

July 26, 2016

Report on Zambian Delegates Experience Sharing Visit

July 10th to July 16th



July 10th, 2016

Five Zambian Health Professionals arrived in Ethiopia, at around 2100. They were provided with Wassamar shuttle service which transported them to a hotel previously booked by World Bank employee, Mrs Wubedel. This group of Zambians consisted of:

- Dr Andrew Silumesi, Provincial Medical Officer, Western Province.
- Dr Jacob Sakala, Kaoma District Medical Officer.
- Mr. Patrick Banda –Chief Planner, Planning and Budgeting, MOH.
- Mr. Roy Chihinga, Chief Human Resource Management Officer, MOH.
- Dr. Rosemary Sunkutu, Senior Health Specialist, World Bank.

July 11th, 2016

At around 0800, Luidina Hailu, *IIfPHC's Communication Officer*, met the delegates at Wassamar hotel. They were then taken to the Ministry of Health where they were greeted by Professor Mengesha Admassu, *Executive Director of IIfPHC*, Dr. Tedla W.Girogis, *Advisor to the Minister of Health*, and Tilahun Debebe, *Training Officer of IIfPHC*. By 0930, everyone was seated in the conference room, and official introduction of the delegates and the organizers started. Shortly after the introduction, Ato Mulatu presented a power point presentation on **Policy and Planning**, which lasted roughly an hour. Some discussion was conducted right after the presentation at which point the delegates had their questions answered. At 11:00, the Zambian delegates were served a delightful snack provided by Wabishebel. Shortly after the tea break, Dr. Mizan presented his module on **Resource Mobilization** and a discussion was conducted at the end of his presentation as well. Around 12:30, the delegates were invited for lunch by Prof. Mengesha at Carnivore, which they greatly appreciated and enjoyed. Back to MOH after lunch, at around 1400, Dr. Lisanu presented his lecture on **Maternal and Child Health** and shortly after a tea break Dr. Zufan presented a power point presentation

on **Health Extension Programs**. At the end of the day, a long and effective discussion was conducted among the organizers and the guests.

July 12th 2016,

The Zambian delegates were back at MOH for a second day conference before the field visit. The day started with a detailed presentation on **Human Resources Management** by Dr. Getachew. Our guest had many questions regarding budgeting, funding and salaries which were clearly answered and elaborated by Dr. Getachew. Ato Abebaw then led the presentation on **Health System** which raised questions about Wereda's, medications and use of traditional medications. These questions were thoroughly answered collaboratively by the organizers and Ato Abebaw. Right after a brief tea break, Dr. Alemayew, presented his slide shows on **Primary Health Care**. After lunch, Dr. Zelalem, presented his very informative module on **Health Extension Program**, which was concluded with a long Q&A and an effective discussion. At the end of the day, the guests were briefed on the Tigray field visit program and were handed an informative reading package to allow them to prepare for the upcoming couple of days. That same night, the delegates, along with Prof. Mengesha and Dr. Tedla, traveled to Mekele.

Report on Field visit at Tigray Regional State, July 13-14, 2016

July 13,2016

The group of Zambian delegates and the two organizers were guided by Mr. Hagos Godefai, Deputy Head, Tigray Regional State Health Bureau. They first visited one of the households in the rural setting of Tigray. While they were close to the vicinity they met the local community members, the Head of Wereda health office, the kebele administrator and the church service providers who had organized a welcoming reception. They then visited the "Model House " of the household development army, where the waste of the pit latrine and their animal waste are collected, decomposed and processed to produce biogas, a newly created

technology. This biogas is then used as a source of energy and light, which saves much more money compared to what they used to pay for power. Despite the fact that they have made their vicinity environment safe and free from any domestic waste it remained a breeding media of insects and rodents, which created a bad odor. They also introduced a kitchen with a smoke free stove, which prevented any smoke from entering the room when preparing food. In the living room, chairs and beds were made from stone and mud. They also had the luxury to sit and discuss with the Household Development Army, the Kebele Administrator, Health Extension Workers and other community members. Few questions were raised by the delegates of Zambia to the community and valuable discussion took place. Following the household visits, they went to the health post where they took a look at the activities report, the facilities and the services delivered at the health post. At the health center a very warm welcoming was given by the community and health center staff. There, a fruitful discussion was conducted with delivery coach's, and was followed by a look at the system of cold chain. At the end of the day many questions were raised and productive conversation took place regarding all services delivered at the health center.

July 14,2016

They started their visit at the Mekele health training college where training is provided for the paramedical staffs including the health extension workers. The Dean of the Health College presented a power point on the activities that took place within the College. They also had the privilege to visit the demonstration rooms and other facilities where students conducted clinical skill practices. After the Health College, they went to the specialized hospital at Mekele town and had an enlightening briefing led by, Dr. Amanuel, Clinical Director. His very articulated and fascinating, visionary outlook presentations impressed each and every one of them. This young and brilliant physician was not only a leader and a role model to his peers but also a role model and mentor that anyone, regardless their nationality or gender, can look up to. He also gave them a tour of the wards and the diagnostic

facilities that were used for giving health care service and teaching potential health professionals. The debriefing session continued during lunchtime and was led by the head person of the regional state health bureau. The delegates also expressed their profound appreciation and voiced their amazement on how the health system is very well coordinated from FMOH, to the health post and to the extent of the households level. They also stated that the success stories and best practices they have heard and learned were beyond their expectations. The Zambian delegates requested that Ethiopian delegates visit other African countries and give influential and motivating presentations as they have witnessed themselves. They have conveyed their need to further plan an experience sharing visit and site visit of their peers and of other health professionals from Zambia. During almost each visit, the Zambian delegates expressed their gratitude for the overwhelming hospitality shown by each Ethiopian they came across. Mr. Hagos Godefai also appreciated their interest to learn and grow together as Africans brother and sisters. He also pointed that experience sharing is more important than anything far from the reality. Mr Godefai offered the Zambian delegates traditional souvenir items on behalf of the regional state health bureau and concluded by wishing them a safe trip back home.

July 15th 2016,

The delegates, Prof. Mengesha and Dr. Tedla were back at the Conference Room in the Ministry of Health for a debriefing. During this time, Professor Mengesha Admassu, gave a short presentation on, **International Institute for Primary Health Care** followed by a motivational speech per the delegate's request. At the end of this debriefing, the delegates expressed their profound pleasure of this experience visit and also their plan of applying what they have learned to their own health system in Zambia. An evaluation sheet was handed at the end of each previous presentation and was collected. Pictures were taken for memory.

July 16th 2016

The Institute had planned a little town visit around Addis Ababa. The delegates visited the National Museum, which houses a general collection of regional archeology, history, and art. They then headed to Entot Mariam, the highest peak overlooking the city of Addis Ababa, where they caught a beautiful view of the whole city. There they stopped at Entoto Mariam, church built by Menelik II and his wife dedicated to Virgin Mariam and also where he was crowned emperor. Next door they had a look at the Emperor Menelik and Empress Taitu Memorial museum and former palace which contains everything from clothing, furniture, accessories, interesting collection of religious items, ceremonial clothing and many more. On the way down, back to Addis Ababa, they passed through Shero Meda, an active bustling market, where they bought souvenir items to take back home. On the way back to their hotel, they stopped by the African Union Head quarter.