



6 February 2014

Dear Friends,

According to the World Health Organization, "A focus on the health of women has two objectives: to protect a vulnerable population and to support people who can act as agents of change. Abundant evidence shows that support to women can lead to improved health status and income levels in both households and communities."

This week's newsflash provides resources on women's health. We hope you find them useful.

Sincerely,

The Firelight Team

(Resource) Care in normal birth: a practical guide

(Article) Celebrating midwives - an essential workforce, with a vital role

(Free Online Course) Stanford offering a free online course on International Women's Health and Human Rights

(Accepting Concept Notes) Foundation Ensemble Program Fund and Small Grants Fund 2014

(Resource) Care in normal birth: a practical guide

This document from the World Health Organization presents universal guidelines for the routine care of women during uncomplicated labour and childbirth. Reflecting the consensus reached by an international group of experts, the report responds to the proliferation of practices designed to start, augment, accelerate, regulate or monitor the physiological process of labour in industrialized and developing countries alike. Recommendations for routine care are based on a critical review of what research has to say about the effectiveness and safety of 59 common procedures and practices.

To access this resource, visit: <http://bit.ly/1ln88Yx>

(Article) Celebrating midwives - an essential workforce, with a vital role

Excerpt: "Each year, 358,000 women die while pregnant or giving birth and some two million newborns die within the first 24 hours of life because of inadequate or insufficient health care. According to the 2011 State of the World's Midwifery report, up to 3.6 million deaths could be avoided each year in 58 developing countries if midwifery services are upgraded by 2015."

To read this article from the Global Health Workforce Alliance, visit:

<http://bit.ly/1eydlDM>

(Free Online Course) Stanford offering a free online course on International Women's Health and Human Rights

This course provides an overview of women's health and human rights, beginning in infancy and childhood, then moving through adolescence, reproductive years and aging. We consider economic, social, political and human rights factors, and the challenges women face in maintaining health and managing their lives in the face of societal pressures and obstacles.

We focus on critical issues, namely those that may mean life or death to a woman, depending on whether she can exercise her human rights. These critical issues include: being born female and discrimination; poverty; unequal access to education, food, paid work and health care; and various forms of violence. Topics discussed include son preference, education, HIV/AIDS, reproductive health, violence in the home and in war and refugee circumstances, women's work, sex trafficking, and aging.

Our open online course (often abbreviated as a "MOOC") will have a special focus on creating an international network of engaged students. We will ask students to take part in interactive discussions and cooperative exercises and to share their own experiences. We also ask students to engage with the communities they live in, in order to deepen their understanding of the issues and tie academic ideas to real-life circumstances.

For more information, or to access this course, visit: <http://bit.ly/1aLLvtd>

(Accepting Concept Notes) Foundation Ensemble Program Fund and Small Grants Fund 2014

Ensemble Foundation is inviting 3-page concept notes for Program Fund and Small Grants Fund from eligible entities. The main purpose of the funding programs are to support projects targeting sustainable local development, through the creation of micro-enterprises/cooperatives with a social approach, protecting the environment, and creating jobs to conduct their functions more smoothly with the foundation's grant

support program.

Program Fund supports the programs on sustainable agriculture and fishing, renewable energies, eco-materials, and biodiversity conservation. A project will be allocated maximum amount of €50,000 per year for 2 to 4 years duration.

Small Grants Fund for threatened animals species conservation projects. A project will be allocated between € 3,000 to € 15,000 funding for 2 years or less.

Eligibility Criteria:

- For Program Fund, Mozambique, Cambodia, Laos, Ecuador, Peru are eligible countries (Coastal areas of Western Africa (Mauritania to Liberia) are also eligible for Biodiversity Conservation proposals). Small Grants fund is open for all countries.
- Project proposals must demonstrate that, when implemented, they bring concrete and lasting improvement to the living conditions of its target population; and are driven by the demand and needs of the local populations, and those of the intervention area.
- The proposal must be written in French or in English.
- The applicant NGO must be at least more than 3 years old and should have a yearly budget of at least € 500,000 to be eligible for Program Fund.
- The applicant NGO must be at least more than 2 years old to be eligible for Small Grants Fund.

For more information, visit: <http://bit.ly/1fo8Boa>

As part of the Firelight Foundation's Capacity Building Program, Firelight provides "Newsflashes" to share relevant resources and information with our active grantee-partners via weekly emails and via post on a monthly basis. We hope that by facilitating access to information for grassroots, community-focused organizations, programming for children and families, as well as organizational development, is enhanced. Past editions of the Firelight Newsflash can be found on our website:

<http://www.firelightfoundation.org/resources/newsflash/>.

We welcome your comments, feedback and ideas for upcoming Newsflashes at newsletter@firelightfoundation.org.

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