

Innovation in Midwifery Education...what works?  
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# Midwifery education: Still lacking in Nepal

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## Midwifery

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### Where midwives are not yet recognised: A feasibility study of professional midwives in Nepal



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## Commentary

### Nepal needs midwifery

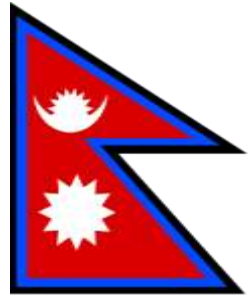
April 2013 started the 1,000-day countdown to December 31, 2015 - the target date for achieving the MDGs (Millennium Development Goals). Since the MDGs were adopted in 2000 there have been many successes, but also disappointments. For example, as part of MDG5, Nepal is on target to achieve its reduction in Maternal

of the MDGs, there is a second growing maternity problem, namely that of a growing epidemic of Caesarean Section, especially in the private hospitals of Kathmandu. Many middle-class educated women are ending up with unnecessary surgical interventions because doctors and hospitals earn more doing them than normal vaginal deliveries.

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# Midwifery in Nepal



Nepal has **not** reached ICM professional standard for midwives (including education).

Feasibility study to establish a professional midwifery cadre in Nepal using mixed-methods study comprising (1) policy-review (2) interviews and (3) observations.

# Key Findings I

- No legislation to authorise midwifery as an autonomous profession.
- MIDSON a well-organised midwifery association of nurses providing maternal health care.
- Several HE colleges teaching nurses could run a UG midwifery programme.

# Key Findings I

To develop midwifery as a profession in Nepal we need developments in:

- Legislation & regulation;
- Training & education;
- Deployment & utilisation;
- Professional associations.

First author is currently PhD student in Sweden studying the development of midwifery in South Asia with specific focus on Bangladesh & Nepal

## References:

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# Any questions?

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