SAFE MOTHERHOOD- MIDWIFERY PROJECT TRAINING AND HEALTH EDUCATION OF TRADITIONAL BIRTH ATTENDENTS AND VILLAGE HEALTH WORKERS IN RURAL AFRICA PRESENTED BY A SPECIALIZED OBSTETRIC GYNECOLOGIST, EXPERIENCED IN CONDUCTING COURSES FOR VHT IN AFRICA

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In 2000, the WHO published the Millennium Developmental goals, no. 5 was defined as a reduction of maternal mortality ratio by 75% by 2010 and achieving universal access to reproductive health. According to WHO report, Ethiopia has one of the highest maternal and infant mortality rates in the world.

The most common causes of maternal mortality can be detected and prevented by skilled health personnel, unfortunately most deliveries in rural villages in Africa are unattended.

After being approached by the Mekele Health ministry we constructed a unique model of training for village midwives in rural Africa that we want to present here.

Safe Motherhood – midwifery project

Goals:
To improve the safety of childbirth for mothers and babies in the countryside and rural areas.
To lower maternal and infant morbidity and mortality.
To create a firm foundation of education and training that will raise the medical standards on a long-term continual basis.

Proposal:
Establishment of (3rd level) maternity center with fully equipped (possibly mobile) delivery room that will be operated by experienced certified midwives from western countries.
This center will function as a training center for the local Birth attenders, midwives or health workers.
The interns will be trained in skills as nutrition; sanitation; pregnancy care; birth preparation, emergency skills, newborn and child care, and family planning.
The antenatal care program will be according to the WHO management protocol of Focused 4 steps ANC.
The health center will be operated under the authority of the local government health bureau and Hospital.
The ultimate goal is that interns will return to their local communities.