



CLARA METHIE      May 5, 2016

I, Clara Methie, am a Zimbabwean midwife on the Lugina Africa Midwives Research Network clinical audit project at Mpilo Central Hospital and working in school of midwifery. I am one of the 30 international midwives awarded a scholarship to attend the upcoming Midwifery symposium 2016 Young Midwives in the Lead 14-16 May and Women Deliver conference 16-19 May 2016 in Copenhagen Denmark. UNFPA, ICM, WHO, JHPIEGO, Johnson & Johnson, Laerdal Global Health, Amref Health Africa and other collaborating multilateral civil society and private sectors partners are the sponsors of this important symposium. The symposium's objectives are to:

- Enhance the ability of young midwives with leadership potential to become powerful strategic leaders and advocates and engage in national policy dialogues with a stronger evidence based voice Highlight the role that midwives can play in achieving the SDGs and to

enhance their potential for fulfilling this role through increased knowledge about latest research findings and data as well as about emerging issues at national, regional and global levels

- Create a global network of young midwife leaders (YML) to serve as a forum for exchanging good practices in scaling up midwifery and latest innovations in improving quality of midwifery care in order to enable the YML to have a greater impact across the entire health and social care system.
- Ensure how investment in YML can improve quality of care within midwifery practice.

I am looking forward to this learning curve and to gain leadership skills and confidence in advocating for improved midwifery practices. I will share the experiences and new knowledge gained with midwives through the Zimbabwe Confederation of Midwives and the Lugina Africa Midwives Research Network aiming to enhance the quality of midwifery care and leadership skills.