

# Stillbirths: A Neglected Tragedy

An estimated **2.6 million** stillbirths occur every year

Every day **7000 women**

experience a stillbirth

## Key causes:



Pregnancy and childbirth complications



Lifestyle factors



Diabetes and hypertension



Maternal Infections, like syphilis, malaria and HIV



Preterm birth



Birth defects

Most stillbirths are **preventable** before, during and after pregnancy

Family planning

Good health and nutrition

Quality antenatal care

Quality care during labour and childbirth



Most stillbirths **do not** receive a birth or death certificate



**Better data** on the number and causes are needed to understand the true burden and prevent **future deaths**



**60%** occur in rural areas



**98%** occur in low- and middle-income countries



**Half** occur in settings of conflict or emergency



**Half** occur during labour



World Health Organization