

Enhancing healthcare provision

Martha Weya is a Health Extension Worker in Corbetti, Ethiopia. With support from the **CORBETTI GEOTHERMAL PROJECT, a new health post has been built and electrified in the village.**

In response to the COVID-19 pandemic, InfraCo Africa and its partners on the Corbetti Geothermal project sought funding from PIDG Technical Assistance to refurbish the health post in Shala District and to rebuild the facility at Corbetti. Both facilities are now equipped with rooftop solar and battery back-up, providing healthcare providers with clean, reliable power to do their jobs.

As the new Corbetti health post prepares to open, Martha discusses the difficulties experienced by her team in delivering patient care. **“There is no electricity at the clinic and, without a refrigerator, it is difficult to keep vaccines at the required low temperatures. We have limited medication and no suitable couch for delivering babies.”**

Without a well-equipped clinic, Martha says that she and her colleagues, **“have to go door-to-door visiting mothers and children for follow-ups and vaccinations. We also advise them on COVID**

symptoms and preventative measures they can take. This is time-consuming as there are three zones with twenty-two cluster groups which we must visit without adequate transportation.”

Becoming animated, she says: **“We are very happy and joyous about the new health post! Corbetti geothermal is building a very high-quality facility and it will encourage people to come to the health post more often. I am sure that it will improve the lives of the local community, especially pregnant women and children under five years of age. I am also hoping it will reduce the spread of easily preventable diseases.”**

She concludes, **“The new clinic is a positive reinforcement of our work and I cannot wait for the completion and inauguration. We are very thankful and hopeful for the future.”**

