

To mark International Safe Abortion Day, we were delighted to launch our new 2019/20 My Body, My Voice report at our International Safe Abortion Day briefing, alongside presentations from Ipas and the Asia Safe Abortion Partnership on how to support self-management of abortion care.

The briefing launched <u>My Body, My Voice</u> sharing insights from 1,800 safe abortion clients and recommendations for improving access. The briefing also included learnings from <u>MSI's new cross-partner evidence brief</u>, pulling together data and insights on how medical abortion can be accessed safely from pharmacies.

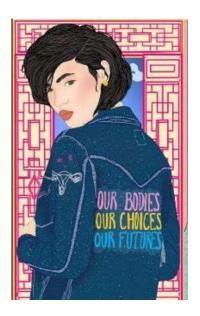
The webinar can be watched <u>via our website</u> and the slides are available <u>to download</u>. All former Spotlight webinars can be accessed <u>via MSI's Spotlight blog</u> and you can <u>subscribe to our Spotlight mailing list</u> to be updated on future events.

To mark International Safe Abortion Day, MSI and partners called for an end to unsafe abortion, sharing insights on how we can get there.

On 28 September, MSI colleagues featured on a webinar for the British Royal College of Obstetricians and Gynaecologists. Our VP and Director of Technical Services, Helen Blackholly, wrote about the role of safe self-care in eliminating unsafe abortion on MSI's Spotlight blog, and we were featured by the UK's Faculty for Sexual and Reproductive Healthcare: Abortion is healthcare. Let's ensure it's safe.



What else have we been up to?



World Contraception Day

Last month we also celebrated World Contraception Day on 26 September. Read our post on lessons learned from providing contraception across the globe, with information from our annual client interviews and data.

Contraceptive myths continue to be a key barrier for women and girls. To help debunk these, we <u>released a blog post</u> answering some of the most commonly asked questions about contraception.

We also contributed to a FIGO article - <u>World</u>

<u>Contraception Day 2020: Four Perspectives</u> - marking the day and highlighting how the pandemic has affected services and the ways in which we can ensure that contraception remains available to all across the world.

UN General Assembly (UNGA)

This year's UNGA provided an opportunity for world leaders to discuss some of the most pressing issues facing the world today: COVID-19 recovery, achieving the Sustainable Development Goals, and progressing on gender equality.

To mark UNGA and the SDG Action Zone we published a **Spotlight blog**, committing to and calling on others to work in partnership across sectors to achieve gender equality, the SDGs and to build resilience to climate change.

Read the blog post here

Protecting SRHR

While many have used UNGA to promote women's rights and SRHR, there have also been attempts to attack these rights, this time led by the US Government launching the report of 'the Commission on Unalienable Rights'. With increasingly well-funded and strategic attacks on SRHR and women's rights more broadly, it's more important than ever that we stand strong and work with partners to ensure SRHR are protected. With the High-Level Meeting on the 25th anniversary of Beijing happening last week, we called on Member States to present concrete actions and commitments to accelerate the realisation of gender equality by 2030.

We also recommitted last month to the <u>Call to Action on Protection from Gender-Based</u>

<u>Violence in Emergencies</u> at its UNGA Side-Event launching the 2021-2025 Road Map which featured our Programmes Director from Zimbabwe, Rumbidzai Matewe, talking about the importance of tailored and compassionate SRHR care and the need to remove the unnecessary barriers which restrict timely access services for survivors.











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