



MOTHER AND CHILD HEALTH

INF launched its Maternal and Child Health [MCH] programme in 2015 after it was discovered that unusually high rates of maternal and child mortality existed in certain districts. The goal of our programme is to improve the health of mothers and children under five years-old.

We aim to do this by:

- raising community awareness of healthy practices for pregnant women and infants
- strengthening the knowledge and confidence of female community health volunteers and birth attendants
- supporting health posts and birthing centres in improving their services
- supporting governmental bodies in management of health facilities
- partnering with regional hospitals

There are already stories of how it is benefitting mothers and children.

One such story is from Junu Gurung, who was pregnant with her second child when INF staff met her. At the end of her pregnancy, Junu developed complications. At that time, her husband was working overseas and she had little other family support. Despite advice to attend the regional hospital, Junu stayed at home, where her pregnancy became further threatened. INF staff followed Junu up in her home, giving her further advice and supporting her during that difficult time.

In spite of the problems that threatened Junu's health and that of her baby, Junu was able to successfully deliver a healthy baby boy at the hospital. She is thankful to INF for their regular follow-up and help during her pregnancy.

Follow this link for photos:

www.inf.org/inf-work/mother-and-child-health/

In Dang:

- Maternal mortality rate – 157 per 100,000 live births
- Neonatal death rate – 20 per 1000 live births
- Perinatal death rate – 35+ per 1000 live births
- Since the programme started, an MCH clinic has been running weekly in all health posts of the district
- Since the programme started, a 24 hour delivery service has been provided from the birthing centre of all health posts