Save the Children®

#SOWM

Surviving the First Day

STATE OF THE WORLD'S MOTHERS 2013

More than 1 million babies die on the first day of life – making it the most dangerous day for babies in nearly every country, rich and poor alike. Save the Children's 14th annual **State of the World's Mothers** report once again ranks **the best and worst places in the world to be a mother.**

1 Million babies die the day they are born

3 Million newborns die within the first month of life

Up to **75% of newborn deaths are preventable** with basic, cost-effective care

Mothers' Index

THE BEST & WORST PLACES TO BE A MOTHER

The chances a mother and her baby will survive help determine **Save the Children**'s annual rankings of the best and worst places in the world to be a mother. Education, income and political representation of women are the other factors.

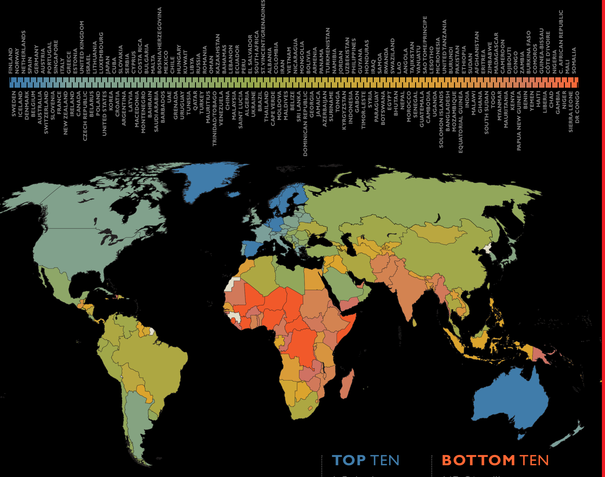
77th

SOUTH AFRICA

7,500 babies in South Africa die **the same day they are born.**

37% of newborn deaths in South Africa occur during **the first day of life.**

1 in 140 women in South Africa **will die from maternal causes.**



TOP TEN

1. Finland
2. Sweden
3. Norway
4. Iceland
5. Netherlands
6. Denmark
7. Spain
8. Belgium
9. Germany
10. Australia

BOTTOM TEN

167. Côte d'Ivoire
168. Chad
169. Nigeria
170. Gambia
171. Central African Republic
172. Niger
173. Mali
174. Sierra Leone
175. Somalia
176. DR Congo

MAJOR CAUSES OF NEWBORN DEATHS

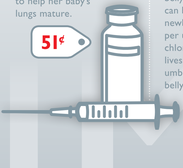
Expert analysis shows that wider use of **4 low-cost products** could save the lives of **1 million babies** every year.

4 Lifesaving Solutions

▼ SPEEDING UP GROWTH
CORTICOSTEROIDS

When babies are born too soon, their lungs may not be fully developed and many don't survive. But for 51¢, a pregnant woman can get a simple steroid injection to help her baby's lungs mature.

51¢



23¢

▲ CLEAN CORD CARE
CHLORHEXIDINE

It's hard to believe, but belly button infections can be fatal for vulnerable newborns. For just 10¢ per use, the antiseptic chlorhexidine can save lives when used to clean umbilical cords and belly buttons.

▼ FIGHTING INFECTION
ANTIBIOTICS

One of the common risks of birth is a deadly blood infection called sepsis. Injectable antibiotics can easily treat sepsis and other severe infections (e.g. pneumonia) for as little as 13¢.

13¢-$2.03

50¢-$6.00

▲ BREATHING LIFE
RESUSCITATION EQUIPMENT

Some babies need help taking their first breath. A basic, resuscitation device costs just $6 and has helped millions of babies let out a cry to declare their birth.

Newborns and mothers need compassionate people like you to **be a part of the solution**.

Visit **www.savethechildren.org.za/SA-mothers**

or follow **#SOWM** on Twitter to learn how you can help.

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SOURCE: *Surviving the First Day - State of the World's Mothers 2013*, Save the Children

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