



KNOWLEDGE &
PLACE
Event Report

University of
Salford
MANCHESTER



The Sustainable Volunteering Project

British Commonwealth Professional Fellowships

Report on six Ugandan Healthcare Professionals completing the Diploma in Reproductive Health in Developing Countries at Liverpool School of Tropical Medicine, January- April 2014

Prepared by:
Miss Natalie Tate

© The University of Salford (2014)

The text of this document may be reproduced free of charge in any format or medium providing that it is reproduced accurately and not in a misleading context. The material must be acknowledged as University of Salford copyright and the document title specified. Where third party material has been identified, permission from the respective copyright holder must be sought.

The SVP project is funded by the Health Partnership Scheme which is managed by The Tropical Health & Education Trust (THET) on behalf of the Department for International Development (DFID). Any views represented in this report are those of the author.

Any enquiries regarding this publication should be sent to:
Prof. Louise Ackers (h.l.ackers@salford.ac.uk)

Introduction

The British Commonwealth Fellowship Scheme provides funding for Ugandan Healthcare workers to visit the UK for training. ¹

This report details six Ugandan healthcare workers who applied for the Fellowship Scheme from various health care settings in Uganda. This group of fellowships are one of many that have applied through The Liverpool Mulago Partnership ² successfully.

The six fellows:

Dr Seviiri Mathias - Obstetrician from Buwambo HCIV, Kampala
Dr Nyenje Ivan - Obstetrician from Kasangati HCIV, Kampala
Sister Ameede Susan - Midwife from Mulago NRH, Kampala
Sister Mukasa Barbara - Midwife from Mulago NRH, Kampala
Sister Bashabira Nice - Midwife from Fort Portal RRH, Fort Portal
Mr Sserumaga Mungi - Social Science Researcher from Kawempe.

The fellows arrived in the UK in January 2014 and took part in an intense three month training placement at the Liverpool School of Tropical Medicine and the course completed was the Diploma in Reproductive Health for Developing Countries. ³ The fellows also had the opportunity for clinical training through observation at Liverpool Women's Hospital and successfully completed the LSTM 'Life saving skills and essential obstetric care'.

The key themes of the diploma included concepts of sexual and reproductive health, maternal and new born health (MNBH), safe motherhood and strategies to improve MNH and reduce maternal, perinatal and neonatal mortality, including in particular key strategies as Skilled Attendance at Birth and Emergency Obstetric Care.

'I have gained a lot of knowledge from the LSTM course e.g. How to manage and take a patient as important as your own life'

Course participant



¹ British Commonwealth Fellowship, details of the scheme can be found at: <http://cscuk.dfid.gov.uk/apply/professional-fellowships/>

² Liverpool Mulago Partnership- <http://www.liverpoolmulagopartnership.org/>

³ Further details of the course can be found at: <http://www.lstmed.ac.uk/learning--teaching/lstm-courses/professional-diplomas/drh>

The LSTM Diploma in Reproductive Health for Developing Countries

Course Objectives

- Develop an awareness of the need to reduce reproductive mortality and morbidity through a multi-dimensional and team approach
- Increase their capabilities to plan, implement and evaluate relevant programmes and interventions in reproductive health
- Review a range of possible strategies that can be used to improve Sexual and Reproductive Health in resource poor countries and evaluation of these
- Understand and explain basic epidemiology, quantitative and qualitative research methods and apply the knowledge to critically analyse research papers and reports

Learning Outcomes

- Demonstrate in-depth knowledge of current global strategies to improve Sexual & Reproductive Health (SRH), including Maternal & Neonatal Health (MNH).
- Provide evidence-based SRH and MNH services and monitor & evaluate such services.
- Provide evidence-based obstetric care during pregnancy, child birth and in the postnatal period, including treatment of obstetric complications.
- Initiate quality improvement activities for MNH care services.
- Organise and provide FP services and plan for interventions to increase coverage and utilisation of such services.

‘Thank you Professor Louise, I was able to save 8 mothers over the week-end using the skills I acquired from UK’

Course participant



After returning from the UK in April, the six fellows returned to work in Uganda. The 2 doctors were moved by Wakiso District to work in 2 Health Centre IV Facilities. The 3 midwives returned to their posts in Mulago Hospital and Mountains of the Moon University, Fort Portal. Here they have been able to feedback the knowledge gained in the UK as well as show their improved practical skills to the local staff. The LMP created a specific opportunity to utilise and further develop their skills through the delivery of an Emergency Obstetric Skills Training Course.

Working with SVP volunteers in Kampala, ⁴ the fellows enjoyed being an integral part of the two day course. Facilitating not only allowed the fellows to feedback their improved skills and knowledge but also improve their confidence in teaching. The course was a success and the LMP have now arranged for the course to be delivered again in November, this time in Fort Portal. The fellows will again be facilitating.

Developing the fellows' teaching skills will be enhanced in Fort Portal with a dedicated 'Train the trainers' component, thus building a cadre of trainers so the course can continue to develop and in time become more Ugandan led.

'It was such an exciting period to be in Liverpool, The course was so informative, rich in content and has greatly changed everything around me'
'I recommend all health workers to do this course. The issues of maternal death are global and the causes are all preventable, so we need to team up'

'I thank LMP and The Hub for its generosity and plan to promote maternal health'

Course participants



The Six fellows along with the rest of the course who completed the Diploma in Reproductive Health in a Developing Country

'Since the course I have developed an interest in joining the quality improvement team on my unit to evaluate what the real problems are and helping to find solutions, that was one of the course units which enjoyed'

⁴Emergency Obstetric Skills Training Course- For further details of the training course please see the 'SVP Policy Report 2014:5, Emergency Obstetric Skills Training in the Sustainable Volunteering Project: A Case Study'