The Missing Link:
The Role of Biomedical Equipment Technicians (BMETs) Throughout the Health Technology Management Lifecycle

Anna Worm
Healthcare Technology Advisor
Tropical Health & Education Trust (THET)

Ismail Cordero
Biomedical Engineering Manager
Gradian Health Systems
The Missing Link:
The Role of Biomedical Equipment Technicians (BMETs)
Throughout the Health Technology Management Lifecycle

Tropical Health & Education Trust (THET)

- More than **25 years’ commitment to global health**/developing the engagement of UK health professionals to work in partnership with counterparts overseas to deliver health worker training and peer-to-peer support

- >150 Health Partnerships to deliver effective **clinical and medical equipment maintenance projects** funded by DFID and implemented by THET

- Country programmes in **Ethiopia, Myanmar, Somaliland, Tanzania, Uganda and Zambia**

- Zambia: supporting NORTEC in creating a **sustainable BMET diploma course** and medical equipment ecosystem work (TA at MoH, Prof Association)
Gradian Health Systems

- Nonprofit medical technology organization that equips low-resource hospitals to provide **safe surgical and critical care**
- Manufacture the **Universal Anaesthesia Machine (UAM)** – a CE-certified anaesthesia machine designed to function with or without electricity and medical oxygen
- Currently field-testing a battery-operated **critical care automatic ventilator**
- **Complimentary service warranty** covers preventive maintenance, repairs, spare parts and remote customer service – all through local certified BMETs
- Also provide on-site **product training**
- Working in 200+ operating rooms across 22 countries – mainly in sub-Saharan Africa
The Missing Link: The Role of Biomedical Equipment Technicians (BMETs) Throughout the Health Technology Management Lifecycle

Healthcare Technology Management Lifecycle

Phase 1
Planning & Assessment

Phase 2
Budgeting & Financing

Phase 3
Technology Assessment & Selection

Phase 4
Procurement & Logistics

Phase 5
Installation & Commissioning

Phase 6
Training & Skill Development

Phase 7
Operation & Safety

Phase 8
Maintenance & Repair

Phase 9
Decommissioning & Disposal

Ongoing
Awareness Creation & Monitoring/Evaluation
Workshop Objectives

- **Understand the various phases** of the healthcare technology management (HTM) lifecycle – and the needs required to carry out each phase

- **Identify and refine the roles and responsibilities** of local biomedical equipment technicians (BMETs) in each phase of the HTM lifecycle

- **Outline the policies and actions** needed to integrate BMETs into each phase of the HTM lifecycle

- **Produce a report** summarizing workshop feedback and providing recommendations for the key stakeholders involved