



IOM International Organization for Migration



MIDA GHANA HEALTH III PROJECT

QUARTERLY UPDATE

APRIL-JUNE 2010

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Dear Partner,

Welcome to the **12th Edition** of the periodic update of the Migration for Development in Africa (MIDA) Ghana Health III Project (2008 -2012).

The MIDA Ghana Health Project is a health sector brain gain project implemented by the Ghanaian Ministry of Health and the International Organization for Migration (IOM) and funded by the Government of the Kingdom of the Netherlands. The project is managed by IOM the Netherlands and IOM Ghana.

The period under review witnessed one of the highest number of assignments conducted in Ghana by Resource Persons of this Project (mainly the diaspora health professionals).

The editorial team takes this opportunity to formally welcome Mr. Daniel Sam who assumed duty as the new MIDA Field Manager at IOM Ghana in the first week of June 2010. Daniel takes over from David as the editor of this journal.

I wish you happy reading.
David Appiah
Outgoing Editor.

SUMMARY OF PROJECT'S IMPLEMENTATION FOR THE SECOND QUARTER OF 2010 (APRIL-JUNE)

- Assignments
- Draft Sustainability Plan
- 12th Task Force Meeting
- MIDA Ghana Health III gets new Field Manager in IOM Accra Mission
- Monitoring Visit by Project Manager, Mr. Hans Eijkhout (IOM Den Hague)
- Meeting with the Deputy Minister Of Health on MIDA Project

ASSIGNMENTS

In the second Quarter of 2010, over the period under review, a total of thirteen temporary return assignments were undertaken by Ghanaian and other African health professionals based in Europe. Out of the thirteen resource persons, two came from the Federal Republic of Germany and the rest from the United Kingdom. The assignments were undertaken in the Brong-Ahafo, Ashanti, Eastern, Central, Upper East and Greater Accra Regions.

Composition by expertise

- 1 Urologist
- 1 Pathologist
- 6 Mental Health Nurses
- 1 Nurse/Midwife
- 1 Nurse Public Health
- 1 Anaesthetist
- 1 Biomedical Scientist
- 1 Orthopaedic Surgeon

Composition by Gender/Sex

- 3 Females
- 10 Males

Beneficiary Institutions

- Komfo Anokye Teaching Hospital, Kumasi
- Nurses Training College, Ankaful
- Nurses Training College, Pantang
- St. John's Hospital, Sefwi Asafo
- St. Joseph's Hospital, Jirapa
- Volta River Authority (VRA) Hospital, Akosombo

- Rural Health Training School, Kintampo

- Bolgatanga Regional Hospital, Bolgatanga

A. Individual Assignments

1. Augustine TANO

Mr. Augustine TANO is an ICT Specialist. He had assignment with the ICT Unit of the Ghana Health Service (GHS) that spanned from February to May, 2010. Under the period of reporting, Mr Tano conducted Technical Training (Capacity Building) Ghana Health Service IT personnel drawn from all the regions in Ghana from : 12th April to 7th May 2010. The areas covered are : Computer Hardware, Networking, Wireless Networking, Systems Administration.



Mr. Augustine Tano (5th from left) with participants from the ICT Technical Training (Capacity building)

2. Dr. Clement NABARE

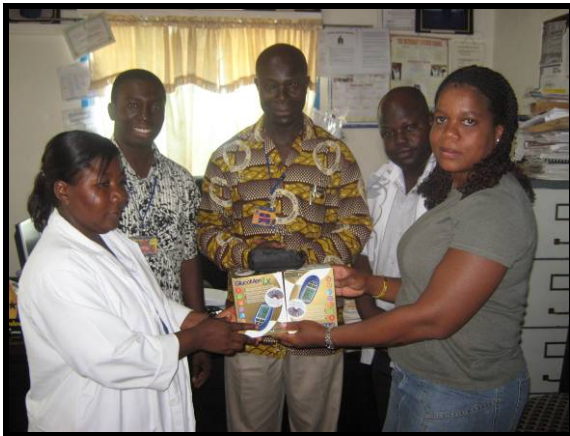
Dr. Clement Nabare, who is based in Germany, has expertise in urology and surgery. Dr Nabare conducted a 5-week assignment at the Bolgatanga Regional Hospital, in the Upper East Region. He was involved in clinical teaching.



[Dr. Nabare \(left\) about to commence a pre-training meeting with the Administrator of Bolgatanga Regional Hospital](#)

3. Rita De GRAFT

A U.K.-based Ghanaian mental health nurse was stationed at Wenchi Methodist Hospital, in the Brong- Ahafo Region, from 26th May to 14th June 2010. She had skills transfer and capacity building activities through structured in-service training for hospital staff (Clinical and non-clinical) including Quality Assurance Team, Community and Mental Health Nurses. Some of the topics covered were clinical governance, clinical effectiveness, clinical audit, risk management, quality assurance, staff development, preceptorship /mentorship and core skills in mental health nursing. At the end of her assignment, 5 ward in-Charges, 3 senior nursing staff, 5 Community Health Nurses, 11 Quality Assurance team members were trained.



[Rita presents items to staff at Wenchi Methodist Hospital](#)

4. Patrice FUGAH

Patrice is a UK based Ghanaian Mental Health nurse. He has an educational and professional background in mental health care with over five years experience. He was stationed at the Kintampo Rural Health Training School in the Brong-Ahafo Region to support the delivery of mental health

education to Medical Assistants Psychiatry Trainees at the school from 22nd May to 6th June 2010. Nine Medical Assistant Psychiatry Trainees benefitted directly from the period of assignment. Patrice established links with tutors and students as well participated in field events with student during his assignments.

B. TEAM /GROUP ASSIGNMENT

5. Motec LIFE UK TEAM

The five member team from Motec Life UK from led by Dr. Paul Ofori-Atta, deployed team of health experts in orthopaedics, anesthetics and public health to conduct various assignments in Ghana in June, 2010. The assignments were undertaken at Sefwi Asafo (Western region), Jirapa (Upper West), Akosombo (Eastern) and Pramso Jachie (Ashanti Region.). Caesar Mensah and Raymond Ofori were based in Pramso Jachie St Michael's Hospital for one week. During their stay they delivered lectures to the Nursing and Medical Staff on daily basis. The Jirapa team of experts led by Raymond Ofori provided intensive lectures. Dr Christine Amakye and Dr Ofori-Atta with other two Motec volunteers spent about a week at VRA Hospital in Akosombo to transfer knowledge and skills to local doctors. During Motec's assignment in June, 2010 some of the topics covered were communication for better care; documentation in health care, peri-operative care, post op pain control and basic infection prevention.



Photo credit: MOTEC Life UK, 2010
Dr. Paul Ofori Atta (third from left) with some orthopaedic surgeons from across Ghana

6. Ghana Mental Health Educators in the Diaspora (GMED UK)

The GMHED Team with the membership of Maximilian Tagoe , Peter Prah, Francis Adzinku, Victor Bampoe have completed educational assignments in health training institutions in Ghana basically the Psychiatric Nursing Training Colleges at Ankafu and Pantang . The team was under the supervision of Maximilian Tagoe. The activities carried out included, Training of the Trainers of Pantang NTC and Ankafu NTC; Training of Mentors/Charge Nurses of Pantang and Ankafu Psychiatric Hospitals; held discussions with Tutors and mentors/preceptors, built links with the Colleges and planned for future visits and to support in enhancing the Rehabilitation Service in Pantang.

7. DR Peter OGANSEY

Dr. Peter Ogansey's assignment was from 15th March to 29th March 2010. The host institution was Ghana Medical School. His tasks included bed side teaching, case based discussions and tutorials for the students. Topics covered spanned the whole of the syllabus, but focusing on the more common psychiatric illnesses. According to the host institution, the department was able to achieve its obligation for teaching psychiatry to final year students. The class size was 151 which is large considering the infrastructure. The students gained quality information comparable to that of their counterparts in the UK.

The GMHED team's impact on these assignments has been an increased awareness of the mental health educational needs in Ghana. From assignment reports, the new methods of teaching and the commitments of the Resource Persons had really intensified students' appreciation of mental health. The Host Institutions learned new ways of mentoring student nurses. The beneficiary institutions in general, had acquired current knowledge and skills in the field of mental health service delivery

DRAFT SUSTAINABILITY PLAN

The Project management unit prepared a strategy paper for the next 3 years for the project which was earlier disseminated to members of the Task Force. The members, who are representatives from the major collaborative partners, have suggested that the discussion on the Sustainability

Plan be postponed and time allowed enabling them to make meaningful input into the draft document. A consensus had been reached that the Sustainability Plan will receive maximum attention in the upcoming October Technical Workshop.

MONITORING VISIT BY MR HANS EIJKHOUT, PROJECT MANAGER, IOM THE NETHERLANDS

In June, between 20th- 26th, the project manager from IOM The Hague made his annual working visit to Ghana. The visit was to serve as bases to strengthen the relations with IOM Accra staff (involved in the MIDA-Ghana project), to get acquainted with the new MIDA-Ghana III field officer, monitor some field assignments being carried out by Resource Persons. The visits were made to the School of Medical Sciences, University of Cape Coast, to discuss related project issues with Dr Sam Debrah. The Mental Health Educators who were on assignment at the Ankaful Nursing Training College were also visited. At the peak of their assignment, the Project Manager from Netherlands and the MIDA Field Manager from Ghana visited the Motec Team at the VRA Hospital in Akosombo.



Hans Eijkhout (third from left) and Daniel Sam (second from right) in a meeting with Motec and VRA hospital staff, Akosombo



Dr. Christine Amakye explains issues to Hans and Dr. Ofori Atta during monitoring visit to VRA Hospital in Akosombo

Meetings were also held with some key members of MoH and GHS who are part of the Task Force Team. The visit also gave the Project Team to prepare for the October MIDA-Ghana workshop. The Team from Accra Mission and the Project Manager visited the Focal Point of the project at the Embassy of the Kingdom of the Netherlands in Accra.

The visit was successful and contributed to a better coordination of the project.

12 TH TASK FORCE MEETING

The 12th session of the Task Force Meeting was held on 9th April 2010 at the Director of Human Resource for Health Development' s (HRHD) conference room at the Ministry of Health, Accra. The Acting Chairman, Dr Kwesi Asabir, who is also the Deputy Director, HRHD lauded the contribution of the MIDA Ghana Health (MGH) Project to Ghana's health sector. The project has also been considered as a positive aspect of migration for Ghana's development. There were also indications from the members that the project outcomes needed to be scaled-up to make them have a larger and more sustainable impact. The session was also used to discuss the draft sustainability plan which has been intended to give it a maximum attention when all inputs have been received from major stakeholders of the project.

MIDA GHANA HEALTH III GETS NEW PROJECT FIELD MANAGER IN ACCRA MISSION



Daniel Kweku Sam

Mr Daniel Kweku Sam, a current IOM staff member who started working with IOM Accra in late 2006 as an Information Campaign Project Assistant, and as a Counter Trafficking Field Coordinator since 2007, has assumed the position of MIDA Ghana Field Manager. He takes up his official duties on 1 June 2010, at which time, Mr David Appiah who until then was the MIDA Ghana Field Manager, officially becomes the National Programme Development Officer for IOM Accra.

MEETING WITH THE DEPUTY MINISTER OF HEALTH ON MIDA GHANA

In June 2010, a team from the IOM Mission in Accra, comprising the Chief of Mission, IOM Accra the new MIDA Field Manager and a Migration Health Doctor paid a courtesy call on the Deputy Minister for Health. Consequently a meeting was held with the Deputy Minister at his office. The purpose of the meeting was to strengthen the partnership between IOM and the Ministry of Health and identify areas of possible support for the implementation of the MIDA Ghana Health Project. Several key issues emerged within the discussion. Interesting and worthy ideas were also put forth for discussion and follow-ups within the project implementation. IOM highlighted its partnership with the Government of Ghana, precisely the sector ministry (Ministry of Health) and other hospitals in the country, in terms of health delivery and capacity building for the human resources in the health sector. The recent monitoring visit by the Project Manager from Netherlands was also regarded as the organization's commitment to support the health sector in Ghana.

KEY ACHIEVEMENTS

- Twenty two health staff in Wenchi Methodist hospital trained in clinical governance, clinical effectiveness and audit, risk management , preceptorship/mentorship in mental health nursing;
- Motec Life UK Team trained health professional at the host institutions communication for better care; documentation in health care, peri-operative care, post op pain control and basic infection prevention;
- Collaboration exist between host institutions and Resource Persons/Teams;
- 12th Task Force Meeting held after series of postponement;
- MIDA Health Project Manager's monitoring visit impacted positively on some host institutions as well as Resource Persons visited;

- The GMHED team's impact on these assignments has been an increased awareness of the mental health educational needs in Ghana;
- The Deputy Minister for Health granted audience to MIDA Ghana Health III and affirmed the Ministry's readiness to partner with the project implementer to ensure sustainability of the project.

CHALLENGES

- Temporary registration for diaspora volunteers of the project, still regarded as disincentive for short terms
- Accommodation and transportation at some beneficiary institutions still challenging.
- Short duration of some of the assignments also affect impact of training .

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