-level representatives from the government and its partners participated in the event.



### **GREETINGS FROM MIDWIVES**

On the occasion of International Day of the Midwife, we also received video greetings from midwives working around the country.







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This year, the International Day of the Midwife coincided with the launch of the State of the World's Midwifery Report, which provides an updated evidence based and detailed analysis of midwifery workforce across the globe.

This month, we had the pleasure of publishing our Annual Report for 2020. The report gives a comprehensive overview of the support UNFPA continued to provide to the people of Bangladesh in 2020 despite the challenges posed by COVID-19.

TO READ THE FULL REPORT



## UNFPA BANGLADESH ANNUAL REPORT 2020

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### INTERNATIONAL LABOUR DAY

On International Labour Day, we reiterated our commitment to ensuring that no one faces violence or harassment at the workplace.







### **MOTHER'S DAY**

This month we also celebrated Mother's Day by thanking all the mothers who continue to do the impossible each and every day to make a better future for their children.





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I can now live a dignified life in society as a fistula survivor.

- Motahara Begum, Bangladesh

INTERNATIONAL DAY TO END OBSTETRIC FISTULA







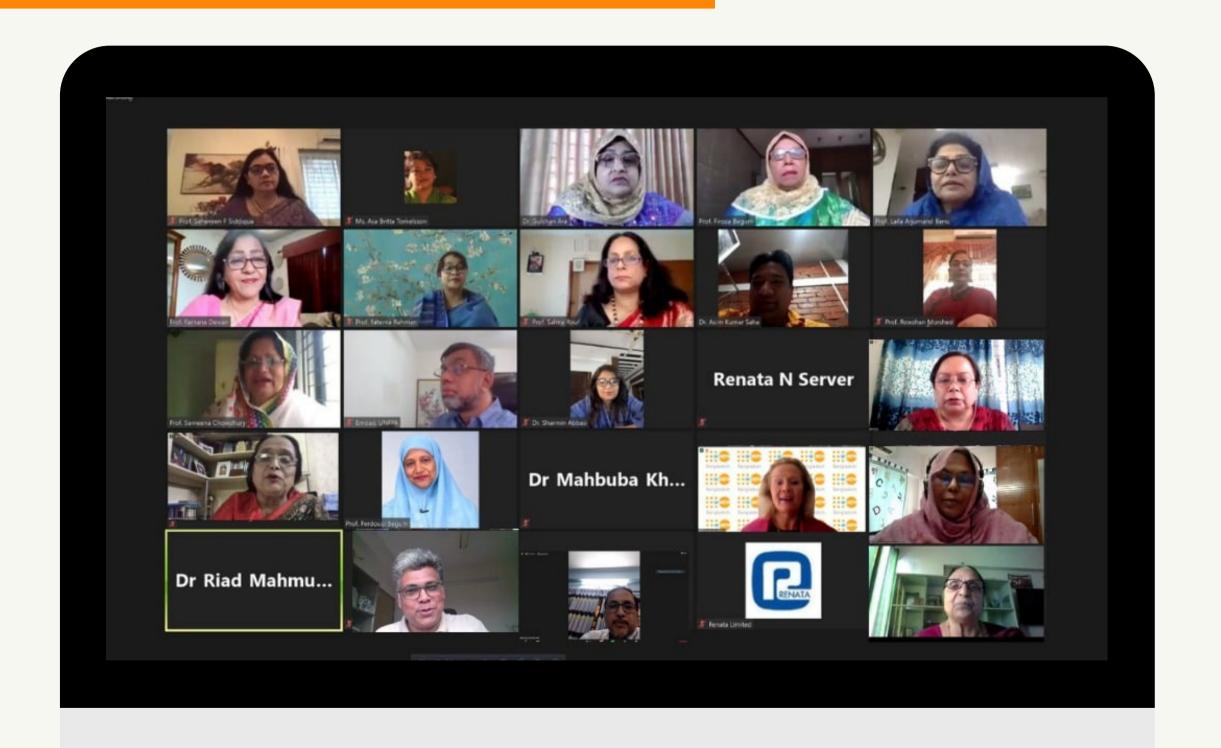
# INTERNATIONAL DAY TO END OBSTETRIC FISTULA

On International Day to End
Obstetric Fistula, we participated
in an event organized by the
Director General Of Health
Services to discuss the joint
efforts of the government and its
partners to eliminate fistula in
Bangladesh.

Let us all fight against the stigma caused by obstetric fistula and treat survivors with compassion and respect!



#### NATIONAL SAFE MOTHERHOOD DAY



On National Safe Motherhood Day, we participated in a virtual discussion hosted by **Obstetrical** and **Gynaecological Society** of Bangladesh to discuss how the safety of mothers in Bangladesh can be enhanced during COVID-19.







### **MENSTRUAL HYGIENE DAY 2021**

On 28 May, we celebrated Menstrual Hygiene Day by calling for an end to the culture of silence around mesntruation.

Whether it be at schools or workplaces, women must be able to comfortably manage their menstrual hygiene at all times.







### ROHINGYA WOMEN PRODUCE REUSABLE **SANITARY PADS IN COX'S BAZAR**

Many women in the Rohingya camps in Cox's Bazar lack the means to manage their menstrual hygiene.

Read how Junaida's works to solve the problem by producing reusable sanitary pads for the community in UNFPA 's Women Friendly Space

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UNFPA expresses its heartfelt congratulations to the 1401 midwifery students who completed their studies this month! Each of the graduates will soon be deployed to sub-district level hospitals and Union Subcenters to help save the lives of mothers and newborns around the country during COVID-19.





# "GIRLS GET EQUAL FREEDOM IN PUBLIC SPACES"

At the end of the month, we participated in a roundtable discussion organized by Plan International and the Daily Star to discuss solutions to making public spaces in cities safer across Bangladesh.

We thank everyone who participated in the meeting for the engaging discussions we had. Let us all strive to make Bangladesh safer for women and girls!











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This month, we had the honour of being chosen as a member of the hospital management committee of Sunamganj District Hospital. We look forward to serving the people of Sunamganj by strengthening the quality and availability of maternal health services in the district.



This month, UNFPA had the joy of donating 2000 face masks to the camp in charge of Camp 9 in Cox's Bazar. The masks will play a critical role in slowing the spread of COVID-19 in the Rohingya camps amidst the national lockdown.







