

“A Wish for Humanity” - Project Proposal

The purpose of this document is to present a project proposal for the GreenLamp (GL) initiated and managed Hamlin Midwives Alumni Network's (HMAN). Our aim is to seek funding for the regional HMAN meetings to take place in Ethiopia in 2022.

GreenLamp introduction

GreenLamp is a fully volunteer-run non-profit organisation. Today we have 11 working board members, who are fully devoted to making our mission a reality. Our approach is to promote equal opportunities for women and girls, inspired by the African proverb: «...if you educate a woman, you educate a community». Our vision is to strive for a bright future for women and girls. We work hand-in-hand with Ethiopian local partners and authorities to ensure the sustainability of our projects.

GreenLamp supports sustainable community-to-community projects to address preventable harm in maternity in order to strengthen remote rural communities. Our projects are an integral part of our three pillars: Learn, Light, and Lead.

LEARN

GL funds the training and education of midwives from rural areas to increase the number of skilled midwives (BSc) in underserved areas. By supporting the education of rural young women, we provide sustainable change in their communities. Our main partner for midwifery training is the Hamlin College of Midwives (HCM), which is a part of Hamlin Fistula Ethiopia (HFE). HCM constitutes the organisation's main vehicle for prevention of traumatic birth injuries and deaths in rural Ethiopia.

LIGHT

GL provides sustainable, reliable, solar light and power in health centers to support safe deliveries in rural areas of Ethiopia. The light attracts women to come to the health centers as they know there is a skilled midwife in attendance and the light is reliable.

LEAD

GL's projects are designed to have a positive impact on women's lives and focus on community development, by promoting and developing midwives as role models and agents of change. The midwives ensure positive behavioral changes by creating conditions where mothers want to attend the nearest health center for births, ante natal checks, family planning, miscarriage support instead of relying on traditional community based practices

Hamlin Midwife Alumni Network (HMAN) 2022 Regional Meetings

GreenLamp Pillar Lead

Introduction

Graduates from the Hamlin College of Midwives earn a Bachelor of Science degree in Midwifery after four years of training, including extensive supervised hospital and health center practice. Qualified Midwives are then allocated to a rural health centre, in their own region for four years. The midwives work in very tough conditions at health centers that are underfunded and under sourced. As Hamlin midwives are seen as well trained, compassionate and experienced midwives, they quickly become the lead in the midwifery clinic in the health centre.

HMAN Objectives

To support and energise the midwives under these tough conditions, the Hamlin Midwives Alumni Network (HMAN) was initiated by GreenLamp in collaboration with Hamlin College of Midwife (HCM) in 2018. HMAN is focused on every HCM's graduated midwife, to provide encouragement, motivation, and support from their colleagues. It has the following objectives:

1. to encourage Midwives to continue working as a midwife in Health Centres, Outreach clinics, hospitals, universities, etc
2. to maintain and extend skills and knowledge of midwifery practices
3. to develop leadership skills
4. to share success stories, on the job learning and best practices
5. to build a community/network of support - midwives supporting midwives
6. to develop a Hamlin Midwife voice, which means working actively together to develop and deliver the vital messages to key stakeholders, such as the Hamlin College of Midwives, Regional Health Bureaus (RHB) and Zonal and Woreda Health Authorities (ZWHA), and others, about how the service offered by midwives could improve

During the HMAN annual summits held in 2018 and 2019, each region identified a voluntary Regional Representative who would set up a means for communication to all Hamlin Midwives in their region. Best practices were shared and specific medical and technical training took place. The feedback from these two first summits held in Addis Ababa were very positive. The summit planned for 2020 was unfortunately canceled due to the pandemic.

There are four regional meetings taking place in 2021. The expectation is that each Region will hold a one day summit, with core agenda items for all and an opportunity to address region-specific issues. Elected HMAN Regional Representatives, GreenLamp and Hamlin Fistula Ethiopia Project Coordinator Tefera Tesfamichael (TT), are to organise and lead the regional meetings.

GreenLamp's longer-term goal is that HMAN is run by the midwives for the midwives, with funding support.

HMAN Early Impact

The number of midwives attending the first two regional meetings this year, showed how important these meetings are for the midwives working under hard conditions in remote and

rural communities in Ethiopia. Clearly the Midwives value the opportunity to meet, share learning and work together. These two Regional Meetings have seen a step change in bringing HMAN to life. The Regional Representatives get involved in planning, facilitating and agreeing actions. Outputs have shown a clear passion for offering a supportive, compassionate Midwifery service, a desire to work together to address some of the challenges they face and an understanding of the impact they are having as Midwives. Communication through the messaging platform Telegram gets enthusiastic responses. HMAN is starting to have an important impact for the midwives working in the remote rural health centers and for the women in the communities they serve.

Example of HMAN Meetings **Actions**

1. Use of social media for information exchange and self-learning
2. Plan and learn from sharing experiences, successes and challenges
3. Support HMAN representatives as leaders and change makers
4. Arrange annual review meetings to evaluate the achievement of major HMAN activities and to plan for the next
5. Facilitate engaging of senior midwives in motivation and experience sharing for students currently in HCM
6. Establish relationships and collaborate with key stakeholders like Government, HCM, GL, Regional Health Bureaus, Zonal and Woreda Health sector officials (ZHD), HC head in order to
 - a. improve availability of supplies, equipment and essential drugs
 - b. request regular supportive supervision and on job support from ZHDs, HCM and EMA
 - c. request/arrange capacity building trainings in most important maternity services
 - d. participate in different meetings and reflect the situations on the ground

HMAN Long-term impact

The long-term impact is to more efficiently lower Maternal Mortality and Infant Mortality rates in underserved communities in rural Ethiopia and enable them to thrive, by supporting the midwives on a continuous and sustainable basis for them to voice their requests, work at the peak of their capacity, and become agents of social and economic change in the communities. A vital part of the midwife role is working in their own region, in the local language, understanding the traditions, the cultural challenges and consequently being seen as important role models for rural women and girls.

GL Lead and Team names

Catherine Knight (HMAN lead), Christina Blecher, Joanna Boyd, Valeria Akroyd, Linda Elzvik

Hamlin Fistula Ethiopia (HFE) Partner's Names

Hamlin College of Midwives Dean and HFE Prevention Manager Zelelam Belete; GreenLamp & HFE Project Coordinator Tefera Tesfamichael

Beneficiary Group

All Hamlin College of Midwives graduates 2010-2021 (220 in all) will be invited to the meeting in their region

Timeline

Four meetings planned during 2022 in the regions of Amhara (Bahir Dar), Oromia West (Metu), Oromia East (Harar), SNNPR (Hawassa or Yirgalem)

Estimated Budget

USD 16,700 (⅔ participants) - 25,400 (100% participants)

Financial Summary for one year - four regional meetings Ethiopian Birr (ETB) and USD

Cost Type	Budget ETB Yirgalem SNNPR	Budget ETB Metu West Oromia	Budget ETB Bahir Dar Amhara	Budget ETB Harar East Oromia	Total Budget ETB	Budget USD exchange rate 0.02160 23/9/2021
Midwives attending (max)	55	55	55	55	220	
Compensation	165,000	165,000	165,000	165,000	660,000	14,256
Transport - midwives	33,000	33,000	33,000	33,000	132,000	2,851
Meeting & Material Costs	9,150	9,150	9,150	9,150	36,600	791
Meals and refreshments	37,000	37,000	37,000	37,000	148,000	3,197
Team & Trainer	7	7	7	7	28	
Compensation	21,000	21,000	21,000	21,000	84,000	1,814
T & T Transport costs	14,000	14,000	14,000	14,000	56,000	1,210
Total Costs					1,116,628	24,119
Contingency @ 5%					55,831	1,206
Total Cost including 5%					1,172,459	25,325

We want to thank you Lisbeth and Therese, and your wonderful initiative “A Wish for Humanity” for your vital support of our work for the benefit of women and their families in rural Ethiopia. Please do not hesitate to contact us with any questions or need for further information.

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