SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT GOALS (SDGs) AND SEXUAL & REPRODUCTIVE HEALTH AND RIGHTS (SRHR)

The SDGs, adopted at the UN Summit in New York in September 2015, lay out the agenda for health and sustainable development over the next 15 years. These 17 goals are very comprehensive and cover a wide range of domains that are essential to sustainable development. Of these 17 goals, targets from goals 3, 4 and 5 are specific to increase access to SRHR.

**Goal 3: Ensure healthy lives and promote wellbeing for all at all ages**

3.1. By 2030, reduce the global maternal mortality ratio to less than 70 per 100,000 births.

3.7. By 2030, ensure universal access to sexual and reproductive health-care services, including for family planning, information and education, and the integration of reproductive health into national strategies and programmes.

3.8. Achieve universal health coverage, including financial risk protection, access to quality essential health-care services and access to safe, effective, quality and affordable essential medicines and vaccines for all.

**Goal 4: Ensure inclusive and equitable quality education and promote lifelong learning opportunities for all**

4.7. By 2030, ensure that all learners acquire the knowledge and skills needed to promote sustainable development, including, among others, through education for sustainable development and sustainable lifestyles, human rights, gender equality, promotion of a culture of peace and non-violence, global citizenship and appreciation of cultural diversity and of culture’s contribution to sustainable development.

**Goal 5: Achieve gender equality and empower all women and girls**

5.6. Ensure universal access to sexual and reproductive health and reproductive rights as agreed in accordance with the Programme of Action of the International Conference on Population and Development and the Beijing Platform for Action and the outcome documents of their review conferences.

**CONCEPT FOUNDATION AND THE SDGs**

Concept Foundation’s work aligns directly with the relevant targets for Goal #3. Projects within its Access to Maternal Health Programme strive to increase access to 3 essential quality-assured maternal health medicines: oxytocin, misoprostol, and magnesium sulphate, all of which are used to treat preventable health conditions such as postpartum haemorrhage and eclampsia that can lead to disability and death for women. The Access to Family Planning Programme does similar work, only focusing on modern contraceptives such as injectables and pills, working directly with manufacturers to increase the availability of quality-assured affordable generic products in lower- and middle-income country (LMIC) markets. Finally, through its Access to Safe Medical Abortion Programme, Concept is working to increase access to the medical abortion pill, Medabon®; currently registered for use in first trimester abortion, a study examining its use in safe and effective second trimester abortion in progress.