



Dear Sponsors,

Herewith the second official update on the Maternity Waiting Home (MWH) Project in Southern Ethiopia. We are please to share the current status of the MWH project with you:



Data collection in Butajira town



Building site

- **Baseline study:** The aim of the baseline study is to find out more about women in the reproductive age group and their challenges to seeking maternal health care and staying at a MWH. We've implemented the following research activities:
 - 2 x 2-day training of supervisors, data collectors and data entry staff on maternal health and data collection. Total number of persons trained: 22 persons, of which 20 women (8 HIV-positive women).
 - 1300 surveys done amongst women in the reproductive age group in Butajira Hospital, its catchment area, and amongst women in the Maternity Waiting Home in Attat Hospital.
 - 11 interviews and 7 focus group discussions conducted with women in the reproductive age group and their husbands, health professionals, Traditional Birth Attendants, religious leaders and community leaders.
 - Dr. Jelle Stekelenburg visited Butajira Hospital and the research site (on his own expenses) in October for supervision.
 - Currently, we are entering the data and have started the analysis. We expect to distribute the report in January/February 2015.
- **Construction:**
 - The construction of the MWH and kitchen started in July 2014. The start was slow due to the rain season, but much progress has been made since that time. Last week, the roof of the MWH was finished.



MWH foundation



Start of the walls of the MWH and the foundation of the kitchen



Current building status: the roof of the MWH and kitchen are almost finished



Simple, sturdy design of the bunk beds

- The baseline study showed that one area of improvement compared to the MWH in Attat is the sleeping conditions of the attendants (they sleep under the bed of the MWH women, which is common in most Ethiopian hospitals). For this reason, bunk beds will be fabricated.
- The construction will be finalized and the toilet facilities will be renovated in the next months.

• **Community work:**

- In January and February 2015, we will visit all 20 health centers in the catchment area of Butajira Hospital to inform health professionals about the MWH and which pregnant women to refer.
- The findings of the baseline study and available budget will further shape the community work.

• **Inauguration:**

- The official opening is planned for February 2015; date to be determined.
- Representatives of our stakeholders will be invited, such as VSO, Unicef, Zonal Health Bureau, Regional Health Bureau, Butajira City Administration, Attat Hospital and Health Centers.
- The findings of the baseline study will be presented.
- A plaque will be revealed with the names of the Sponsors. **If you as sponsor of the project would like to have your logo on the plaque, please send it to us by December 15, 2014.**

• **Operations:**

- The Head of the MWH has been selected. Her name is Membere, a much-respected midwife who works as head of ANC.
- In January and February 2015, a protocol will be drawn up and staff will be trained to run the MWH.

• **Financial reporting:**

- The financial report of the baseline study will be sent to the Monitor and relevant sponsors by the end of 2014.
- The first financial report of the construction will be sent to the Monitor by mid December 2014.



We will send the next update when the construction has finished. Do not hesitate to contact us if you have any questions.

Sincerely yours,

Andalem Mengistu Tsegaye,
CEO Butajira General Hospital

Tienke Vermeiden,
Project Coordinator MWH

Rob Boogaard,
Chairman Florentina Foundation

We thank you for your contribution to the MWH project:



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