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8 MARCH 2024

HAPPY INTERNATIONAL WOMEN'S DAY

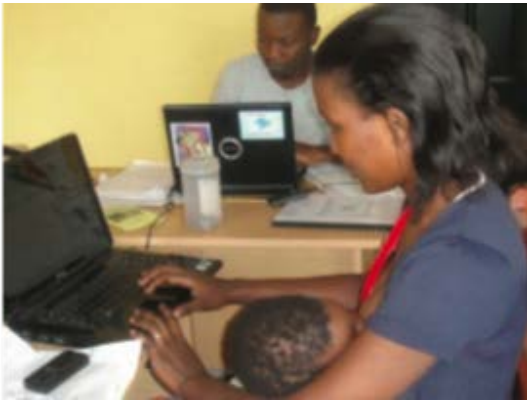


WABA MESSAGE FOR INTERNATIONAL WOMEN'S DAY 2024

Close the breastfeeding gap to
accelerate progress for all!

Crises and conflicts have devastating effects on communities, especially women. The

climate crisis also has a greater [impact on women](#). These crises will only increase the gender gaps in an already unequal world. Ensuring that women's voices are heard and rights protected are of utmost importance to combat climate change and create a sustainable world.



Breastfeeding is a women's right. Globally breastfeeding is showing a positive trend with 48% of babies exclusively breastfed for the first six months of life. This is close to the [2025 global nutrition target](#) of 50% exclusively breastfed infants but still far from the [2030 Global Breastfeeding Collective target of 70%](#). Current progress must be accelerated to achieve the 2030 target.



Although the overall trend depicts an increase, there are still glaring [inequalities](#) in breastfeeding rates [within](#) and [across countries](#). The [differences in breastfeeding prevalence](#) within countries are often determined by the socioeconomic status and background of the mother. Vulnerable and marginalised women need special attention and support to enable them to breastfeed. There is a need to invest in targeted interventions that help to alleviate these inequalities.



WABA | WORLD BREASTFEEDING WEEK 2024

This [International Women's Day](#), the [World Alliance for Breastfeeding Action](#) calls upon governments, healthcare systems, workplaces, communities and [all relevant actors along the warm chain](#) to accelerate [action](#) in [closing the gaps](#). Every woman has the right to [unbiased information](#), [breastfeeding counselling](#) and [support](#).



World Alliance for Breastfeeding Action (WABA) is a global network of individuals and organisations dedicated to the protection, promotion and support of breastfeeding worldwide based on the Innocenti Declarations, the Ten Links for Nurturing the Future and the WHO/UNICEF Global Strategy for Infant and Young Child Feeding. WABA is in consultative status with UNICEF and an NGO in Special Consultative Status with the Economic and Social Council of the United Nations (ECOSOC). WABA coordinates the annual World Breastfeeding Week campaign.

www.waba.org.my



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