

PPH STORIES

Nsisong's story



Nsisong is 33 years old and works in the army barracks in remote, eastern Nigeria. He and his wife Fatima lived happily with their 5 year-old son Francis.

Fatima's second pregnancy was normal. She attended regular antenatal care checkups at her local health centre. The birth of her daughter, Destiny, was also normal. However, within just 30 minutes, Fatima had lost over 900ml of blood. She was suffering from postpartum hemorrhage.

Despite efforts to stop the bleeding using uterotonics, Fatima died just 3 hours after giving birth.

Nsisong is devastated by the loss of his wife. Raising his son and providing for his family is a significant

challenge. He has to pay for childcare for Francis and is unable to care for baby Destiny. Destiny now lives with Nsisong's mother, Cecelia, in his home village, a day's bus ride from where he currently lives. The distance and cost of travelling to his village means he has only seen his daughter twice in the three months since her birth.

Caring for Destiny also places a significant burden on Nsisong's mother who survives on a very modest income from selling vegetables.

These photos were taken during one of Nsisong's rare visits to his infant daughter with his son, Francis.

Nsisong and son Francis visit baby Destiny

Photo: Paul Joseph Brown



Nsiong kisses his infant daughter before returning to town to work

Photo: Paul Joseph Brown