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Dear Network Members,

A lot has been happening since we sent out the previous Action Network newsletter, and this is a quick update to say that we have been active and are growing!

Stop Press

- The Maternal Death Surveillance and Response (MDSR) Technical Guidance document will be available on the WHO website soon. We will share a copy of this with the network membership as soon as it is released.
- London, 9th to 11th September 2013 – a WHO led MDSR Good Practice Sharing Workshop is bringing together experts in MDSR, to share learning and help create a larger pool of technical expertise which WHO can draw on in response to requests for technical assistance from individual ministries of health, local offices in the priority countries to support establishment and roll-out of MDSR activities. Learning and recommendations from this workshop will be shared with the Action Network membership.
- Plans are afoot for an MDSR workshop on the 30th Sept to 2nd Oct 2013, to precede the FIGO Africa Regional Conference in Addis Ababa (2-5 October 2013). This workshop aims to provide individuals with working knowledge of the MDSR guidelines, tools and approaches. More information to follow.

Membership

We are very proud to say that just within the last few months we have grown to over 200 members. We extend a very warm welcome to all the new members the network! Our members are our main resource and have a wealth of expertise and experience from the various countries they represent. We are very pleased that we have a global membership from across 57 countries from Afghanistan to Zimbabwe. Nearly 60% of our members are based in Africa. We look forward to connecting you all in more interactive ways soon.

Membership of the network is open to any group or individual with an interest in maternal death reviews and near miss audits. Membership is free, but new members will be asked to complete a simple questionnaire relating to their professional background and areas of expertise or needs and to observe an informal code of practice in terms of sharing materials and lessons.

If you know anyone who you think would like to be a member, please forward them this newsletter. Please email me at l.hulton@evidence4action.net to become a member.

Coming soon...

We are very excited to let you know that following feedback from Action Network members, we are considering hosting a website this network. The website is envisaged as platform to host resources on MDSR and keep members up-to-date. The website will also support plans to build a Community of Practice (CoP) for members. This will involve creating an interactive space for learning and information exchange. We would like to hear from you on what would be most useful for you, so

that we can tailor the website and facilitate the CoP in the best possible way. You will receive a brief survey questionnaire shortly which will enable us to hear your views!

Please share this email with your colleagues and others who may wish to join the network. More about the workshop in London will follow soon in our forthcoming newsletter.

Thank you and goodbye!

Very best,
Louise
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Evidence for Action hosts the Maternal Death Review Action Network on behalf of the World Health Organization's Maternal Death Surveillance and Response Working Group
www.evidence4action.net