

# **SEE THE UNSEEN**

## A Night to Restore Fistula Survivors' Lives

Friday, 30 May 2025 at 6:30PM Hilton Addis Ababa



#### Why We Gather

Obstetric fistula is one of the most devastating childbirth injuries — caused by prolonged, obstructed labour without timely access to emergency obstetric care. For too many women in Ethiopia, it results in constant incontinence, chronic pain, and a lifetime of stigma, abandonment, and isolation.

Obstetric fistula is entirely preventable – and in countries with quality maternal care, it has been virtually eliminated. It's time to ensure the same for Ethiopia!

#### Who We Are

The **United Nations Population Fund** (UNFPA) is a UN Agency dedicated to improving reproductive and maternal health worldwide. UNFPA works to ensure that every pregnancy is wanted, every birth is safe, and every young person's potential is fulfilled.

**Ministry of Health** (MoH) is a sector Ministry of the Government of Ethiopia with a mission to promote the health and well-being of the society through providing and regulating a comprehensive package of health services of the highest possible quality in an equitable manner.

**Ministry of Women and Social Affairs** (MoWSA) is a sector Ministry of the Government of Ethiopia with a mission to ensure women, youth, children, and vulnerable groups benefit from development, governance, and democracy with a focus on promoting gender equality, child rights and protection, and holistic social protection services.

**Hamlin Fistula Ethiopia** is a globally respected non-profit dedicated to ending obstetric fistula. For over 60 years, it has delivered surgical care, emotional healing, education, and reintegration support to Ethiopian women suffering from fistula.

Together, UNFPA, the MoH, MoWSA and Hamlin Fistula Ethiopia are committed to eliminating obstetric fistula in Ethiopia by 2030 as part of the multisectoral engagement spearheaded by the MoH. Delivering essential medical care, strengthening maternal health services, and raising community awareness are very critical in this effort. We want an Ethiopia where no woman suffers needlessly from a preventable condition and where childbirth is always a moment of joy and dignity.

#### An Evening for Fistula Survivors

On **30 May 2025**, as part of the commemoration of the **International Day to End Obstetric Fistula**, we will gather to **SEE THE UNSEEN: A Night to Restore Fistula Survivors' Lives** — an evening of inspiration, celebration, and renewed commitment. Together, we will shine a light on the invisible stories of strength and resilience and mobilise support to restore dignity, health, and hope to women living with obstetric fistula. Proceeds will support:

- Free surgeries and comprehensive post-operative care for obstetric fistula and pelvic organ prolapse survivors, including identification and transportation;
- Rehabilitation and psychosocial support to help survivors reintegrate into their communities;
- Life skills and vocational training to support women's economic independence and long-term recovery; and
- Outreach programs to raise awareness and prevent maternal morbidities such as obstetric fistula and pelvic organ prolapse.



#### Highlights of the Evening:

- **Testimonial and Survivor Stories**: Hear firsthand accounts from women who have overcome obstetric fistula and are supporting other survivors.
- Entertainment & Engagement: Live music, artistic performances, silent auction, business card raffle, signature cocktails, surprise guests, and so much more.
- Symbolic Gifts: All guests will receive a special handmade gift from fistula survivors.
- **Networking:** Create opportunities and increase your company's engagement with multiple clients.
- Corporate Advocacy: Demonstrate your company's positive impact on social priorities.

#### **Tickets**

- An **individual ticket of 20,000 ETB** offers you a seat at an unforgettable evening while directly supporting the movement to end obstetric fistula in Ethiopia. Your presence is part of the solution!
- With the **Healing Hands Patron (200,000 ETB)**, you can make a transformative impact by funding the full journey for one or more women from identification and life-saving surgery to rehabilitation and community reintegration. As a token of appreciation, you'll receive two tickets to the event and be recognised as a key supporter of dignity and healing.



#### **Additional Ways to Give**

- Corporate Contributions & Sponsorships: Companies may sponsor part of the evening and/or donate items for auction and raffle.
- Free-Will Donations: Whether large or small, every contribution matters. You can donate in person at the event or online through the UNFPA platform.
- In-Kind Support: Contribute to event elements such as entertainment, hospitality, printing, or media coverage to maximise the funds available for patient care.

# **JOIN US** FOR A NIGHT OF UNTAPPING **SOLIDARITY**

#### **HILTON ADDIS ABABA**

**FRIDAY** 6:30 PM



MAY 2025

#### TICKETS ON SALE NOW

- Hilton Addis Ababa
- 🔁 Hamlin Fistula Hospital
- UNECA / UNCC
- Weekends at ICS



For more details, ticket purchases, or sponsorship inquiries, please reach out to: Ms. Meseret Teferi

Fistula

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