



**GREENLAMP**

A bright future for women and girls

## **President's Annual Report 2016**

Dear members, donors and sponsors,  
Dear friends,

It is with great gratitude that I reflect on another successful year of GreenLamp's work towards a bright future for women and girls. Without your support this would not have been possible.

### **2016 at a glance**

#### **Strategic Review**

A two day "Strategic Review" was carried out early in the year when the Board discussed ideas and decided on the new fundraising aims and project goals for the next 3-5 years.

#### **Midwifery education**

During 2016 we continued to focus on our partnership with the Hamlin College of Midwives, supporting its efforts to train independent and empathic young professional midwives in their mission to assist pregnant mothers before, during and after delivery in rural Ethiopia. This year we were able to fund four new students from the Tigray region in northern Ethiopia, who started their first year of a four year Bachelor of Science in Midwifery. We now have nine students in training and three graduated midwives deployed in the field.

#### **Midwifery continuing professional development training**

GreenLamp wishes to encourage final year students at the College to become role models for women and girls in the rural communities where they will be deployed after graduation. For this purpose I was able to lead an "Interpersonal Skills and Leadership Workshop in Nonviolent Communication" in February 2016. The students were trained in communication techniques and how to empathically consider feelings and needs of pregnant mothers, enabling them to perform their profession with care and compassion. The workshop will take place again in February 2017 for the new batch of final year students.

#### **Light for Life**

Simultaneously, and in cooperation with Addis Ababa University, we continue the monitoring and evaluation phase of the Light for Life project, where 166 rural delivery wards in five regions of Ethiopia were supplied with Solar Suitcases to secure light and power day and night. The results show that along with other initiatives the combined impact is very positive. This is reflected in the mother and infant mortality situation in Ethiopia. Since we started the installations in 2014, the mother mortality rate has decreased from

420/100,000 live births to 353/100,000 live births and the infant mortality rate has gone down from 47/1,000 live births to 41/1,000 live births. The maintenance and sustainability of the Solar Suitcases is ensured through an agreement between We Care Solar, supplier of the Solar Suitcases, and Hamlin Fistula Ethiopia.

### **Events**

In 2016 we held two successful and well-attended awareness-building and fundraising events in Zürich. At a luncheon held at Hotel Schweizerhof in April, the Dean of the Hamlin College of Midwives, Zelalem Belete Atlaw, was our keynote speaker. He emphasized the importance of local partnerships to achieve sustainable impact. In October we organized a movie screening of the award winning movie 'Timbuktu' which left many attendees very moved, with its combination of magnificent beauty and utmost cruelty. In addition, we screened our own GreenLamp film, shot and produced by Sara Nilsson, about our work and how it is valued by midwives and patients in Ethiopia.

### **GreenLamp in Sweden**

We are pleased to announce that GreenLamp has an official representative in Sweden - Maria Gårdemyr. Maria safeguarded GreenLamp's finances from November 2012 until April 2016. After moving to her native country of Sweden, Maria is now our representative there.

## **Our strategic plan for 2017**

### **Light for Life 2 Tigray**

We are scaling up our efforts to supply rural health centers in Ethiopia with solar lights for nighttime deliveries. Our Light for Life 2, Tigray saturation project aims to supply the northern region of Ethiopia with Solar Suitcase installations in delivery wards at 50 rural health centers with unreliable or no electricity supply. At the same time we will continue with the installation of 9 further Solar Suitcases to health centers where newly graduated Hamlin midwives are deployed.

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

Our aim is to fund several new midwifery students, as well as engage in and support their personal and professional development through additional 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.

### **Facilitation of professional partnerships**

GreenLamp has initiated a teacher exchange program between Zurich Midwifery College (ZHAW) in Switzerland and Hamlin College of Midwives in Ethiopia. The program will start in March 2017 when MSc in Midwifery and ZHAW teacher Denise Eigenmann will travel to Addis Ababa to teach for three months.

Green lamp is also coordinating a "train the trainer" workshop in Basic Body Awareness Therapy (BBAT) at the Hamlin College of Midwives in 2017. The workshop will be facilitated by assistant Professor at the Lund University Faculty of Health Sciences, physiotherapist and PhD Amanda Lundvik

Gyllensten, Sweden and physiotherapist teacher and BBAT specialist Inger Wulf, Switzerland.

## 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 and donors:

Without your support we would not have been able to make such a tangible impact! Donors that donated over CHF 1,000 are noted under Item 15 in the Annual Review.

### Auditors:

Åsa Guggenheim, Ann Secher

### GreenLamp Ambassador:

Mari Russi

### Guest Speaker:

Zelalem Belete Atlaw

### GreenLamp Advisory Board:

Lennart Blecher

Pauline Lindwall

In addition I would also like to express my warmest thanks to my fellow GreenLamp board members during 2016 for your commitment and contribution for a bright future for women and girls:

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



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