



We believe that no woman should suffer a life of misery and isolation simply for trying to bring a child into the world

What Is A Fistula?

A fistula is a hole. Obstetric fistula is a hole between the vagina and bladder or rectum that is caused by prolonged, obstructed labor. It leaves a woman incontinent of urine, feces, or both. Corrective surgery is the only cure.

The Challenge



15% of all labors are complicated, and 1 in 20 women face obstructed labor worldwide



In the West, obstructed labor is resolved by routine C-section, but without medical help, women are at risk of developing a fistula



Almost 50% of women in developing countries give birth without a trained maternal health professional present



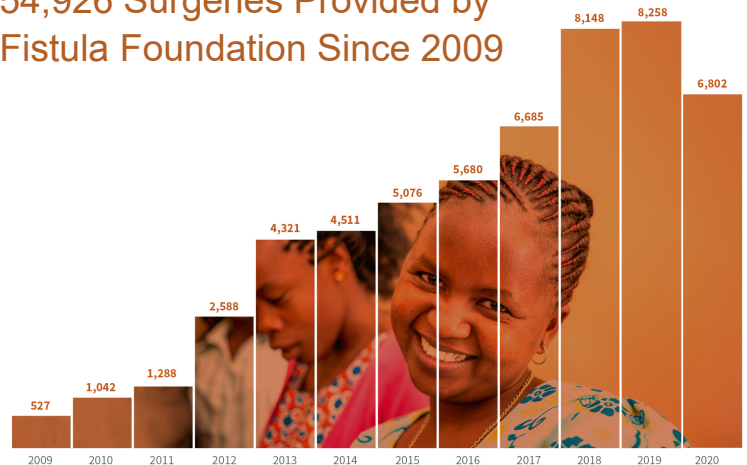
For every woman who receives fistula care, 50 go without.

Lives Changed

Fistula Foundation funds more life-transforming fistula surgeries than any other organization in the world.

On average, one fistula surgery costs only \$586.

54,926 Surgeries Provided by Fistula Foundation Since 2009



One Woman's Story



At only 16 years old, Seema developed obstetric fistula and her in-laws tried to have her killed so that their son could marry another woman. When their attempts failed, they threw her out of their house in a snowstorm.

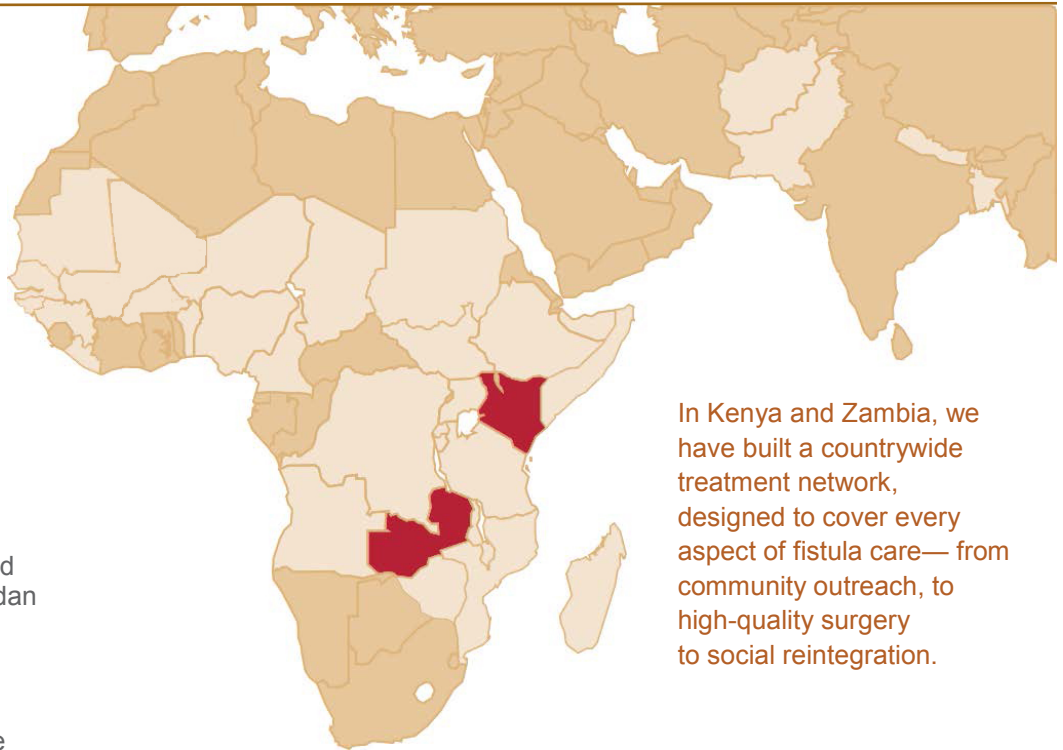
After four years of suffering, Seema met a healthcare worker who referred her to Koohi Goth Hospital, Fistula Foundation's partner in Karachi, Pakistan. Finally, she began to feel a glimmer of hope. Generous supporters covered the cost for Seema and her grandfather to travel from their rural home to the hospital. There, she received a warm welcome from an experienced staff of nurses, midwives, and certified fistula surgeons.

Today Seema is completely healed! She is now 20 years old, and hopeful about her future. When our team met up with her, Seema was about to be discharged from the hospital, and was making plans to go back to school to become a midwife.

The Global Leader In Fighting Fistula

Afghanistan
 Angola
 Bangladesh
 Benin
 Burkina Faso
 Burundi
 Cameroon
 Chad
 DR Congo
 Ethiopia
 Guinea
 Guinea– Bissau
 Kenya
 Liberia
 Madagascar
 Malawi
 Mali
 Mauritania
 Mozambique
 Nepal
 Niger
 Nigeria
 Pakistan
 Rwanda

Senegal
 Somalia
 Somaliland
 South Sudan
 Sudan
 Tanzania
 Uganda
 Zambia
 Zimbabwe



In Kenya and Zambia, we have built a countrywide treatment network, designed to cover every aspect of fistula care— from community outreach, to high-quality surgery to social reintegration.

After a decade of growth, Fistula Foundation is now the global leader in the battle against obstetric fistula. To date, we have partnered with more than **150 hospitals and clinics in 33 countries** in Africa and Asia.

Commitment to Accountability

Where many aid organizations spend a majority of their funds on U.S.-based operations, we turn that model around: 80 percent of our income goes to work on the ground in Africa and Asia.

We also have consistently received the highest ratings from every industry watchdog group. For fifteen consecutive years, we've earned an 'exceptional' 4-star rating from Charity Navigator, a designation awarded to only 1 percent of charities reviewed on the site. We are recommended by ethicist Peter Singer's *The Life You Can Save* organization, and were named a 2020 Top-Rated charity on GreatNonprofits, thanks to over six hundred positive reviews.

