

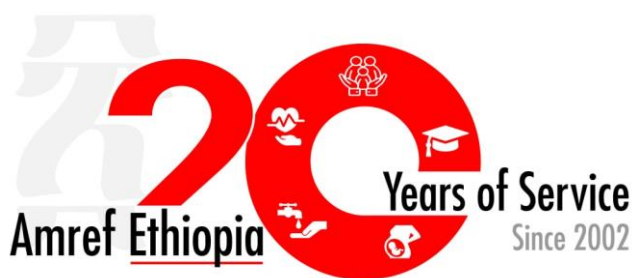


Amref Health Africa in Ethiopia

Progress report

Add-on project for Comprehensive WASH service in two healthcare facilities in Gambella Regional State, Ethiopia

Report to Amref Flying Doctors in Austria



1. Introduction

Amref Health Africa in Ethiopia was implementing WASH project entitled “**Provision of Comprehensive WASH service in two healthcare facilities in Gambella Regional State, Ethiopia**” funded by the Government of Salzburg and Amref Flying Doctors in Austria. The grant amount was **126,001 EUR** for twelve (12) months from September 2021 to August 2022 to ultimately benefit **55,574** people directly and indirectly.

The project constructed water supply schemes, sanitation facilities, healthcare waste management constructions in Baziel and Elia health centers to improve the provision of quality care services and to alter maternal and neonatal death. In addition, the project developed two training modules on WASH in the healthcare facilities for health workers and Cleaners separately.

Subsequently, the project conducted different trainings for regional WASH team, health workers, Health center directors, water system plumbers, and cleaners or frontline waste handlers. Furthermore, the project conducted different awareness-raising programs in and

out of healthcare facilities and conducted different coordination meetings, joint supervisions, and monitoring with concerned government offices.

Based on the previous project achievement, this **add-on project** funded to scale up the capacity building for other health workers in Itang and Gambella hospitals. Health workers are expected to perform a number of tasks in the health care facilities to break chain of communicable disease transmission. However, they themselves have not been well trained on WASH in healthcare facility. This project extension is designed to equip health workers and cleaners on the water supply, sanitation, hygiene, health care waste management, Vector and rodent control and role & responsibility because the impact can be far reaching, and more importantly to bring effective health delivery services in healthcare facilities.

Therefore, through this add-on project fund, the capacity building training planned to provided for the participants with the required level of knowledge, skills, and attitudes to put in place a uniform and harmonized approach to improve WASH services in healthcare facilities. Not merely training, but also this extension will focus on health/hygiene promotion tasks and strengthen of healthcare facility management on WASH quality service delivery as well as coordination of health institution and Gambella & Itang town utilities.

2. Key achievements of the project

2.1 Enhance capacity building for Gambella hospital and Itnag Health Center.

This add-on project is working to contribute to boost the knowledge of health professionals on WASH services along their role on health education and hygiene promotion for better service delivery. Since WASH practices are specific IPC behavior practices, the project is working to ensure regular handwashing by health workers, patients, and caretakers/families at key moments. Not only capacity building, but also the project is working to strengthen waste management groups to keep the regular environmental cleaning of surfaces, floors, walls, toilets and showers, and waiting areas.

As mentioned earlier the previous project developed WASH in HCF training modules to equip healthcare workers and cleaners. The objective of the module was to boost the level of knowledge, skills, and attitudes of HWs in order to make a uniform and harmonized approach in improving WASH services in healthcare facilities. Following the module development, the project provided Training of Trainers (ToT) on WASH in the HCF to cascade the training for health workers and cleaners.

2.2 Capacity building for Gambella Hospitals and Itnag HC on WASH in HCF

By using the previous ToT trainers, this add-on project provided training for Gambella general hospital, Gambella primary hospital and Itang Health center health professionals for four (4) consecutive days. As we all recognize, all health workers are often the first hands to

touch a newborn, but without access to safe, reliable, and sustainable WASH, they can inadvertently diffuse disease. To alter this practice, the **add-on project** planned to provide this training to challenge the HWs knowledge, skills, and attitudes on WASH in healthcare facilities.

Therefore, the capacity building training was provided for **20 (7 Females & 13 Males)** Gambella general and Primary hospitals health professionals for 4 days. The project tried to include all types of health professionals like health officers, BSc. nurses, laboratory technicians, midwifery, clinical nurses and CEOs. These trained participants oriented to provide on job training for other remaining staff, medical assistants, health center attendants, and supportive staff on issues.

These trained participants was engaged in developing the action plans to assess WASH in



HCF related problems and to ultimately work on the problems as well as for the improvement of Sanitation and hygiene promotion practice.

Similar to Gambella Hospital, the project also provided the training for **12 (5 Female and 7 Males)** Itang HC professionals. The composition of this training includes health officers, Nurses, laboratory technicians, midwifery, HR and health center director. The participants oriented to deliver on job training for other remaining professionals and supportive staff WASH in health care facility agendas. Again, these participants prepared their Action plans to work on the WASH in



2.3 Training of cleaners on infection prevention, healthcare waste management, environmental cleaning and WASH in Gambella General Hospital and Itang town HC

Cleaners are expected to perform a number of tasks in the health care facilities to break the chain of communicable disease transmission. Based on that, the project arranged to provide the training for both Hospital and Itang HC cleaners at the end of this month.

2.4 Awareness raising and dissemination of Health information to patients and care takers in health care facilities

The project started procurement process to purchase hygiene promotion equipment (like Tv, Montarbo, Flash and son) for message transmission to patients and caregivers. Hence the health institutions will serve as models of health information dissemination to communities by using mixed methods of awareness raising. The key health and hygiene messages will be recorded on flash to replay in-patient and maternity waiting areas.

: <https://gofairsalzburg.com/2022/10/07/projekt-wash-von-amref-austria-flying-doctors-africa-in-der-region-gambella-im-suden-athopiens/>