**Semi-Annual Narrative Report (SNR)**

# **1. Project Details**

GUIDELINES: Please complete the following table with details of the project.

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| Project Number | P 3589-Extension |
| Project Title | BCH/CBM Ear, Nose and Throat (ENT) Project |
| City/ Country/ Region | Lusaka/Zambia/Southern Africa |
|  |  |
| Name of Contractual Partner | Beit CURE Hospital |
| Other Implementing Partners | None |
|  |  |
| Duration of Project | 1 Year |
| Project Start Date | January, 2021 |
| Project End Date | December, 2021 |
| Project Cycle | January-December |
|  |  |
| Report Submitted by; |  |
| Name | Stephen Chishimba |
| Designation | Project Manager |
| Email Address | steven.chishimba@cureinternational.org |
| Date of Submission | 10th July, 2021 |

# **2. Summary of Results Achievements**

GUIDELINES: Insert a qualitative ‘summary’ of the overall progress of the project towards its Result areas. Please focus on the changes (intentional or unintentional) that has come about as a result of implementation of activities. Limit your response to 1 paragraph per result area.

**Result Area 1:**  **ENT and rehabilitation services**

This result area specifically speaks towards the achievement of the projects specific objective 1 and 2. Below is a short summary of our contribution towards that effect:

1. **Specific Objective 1:** Effective consultations that lead to appropriate treatment of patients.

From the results attained under this objective, the project achieved 4,262 consultations from a target of 5,760 consultations for the year which translates to 74%. The project is significantly on course to achieve this objective with the assumption that the country does not go into a lockdown amidst the third(3rd) wave of the Corona virus which started aggressively at the turn of quarter 2.

1. **Specific Objective 2:** Quality surgeries undertaken with good medical outcomes

During the period under review, under this specific objective the project achieved 252 surgeries conducted from a target of 480 for the year which translates to 53 % which is also on course to achieve this objective. The hospital was tactful in ensuring that all patients were thoroughly screened for COVID 19 before entering into theatre and this system allowed effectiveness in scheduling and planning diligently during operating theatre days. Despite this remarkable achievement, the Hospital could have achieved much more but the pandemic limited and affected the number of patients to be operated on, as some of the patients who tested positive for the virus were rescheduled for future appointments when they satisfy COVID safety and quarantine protocols.

**Result Area 2: Strengthening ENT, Audiology and Speech Therapy services in the Zambian Health System.**

The process to develop the new National ENT strategic plan commenced during the period under review. Beit CURE is spearheading the development of the Situation Analysis using the WHO Situational Analysis Tool. During the period under review, Beit CURE started contributing to this process by submitting information on the CBM/Partnership support and that yielded positive results for the ENT health sector in Zambia. The situational analysis forms part of the National ENT Plan which shall be developed by the Ministry of Health and collaborating partners.

**Result 03: Improved operational capacity and efficiency of the ENT Clinic at the Beit Cure Hospital.**

The period under review was earmarked by the undertaking of the annual financial audit, which was successfully completed with the audit report submitted to both Beit CURE and CBM**.**

# **3. Narrative Reporting on Activity Implementation**

3.1 GUIDELINES: Which activities were planned to be implemented in the first six months (Q1 and Q2)? Please list down the Activity Name and Number only.

**Result Area 1: ENT (diagnostic and surgery) and rehabilitative services (audiology and auditory-verbal therapy) provided to a larger number of patients.**

Activity 01.01 Conduct ENT Consultations

Activity 01.02 Conduct Community Outreach Consultations

Activity 01.03 Conduct School Screening Consultations

Activity 01.04 Conduct Audiology Consultations and BCH-ENT Clinic and at Outreaches

Activity 01.05 Conduct ENT Surgeries

Activity 01.06 Conduct Speech Therapy Consultations

Activity 01.07 Dispense Hearing Aids to the Hearing Impaired

**Result Area 2: Strengthening ENT, Audiology and Speech Therapy services in the Zambian Health System.**

Activity 02.03 Support and facilitate for the development of the new National ENT plan (2022-2026).

Activity 02.04 Collaborate with other OPDs and other stakeholders to enhance hearing impairments in Zambia.

**Result 03: Improved operational capacity and efficiency of the ENT Clinic at the Beit Cure Hospital.**

Activity 03.01 Prepare and submit high quality project quarterly and narrative reports.

Activity 03.02 Conduct Annual Financial Audit for the project.

Activity 03.03 Strengthen and Improve M&E tools, systems and strengthen data management.

3.2 GUIDELINES: Using the list above, please report on the activities implemented during the last 6 months. Describe if any targets were achieved, or explain any variance in achieved versus planned activities in the reporting period. Explain who the main beneficiaries/ participants were.

**Result Area 1: ENT and rehabilitation Services**

The table below illustrates the progress made during the last 6 months (Q 1 and Q 2, 2021) under review as well as the overall cumulative progress made on each activity area under this result area.

**Table 1:** Summary of Result Area 1 achievements

|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **Activity Area** | **Quarter 1 Target** | **Quarter 1 Achievement** | **Quarter 1 % Progress** | **Quarter 2 Target** | **Quarter 2Achievement** | **Quarter 2 % Progress** | **Q1 & Q 2 Semi-Annual Target** | **Q1 & Q 2 Semi-Annual Achievement** | **Q1 & Q 2 Semi-Annual % Progress** |
|  |
| ENT Consultations at BCH Clinic | 1440 | 2350 | **163** | 1440 | 1912 | **133** | 2880 | 4262 | **148** |  |
| ENT Surgeries Conducted at BCH | 120 | 140 | **117** | 120 | 112 | **93** | 240 | 252 | **105** |  |
| ENT Mobile Outreach screenings | 1360 | 334 | **25** | 1360 | 937 | **69** | 2720 | 1271 | **47** |  |
| ENT School Screenings | 600 | 228 | **38** | 600 | 964 | **161** | 1200 | 1192 | **99** |  |
| Audiology Consultations Conducted | 960 | 986 | **103** | 960 | 1070 | **111** | 1920 | 2056 | **107** |  |
| Speech Therapy Consultations | 72 | 75 | **104** | 72 | 73 | **101** | 144 | 148 | **103** |  |
| Hearing Aids Dispended to the Hearing Impaired | 60 | 37 | **62** | 60 | 23 | **38** | 120 | 60 | **50** |  |

**Activity 01.01 Conduct ENT Consultations at BCH ENT Clinic**

During the period under review, the hospital continued to provide quality ear and hearing care despite the ongoing pandemic. the project found a balance between providing quality services, and ensuring that hospital operations were ongoing and that staff were protected and free from COVID. This was evident from the 148% achievement under this activity area. Strategically, Beit Cure through this project is expected to achieve over a 100 % success in this result, if operations continue steadily and well managed.

**Activity 01.02 Perform ENT Surgeries at Beit CURE Hospital**

There was overachievement under this activity area at a rate of 105%. The significant trend observed was that the project in Q 2, had conducted more Nose and throat related surgeries compared to Ear surgeries in Q 1 of 2021. During this quarter it was also noted that the hospital undertook more surgeries on females compared to males. Compared to the previous years, there was an overall decline in the number of Ear related surgeries and conditions that lead to Ear problems This was an impressive result for the project, attributable to the fact that the public began to pay close attention to early identification of ear and hearing problems due to awareness created by the project team. The project is expected to continue monitoring the trend closely to validate initial observations.

Table 01.02

|  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| Q1-ENT Surgeries | | | | |
| **Surgery Type** | **Male** | **Female** | **Total** | **%** |
| **Ear** | **45** | **32** | **77** | **55** |
| **Nose & Throat** | **25** | **38** | **63** | **45** |
| **Total** | **70** | **70** | **140** | **100** |
| **Q2-ENT Surgeries** | | | | |
| **Ear** | **22** | **31** | **53** | **47** |
| **Nose & Throat** | **22** | **37** | **59** | **53** |
| **Total** | **44** | **68** | **112** | **100** |

**Activity 01.03 Conduct ENT mobile outreaches within Lusaka**

Overall, the hospital conducted a total of 14 mobile outreach clinics across Lusaka, Kafue, Chibombo, Rufunsa, Chirundu, Chongwe and Luangwa districts. During Q2 1901 clients were successfully screened compared to 562 clients screened in Q 1 and this was mainly due to the robust approach towards conducting outreach clinics despite the pandemic. However, the project also strategically donated and distributed COVID PPE materials received from the support of CBM and the Scottish government to supply some of the health care centers where outreach clinics were held. This worked to the advantage of the project as we were not only able to protect Health care workers during this time but also managed to screen clients, raise awareness on the COVID 19 pandemic and as well provide quality health talks at screening points on Ear and Hearing health. During this period under review, we successfully achieved 99 % on school screenings at mid-year and a much improved 69% on outreach clinics for Q 2 compared to 25% in Q 1.

**Table 3:** Summary of ENT Mobile Outreach Screenings during Q1 & Q2, 2021.

|  |  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| Outreach Consultations | | | | | |
| EHC Mobile Clinics | Male | Female | Boy | Girl | Total |
| School Screening | 39 | 56 | 540 | 557 | 1192 |
| Outreach Clinic | 257 | 434 | 226 | 354 | 1271 |
| Total Consultations | 296 | 490 | 766 | 911 | **2463** |
| **# of clinics held** | | | | | **21** |

**Activity 01.04 Conduct Audiology Consultations**

During the period under the review, the hospital’s Audiology unit successfully managed to attain a 107% achievement rate under this activity area. The project continued to undertake more tympanograms than any other test (513 tests/25% of all tests) and assessments were conducted. The strategic running of the hospital coupled with the COVID PPE’s donated to Beit CURE by CBM and other partners helped the hospital successfully administer audiology evaluations. This is evident from the results achieved for the period under review despite being in the third (3rd wave) of the COVID 19 pandemic. The project continued to undertake awareness raising activities that are aimed to generate a demand for the various audiology related services that are offered at the Hospital especially for children. Additionally, the Hospital will continue to take advantage of the ENT primary structures we have built in Lusaka, Central and Southern Province to strengthen the referral system to have more clients undertake audiology related services.

*Table 01.04*

**Activity 01.05 Provide Speech therapy sessions for children**

During the period under review, the Hospital through this project successfully provided speech and language therapy support to various children in need of the services. The project successfully achieved 103% achievement on the set target and are primed to attain over 90% success on this activity area. In order to attain this level of success the Hospital continued to ensure that the speech therapist was well protected to provide adequate screening. The Hospital continued screening more clients who are targeted for this Programme which is those that utilize hearing aids and are referred from Audiology. The Hospital also continued to refer clients who presented with more autistic features and symptoms to other institutions such as the Mulenga Autism foundation, the University Teaching Hospital and Special Hope Networks.

*Table 01.05*

|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| Age Category | Children (Birth-5 years) | | | Children (6-12 years) | | | Total Consultations |
| **Q 1 Description of Assessments** | **Male** | **Female** | **Total** | **Male** | **Female** | **Total** |
| Initial Assessment (First time) | 39 | 5 | 44 | 0 | 10 | 10 | 54 |
| Assessed then Referred (to other organization) | 13 | 8 | 21 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 21 |
| Re-Evaluations (previously assessed in the past) | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| **Total # of Speech Consultations** | **52** | **13** | **65** | **0** | **10** | **10** | **75** |
| **Q 2 Description of Assessments** | **Male** | **Female** | **Total** | **Male** | **Female** | **Total** | **Total Consultations** |
| Initial Assessment (First time) | 18 | 10 | 28 | 11 | 10 | 21 | 49 |
| Assessed then Referred (to other organization) | 9 | 0 | 9 | 5 | 3 | 8 | 17 |
| Re-Evaluations (previously assessed in the past) | 3 | 2 | 5 | 0 | 2 | 2 | 7 |
| **Total # of Speech Consultations** | **30** | **12** | **42** | **16** | **15** | **31** | **73** |

**Result Area 2: Strengthening ENT, Audiology and Speech Therapy services in the Zambian Health System.**

**Activity 02.03 Support and facilitate for the development of the new National ENT plan (2022-2026).**

As part of the process to develop a new National ENT Plan with the old plan coming to end in 2021, the Ministry of Health commenced the process of undertaking a situational analysis by conducting a desk review and key informant interviews alongside meetings that had been held virtually amidst the pandemic with various stakeholders within the ENT sector. Beit CURE provided its input on the following aspects to help in the development of the Situation Analysis Report:

* List of all Primary Health Care Workers that have been trained since 2018 through Beit CURE/CBM Partnership.
* List of all the Primary and Secondary Health Care facilities that have been equipped with level 1, level 2 and level 3 equipment for ENT service provision donated by Beit CURE through Beit CURE/CBM Partnership.
* List of all Public Health planners and decision makers that have been trained in the Public Health Approach for Ear and Hearing Care in Zambia by Beit CURE/CBM Partnership.
* List of all the Hearing Instrument Specialists/Audio-Technician’s, Audiologist and the ENT Specialists that have been trained or are undergoing training through Beit CURE/CBM Partnership.
* Various Infrastructure development that has been provided through the BCH/CBM partnership such as the Audio-metric booths, the Temporal Bone laboratory and other structural support that CBM has provided at Beit CURE to enable the hospital to provide specialized training and services to the public.
* Statistical Reports on the number of clients that have received treatment.
* Lists of various consumables and pharmaceuticals that have been distributed/donated to the public health facilities through Beit CURE/CBM Partnership.

The Ministry of Health has since scheduled future key informant interviews with partners such as CBM Country Office that shall be conducted during the year amid the COVID pandemic that shall be communicated later. The Ministry has made an appeal to Beit CURE to assist them in soliciting for financial resources to assist them with the development of the National ENT Plan as they may need to move across the country to gather anecdotal evidence from various health and non-health ENT players.

**Activity 02.04 Collaborate with other OPDs and other stakeholders to enhance hearing impairments in Zambia.**

During the period under review, the hospital leveraged its efforts on the COVID response fund to collaborate with Disabled People’s Organizations (OPDs) such as the Zambia National Association of the Deaf (ZNAD), Zambia Deaf Sports Federation (ZDSF) and the Ministry of Education Special Unit Department and the Ministry of Health under the Health Promotion Unit to champion inclusive development for the hearing-impaired children in Lusaka. The Hospital was specifically accompanied by the President of ZDSF, Mr Mutemwa who played a vital role in the response Programme and helped to educate, encourage, and motivate children to continue to pursue education and learning despite the pandemic and encouraged the children to be more active in sport and other extra-curricular activities that lead children to have a normal healthy life. During this period, the Hospital also managed to distribute Covid related protective materials to a total of 379 children across 18 special schools in 3 districts who benefited from the collaboration with the Ministry of General Education and the Organisations of Persons with Disabilities. Below is a list of schools that benefited from our COVID response activities:

|  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| Lusaka Province: Lusaka District | | | | |
| S/N | **SCHOOL** | **BOYS** | **GIRLS** | **TOTAL** |
| 01 | Lilayi special unit | 02 | 02 | 04 |
| 02 | Chaisa special unit | 01 | 02 | 03 |
| 03 | Munali Girls special unit | 55 | 36 | 91 |
| 04 | Bauleni special school | 03 | 05 | 08 |
| 05 | Faith Baptist School | 55 | 49 | 104 |
| 06 | Twashuka special unit | 02 | 01 | 03 |
| 07 | Desai special unit | 06 | 13 | 19 |
| 08 | UTH special school | 15 | 07 | 22 |
| 09 | Lusaka Boys special unit | 07 | 00 | 07 |
| 10 | Chainama Special School | 03 | 04 | 07 |
| 11 | Lusaka Girls special unit | 04 | 14 | 18 |
| 12 | St. Lawrence special unit | 15 | 08 | 23 |
| 13 | Chilenje B special unit | 00 | 02 | 02 |
| 14 | Mutambe special unit | 02 | 01 | 03 |
| 15 | Mumana special unit | 00 | 01 | 01 |
| 16 | Kapwelyomba special unit | 01 | 02 | 03 |
|  | **Total: 16 Special Unit Schools** | **171** | **147** | **318** |

Below is the list of schools that benefited from Kabwe and Kapiri Mposhi Districts in Central Province: A total of 61 children benefited from the Covid pack provided to them.

|  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| District | School | Girls | Boys | Total |
| Kabwe | Broadway Secondary- Special unit for the Deaf | 20 | 34 | 54 |
| Kapiri | Lukanda Primary -Special unit | 3 | **4** | **7** |
| 2 Districts | **2 Schools** | **23** | **38** | **61** |

Below is an illustration of the Covid distribution pack that was provided to each of the schools:

During the Covid response distribution the Hospital was able to distribute facemasks (hearing impaired inclusive with the transparent polythene plastic material), soaps, hand sanitizers, hand liquid soap, infrared thermometers and some face shields donated to schools for schoolteachers. The pie chart below illustrates the breakdown on the materials distributed and purchased for our Covid response activities.

**Result 03: Improved operational capacity and efficiency of the ENT Clinic at the Beit Cure Hospital.**

**Activity 03.01 Prepare and submit high quality project quarterly and narrative reports.**

This report is a composition of Quarter 1 and Quarter 2 activities that is being submitted to CBM as per requirement in line with the donor-partner agreement for support rendered towards Beit CURE Hospital from the donor organization Christian Blind Mission (CBM).

**03.02Conduct Annual Financial Audit for the project.**

The 2020 end of year financial audit commenced in quarter 1 of 2021 and was successfully completed before the month end of March. The audit was undertaken by a local audit firm called “Client Focused Solutions Limited” who submitted an Audit Report to Beit CURE Hospital and CBM by March 3rd after which the report findings were accepted with recommendation made to Beit CURE to improve its financial management systems and processes for better accountability.

# **4. Challenges and Lessons Learned**

GUIDELINES: Please complete the table below with challenges that were encountered during the reporting period and the lessons learned. Include any solution that you plan to implement in the next reporting period. (If you have used the Status Column in the Indicator Tracking Sheet (Column K) to report Challenges against specific indicators, make sure you elaborate on the challenge in the table below)

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| **Challenge** | **Lessons learned / solutions** |
| Outreaches and School Screening Strategy affected by the surge in COVID 19 cases  Delayed Response from the DEBs (District Education Board) to our letter to distribute COVID related materials  Support towards all children with different disabilities at Special Unit Schools is needed | There is need to leverage on the PPE (Personal protective equipment) and Covid response pack we are providing to schools to other health facilities and community centers if we are to successful conduct outreaches. In doing so it will help us get the much needed support from the Ministry of Health towards helping them in the COVID pandemic fight whilst we still provide Ear and hearing care amongst the communities and schools we go for screening.  This process was delayed mainly because the people that were responsible in responding had been infected with the Covid virus which hampered their ability to share feedback early. Other staff that had been delegated to this process but were not very helpful in facilitating the approval of the letter as when needed to provide this support in line with the surveillance of the pandemic that was ongoing. The Ministry of Health were more supportive and helpful in facilitating this process for us as they felt the need and urgency for the response to commence amidst the pandemic.  In the case that we targeted the hearing impaired in line with the support that this project provides, there is need to enhance and diversify the support to even the intellectually impaired children within these special unit schools to enhance inclusive development to all children with disabilities. Our support is sometimes perceived to be segregated to just the hearing-impaired despite being other children with different disabilities. |

# **5. Changes in Implementation Plan and Personnel (if applicable)**

GUIDELINES: Please use the space below to specify any changes to (I) the implementation plan (strategies, timelines, targets or key results; also specify if any approval for changes has been sought from CBM), (II) any changes in personnel at the organization’s senior management level, (III) key positions related to the project implementation.

Two (2) significant changes occurred during this semi-annual period as highlighted below:

**Change 1: Newly hired Hospital Operations Manager**

During this quarter, the hospital hired a new operations manager by the name of Mr Martin Mulonga, who brings with him 4 years of experience having worked in a similar capacity for a mine on the Copperbelt province.

**Change 2: Jessica Cramer (Speech Therapist) and Pezo Mumbi (Speech Therapist) have left Beit CURE Hospital.**

The hospital has also lost Jessica Cramer who was hired last year and was unable to continue with us as she left for the USA. The hospital also lost Pezo Mumbi, who also unfortunately had to leave to further her studies in Speech and Language Therapy.

**6. Risk Update (If applicable)**

GUIDELINES: Have any of the risks identified during the project design materialized or changed?

The risk register for this project has been updated. Below are the 3 main risks identified as a threat towards the project:

**Risk 1: Ongoing Global Pandemic (COVID 19 Virus)**

The corona virus continues to have a great impact on our daily lives more so on the project. Public health guidelines and restrictions entail that certain actives especially those that involve mass gatherings pose a threat a risk to people’s lives. As such we have been operating very cautiously in order to ensure that we remain safe and free from the pandemic. A spike in the number of cases has a ripple effect to the number of patients we see and a greater impact on our ability to reach out to children especially outside of Lusaka province.

**Risk 2: Devaluation of the Zambian Currency / Exchange Rate Effect**

The Zambian kwacha’s exchange rate performance against foreign currencies namely the United States dollar (USD), the British Pound and the Euro remain a serious threat to our currency. As a country that is a net importer of the majority of goods and services we access, a devalued kwacha entails weakened purchasing power parity which is directly proportional to high inflation. These possess a great threat on our ability to appreciate the same monetary value of the project funds.

**Risk 3: Political Environment and Upcoming 2021 General Presidential and Parliamentary Elections in Zambia.**

With nationwide voter registration having been successfully conducted and finalized on the 20th December, 2020 the country is set to engage into a series of campaign related activities by various political parties projected to commence after the month of April. Historically the country has experienced some level of violence over this period which has posed a threat to the general public. The project anticipates a huge slowdown in the implementation of field based related activities as well as a slowdown in the patient inflow thereby affecting implementation. The country has most recently in quarter 4 of 2020 in the month of December faced political violence between rival political parties that has threatened the level of peace particularly within Lusaka Province with in which the project is primarily being implemented. The link provides more information on the upcoming general elections (**https://www.elections.org.zm**)

**7. Activity Forecast**

GUIDELINES: Which activities are planned to be implemented in the next 6 months (Q3 and Q4)? Please list down the Activity Name and Number only.

**Result Area 1: ENT (diagnostic and surgery) and rehabilitative services (audiology and auditory-verbal therapy) provided to a larger number of patients.**

Activity 01.01 Conduct ENT Consultations

Activity 01.04 Conduct Audiology Consultations and BCH-ENT Clinic.

Activity 01.05 Conduct ENT Surgeries

Activity 01.06 Conduct Speech Therapy Consultations

Activity 01.07 Dispense Hearing Aids to the Hearing Impaired

**Result Area 2: Strengthening ENT, Audiology and Speech Therapy services in the Zambian Health System.**

Activity 02.03 Support and facilitate for the development of the new National ENT plan (2022-2026).

Activity 02.04 Collaborate with other OPDs and other stakeholders to enhance hearing impairments in Zambia.

**Result 03: Improved operational capacity and efficiency of the ENT Clinic at the Beit Cure Hospital.**

Activity 03.01 Prepare and submit high quality project quarterly and narrative reports.

Activity 03.03 Strengthen and Improve M&E tools, systems and strengthen data management.

# **8. Photos**

GUIDELINES: Please use the space below to paste any photos, with captions, news items etc. related to the project. Please ensure that written consent has been obtained from all identifiable people in the photos.

# **9. Comments from CBM Country Office[[1]](#footnote-1)**

GUIDELINES: **(Only to be filled by the Country Office)** Please use the space below to briefly comment on the quality of project implementation and reporting, and describe whether the project is on track and on schedule. If a monitoring visit was conducted during the last 6 months, what were the main findings and recommendations?

The project implementation of the project is on course. As part of the country office efforts to improve the capacity of the partner, a recent monitoring visit was conducted, which saw an updated partner assessment done using the new excel tool, the project has also been ear marked for a cost extension. The general reporting is timely and well detailed.

1. If there is no Country Office, then the Regional Office/IAA/TU is invited to share their comments as per the arrangement regarding the supervision of the project. [↑](#footnote-ref-1)