INVEST IN MODERN CONTRACEPTION AND SAFE ABORTION
to drive gender equality and girls’ and women’s health and rights

THE WORLD TODAY

214 MILLION WOMEN in developing countries want to avoid pregnancy but are not using modern contraception, contributing each year to
67 MILLION unintended pregnancies
23 MILLION unplanned births
36 MILLION induced abortions

THE INVESTMENT CASE

Increasing contraceptive use can boost economic productivity and lifetime earnings, generating returns that can exceed 10% of GDP by 2050

Girls’ and women’s bodily autonomy and reproductive choices are linked to increased education, productivity, and lifetime earnings

INVESTING US$8.6 per person each year would meet the need for modern contraception, abortion, and maternal and newborn care in developing countries, reducing
unintended pregnancies by 75% ↓
induced abortions by 74% ↓
maternal deaths by 73% ↓
newborn deaths by 80% ↓

Women have fewer and less severe health complications when abortion is safe and legal

Please visit womendeliver.org for a full list of sources. Developed as of November 2018.
CALLS TO ACTION

Sexual and reproductive health and rights, and women’s right to decide on their own bodies, are the bedrock of gender equality and prosperous societies. To guarantee girls’ and women’s rights—and to realize the associated health, social, and economic benefits—governments, policy makers, the private sector, and civil society must commit to:

➡️ **Prioritize and invest in sexual and reproductive health services.**
Recognize and guarantee the full suite of sexual and reproductive health services, including modern, voluntary contraception, comprehensive sexuality education, and safe abortion to all populations through primary health services and Universal Health Coverage. Diversify and increase funding to meet demand, including through increased commitments of domestic resources, official development assistance, and contributions from the private sector.

➡️ **Remove legal barriers that restrict women’s rights and opportunities to make decisions about their own bodies and fertility.** Liberalize restrictive abortion laws and laws that limit girls’ and women’s access to family planning and safe abortion services such as parental consent, spousal approval, and conscientious objection.

➡️ **Change harmful gender norms and tackle stigma that limit girls’ and women’s health and rights.** Listen to and engage girls, women, and young people to understand and effectively address their needs and barriers to modern contraception and safe abortion. Engage all individuals, including men and boys, in efforts to change norms and combat stigma at all levels.

➡️ **Uphold girls’ and women’s sexual and reproductive health and rights in all contexts and settings.** Guarantee affordable, accessible, and appropriate services—including safe abortion—to all girls and women, including indigenous women, women in humanitarian settings, and other marginalized groups.

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