



# BAOBAB HOSPITAL

Maternal Health Care

## NEWSLETTER

### About Baobab Maternity Hospital

Baobab Maternity Hospital is the result of a public-private partnership between the Government of Tanzania and CCBRT. CCBRT is one of Tanzania's largest disability organisations which already runs a well functioning disability hospital in Dar es Salaam. Combined, the two hospitals will have status as a 'super specialist hospital' for the eastern zone. The government has donated land for the new hospital and will provide support for salaries and supplies/equipment while CCBRT is responsible for the construction, management and service delivery of Baobab Maternity Hospital. Ahead of the hospital's opening, CCBRT is running a capacity building programme (EU/CBM funded) to support existing maternal health facilities in Dar es Salaam. [Fact sheet](#)

### Quarterly Highlights

- Building work starts on Baobab Maternity Hospital and three new funding agreements with partners are signed
- Barclays awards CCBRT with US\$44,000 for maternal health
- New training segment on perinatal health commences
- Anaesthetists from UK come to Dar es Salaam to share expertise in obstetric anaesthesia
- 48 more health workers are trained in BEmONC

## Construction Starts On Baobab Maternity Hospital

December 15th was a momentous day in the development of Baobab Maternity Hospital as construction commenced following a ground breaking ceremony. The ceremony, which also celebrated 10 years of CCBRT Disability Hospital, was attended by over 100 people including CCBRT's Patron Mrs Anne Makinda who praised Baobab Maternity Hospital. "Thanks to this hospital, many impairments caused by prolonged labour, poor delivery conditions and lack of early identification of disability will be prevented," commented Mrs Makinda, who is Speaker in the National Assembly.

At full capacity, the new hospital will be able to manage 14,000 deliveries a year. Construction is planned for completion in 18 months time.



Hon. Anne Makinda, CCBRT Patron (C) with Erwin Telemans CCBRT CEO (L) and Dr Willibrod Slaa, CCBRT's President (3rd from L) and CCBRT board members at the ground breaking of Baobab Maternity Hospital

## Major New Funding Secured From Three Key Partners

In the last quarter of 2011, CCBRT signed significant agreements with three major partners for more funding for Baobab Maternity Hospital. The Swiss Agency for Development Cooperation, The Netherlands Embassy and Vodafone Foundation have all joined CCBRT in its aim to provide better maternal and newborn healthcare to Tanzanians through its new maternity hospital. The combined total of this newly committed funding is US\$8 million and is earmarked for construction, human resources and VVF. Advanced discussions are ongoing with a number of other possible partners.

From this....

....to this



Construction of Baobab Maternity Hospital is well underway with remarkable progress made in under two months. With newly secured funding, the hospital is on track to open in 2013.

## First Perinatal Education Training Session Well Received

24 paediatricians, doctors and nurses working in neonatal care at 16 Dar es Salaam health facilities attended a perinatal education day in December. The self-study training is being strengthened by CCBRT with tutorials and on-site mentoring and will take place over several months with the aim of building skills in providing essential newborn care. There are varying definitions, but perinatal is often meant as starting from 20-28 weeks gestation until four weeks after birth. Out of 1.6 million births in Tanzania each year, 51,000 babies die within the first month of life so there is a huge and recognised



Attendees at the Perinatal Education tutorial

gap in the provision of quality newborn care. Dr Augustin Massawe, a neonatologist from the country's national hospital welcomed this EU/CBM funded training: "For many years I dreamed that something like this would start in Tanzania and finally it has. I am very excited about this intervention and about the fact that we are going to save many newborn lives."



## New Funds For Training & Equipment

An additional 24 nurses and midwives will be trained in Basic Emergency Obstetric and Newborn Care (BEmONC) and more medical equipment for fistula surgeries will be purchased thanks to a donation awarded to CCBRT by Barclays Bank. A cheque for 70.5 million Tanzanian shillings (US\$44,000) was handed over at the end of the year representing CCBRT's share of the funds raised from Barclays Bank's Step Ahead campaign held in September.

### Our partners

- The Government of Tanzania
- EU
- CBM
- Swiss Agency for Development and Cooperation (SDC)
- The Royal Netherlands Embassy
- Vodafone Foundation
- UNFPA
- Jhpiego (implementing partner)

Irish Aid, Africa Barrick Gold, Africa Life Assurance, Alexander Forbes, Aluminium Africa, Barclays Bank, Bank of Africa Tanzania Ltd, CFAO DT Dobbie, Dominion Oil & Gas, Heritage Oil, Italframe, Karimjee Jivanjee Foundation, NMB, Songas, Standard Chartered Bank, Sumaria Group, Synarge Group, Tigo, Twiga Cement, Vodacom, Zain and Mr Mustafa Jaffer Sabodo.

## Help us build Baobab Maternity Hospital.

Our target for construction, implementation, human resources and equipment for Baobab Maternity

Hospital is:

21.4 million USD (2010-2014)

You can [Donate](#) online via our website in five easy steps or you can

make a quick donation via

M-PESA: 200501

Reference No: 200501

We also now have a permanent place on the global giving website!

[Donate online](#)

*Thank you.*

# UK Anaesthetists Lend Expertise To Maternal Health Programme

Dr Naomi Goodwin and Dr Sara Hunt from the UK based 'Mothers of Africa' charity came to Tanzania in October to share their skills and experience in obstetric anaesthesia.

Working with the maternal health programme team, they conducted a needs assessment on obstetric anaesthesia in Dar es Salaam and met with many practitioners to understand the challenges they face in providing safe anaesthesia.

In addition they provided three one day update courses in safe obstetric anaesthesia with over 30 people from Dar es Salaam health facilities attending. Many participants revealed that they had

had no refresher training in this area since their original training.

Following this successful collaboration with CCBRT, further visits from the charity's experts and additional instruction are planned for the future provided adequate funding can be sourced.



The two visiting UK obstetric anaesthetists with some of the one day course participants

# First Hand Patient Stories Enhance Nurse Training In BEmONC

Together with the US funded Mothers and Infants, Safe, Healthy and Alive (MAISHA) programme, the maternal health programme team conducted two intensive training sessions in October. 48

nurses and midwives divided into two groups attended the two week long courses on BEmONC. The attendees were selected from the nine original sites included in the



BEmONC course participants heard first hand from two patients recovering from fistula

capacity building programme and the additional seven sites added in 2011. In order to enhance their understanding of the importance of offering good and professional support to women in labour and how to prevent fistula occurring, two women shared their experiences of pregnancy, delivery and fistula with the group. One woman gave a stark account of how, after a nurse turned her away from an overcrowded ward thinking she was not ready to give birth, she lost her baby and developed fistula.

121 nurses and midwives have now received comprehensive training during the five BEmONC courses which have taken place under the maternal and newborn health programme.

# Disability Awareness To Be Stepped Up Amongst Maternal Health Staff

While disability awareness is already a standard component of all maternal health training run by the programme, these efforts will be intensified in 2012 through funding from CBM Australia. This year, all 16 public health facilities now involved in the capacity building programme will be assessed for their accessibility to people with disabilities and, where necessary, infrastructure changes will be made. As part of the programme's efforts to make maternal health services more disability friendly and aware, a focus group discussion was held at the end of the year where women with various impairments shared their experiences of the health system during

labour and delivery. From these testimonies, it became increasingly apparent that these women faced not only physical barriers at health facilities, but also negative attitudes of health staff towards people, especially women, with disabilities which need urgent review and improvement.

A disability inclusive maternal care focus group discussion took place at the end of the year

