Improved access to safe, timely, and high-quality surgical, obstetric, trauma, and anaesthesia care contributes directly to preventing individuals from falling into extreme poverty.

5 billion people do not have access to some form of safe surgical care and anaesthesia worldwide. Nearly 18 million lives are lost due to untreated surgical conditions each year.

Surgical care is essential to ensure healthy lives and promote well-being for women, men, and children of all ages. Surgical care addresses infectious conditions, non-communicable diseases (NCDs) and injuries. It is a necessary component of Universal Health Coverage.

NCDs kill 38 million people each year, with 80% of NCD deaths impacting people in low- and middle-income countries (LMICs). 25% of disabilities could be treated with Surgical Interventions. 2 million lives could be saved each year in LMICs with improvements in trauma care.

Essential surgical care, including the availability of emergency caesarean section is critical for achieving gender equality and empowering all women and girls.

Up to 70% of neonatal deaths could be prevented with increased access to caesarean section. Up to 90% of maternal deaths could be prevented with timely detection and availability of obstetric surgical care.