



# GREENLAMP

A bright future for women and girls

PRESIDENT'S REPORT 2017

## GreenLamp President's Report 2017

Dear members, donors and sponsors,  
Dear friends,

Filled with gratitude and appreciation, I reflect on another rewarding year of GreenLamp's passionate work to promote a bright future for women and girls and their families. This would not have been possible without your support.

### 2017 at a glance

#### Enabling communities to thrive



During 2017 we continued to follow our strategy to focus on long-term achievable goals. We worked closely with our local partners and further experts, and we listened to what the genuine issues are. This supports our aim of addressing the real needs of women and girls to enable them to thrive and live a life in dignity. We continue to harness the power of strategic philanthropy in our holistic approach, creating a 'virtuous circle' through education, technology and health to deliver positive ripple effects in rural communities.

#### Midwifery education

We support the Hamlin College of Midwives (HCM) in their mission to train independent and empathic young professional midwives to assist pregnant mothers before, during and after delivery in rural Ethiopia. Since September 2017 we have twelve GreenLamp funded midwifery students in training at the college. Our four first year students are from the Tigray region in northern Ethiopia.

	2013/14	2014/15	2015/16	2016/17	2017/18
GreenLamp sponsored Students	4	5	6	9	12
GreenLamp graduated Midwives	1 Amhara Region	1 SNNPR Region	1 Harare Region	1 SNNPR Region	2

#### Midwifery continuing professional development training

##### Interpersonal Skills and Leadership Workshop in Nonviolent Communication

GreenLamp aims to encourage final year students at the Hamlin College of Midwives to become role models for women and girls in the rural communities where they will be deployed after graduation. In support of this I was once again able to lead an "Interpersonal Skills and Leadership Workshop in Nonviolent Communication" in February 2017. The students were trained in communication techniques and how to empathically consider feelings and needs of pregnant mothers. This increases their ability to perform their profession with care and compassion.



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## Midwifery Lecturers Exchange Program

GreenLamp initiated a lecturer exchange program between Zurich Midwifery College (ZHAW) in Switzerland and Hamlin College of Midwives in Ethiopia to promote knowledge and skills transfer between the two colleges. The program was co-funded by GreenLamp and the first exchange was successfully completed in May 2017. Master of Science in Midwifery and ZHAW Senior Lecturer, Denise Eigenmann, traveled to Addis Ababa in March for a three month visit during which she gave classes in normal birth, with emphasis on giving birth in upright birthing positions, observation of external signs of birth progress, and providing competent and loving care. An MoU has been signed to continue the program 2018-19.

## Light for Life Solar Suitcase Program (L4L)

### L4L 2 - Tigray Saturation project

In July 2017, we scaled up our efforts to ensure all rural health centers in Ethiopia have light for nighttime deliveries. Our Light for Life 2 - Tigray saturation project funds the installation of Solar Suitcases in delivery wards at rural health centers with unreliable or no electricity in the northern Tigray region in Ethiopia. We have also funded the installation of 11 further Solar Suitcases to health centers in regions where newly graduated Hamlin-trained midwives are deployed or an immediate need was identified. More than 220 GreenLamp deployed Solar Suitcases are now installed in five regions of Ethiopia. Our project team traveled to Addis Ababa and Tigray to meet our partners and ensure the project was effectively implemented. To facilitate future installation programs, new MoU's have been signed with the Regional Health Bureaus.

### GreenLamp funded Solar Suitcase Installations

REGION	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018
Amhara	5	43	3	2	53
Oromia-East Harargie	3	28		2	33
Oromia-Metu	2	23		10	35
SNNPR	8	27		2	37
Tigray	22		2	41	65



GreenLamp funded student Senait Sago, receiving her diploma in July 2017 from Dr. Catherine Hamlin, founder of Hamlin Fistula Ethiopia.



Denise Eigenmann, ZHAW Senior Lecturer, demonstrating the "Upright birthing position" to Hamlin first year students.



Hamlin graduated midwives Melka Hintsa and Amit Weidu demonstrating the Solar Suitcase at the Yetchi-lay health center in the northern region of Tigray February 2017.



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## **Battery Replacement Program (BRP)**

Sustainability being one of GreenLamps key values, we started the process to ensure the Solar Suitcases from our first Light for Life Project in 2014 continue to work effectively as their batteries wear out. The project team worked closely with Hamlin Fistula Ethiopia and the Regional Health Bureaus to develop an efficient battery replacement program, recently signing new MoU's with all five regions.

## **Events**

In March 2017 we organized our second GreenGala fundraising event at the Widder Hotel in Zurich. One of the highlights of this event was a successful auction led by well-known auctioneer Antoine Schuler from Schuler Auktionen. In September 2017, we co-hosted a speaker event on the Midwifery Lecturers Exchange (see above) at the Zürich University of Applied Sciences (ZHAW). The presentation was given by Denise Eigenmann who passionately informed us about her experiences during her exchange in March to May 2017.

## **Our strategic plan for 2018**

### **Midwifery education and professional development training**

Our aim is to fund the tuition of four new midwifery students in 2018. We will continue to engage in and support their personal and professional development through additional workshops, training and an alumni network. These programs will enable young professional women to become leaders in their rural communities, and secure their impact as role models for women and girls. The annual Interpersonal Skills and Leadership workshop for the class of 2018 will take place in March 2018. Two lecturers from ZHAW will travel to the Hamlin College of Midwives in May 2018, to give theory and skills training in "giving birth in upright birthing positions" using the GreenLamp funded in-class training dolls.

### **Hamlin Midwives Alumni Network**

GreenLamp has initiated the Hamlin Midwives Alumni Network project in cooperation with Hamlin College of Midwives (HCM). Our aim is to establish a platform for networking exchange of workplace best practice, sharing experiences, as well as personal and professional development. The first Hamlin Midwives Alumni Network Summit is planned to take place in July 2018 when members of the GreenLamp board and partners will facilitate workshops and group sessions.

### **Basic Body Awareness Therapy (BBAT) Workshop**

GreenLamp is coordinating a workshop in Basic Body Awareness Therapy (BBAT) at the Hamlin College of Midwives in March 2018. BBAT is a holistic approach towards physiotherapy. The workshop will focus on pelvic floor training, which is especially important for pregnant women. The workshop is facilitated by Senior Lecturer at Lund University Faculty of Health Sciences, PT PhD Amanda Lundvik Gyllensten, Sweden and PT/PT instructor and BBAT specialist Inger Wulf, Switzerland.

## **Light for Life Solar Suitcase Program**

### **Battery Replacement Program (BRP)**

The GreenLamp project team will travel to Ethiopia in March 2018 to launch the BRP, in cooperation with our local partners Hamlin Fistula Ethiopia, Solar Energy Foundation Ethiopia and the Regional Health Bureaus in Amhara, Oromia-Metu, Oromia-East Hararge, Tigray and SNNPR regions. The BRP is key to the sustainability of the L4L Program and will ensure delivery rooms continue to be lit up without interruption.



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## **Solar Suitcases to health centers with newly deployed midwives**

In conjunction with the deployment of newly graduated Hamlin-trained midwives to rural health centers, GreenLamp will install Solar Suitcases in those health centers which are not equipped with one already at the end of 2018.

## **Planning of L4L 3**

Once the Battery Replacement Program is running effectively, we will work closely with our partners to plan further scaling up of the Light for Life Solar Suitcase Program.

## Health Equipment Program

To support specific equipment requests from Hamlin College of Midwives to improve in class skills training, we will fund birthing dolls and blood pressure equipment. Additionally, we will fund vacuum extractors requested for rural health centers where Hamlin graduated midwives are deployed.

## Special Thanks

I would personally like to extend a very special thank-you to all the following for their valuable contributions - at our events and in helping to keep GreenLamp running smoothly throughout the year:

## Sponsors, donors and volunteers

Without your support, we would not have been able to make such a tangible impact!

Donors that donated over CHF 1,000 (in alphabetical order):

Bachmann-Pandian Daphne  
Bauer Hans Peter  
Blecher Christina  
Blecher Lennart  
Boyd Joanna and David  
CEVIAN Capital AG  
Elzvik Linda and Eric  
EMP Fondation  
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Wulf Inger & Andreas



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**GreenLamp Advisors**

Lennart Blecher

Pauline Lindwall

Michael Treis

**GreenLamp Ambassador**

Mari Russi

I would also like to express my warmest thanks to my fellow GreenLamp board members during 2017, for your invaluable commitment and contribution:

**GreenLamp board members**

Lizanne Atherly, Henriette Becker Scheidegger, Verena Bergmann, Joanna Boyd, Linda Elzvik, Kathleen Hedman, Carolina Vidal, Karin Ranstrand, Camilla Tregonning.

Christina Blecher  
Herrliberg, 28.2.2018



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