



**SOUTHERN NGO CONSTITUENCY  
RBM Board Alternate  
(2010-2012)**

Biography

**Esther Tallah, Paediatrician**

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**A. Work experience / Professional Skills**

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- Highly motivated paediatrician with 18 years of experience including 8 years of working with an international NGO as Health Co-ordinator with ample international exposure.
- Ability to run a project from planning to evaluation, developing programmes/project proposals, and running them through the project milestones such as baseline survey, mid term review, final evaluation.
- Skills in running child survival related health programs on malaria, nutrition, immunization, diarrhea, acute respiratory infection, safe motherhood and HIV/AIDS in the Prevention of Mother to Child Transmission of HIV/AIDS, Promotion of Voluntary Counseling and Testing, Care and Support to Orphans and Vulnerable children using the Circle of Hope conceptual Approach.
- Outstanding record in training and facilitation on HIV/AIDS, IMCI, Malaria and inter-sectoral inter-agency collaboration with government, multilateral, bilateral, non-governmental, faith-based, and community based organizations.
- Ability to effectively promote the daily work, goals and objectives of my organization with senior government, donor, UN, NGO, FBO and NGO staff, as well as advocate for the needs of recipient communities of donor assistance.
- Keen sense of professionalism, meticulous organizational skills, innovative thinking, ability to take risks, strong work ethic, and capacity to work in multi-cultural environments, coupled with exposure to over 9 countries worldwide.

**B. Education / Affiliations**

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- Pediatrics, Faculty of Medicine and Biomedical Sciences Yaounde/Frei Universität of Berlin, Germany (1989 - 1994).
- Internship, Kaisarine August Victoria Haus Kinderklinik, Frei

Universität Berlin, Germany (1993 - 1994)

- Medical Doctor, University Centre for Health Sciences, Yaounde (1980 - 1986)
- Regional training as consultant on Orientation and Planning of Community Integrated Management of Childhood Illness (C-IMCI) by WHO/AFRO, Ouidah/Benin (June 2005)
- Training by the Association of PVO financial Managers on Working With USAID: From Proposal to Closeout, Dakar, Senegal (March 2004)
- Trained on IMCI during the first National Training on IMCI by MOH/UNICEF/WHO/Plan Cameroon/UNFPA (2003)
- Training on Global Fund proposal Development by GIP ESTHER, WHO and Global Fund Secretariat, Paris, France (March 2005)
- Family Planning and Reproductive Health needs with HIV in low-resource settings, e-mail course, JHPIEGO (May-Sept 2003)
- Trained as HIV/AIDS counselor at the first national training of counselors by the MOH Cameroon, Yaounde (April 2002)
- Attended Summer school of Public Health and followed courses on Principles of Epidemiology, HIV/AIDS, and Evaluation, Johns Hopkins, Baltimore, USA (June-July 2000)

### ***C. PROFESSIONAL WORK EXPERIENCE***

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#### **1. Manager, Cameroon Coalition Against Malaria (April 2007 till date)**

Provide general liaison and coordination with the local community, African, European and global partners. Lead the Cameroon team and partners, developing and implementing strategic planning and management processes to support the strategic goals of the advocacy projects and coordinate all implementation activities in Cameroon and the Central African Sub-region and with advocacy partnerships in Europe and globally; and oversee and support advocacy activities in Africa in particular

#### **2. National Health Co-ordinator, Plan International, Cameroon (March 1998 - March 2007)**

- Planning, programming, and managing project interventions for Control of Diarrhoeal Diseases, Promotion of Immunisation, Control of Malaria, Prevention of Malnutrition, prevention and management of childhood HIV/AIDS in PMTCT programs and also in OVC support and care programs while promoting VCT and formation of support groups. Programs implemented at the grassroots level with full participation of stake holders and target population

- Collecting and analysing of data generated by the project on population, disease patterns, program interventions, and data generated by traditional health service provided in the area.
- Writing quarterly reports of progress on the Cameroon Health projects.
- Organising regular meetings within the project areas (Project Coordinating Committee Meetings) and with other collaborating agencies within the project (Steering Committee Meetings) and outside the project, as necessary to coordinate health services delivery.
- In collaboration with the MOH and other health project team members, developing training programs for community health agents and health workers involved in the project.
- Training, re-orientation and supervision of health workers involved with the project on C-IMCI and innovative approaches such as Positive Deviance Hearth (PD/Hearth).
- Managing, monitoring and reviewing the annual budget with the support of the Operations Support Manager.
- Developing and adapting health education materials for use at community level.
- Principal investigator in all surveys and research associated with the project.
- Other duties consistent with the basic role in the project outlined above

## **2. Experiences**

- Team leader in the implementation of the Global Fund for Fight Against HIV/AIDS, Round Three OVC Component granted to MOH Cameroon, using the Circle of Hope Approach in communities and orphanages (2005 - )
- Team member for the evaluation of the Ministry Of Public Health, National AIDS Control Program and drafting of the new program 2006 - 2010, (2005 - )
- Team member for the evaluation of the MOH National Enlarged Program for Immunisation (2005)
- Development of the Plan Cameroon Country Program Outline on Child Survival and Early Childhood development using the life cycle approach (2005)
- Team member development of winning proposal to USAID on Expanded Impact Child Survival Project (Nov 2004)

- Team member Final evaluation of a 4-year USAID/Plan funded Child Survival project (Sept 2004)
- Team leader quantitative surveys for the evaluation of Plan Cameroon health programs (July 2004)
- Resource person in workshop to update malaria treatment in Cameroon including choice of first line treatment for malaria, Intermittent Preventive Treatment in pregnancy, and treatment of severe case of malaria (2004)
- Team member, mid term review of a 4-year USAID/Plan funded CS project (2002)
- Facilitator, trainings on HIV/AIDS and validation of training modules for peer educators by UNESCO (2001)
- Team member in the Detailed Implementation Plan (DIP) development and defended it at a DIP review by USAID and other Peer Organisations, Washington (2001).
- Team leader in planning and implementation of household survey on Knowledge Practice and Coverage (KPC), Integrated Health Facility Assessment (IHFA) survey and Focus Group Discussions (FGD) in communities for a Child Survival project by Plan Cameroon (2000)
- Team member in developing a winning 4-year child survival project proposal to USAID (Nov 1999)
- Planned and facilitated the implementation of KPC in some communities in Cameroon (1999)
- Cameroonian Society of Paediatrics (SOCAPED) (1995)
- Cameroon Medical Women Association (1991)
- National Medical Council (1987)
- Member Malaria Social Scientist Network (2001)
- Representing Plan Cameroon at the Country Co-ordination Mechanism (CCM) for the Global fund for Malaria, Tuberculosis and HIV/AIDS (2002)
- Principal liaison between government of Cameroon and Plan Cameroon vis-à-vis health programs culminating in Plan,s membership in the Global Fund Country Coordination Mechanism (CCM) and the recognition of Plan's work in the health domain by government and partners (March 1998 - date)

### 3. Conferences, Workshops and Seminars

- GFATM Board Meeting (Communities Delegation Support Group member), Geneva (April 2008)
- GFATM Round Table 2 Scaling up for impact, GFATM Observer, Pretoria South Africa (April 2008)
- GFATM Round 8 preparation workshop Pretoria, South Africa (April 2008)
- International workshop on advocacy, organised by Voices in Bamako Mali (Nov 2007)
- Training on participation in the various boards including GFATM and RBM in Lusaka, (May 2007).
- Participated at a Training workshop on Malaria and HIV/AIDS Advocacy in Lusaka, Zambia, (May 2007)
- Facilitated workshop session with youth and also rapporteured another session at the Abuja 14<sup>th</sup> International Conference on AIDS and STIs in Africa (ICASA), (Dec 2005)
- Participated at the MIM Conference where I made a Poster Presentation on Reducing morbidity of under-five children by empowering community members, Yoaunde, (Nov 2005)
- Training on Global Fund proposal Development by GIP ESTHER, WHO and Global Fund secretariat, Paris, France (March 2005).
- Presentation on the positive deviance hearth (PD/Hearth) approach, the Plan Cameroon initiation, at the West Africa Region technical networks workshop for health, Education and Water and Sanitation Technical Advisers, Bamako, Mali (Nov 2004)
- Chaperoned and facilitated the participation of children from a Plan Program Village to participate at a Children's conference on health by Plan UK, London and further facilitated their participation at the Prime Minister' Commission for Africa to fight poverty (2004)
- Participant at the Plan International Global Growing Up Healthy Domain PAG/TAG 8<sup>th</sup> international conference, Nicaragua (July 2004)
- Organised and facilitated the training of the staff of Plan Togo on HIV/AIDS (April 2004)
- Family Planning and Reproductive Health needs with HIV in low-resource settings, e-mail course, JHPIEGO (May-Sept 2003)
- Organised and facilitated the training of the staff of Plan Senegal on HIV/AIDS (May 2004)

- Participated at a Leadership Performance Workshop by Plan International Head Quarters staff, in Yaounde, Cameroon (April 2002)
- Participated at the Global Health Annual Conference, Washington DC, USA (May 2001)
- Participated at the African Summit on HIV/AIDS STDs, TB and other related diseases, where I manned a Plan International Booth, Abuja, Nigeria (April 2001)
- Organised and facilitated a planning workshop (start-up workshop) for a USAID/Plan funded CS Project in Cameroon (Feb 2001)
- Facilitated a session: Child Survival Lessons Learned Workshop by Plan International in Nepal and did a Poster presentation on Health Status of Children in some communities in Cameroon (1999)
- Team leader in developing training modules for Health Area Committee members and trained them in 4 health districts in Cameroon (1998)
- Cameroon Medical Women Association: Facilitator for series of HIV/AIDS awareness raising workshops for youths and women (1996)
- Participated at a Workshop on KPC in Senegal (May 1998)
- Made a presentation on childhood tuberculosis at the Cameroon Paediatric Association Annual Congress in Kribi, Cameroon (Nov 1995)
- Participated at the World AIDS Conference in Berlin, Germany (June 1993)

#### **4. CLINICAL EXPERIENCE**

- Assigned by the Minister of Health, to start a paediatric unit at the Jamot Hospital, Yaounde (Aug 1995- March 1998)
- Intern at the Kaiserine Auguste Victoria Haus Kinderklinik Freie Universität Berlin, Germany (March 1993 - Dec 1994)
- Medical Consultant respectively of the Obstetrics Gynaecology, Pediatric, & Internal Medicine Units of the Central Hospital Yaoundé (Jan 1987 - Sept 1989)

#### **D. THESES AND RESEARCH PAPERS**

- Community mobilisation as a fulcrum to respond to the needs of OVC, Poster Presentation, International AIDS Conference, Toronto, August 2006.
- Reducing morbidity of under-five children by empowering community members, poster presentation, MIM Yaounde, 2005

- Health Status of Children in some communities in Cameroon and Knowledge and practices concerning malaria in some communities in Cameroon (Plan Cameroon) (June 1999)
- Prevalence of chorioamnionitis among parturient in the Principal Maternity of the Yaounde Central Hospital, Dissertation, University Centre for Health Sciences, Yaounde Cameroon (Aug 1986)
- Current treatment of tuberculosis in Children, Cameroon Paediatric Association annual congress Kribi, 1995
- Prevalence of Helicobacter pylori among malnourished children in Yaounde, Dissertation Faculty of Medicine and Biomedical Sciences Yaounde/Frei Universität Berlin (1994)
- Epidemiology of malaria in Cameroon, German Society of Paediatrics, Annual conference on Tropical Paediatrics, Giessen, Germany (Jan 1994)
- Household survey on diarrhoea management, World Health Organisation, North West Province, Cameroon (Nov 1991)

#### **E. LANGUAGES**

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<b>Language/Ability</b>	<b>English</b>	<b>French</b>	<b>German</b>
Spoken	Excellent	Excellent	Fair
Written	Excellent	Good	Fair