



**Press release - Midwives4all Award Uganda**  
**IDM 5<sup>th</sup> May 2015: Midwives for a better tomorrow**  
[www.internationalmidwives.org](http://www.internationalmidwives.org)

Today, on the International Day of the Midwife, the International Confederation of Midwives join forces with the Swedish Ministry for Foreign Affairs, the Embassy of Sweden in Uganda and the Swedish Association of Midwives to honour a midwife for her excellence in midwifery as well as her leadership in saving lives in Uganda.

This year the award goes to Rose Aciro, honouring her hard work and relentless determination, thus helping to reduce maternal and infant mortality at Lira Hospital in Uganda.

Rose Aciro is an experienced midwife. She has been working at Lira Regional Referral Hospital since she received her diploma in midwifery in 2010. Before that, she worked as a nurse for 15 years, first in Apac, then in Lira. Alongside her work, Rose Aciro has been a diligent student. First she earned a certificate and a diploma in nursing, then she achieved a diploma in midwifery, and most recently, she has earned a diploma in health administration. Rose Aciro is a good example of lifelong learning and her story showcases the benefits of investing in midwifery worldwide.

Rose Aciro has a strong commitment to train students. She is passionate about passing on her knowledge and experience to a new generation of midwives for the benefit of mothers, children and families in Lira and beyond. Rose is an example to follow and a strong advocate for maternal and new born health.

In the near future, the Embassy of Sweden in Uganda will pay Rose Aciro a visit at Lira Regional Referral Hospital to present her with the award and recognise her outstanding contribution in the community where she serves.

Although maternal and infant mortality rates have dropped by half since 1990, about 800 women still die from pregnancy- or childbirth-related complications around the world every day. Of these, 99 per cent are women and girls in developing countries. Nearly 3 million newborns die each year and 2.6 million babies are still-born.

The midwives4all award is part of midwives4all.org, a campaign launched by the Swedish Ministry for Foreign Affairs to create engagement and increase international appreciation for midwifery skills. Sweden is convinced that supporting midwifery-led health care is a smart investment.

The Lancet Series on Midwifery points out that two thirds of mothers and newborns who die could be saved if a well-trained midwife was present.



The International Confederation of Midwives (ICM) supports, represents and strengthens 119 Midwifery Associations in 106 countries, improving maternal and newborn health and working closely with the World Health Organization, UN agencies, partners and governments.

Find out more at: [www.internationalmidwives.org](http://www.internationalmidwives.org)

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