Nurses and midwives constitute 50% to 60% of the health workforce in the Region and are a vital resource for attaining health and development targets.

Significant progress has been made in strengthening the nursing and midwifery workforce in Region – undergraduate nursing education has been reformed and post-basic specialty programmes developed in many countries.

With ongoing conflict and instability in the Region and the effects of climate change and environmental disasters escalating, the availability of nurses and midwives who are prepared and able to lead in regional health priority areas is critical.

However, key challenges continue to impede delivery of nursing and midwifery services. Results from the online Eastern Mediterranean nursing and midwifery survey identified key challenges for nursing and midwifery in the Region.
Related links

Global strategic directions for strengthening nursing and midwifery 2016–2020

Global strategy on human resources for health: workforce 2030

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