

FOUNDATION EAGLE INTERIM REPORT

FUNDING FOR PROVIDING SOLAR POWER AND EQUIPMENT FOR CHILOMONI HEALTH CENTRE MATERNITY UNIT, BLANTYRE, MALAWI.

<u>Foundation Eagle reference:</u>	FF 0716
<u>Name of charity:</u>	The AMECA Trust
<u>Charity No:</u>	1121240
Report Date:	8th October 2024
Report Period:	14/06/24 – 08/10/24
Contract date:	5th June 2024
Total Grant:	£18,000
Received on:	12th June 2024
Expenditure to date:	£11,047.07

Beneficiaries:

Opened in 1972, Chilomoni Health Centre currently serves a catchment population of approximately 63,300 people and is a very busy facility located in the heart of Chilomoni. Although it is located only 4km from the centre of Blantyre, the dirt access road to the health centre is quite challenging. Records from 2023 indicate that the health centre received 1,475 maternity patients over the year, which equates to almost 123 mothers in labour each of month. 24.6% or 363 mothers required referral to a tertiary facility, with an average of almost 93 deliveries at the facility each month.

Background Summary:

Funding was granted by Foundation Eagle for the purposes of equipping and providing solar power for a maternity unit which AMECA is currently renovating at Chilomoni Health Centre, Blantyre.



Surgical teaching visit.

Cholomoni Health Centre is a government facility, run by the Blantyre District Health Office. Obstetric emergencies are referred to the nearby Queens Tertiary Hospital, (a distance of around 5 Km), as Chilomoni does not have an operating theatre.

The challenges for the delivery of maternity services, are summarised as follows:

- Postnatal and Antenatal mothers were sharing one over-crowded poorly maintained ward.
- Lack of available space and beds; patients often sleeping on the floor or sharing 2 to a bed.
- There was little space between the beds on the ward, resulting in lack of staff access, infection risk and an inability to use mosquito nets.
- The delivery room had only three very old beds that were unfit for purpose.
- There was virtually no privacy, (save for some torn curtains), for mothers in active labour.
- All ceilings were in a state of disrepair due to leaks.
- No functioning oxygen concentrators or suction machines and poor equipment.
- There was no functioning autoclave for sterilising instrumentation.
- The sluice area was not functioning, poorly equipped and not fit for purpose.
- Male partners were excluded from the delivery room due to lack of privacy.
- Maternity Staff members had no area in which to sit down and take a break.
- The stores room was dysfunctional and not fit for purpose.
- There was no office space, computer, nor any office equipment nor shelving for files. Patient referrals were not audited, as there was no way of copying forms.
- Intermittent power issues and the current solar power was not functioning.
- No washing machine area, nor a washing machine.



Above, the poor state of the delivery room and lack of equipment is evident.

Consultation with the Blantyre District Health Office took place earlier this year and the architect plans were approved by the Department of Health Management Team and by Blantyre District Council.



Above, architect Jan Sonke, DHO and Management Team discussing the plans.

The existing solar system is at least 12 years old and comprises four 12-volt acid batteries and 12 solar panels on the roof. AMECA asked Hi Tech, who installed the solar power system at The AMECA Health Centre at Chilaweni, to inspect the system. The 12 existing solar panels are working and in good condition, but new Lithium batteries and a new Inverter system are needed and will be purchased. Lithium batteries, although more expensive than lead/acid batteries, have a far longer life span and for this reason, we are purchasing Lithium batteries. Furthermore, following installation, Hi Tech will provide training for key senior staff at the maternity unit to ensure understanding, security and use of the system, as they did with the unit installed at Chilaweni.



Solar technicians from Hi Tech inspecting the old and dysfunctional solar system.

The following works are currently being undertaken:

1. Dismantling the existing interior walls and constructing an additional wall on the khonde, (veranda) area to create separate antenatal and postnatal wards.
2. Replacing the roofing nails with correct nails with rubber cups to prevent rain leaks.
3. Renovating the delivery suite to provide a 4-bed facility with individual patient cubicles.
4. Replacing any damaged ceilings panels and repaint the ceilings.
5. Providing a clean and modern new well-equipped sluice area.
6. Creating a well-deigned storeroom, office space and staff room.
7. Providing new maternity equipment as specified by the District Nursing Officer.
8. Utilising the existing solar panels and providing new lithium batteries and an inverter.
9. Creating a secure outside area for the autoclave and washing machine.

Renovations commenced on the 2nd of September:



Mr Mbewe of B M Contractors & Build Team



Demolition of old sluice area.



Removal of rotten timbers and old ceiling in postnatal ward



Architect Jan in discussion with site foreman.



Delivery Room internal walls being built.



Architect Jan discussing wall division to antenatal ward.

At the time of writing, the maternity unit renovations are into the 5th week and excellent progress is being made. It should be noted that AMECA was able to obtain full VAT exemption on the building materials from MRA, (Malawi Revenue), saving 17.5% on the cost of procurement. (See attachment.)

Equipment Purchase:

During April, a visit was made to the Medic Foundation in Holland, (<https://en.medic.nl>) to purchase some of the maternity equipment. The Foundation is a wonderful organisation, run by volunteers, who are mostly retired engineers, supplying renovated second-hand equipment to low-income countries. A list of the purchases from Medic can be viewed in the financial expenditure section. This equipment was shipped from Holland and is currently about to be delivered to Blantyre. AMECA obtained Import Free Duty clearance from MRA on this equipment.





Selecting Vital Signs monitors.



With AMECA Clinical Director, Medic staff and Dutch colleagues.

Due to the costs of shipment, larger items such as delivery beds etc were purchased in Malawi at Sakaramenta, (<https://www.sakaramenta.com/care-collection.html>) Refer to financial expenditure.



Above, with Caesaria at Sakaramenta in Blantyre, sourcing maternity furniture.

Consultation has also been undertaken throughout with the District Nursing Officer and Head of Safe Motherhood, (pictured below), to ensure that maternity equipment requirements are being addressed.



Challenges of the project to date:

The Malawi Kwacha has undergone several devaluations which is resulting in severe price rises for equipment and materials. AMECA does hold a UK Sterling account in Malawi, which helps mitigate these increases.

Although VAT exemption was obtained on building materials, the process of application to the Malawi revenue is becoming ever more arduous and time consuming.

FINANCIAL INFORMATION:

Foundation Eagle Grant Final Project Expenditure:

16/05/24	Medic Foundation, Holland	Euro 1,021.85	£856	Refer to invoice.
20/08/24	Sakaramenta, Blantyre	Kwacha 3,714,025	£1,633	60% of costs for hospital furniture. Refer to invoice.
04/09/24	Hi Tech Electronics, Blantyre	Kwacha 19,115,382	£8,402	Refer to invoice.
16/06/24	Anna Wiz Supplies UK	-	£99.91	2 Doppler Machines
16/06/24	Amazon UK	-	£35.80	Curtain Rings for poles
16/06/24	Amazon UK	-	£20.36	Office storage rack
		TOTAL	£11,047.07	

Not included in the above are petrol costs and bank charges for transfer of funds from the UK and bank charges from Malawi for payment to a different bank from AMECA's Nation Bank account.

AMECA applied for and obtained VAT Exemption on all building materials, giving a saving of 17.5% on the purchase of materials.

Summary of Estimated Budget submitted to Foundation Eagle:

Foundation Eagle Grant: £18,000

Expenditure to date: £11,047.07

Operational Logistics:

AMECA operates on the ground in Malawi and in the UK without offices as we work from home, neither does the charity have any staff, which minimises expenditure maximises grant funding.

Ruth Markus. CEO The AMECA Trust.
September 8th October 2024

Hi-TECH ELECTRONICS LIMITED



bridging the gap

KIDNEY CRESCENT

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hi-tech@africa-online.net

fixit1810@gmail.com

DPD/AMECA/424/1

3rd April 2024

AMECA

Blantyre

Attn: Procurement

Dear Ruthie,

Re: Quotation for a solar system for Chilomoni Health Centre – Blantyre, Malawi

Following your request for a solar system to support the health centre in Chilomoni, we now offer the following quotation.

Estimated Cost including installation is:

3.6KHI intelligent hybrid solar inverter 10.24KWH Lithium Ion Phosphate battery module Price excludes solar panels (we will use those currently installed on site)	
16.5% VAT	0.00
MK	19,115,382.00

System operation: The system is designed to utilize the sun's yield for as long as it can. Primary source of power is the Sun with Escom and batteries only being used when solar yield is poor. This is a hybrid system that utilizes the sun's solar insolation together with the Escom supply to keep its load powered and its batteries fully charged. It is not designed to be used as a purely offgrid system.

Availability – 6 – 9 weeks

Hi-Tech Electronics Limited shall not be liable for late delivery if such delay is caused by conditions beyond its control including, but not limited to acts of God, government restrictions, pandemics, foreign exchange restrictions, wars, and/or any other cause beyond the reasonable control of Hi-Tech Electronics Limited.

We trust the above is sufficient for your requirements and should you need any further information, please do not hesitate to contact us.

We look forward to hearing from you.

Yours faithfully,

HI-TECH ELECTRONICS LIMITED

David de Silva

GENERAL MANAGER

LOAD PROFILE USED FOR SYSTEM CALCULATION

ROOM	Description	Qty	W	Wt	Time [h]
maternity wing	lights	20	18	360	8
maternity wing	oxygen generator	2	400	800	4
maternity wing	lights	13	9	117	8
maternity wing	fridge	2	100	200	8



To : Ruth Markus
Jan Petit

Apeldoorn : 14-05-24
Ref. nr. : **24.358**

The goods collected by you at Medic have as final destination : **Malawi**

Invoice

Description	Number	Price.p.p.	Price
Suction Machine	2	100,00 €	200,00 €
Vital Sign Monitor (blue O2)	4	35,00 €	140,00 €
BP Machine Manual	2	10,00 €	20,00 €
BP Machine Digital + charger	6	10,00 €	60,00 €
Stethoscoop	10	1,80 €	18,00 €
Thermometers For Free	10		
Fotoscoop wood	2	1,00 €	2,00 €
Neonat Resuscitaire Baby	1	30,00 €	30,00 €
Heater (only heater + stand)			
Autoclave big Pressure Cooker 30 L	1	231,35 €	231,35 €
Vaginaal Speculum large	5	1,00 €	5,00 €
Vaginaal Speculum Medium	5	1,00 €	5,00 €
Vaginaal Speculum Small	5	1,00 €	5,00 €
Obstetric Scissors	5	3,00 €	15,00 €
Little Drum	1	2,00 €	2,00 €
Were Basket for autoclave	5	2,00 €	10,00 €
Delivery set	8	43,00 €	344,00 €
Kidney Dish big	5	1,50 €	7,50 €
Kidney Dish small	5	1,50 €	7,50 €
Surgical forceps (16 cm)	5	2,00 €	10,00 €
Female cath 12 inch	5	3,75 €	18,75 €
Kiwi vacuum extractie	1	118,75 €	118,75 €
Neonatal Masks	2	2,00 €	4,00 €
Ambu for children	1	7,00 €	7,00 €
Children Oxygen spectral	1	1,00 €	1,00 €
Seringe 1 ml For Free, 2 and 5 ml for free			
Fetoscoop Metal	5	1,00 €	5,00 €

(Sub) Total :

1.266,85 €

Medic Foundation : I. Koekkoek

Please transfer the total amount to our
ING account, quoting above mentioned reference number.
Our standard conditions of sale do apply for
this delivery (see www.medic.nl/en/leveringsvoorwaarden/).

BIC INGBNL2A
IBAN NL78INGB0653315538
BTW nr. NL0062.90.371.B.01
KvK Oost Nederland 41039267
ANBI ERKEND



ref. no.: **24.358**

Apeldoorn: 14-05-24

Invoice

Description	Num-ber	Price.p.p.	Price
Transport			1.266,85 €
Fetoscoop Metal	5	1,00 €	5,00 €
Catheter Foley for free			
Bandages for free			
Headcaps for free			
Isolation gown for free			
Needles for free			
Examination gloves for frr			
Seringe pumps for free			
Packing costs	1	150,00 €	150,00 €
Already payed	1	871,85- €	-871,85 €
Bijrage steunfonds	1	400,00- €	-400,00 €
Grand Total :			150,00 €

INVOICE

Sakaramenta
P.O. Box 3309
Blantyre
Malawi



Tel: +265 999 027 045
Email:
Website: www.sakaramenta.com

We thank you for your enquiry and below is our quotation;

Date: 20 August,2024

Contact Name:Ruth Marcus

Organisation:AMECA

Telephone:

TPIN: 70234647

Quote #: 29

Description	Unit Price	Quantity	Amount
Delivery beds	768,500	4	3,074,000
Bedside Trolley	327,645	4	1,310,580
Mayo stand	146,455	2	292,910
Drip stands	166,000	4	664,000
Intrument Trolley	424,276.00	2	848,552
			-
			-
	Sub Total		6,190,042
	VAT	0.0%	-
	Grand Total		6,190,042

Terms of Trade:

1. A 60% deposit is required upon confirmation of order, final payment must be made upon delivery
2. This Invoice is valid for 14 days

Yours faithfully,
Ceaseria Sokela

sakaramentamw@gmail.com

0994 492 043 / 0999 027 045

For Deposits: National Bank, Acc Name: Sakaramenta Metal works, Acc #: 1008736452, Branch: Victoria



National Bank of Malawi

PROOF OF PAYMENT
FUNDS TRANSFER TO NBM ACCOUNT

National Bank of Malawi
NBM Towers
7 Henderson Street
P.O Box 945
Blantyre
Malawi
Tel : (+265) 1 831485
Tel : (+265) 1 831471
Email : callcentre@natbankmw.com

Tuesday 20 August 2024

Customer Details

Customer Name	AMECA HEALTHCARE AFRICA LTD AMECA HEALTHCARE AFRICA
Customer Account	1000738553

Transaction Details

Receipient Name	Sakaramenta
Reference Number	FT24233ZH9CC
To Account	1008736452
Transfer Amount	MWK 3,714,025.20
Currency	MWK
Transaction Time	8/20/24 1:43 PM
Description	AMECA Deposit Maternity Equip