Problems in this sector

The health of populations affected by humanitarian crises is vital. The majority of countries that are impacted by humanitarian crises already carry a high burden of disease and greater mortality levels which is exasperated by disasters. A leading public health concerns is protracted conflicts, where health systems are taxed and even basic supplies may be unavailable or expensive and time consuming to obtain. There are not always the right supplies accessible and health practitioners are unable to do their job without the right supplies and equipment.

What Field Ready is doing

Pioneering aspects of on-site manufacturing, Field Ready deploys specialists to countries such as Haiti, Nepal and South Sudan to meet demand at or near local health facilities. In Haiti, supplies of umbilical cord clamps for newborns were provided to a health clinic outside of Port-au-Prince. Using clean umbilical cord clamps is critical so newborns do not develop sepsis.

We are working in Nepal to improve health outcomes, one example is developing improved cookstoves which not only provided a source of income to a local innovator but also improves household air pollution. The traditional cookstoves in Nepal emit harmful smoke and chemicals, which contributes to various harmful diseases such as Acute Respiratory Infections. By creating a cleaner cookstove, Field Ready is decreasing the likelihood of developing one of these illnesses.

Medical parts are able to be customized to fit specific needs and can be mass produced. Some of the parts that have been creates thus far include, fetoscopes, kidney trays, nebulizer, oxygen tubes, clamps, and parts to fix EKG machines. Creating parts on-demand is important because it ensures that parts are hygienic and do not need to be reused due to scarcity.

Impact

Our activities directly contribute to reducing the burden of disease and injury in areas where access is a key concern. In 2016, over 340 medical parts were made and dispensed to health facilities in Nepal. To broaden our impact, we are working on a way to create a tool set that can be shipped to non-makers in a way that they can benefit from our expertise. Activities are being scaled to reach larger numbers of people, while reducing morbidity and mortality and improving health outcomes in the communities we serve.

For more info: www.fieldready.org, @fldrdy, or contact info@fieldready.org