Alternative domestic services while mother is away
- Stocking food and firewood
- Finding other person to take care of home and children

Gathering personal effects for mother-to-be and newborn
- Vaseline and soap
- A jerrycan for water and a basin for bathing
- Mother and Baby clothes and powder

Buying materials for use by health care providers
- Gloves and razorblade (for cutting the cord)
- Threads (to be used as cord ligatures)
- Syringes, needles and injectable ergometrine (to stop postpartum hemorrhage)
- Cotton wool
- ‘Kavera’ (an improvised mackintosh made from a plastic bag)
- Selection of a provider for delivery

Preparation for emergencies
Asking transport money from male partners or saving from own sources for emergencies, especially referral for caesarian section or blood transfusion