

HEAL AFRICA

ANNUAL REPORT 2019

for a healthier community





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OUR MISSION

HEAL Africa compassionately serves vulnerable people and communities in the Democratic Republic of the Congo through a holistic approach to Healthcare, Education, community Action, and Leadership development in response to changing needs.

A WORD FROM THE CEO



Dear Brothers and Sisters,

2019 has come to an end, and I greet you all in the name of our Savior Jesus Christ.

The year 2019 opened with a note of hope for peace building and development in the DRC. Against all expectations, the peaceful transfer of power at the highest leadership of the Republic has not ended the cycle of violence in certain corners of the country, particularly in North Kivu, South Kivu, and Ituri.

This situation of socio-economic instability coupled with the outbreak of the 10th epidemic of EBOLA Virus Disease (EVD) in Mangina (Beni region) in the DRC on August 1, 2018, has only aggravated the state of vulnerability of Congolese people.

Despite the difficult socio-economic situation, you did not get discouraged and you never left us. With your support, we were able to start construction with the aim of increasing the operational capacity of the hospital. These new buildings have made it possible for the hospital to treat patients in more comfortable conditions.

Particular emphasis should be placed on the inauguration of the HATS Center (HEAL Africa Training Service) that now provides an ideal setting for training doctors and nurses to acquire new knowledge and skills. This center is open for all trainees, even for people outside HEAL Africa. In 2019, the center served 150 to 160 doctors and nurses on average per week, for various training and organized various scientific meetings.

Violent upheavals throughout the year did not prevent us from providing care for thousands of survivors both in urban areas and in more remote areas of the DRC. A total of 841 women and children living in isolated villages have benefited from the reconstructive surgeries to which they could not have access, had it not been for the support of you our partners. God bless you all!

This is an opportunity for us to reassure you that we remain committed to pursuing the noble mission assigned to HEAL Africa.

We remain confident that the uncertainties created by socio-economic instability and the EVD epidemic are fleeting. With the efforts made, peace, development and happiness will come. This will bring joy back to the hearts of the Congolese people.

Be assured that tomorrow we will greet our beneficiaries—men, women and children with a smile on our faces.

May God keep us all!

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to be 'JP', written over a horizontal line.

Justin Paluku, MD
HEAL Africa DRC, CEO
Ob/Gyn and Fistula Surgeon

INTRODUCTION

This report presents the results of the activities organized by HEAL Africa in the year 2019. During this period, HEAL Africa department teams provided assistance to vulnerable populations in the Democratic Republic of the Congo (DRC) through the following areas:

- The tertiary hospital located in Goma,
- Community projects implemented in different provinces of the DRC,
- Training and research conducted at the hospital and in some community projects.

Hospital activities have focused on care. In addition to the free care offered to vulnerable populations (i.e., women with fistulas and children with club feet) patients unable to pay for their medical care were also given care. This report includes the results of the different components of care organized by the HEAL Africa hospital in 2019.

Our community projects mainly covered the eastern part of the DRC, a region still shaken by multiple waves of violence in recent decades. Thousands of women and children continue to face the darkest misery. HEAL Africa has mobilized resources to provide them with necessary assistance.

To provide sustainable and appropriate response to the shortcomings of healthcare providers in the DRC, HEAL Africa has initiated and maintains a training and research department. In the course of 2019, dozens of doctors and nurses were trained in subjects concerning the real needs of the region.

HIGHLIGHTS OF ACHIEVEMENTS

A. HOSPITAL

1. Inauguration and occupation of part of the "Women and Children Pavilion"
2. Inauguration and use of the "HOPE Training and Research Center".
3. Start of construction of the second part of the Women and Children Pavilion
4. Launch of the construction of the "GRACE Community Health Center".
5. Purchase of a portion of the Mulinga plot with local resources
6. Payment of the gratification to all agents of HEAL Africa.

B. WABABA Sector, Men and Churches

1. 1,536 men were organized to receive socio-therapy sessions for the transformation of masculinity.
2. 51 new Nehemiah Committees have been initiated in the provinces of Ituri, Tshopo and Bas-Uélé and have been active in raising awareness against sexual abuse and exploitation
3. Establishment of a strengthening and apprenticeship program for UAMSHO youth.

C. WAMAMA Sector

1. Integration of the coupled antenatal care (ANC) approach with 9,401 couples who used our reproductive health services.
2. Awareness and training of workers of road construction companies on sexual abuse and exploitation.

D. WATOTO Sector

1. The survival of quadruplets born with low weight at HEAL Africa hospital, who were followed in our neonatal resuscitation unit. Today the survival rate of the quadruplets is over 60%.
2. Reactivation of the daughter-mother self-help group with the "all in" approach and support for their income-generating activity.
3. 102 HIV orphans have benefited from education funds.
4. The first batch of 8 young people living with HIV finished their computer training.



IN THE NUMBERS

438 employees

(208 in the hospital and 230 in community projects)

46,440 from 28,568

(patients served in 2019 a 38.5% increase from 2018)

Looking Back at 2019...

HEALTH



25,412

PATIENTS SERVED
AT THE HEALTH CENTER

EDUCATION



17

TRAINED IN
CLINICAL PASTORAL TRAINING

COMMUNITY



1,536

MEN PARTICIPATED IN
POSITIVE MASCULINITY
SOCIOTHERAPY SESSIONS



4,712

SURGERIES PERFORMED



7

RESIDENTS IN SURGERY



305,269

REACHED WITH GENDER
BASED VIOLENCE AWARENESS



9

MOBILE SURGERIES



12

FINAL YEAR
MEDICAL STUDENTS



2,235

VILLAGE SAVINGS LOANS
PARTICIPANTS

I. HEAL AFRICA TERTIARY HOSPITAL

I.1. OUTREACH (MOBILE SURGERY)

Team from HEAL Africa Hospital carried out 9 mobile surgery missions in different rural hospitals within the country, during which 676 patients were treated:

- 158 patients in orthopedic surgery,
- 241 patients in uro-gynecological surgery,
- 277 patients in general surgery.

Table 1: Outreach carried out by HEAL Africa from 2013-2019.

	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019
Accomplished Missions	7	10	13	16	14	12	9
Beneficiaries in Orthopedics	218	300	265	235	244	77	158
Beneficiaries in Uro-gynecology	226	104	421	441	390	530	241
Beneficiaries in general surgery	294	-	33	149	465	284	277
TOTAL (Beneficiaries)	738	404	719	825	1,099	891	676

I.2. EXTERNAL CONSULTATIONS

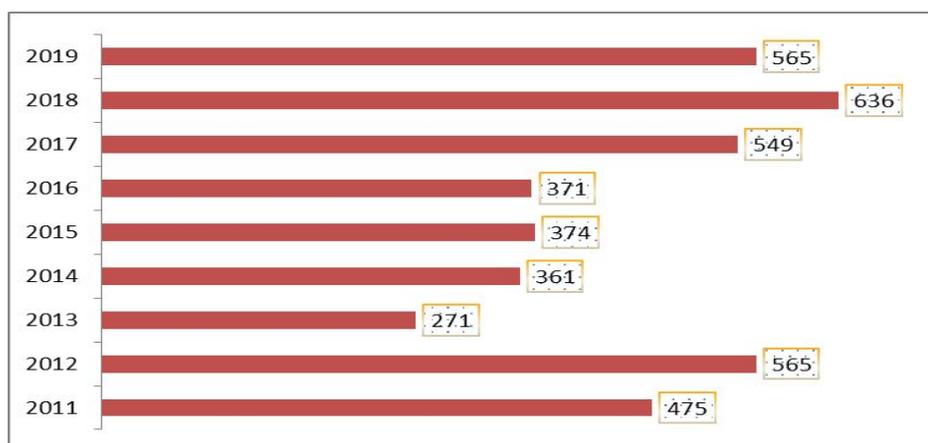
During the year 46,440 patients were seen in an outpatient setting compared to the year 2018 when outpatient clinics reached 28,568 cases, an increase of approximately 38.5%. Of the cases received in 2019, 35,578 (76%) were new cases and 10,862 (24%) were old cases. There were 12,710 (27%) male and 33,730 (73%) female and 24% or 11,155 were under the age of 5 and 4,234 (9%) were pregnant.

I.3. SURVIVORS OF SEXUAL AND GENDER-BASED VIOLENCE (SGBV)

A total of 565 new cases of survivors of sexual violence were registered at HEAL Africa Hospital.

- 321 or 57% were seen within 72 hours
- 565 (100%) benefitted from psychological care
- 565 (100%) benefitted from legal support

Figure 1: Progress of SGBV cases treated at HEAL Africa Hospital from 2011 to 2019.



I.4. PREVENTIVE ACTIVITIES AT HEAL Africa HEALTH CENTER.

The HEAL Africa Health Center offers the following preventive services: Antenatal Care (ANC), Pre-school Consultation (PSC), Post-natal Care (PNC), Nutrition and Family Planning (FP). A total of 25,412 cases were served at the HEAL Africa health center, of which 5,645 were new cases and 19,767 were old cases.

Table 2: Statistics of people served at the Health Center in 2019.

	New cases	Old cases	TOTAL
Antenatal Care (ANC)	1,296	4,403	5,699
Pre-school Consultation (PSC)	1,211	13,941	15,152
Family Planning (FP)	234	304	538
Post-natal Care (PNC)	1,241	1,063	2,304
Children completely vaccinated (CCV)	931	0	931
Nutrition	732	56	788
TOTAL	5,645	19,767	25,412

Table 3: Progress of the statistics of the activities of the Health Center of the HEAL Africa hospital.

	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019
ANC	3,807	3,865	4,541	5,014	4,851	6,091	6,595	5,699
PSC	5,974	6,052	8,903	9,887	9,558	13,304	20,270	15,152
Family Planning	4,880	3,631	2,747	2,806	1,715	1,273	967	538
Nutrition	434	393	409	307	389	609	586	788
PNC	2,009	2,201	512	2,614	2,648	2,179	2,521	2,304
CCV	1,234	1,011	1,745	1,602	1	1,259	1,472	931
Total	15,095	13,941	16,600	18,014	16,513	24,715	32,411	25,412

Note: There was a drop in attendance at the Health Center compared to 2018, with exception to the marked increase in nutrition consultation.

I.5. OPERATING UNIT ACTIVITIES

Surgical procedures performed in Goma:

For the year 2019, our operating theater in Goma performed **4,036 surgical procedures, among which 1,829 were major, 1,339 were average and 868 were minor.**

Specialized surgical interventions performed in outreach:

Like previous years, HEAL Africa's surgical teams performed specialized interventions in rural areas (Outreach), and a total of **676 patients were treated.**

Table 4: Conditions that required specialized surgical procedures in Goma and Outreach in 2019.

Conditions	Outreach	Goma
Hydrocephalus		18
Cleft lip	277	24
Spina bifida		7
Hip Osteonecrosis	168	24
Club foot, varum knee, valgum knee	718	205
Fistula	241	89
Prolapse	6	224
Other gynecological complications	31	78
Anal imperforation	-	8
Sub/extra-dural hematoma	-	7
Hypospadias	1	2
TOTAL	1,442	686

Table 5: Numbers of surgical procedures performed from 2013 to 2019.

Location	2013	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019
Goma	3,841	3,261	3,687	5,117	5,102	3,450	4,130	4,036
Outreach	803	690	404	776	825	1,153	891	676
TOTAL	4,644	3,951	4,091	5,893	5,883	4,603	5,021	4,712

I.6. DELIVERIES CARRIED OUT IN 2019

The maternity unit at HEAL Africa Hospital performed 1,725 deliveries, of which 967 (56%) were by vaginal route and 758 (44%) by caesarean section. There was ONE case of maternal death throughout the year 2019.

Table 6: Types of deliveries carried out at HEAL Africa hospital from 2012 to 2019.

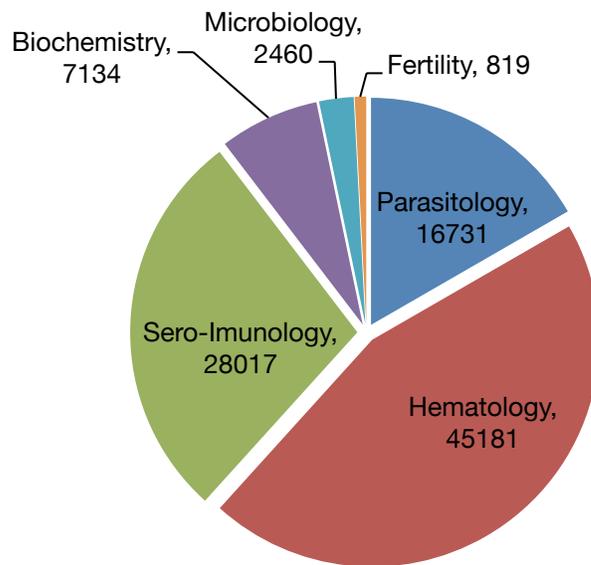
TYPE OF DELIVERY	YEARS							
	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019
Eutocic births	1,263	1,321	1,317	1,342	1,130	957	1,105	781
Vaginal dystocic	13	10	75	7	23	252	71	186
Caesarean section	202	275	463	582	675	679	654	758
TOTAL	1,478	1,606	1,855	1,931	1,828	1,888	1,830	1,725

I.7. LABORATORY EXAMS

In 2019, the laboratory examinations carried out increased according to the number of outpatient visits and the occupancy of beds.

Figure 2: Laboratory examinations carried out in 2019.

Laboratory Examination



I.8. MEDICAL IMAGING

This service has operated normally as in previous years. However, the Scanner has experienced a technical failure since April 2019.

Table 7: Examinations performed in Medical Imaging from 2012 to 2019.

	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019
Radiology	4,782	4,231	6,070	5,220	4,237	5,544	6,272	6,772 (50.4%)
Ultrasound	2,602	2,717	3,176	3,019	3,463	3,498	5,383	5,993 (44.7%)
ECG	778	341	506	482	436	422	467	579 (4.3%)
Scanner							145	81 (0.6%)
TOTAL	8,162	7,289	9,752	8,721	8,136	9,464	12,267	13,425 (100%)

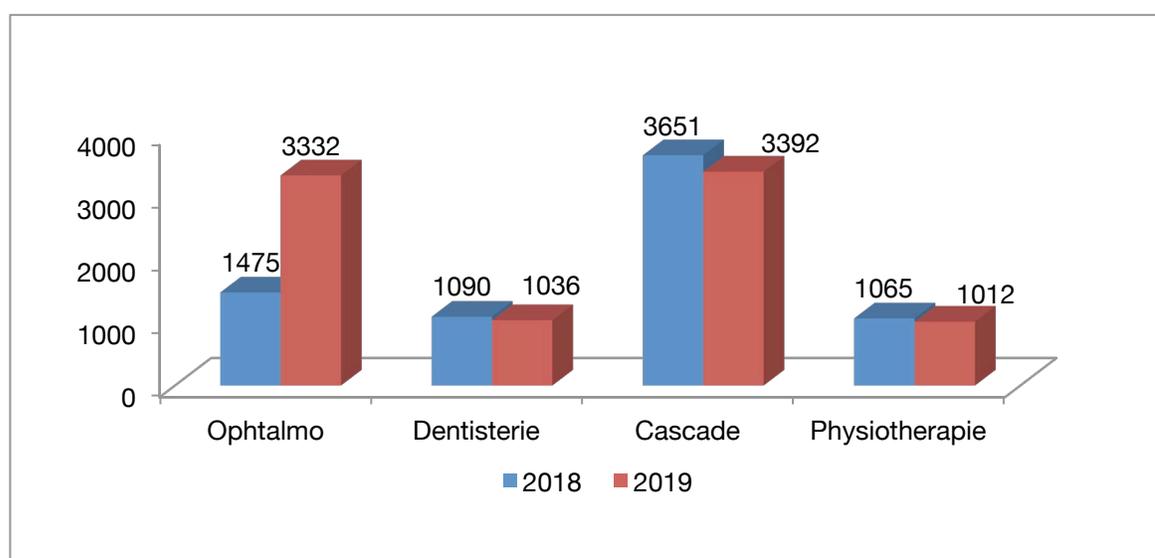
I.9. OTHER SERVICES OF THE HOSPITAL

Endoscopy

Table 8: Number of endoscopic examinations carried out from 2015 to 2019.

	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019
Esophago-gastro-duodenoscopy	59	85	97	149	131
Colo-rectoscopy	5	19	18	29	46
TOTAL	64	104	115	178	177

Figure 3. The other services of the hospital.



Note: There was a significant increase (more than double) in attendance in Ophthalmology.

I.10. OTHER INDICATORS OF QUALITY OF CARE

Table 9: Other indicators of the quality of care in 2018.

	YEARS							
	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019
Number of beds fitted	155	155	197	197	197	230	230	230
Mortality rate	1.19	1.31	1.37	1.34	0.97	2.18	2.08	2.02%
Bed occupancy rate	72%	86%	75%	72%	72%	67%	80%	72%
Total hospitalized cases	5,865	6,506	6,549	7,154	6,887	6,045	7,384	6,986

Note: The hospital bed occupancy rate decreased slightly compared to that of 2018.

II. COMMUNITY PROJECTS

II.1. WATOTO SECTOR

I.1.1. Introduction

During 2019, 3,841 children were followed in various programs according to the following:

Health: 3,101 children and newborns through 5 projects (536 for CAP, 530 for PMTCT, 1,668 for IMAM at HEAL Africa and Alimbongo, 60 children with congenital malformations and 367 followed in Neonatology);

Education: 335 children schooled through 4 projects (186 from Mugunga school, 36 from Tuungane school, 113 from Worldshare and Mothers of the nation projects);

Protection: 405 children were supervised in two projects (293 in Capoiera and 112 in the child-friendly space (“Espace Ami des Enfants”).

I.1.2. Health

The paediatrics department of HEAL Africa Hospital in collaboration with community projects treats sick children and works to prevent preventable diseases.

In total, 5 projects have achieved the following results:

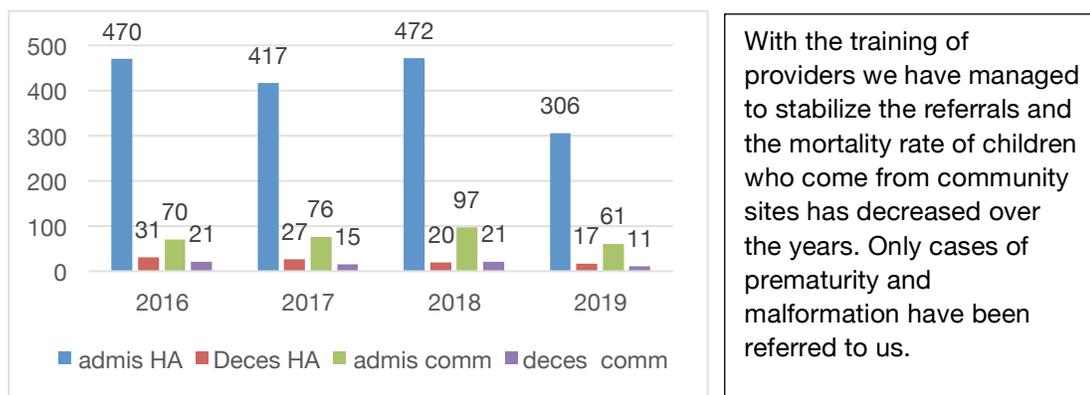
A. Management of newborns

The neonatology unit at HEAL Africa Hospital managed to recover, among other things, quadruplets all born with a weight of less than 2kg.

With the training of providers in Goma and its surroundings that HEAL Africa has offered since 2013, there is a gradual reduction in mortality among newborns referred from other hospitals to HEAL Africa, ranging from more than 50% to year 2014 at 20 - 30% lately.

Of the newborns followed in 2019, 15 were critically premature (less than 2kgs) and 6 of them were saved (40%); 44 were premature (born before due date weighing 2kgs or more) of which 39 were saved (88.63%).

Figure 4: The pace of neonatal mortality over the past 4 years.



B. Pediatric HIV management: Children's AIDS Program (CAP)

THE HEAL Africa CAP Clinic has been a clinic of excellence and reference for paediatric HIV management in North Kivu province for 13 years. A recent analysis by HEAL Africa in collaboration with MSF/France estimated patient retention in the cohort at 97.8% (6 months), 87.0% (12 months) and 82.6% (24 months). This represents a better retention rate of all structures accompanied by MSF/France in the city of Goma with a difference of more than 10% for each period.

For the year 2019, the clinic followed 646 children in the program, among them 536 HIV-positive all on ARVs (100% put on ARVs).

According to the WHO, each management programme should be evaluated according to the level of achievement of the **90/90/90 target: 90% of patients screened must know their HIV status, 90% of patients who know their status should be put on ARVs and 90% on ARVs should have zero viral load at 6 months after the start of ARVs.**

Table 10: Evaluation of CAP's activities against the 90/90/90 target.

Indicators	Number	Rate	90/90/90	ECART
Total positive HIV patients	653			
Patients on ARVs	653	100%	100%	0
Patients on ARVs with low viral load	548	90.48%		
Patient sous ARV with zero viral load	531	64.94%	64.94%	25.06%
Patients on ARVs, aged ≥ 12 years and aware of their serologic status	315		58.76	31.24%

Note: 100% (536 including 268 girls and 268 boys) of our patients are on ARVs.

C. Prevention of mother-to-child transmission of HIV (PMTCT):

With our interventions at 24 PMTCT sites, we identified **203 new cases** (NC) and followed **194 old cases**. A total of 101 infants reached 18 months and all tested HIV-negative, corresponding to 0% transmission.

PMTCT: Of the 203 infants exposed, 44 cases of HEAL Africa were tested using PCR (Polymerase Chain Reaction) and two of them tested positive making 4.54% and 101 at 18 months and none were positive or a mother-to-child transmission rate (MTCT) of 0%.

CAP: 109 children were followed, 28 of whom were 18 months old and all tested negative. A total of 17 cases tested using PCR with ONE positive case or 5.88%.

D. Integrated Management of Acute Malnutrition (IMAM):

In 2019 we had to carry out 3 projects as part of the management of severe acute malnutrition (A Goma in 3 sites: HA, CCLK and Bujovu; in 9 health facilities in the Alimbongo Health Zone and in the Kirotshe Health Zone in the post-conflict groups of Kamuronza, Karuba and Mupfunyishanga where we carried out a sensitive nutrition project coupled with IMAM).

With the Malnutrition Awareness Project, we have identified 3264 cases of acute malnutrition in Goma, Alimbongo and Kirotshe. Unfortunately, this awareness project only did not provide for care. So not all of these identified children were treated.

On the other hand, of the 1668 malnourished children (716 boys and 952 girls) we treated in another project, 229 (13.7%) as inpatients and 1439 (86.3%) as outpatients.

Table 11. IMAM summary table of results

Total cared for	Healing rate	Dropout rate	Death rate
1668 (716 M, 952 F)	1,137 healed: 67.49% for Goma and 88.9% for Alimbongo	87 dropout case : 6.17 % for Goma and 9.36% for Alimbongo	23 death cases: 12.3% for Goma and 1.03% for Alimbongo

Note: This table shows a cure rate of 67.49% at our Goma sites, below the standard of 75%. This is due to frequent breaks in nutrition inputs.

All 229 cases of malnutrition admitted to hospitalization were detected for HIV and of these, 4 (1.7%) have been HIV positive.

The sensitive nutrition project has taught households good food practices through cooking demonstrations.

A total of 228 scheduled cooking demonstrations were conducted with 6,854 participants, including 2,011 men and 4,843 women. As a result, 7,389 households were educated on cooking practices and infant feeding.

II.1.3. Area of Protection

In the interest of improving the child's psychological well-being at HEAL Africa, 3 main activities were carried out:

- Psychosocial support for survivors of sexual violence: a total of 4,345 survivors of gender-based violence were accompanied among them 1,782 female children (41%) and 87 male children had access to psychosocial support at HEAL Africa Hospital, child-friendly space and HEAL Africa's partner hospitals and health centers.

Table 12: Breakdown by age and gender of children accompanied in child-friendly space.

Category	0 to 5years old		6 to 12 years old		13 to 17 years old		Total
	F	G	F	G	F	G	
Children who survived sexual violence	0	0	2	0	19	0	21
Children born to raped mothers	3	6	8	5	0	0	22
Children living with HIV	0	0	3	0	0	0	3
Orphan children	0	0	8	6	12	9	35
Abandoned children	3	6	27	15	39	16	106
Total	6	12	48	26	70	25	177

Throughout 2019, we monitored and evaluated 106 abandoned children who were also given psychological care and were discharged with improvement according to our measures.

- **Capoeira** is a psychosocial dance therapy whose participants are children who come from the children's space, the hospital, Tuungane School, the ECODIM and the community. A total of **293** children were recruited, of whom 218 (106 girls and 112 boys) actively participated in the activity, i.e. 74.4% and 75 (25.59%) have given up.

II.1.4. Area of Education

In the field of education, three types of support for children's schooling were organized at HEAL Africa, including:

- **Community School for Poor Children:** GSF (Goma Student Fund): In 2019, 186 vulnerable children were supervised with an average success rate of 87.1% (162 out of 186) and a success rate of 66.66% for primary school finalists (18 out of 27 pupils).
- **The recovery school within the hospital:** The Tuungane School - which supervises sick children, home nurse children, orphans and abandoned children identified through the hospital: a total of 36 children (11 girls and 25 boys) followed and as a result of this supervision 12 were discharged, 9 of whom joined formal schools and all succeeded (100% success) and 3 did not integrate formal schools because of lack of resources. As a result, 24 children are still being monitored.
- **Schooling programme:** 107 children orphaned by HIV/AIDS under the guardianship of grandparents have benefited from the schooling programme and the results are included in the table below.

Table13: Breakdown of School children by category.

Schooling	Quantity	Girls	Boys	Success rate
Schooled	107	58	49	
Dropouts	5	2	3	
Having participated fully	102	56	46	
Marks achieved + 50%	66	35	31	61.68%
Marks achieved - 50%	41	20	21	38.31%

II.2. WAMAMA SECTOR

Under this sector, 14 projects have been implemented in North Kivu province, Maniema, Ituri, Tshopo and Bas-Uelé through 3 themes.

II.2.1. Reproductive Health

For the year 2019, HEAL Africa has contributed to the integration of the "coupled ANC" approach and 9401 couples have used supported services through the IMPACT, BABIRA BAKWAME, PMTCT, CERF-Access to Sexual and Reproductive Rights of Women and Girls in Affected Communities in the Alimbongo Health Zone and Project to Strengthen Community Resilience of the Population Affected by Armed Conflict in the ZS. With the support of these projects, we have

just seen an increase in the use of reproductive health services in areas targeted by birth projects on partogram, coupled ANC, ANC 4 and the rate of use of maternity services.

Out of a total of 8,5342 women expected at ANC 4 in the Alimbongo health zone, 51% of women have used this service, an increase of more than 22% since HEAL Africa supported the health zone. Of the 2,609 women expected at the ANC, 100% were monitored using a partogram delivery in the Kayna and Nyiragongo health areas, and 54% had followed ANC 4, a 25% increase compared to the period prior to the HEAL Africa intervention. Access to obstetric care has been improved in HEAL Africa's intervention areas.

Since May 2019, HEAL Africa has followed quadruplets that were born with weights of less than 2kg. They were monitored weighed taken regularly at home by our home tracking teams. Their parents are grateful for the work of the neonatology unit and thank HEAL Africa for its support from birth to this age of 9 months.

"The birth of these children was for me the most difficult moment of my young life and at one point I wanted to leave my children and their mother in the hospital given the cost and the work of childcare, but the advice, enthusiasm and love from the neonatology team of HEAL Africa lifted my spirits. That's what kept me going and I had hope for each day."

-Father of Quadruplets

II.2.1.1. Fistula management and other gynecological complications at HEAL Africa

HEAL Africa continued to improve the lives of patients with fistula and other obstetric complications in North Kivu province (HEAL Africa Hospital) and on outreach in the provinces of Maniema (Kipaka), North Ubangi (Karawa) in partner hospitals.

A total of **669 cases were surgically repaired, including 330 fistulas, 230 uterine prolapse, and 109 other obstetric complications** at HEAL Africa Hospital and partner hospitals.

Table 14: Breakdown of diagnosed cases.

Type of case	Outreach	HEAL Africa	Total
Fistula	241	89	330
Prolapse	6	178	230
Other gynecological complications	31	78	109
Total number of beneficiaries	278	345	669



For all repaired cases, we had an 88% success rate and 12% failure rate for fistula cases.

II.2.1.2 Surgically repairable congenital malformations treated on outreach

To reduce the risk of permanent disability, the CBM 3711 project organized two outreach missions in the health areas of Rwanguba and Nyiragongo. A total of **81 people received clubfoot repairs**: 48 repairs were carried out on 40 people in the Nyiragongo health zone and 41 repairs were made on 40 people in the Rwanguba health zone. Among them were 25 men, 23 boys, 17 women and 15 girls.

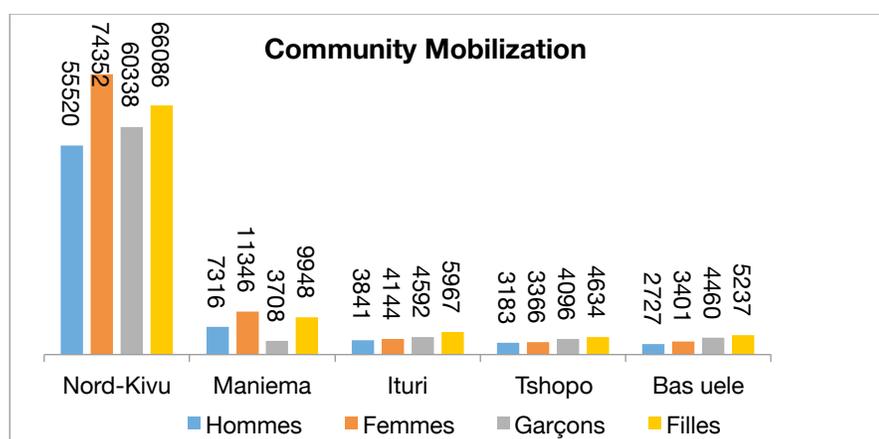
II.2.2. Fighting Gender-Based Violence

A. Community mobilization

HEAL Africa is one of the organizations in the Democratic Republic of the Congo that focus their interventions on fighting gender-based violence and sexual abuse and exploitation (SAE). HEAL Africa promotes prevention as key strategy to end gender-based violence. Four VBG prevention focused projects were implemented during the year.

In total, 305,269 people were reached by gender-based violence messages and AES in North Kivu, Ituri, Bas-Uelé, Tshopo and Maniema.

Figure 5: Distribution of sensitized persons by Province and Age Group.



Note: Awareness reached more adults than young and adolescent population with 87.5% female versus 12.5% for males.

HEAL Africa has implemented two projects in North-Kivu, Bas Uelé, Tshopo and Luna - Kisangani to provide training on fighting sexual abuse and exploitation with two companies and HEAL Africa employees.

Table 15: Site breakdown of trained companies' employees.

No	Site Name	Number of women	Number of Men
01	Bas Uele	0	117
02	Kisangani	4	70
03	Bafwasende	1	52
06	Beni	9	105
	Total	14	344

A total of 358 agents and managers of companies involved in the maintenance and rehabilitation of the NR2 (National Road No. 2) and NR4 were sensitized and trained on the prevention of SAE, the complaints management mechanism and the code of conduct, of which 5 were women or 4%. Breakdown of the participants include 297 DRC citizens, 9 counselors and 24 expatriate agents. After the training of the companies and HEAL Africa staff, the GBV (gender-based violence) complaints management mechanism was put into policy in 25 target areas including 10 on the Luna-Kisangani-Bunduki axis, 9 on the Beni-Kasindi axis and 6 in the Alimbongo ZS.

b. Holistic response to gender-based violence

A total of 4,398 cases of gender-based violence have been identified through interventions by HEAL Africa projects that work on behalf of victims through an extensive multi-sector response across four components of assistance (psychosocial, medical, legal and socio-economic reintegration).

A new project to provide psychological support to women, girls, men and boys who are victims of sexual and gender-based violence with the listening group approach and the NET approach was implemented at the level of health facilities in the territories of Nyiragongo and Karisimbi, which targeted 192 people: 48 women, 48 girls, 48 men and 48 boys.

Table 16: Breakdown of SGBVs supported by HEAL Africa in 2018.

Indicators	NORD-KIVU	Maniema	Ituri	Total	%
Total GBV cases	3,228	775	395	4,398	
Sexual Violence	2,170	196	353	2,719	62%
Rape (with vaginal penetration)	2,018	180	353	2,551	93,8%
SV identified within 72hrs	1,176	62	80	1,318	48%
SVV that received Kit PEP	1,117	62	80	1,259	95,5%
Total other cases other than GBV	1,058	579	42	1,679	38%
Rape pregnancies	233	65	78	376	15%
Psychosocial Assistance	2,974	694	272	3,940	90%
Legal Advocacy	867	0	70	937	21%
Files investigated	330	0	41	371	40%
Rendered Judgment	37	0	12	49	40%
Civilian Authors	2,212	518	253	2,983	69%
Armed authors and unknown	983	257	77	1,317	31%

Note: In view of this table, it is noted that of all cases of gender-based violence (GBV) identified:

- **Sexual violence represent 62% and rape with vaginal penetration represent 93.8%. Gender-based acts of violence are committed in the majority by**
- *Civilians representing 69% of the perpetrators of rape,*
- *Only 49 judgments (40%) were rendered, out of 371 cases submitted to the courts (note that in Maniema, the project did not have a legal department).*

II.2.3. Fighting HIV/AIDS and EBOLA Virus Disease

a. Fighting HIV/AIDS

In 2019, under the PMTCT component, HEAL Africa screened a total of 23,943 pregnant women out of 25,629 pregnant women seen at the ANC, or 93%.

Table 17: Indicators for PMTCT interventions

Indicators	2019	%
Pregnant women seen at the ANC	25,629	-
Pregnant women tested for HIV	23,943	93%
Pregnant women tested HIV + (New Cases)	175	0.73%
Male partners tested for HIV	8,809	
HIV + male partners	122	1.3%
Pregnant women VIH+ on ARVs	175	100%
Male partners VIH+ on ARV	122	100%

Note: Based on this table, HIV testing is widely accepted at the ANC and the screening ratio for male partners is 1 for every 3 pregnant women.

b. Project to Fight Against EBOLA Virus Disease

As part of the response to the 10th epidemic of Ebola virus disease (EVD) that is raging in the provinces of North Kivu, South Kivu and Ituri declared by the Ministry of Health since 1 August 2018, HEAL Africa, in consortium with IMA and TEARFUND is in the process of implementing an EBOLA project in 28 Health Centers (HC) in Five Health Zones including GOMA (3 HC), NYIRAGONGO (4 HC), KARISIMBI (3 HC), RUTSHURU (9 HC) and RWANGUBA (9 HC) located on the Butembo-Goma corridor.

In this Ebola project, the consortium only deals with prevention and control of infection, hygiene and sanitation (PCI-WASH) activities in Health Centers with the aim of getting providers to know the standard and specific precautions for infection prevention and control in order to put them into practice, to stop the chain of transmission of EVD and prevent the occurrence of infections associated with care.

As for HEAL Africa's primary role is in the training of care providers in PCI, the formative supervision and the monitoring and support of HC in the implementation of PCI activities on a daily basis. These activities are complemented by the endowment of the PCI Kits by IMA and the construction of hydro-sanitary works by Tearfund.

In total, the Ebola project carried out two capacity-building training courses on the ICH of health care providers and hygienists. There were 97 health care providers, including 28 women and 69 men, for 5 health zones, and there were 64 hygienists, including 29 women and 35 men, and 19 draw staff including 11 women and 8 men. A total of 56 officers from the partner SZs were trained in stock management, including 17 women and 39 men.

At the end of 2019 and after 3 months of support from HEAL Africa in PCI, 100% of health facilities improved their PCI score. Based on WHO standards, 6 structures or 21.4% achieved an 85% PCI score, including HEAL Africa Hospital.

II.2.4. Congolese women empowerment program

a. Village Savings and Loan Association (VSLA)

During 2019, six HEAL Africa projects through Wamama Simameni sites (WASI) organized **203 village savings and loan associations (VSLA)**. A total of 2,235 people are part of VSLAs, and 134 members were reintegrated economically. 656 beneficiaries were supported in IGA after having undergone different trainings in different trades (sewing, making stoves, baskets, chlorine drool soap and culinary arts). The CBM 3711 project supports people with disabilities through 65 VSLAs in the territories of Rutshuru, Nyiragongo, Lubero and Beni in village savings and credit associations. A total of 1,375 people with disabilities, 437 men, 521 women, 159 men without disabilities and 258 women without disabilities were supported.

Table 18: Summary table of VSLA results.

Indicators	Total
Number of VSLAs	258
Number of parts purchased	440,515
Number of loans given	14,667
Number of members assisted by cash	2,645
Number of beneficiaries supported for IGAs	1,400
Number of VVS economically reintegrated in the community	134



Table 19: Total in currency

Indicators	Total FC	Value in USD
Average value of a part	1000	0.6
Average value of purchased parts	3282207,25	2,051.34
Given loan values	4987268,06	3,117.04

Note: With regard to this table, each member of VSLA saves for a part, an average of 1000 FC or \$ 0.6 according to their means. A loan of credit whose average amount is \$ 26.4 is granted to those who saved for 3 months.

b. The HEALING Arts program

This program collaborates closely with the Wamama Simameni program (WASI), to supervise the training of its members in collaboration with the Ministry of Social Affairs of North Kivu province. This multidisciplinary learning center trained 176 people, among them 171 women and 5 men, distributed as follows:

Table 20: Number of people trained in Healing Arts

HEALING ARTS	
Indicators	Total
Pastry	54
Pottery	6
Leaf art	6
Sewing	78
Grand total	176



c. Literacy

Beneficiaries under literacy program are supported by the Resilience (WFP) and PSVBG-FSRDC projects to help women and men learn to read, write, calculate and count for good management of income-generating activities and assimilate well the other trades given. This literacy program makes it also possible to play a decision-making role in the group and in the community. A total of 980 people including 57 men and 923 women benefited from this program for the year 2019 in North Kivu province.



GBOTEA ZUBU (Karawa, 2019)

“Three years ago, I was seen by a team of specialists who came to my region, Karawa, to repair fistula patients. After consultation, they assumed that my case was irreversible because my fistula was very large, that there was no way for them to work on it, saying it would likely fail. I went back home in tears.”

GBOTEA, 30, contracted fistula during a home birth delivery in 2004. She was 15 years old.

From Bosima village, GBOTEA ZUBU walked 11 days to get to the General Referral Hospital of Karawa, where the free fistula repair campaign took place. Accompanied by her sister, they arrived five days before the HEAL Africa team from Goma.

“I was not ready to come if it only concerned treatment, because I was convinced that my fate under fistula was sealed. I was more motivated by the desire to escape from shame in my village than by some possibility of treatment or healing.”

Zubu told the medical team her story and waited for a response similar to the rejection given to her three years ago by specialists. **"My surprise was great when HEAL Africa promised me that they would try an intervention. I even thought they were impostors as they did not notice that my condition was not reversible. I just agreed to be treated because I had nothing left to lose."** GBOTEA finally received the fistula operation that healed her.

GBOTEA was released from hospital a few weeks after surgery. *"I feel reborn"*, she said, before thanking **HEAL Africa** and its partner, **Fistula Foundation** for giving her the opportunity to heal, without cost. "Her smile is the best expression of her victory over this fistula that has depressed her for years," whispered a nurse, Gumando, who was present when GBOTEA ZUBU was sent back home in tears three years ago.

II.3. WABABA SECTOR, NEHEMIAH, MEN AND CHURCH

The Wababa Sector integrated with Nehemiah, Men and Church, has different areas of intervention. It includes the following projects: (a) Living peace, (b) PVSBG / FSRDC, (c) Nehemiah, Men and Church; (d) Village, Justice and Empowerment (Entrust Foundation), (e) Overcoming Cultural Attitudes To Gender-Based Violence in Nyiragongo Region (Cornerstone), (f) Pro-routes, (g) Holistic Assistance Project for children victims of sexual abuse and exploitation in the territory of Beni.

II.3.1. Transforming Masculinity

As part of the transformation of masculinities, HA used different strategies and approaches to organize sessions aimed to prevent acts of violations generally committed by men. Six territories in North Kivu were targeted for these activities, namely: Beni, Lubero, Rutshuru, Nyiragongo, Masisi and Idjwi. These approaches and strategies focus on the following themes:

1. From violence to peace,
2. From male superiority to gender equality,
3. From victimization to resilience,
4. From stigmatization to helping survivors,
5. From silent witnesses to vocal witnesses.

A total of **156 men's discussion groups** were set up to follow discussion sessions on the aforementioned themes. Each group followed **15 sociotherapy sessions for transformation**. A total of 1,536 men attended the sociotherapy sessions for the transformation of masculinities.



After training on the transformation of masculinity, the participating workshop graduates, called **“gender champions”** initiated 10 VSLAs, including 6 in North Kivu and 4 in Idjwi North and South in South Kivu. These VSLAs were initiated to maintain gender champions around a common interest and thus for the sustainability of the achievements of our activities.

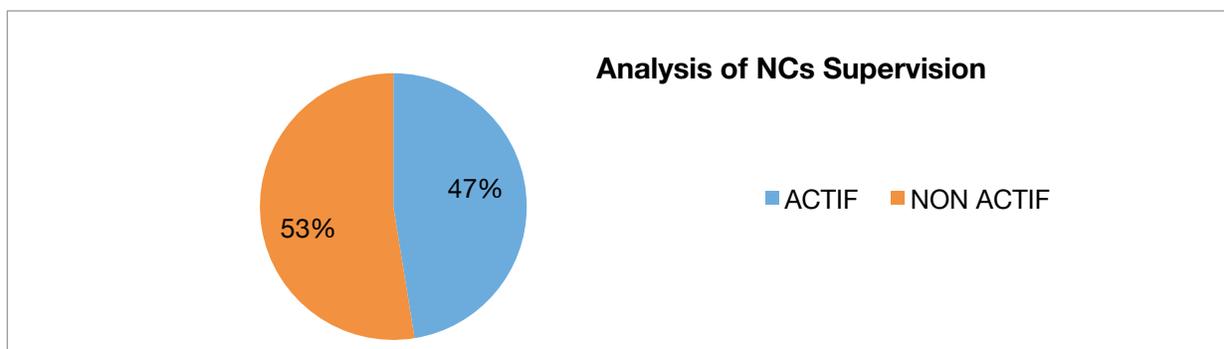
Photo left: February 2019 discussion group photo at Ndosho

P11, identified in Lushangi village: “My wife was raped by the CNDP militia. Because of that everyone neglected me and I no longer had any value in our community. So many times, this situation pushed me to attempt suicide. I was no longer able to engage in sex with my wife unless I’m drunk, because in my normal state, I considered her damaged. I realized that I was raping her too, because it was not possible to prepare her for intimacy being drunk.

Living Peace" came and I joined the discussion groups. At the 5th session I adopted a behavior that could help me to prepare my wife for sex. I had to make sure she agreed first. And today, we have consensual sex. Now I see my wife with values that I greatly appreciate; she’s really irreplaceable for me. I abandoned the idea of suicide when I understood the sense of responsibility, thanks to HEAL Africa and Living Peace”.

II.3.2. Community Mobilization

In the community, HEAL Africa works with the NEHEMIAH approach. In 2019 we mapped all the committees in 6 provinces: North Kivu, South Kivu, Maniema, Ituri, Tshopo and Bas-Uélé. Thanks to the support of the various projects mentioned under point II.3, monitoring of the Nehemiah Committee (NC) has been made possible. Analysis of the field data showed that out of 184 existing committees, 52 new NCs were created, making a total of 236 NCs, of which 108 were supervised and revitalized, 4 are autonomous and 72 have been formed. The table below shows that 112 (47%) NC are active in the field and 124 (53%) are non-active.



The awareness themes that marked this year are:

1. Handwashing hygiene in the prevention of EBOLA virus disease
2. Vaccination to prevent Ebola virus disease
3. Prevention and response to SGBV in the territory of Beni and Nyiragongo
4. Inclusion of people with disabilities
5. Peace and development workshops: 240 sessions
6. Involvement of male partners in family health (**Model Dad approach**): 672 sensitization sessions
7. Prevention and response to abuse and sexual exploitation in the territories of Beni, North Kivu, and the territory of Mambasa in the Province Orientale.

What is particular, 51 new NCs have been initiated in the Territory of Beni, in the province of Ituri, in Province Orientale and Bas Uele. They have been active in raising awareness against sexual abuse and exploitation.

II.3.3. HEAL Africa Chaplaincy

In 2019, members of the five key chaplaincy departments were reinforced in leadership in order to lead the different categories of members (children, young people, mothers) to involve them in the vision of transformation in personal, family and community development.

Apart from these departments, we deemed it useful to set up a program to strengthen the young people of UAMSHO who are gradually becoming important resource within the Chapel: 60 young people follow the program of transformation and among them, 10 undergo a vocational training program to learn trades. Five are in high school and two are studying at university with support from Worldshare.



The chaplaincy program continued its vision and mission of Christian education and social harmony within HEAL Africa. It organized: 5 biblical conferences, 104 morning devotions, 52 Sunday school sessions, 5,200 visitations to the sick, 1 marriage ceremony and 22 people accepted Jesus Christ as Lord and savior in their lives (and baptized (April 6 and December 16, 2019).

1. The Sunday School (ECODIM)

Three great evangelical outings of the ECODIM teams to Kirotshe, Plage du Peuple and to MONUSCO highlighted the year 2019 for the 650 children monitored. Thanks to the 26 instructors, HA organized a biblical genius competition, to pick 12 child champions who could effectively assist the instructors. The four ECODIM classrooms, which draws an average of 80 children, were functional and dynamic, thanks to good supervision of the instructors assisted by the 12 child champions.



HEAL Africa celebrated on December 15, 2019 the Day dedicated to the child on the occasion of Christmas 2019.

2. Youth within the Chapel

The youth of the chaplaincy are grouped into 3 categories: (a) the UAMSHO and TEAM DANCE choirs, (b) the football team and (c) the other **90 young people including 50 girls and 40 boys**. In September 2019, they organized a spiritual retreat which brought together 46 young people including 20 girls and 26 boys at the Chaplaincy School campus of BUHIMBA during the holidays. During the retreat they covered the following topics:

- a. Jesus and the youth,
- b. The young Christian in a perverted generation,
- c. Young person: prepare your future,
- d. Professional life for self-care and
- e. God the creator and restorer of young people.

After these lessons, 26 young people made a commitment to live a responsible life, without violence, committed for Christ. The participants signed an act of commitment for a new impetus and for a change in behavior of love for God and for the neighbor.

III. TRAINING AND RESEARCH (HATS: HEAL Africa Training Services)

III.1. COSECSA Program

In 2019, the basic surgery training program (MCS level) had a staff of **7 Medical Residents, 5 of whom were in second and 2 in first year**. Two out of the five doctors in the second year passed the written exam in September 2019. **Only one doctor among the two candidates passed the oral exam organized during the COSECSA General Assembly in Kampala in December, 2019.**

Doctors in training regularly prepare seminars to be presented every Tuesday and Friday. This organization of activities allowed us to cover all the material programmed during the year.

In October 2019, junior residents were trained in BSS (Basic Surgical Skills) in Kigali. In November 2019, HEAL Africa recruited 2 new doctors for surgical training. They are **Dr LELE MUTOMBO Fabrice** and **Dr KASEREKA MWANAMOLO Noé** who had satisfied the requirements, among five candidates



December 2019, the whole team attended a scientific conference and the COSECSA General Assembly in Kampala, Uganda.

III.2. Family Medicine

The ten residents take classes every Wednesday and Friday. Two residents of the 2018 cohort prepared to defend their Specialization Theses in March 2020. Residents travel three times a year to take the intensive courses in Kinshasa, and in December 2019 they passed a knowledge assessment.

III.3. Chaplains Training (Chaplaincy School)



Seventeen Pastors were recruited and trained using “**role-play, verbatim thematic and techniques, individual supervision, interpersonal relationship seminars and active listening**” by 6 trainers from HEAL Africa, 3 from CPT Congo- Kinshasa and 1 from UCBC / Beni.

III.4. Orthopedic Officers School (School of Orthopedics and Trauma)

This school had a total of 28 students, 9 of whom were in third year. Among the 9 finalists, only one student did not succeed due to lack of financial means. Sixteen students were recruited in the first year and there are 9 new finalists for this year 2019-2020.

Challenges:

- Insufficient classrooms at HEAL Africa,
- Low financial support for teachers,
- Government not taking charge of teachers based at HEAL Africa.

III.5. Supervision of Trainee Physicians and Medical Students

Two universities are authorized to send their medical interns for supervision and internships, ULPGL (Université Libre des Pays des Grands-Lacs) and UNIGOM (Université de Goma). HEAL Africa Hospital has so far been able to accommodate only **12 final year medical students**.

III.6. Medical Imaging

Two technicians have been trained in the handling of the CT scanner. All the technicians have been trained in ultrasound, mammography and radiography. This helps organize the activities of the imaging department 24 hours a day. Doctors in surgical training will begin a one-month rotation in the medical imaging department.

III.7. Continuous Training of Nurses

III.7.1 Training of Nurses in Neonatology

Since 2013, with the support from Global Strategies and BirthLink, HEAL Africa has been able to train 72 nurses coming from 10 Health Zones, an average of 12 nurses trained per year.

Challenges:

- Currently, HEAL Africa receives referred cases of congenital malformations which, unfortunately, are not covered.
- Insufficient resident doctors who are trained in neonatology.



III.7.2 HEAL Africa Nurses Trained Abroad in 2019

Six (6) nurses were sent to Tanzania for continuous training. **BINWA Adrien** and **Jackson MUHINDO** for pediatric intensive care, **Elisha LITHOLERE** for the management of the operating room program, **Nicole KAVIRA** for the nerve block in anesthesiology, **Délice CIZA** for the management of diabetes and **Micheline BORA** for Nursing administration.

III.7.3 Continuous Training of Doctors

- **Dr SERUGENDO Albin** did three months training in Cardiac Ultrasound at Nairobi (from June to August 2019)
- **The other doctors who are studying abroad:** Dr Barthelemy, Dr Luc Malemo
- **A doctor is registered for thesis:** Dr Masoda Nyamalyongo
- **A doctor is having his Master in Public Health (distance learning):** Dr Eulalie Vindu.

III.8 SCIENTIFIC RESEARCH, CONFERENCES AND CHALLENGES OF THE DEPARTMENT

III.8.1. Scientific Research

1. The Ethics and Research Committee has been established at HEAL Africa Hospital. It is made up of all specialist doctors and supervised by **Dr Masoda Nyamalyongo, Dr Sosthène Vuvuli** and **Dr Serge Kahatwa**. Two doctors from Goma town came to present their research protocols to HEAL Africa in order to collect their data: Dr Jason PITHWA on diabetic retinopathy and Dr Richard Kabuyanga on pre-Eclampsia in Goma and Vitamin D.
2. Two studies in Goma by the University of Florida are underway. The first concerns malaria and the second is about cholera.
3. The following articles were published this year:
 - a. Justin Lussy Paluku, Tamar E Carter, Miriam Lee and Susan A Bartels. Massive single visit cervical pre-cancer and cancer screening in eastern Democratic Republic of Congo. BMC Women's Health 2019; 19:43
 - b. Mumbere Hangi Stan. A case of subdural empyema secondary to pyogenic meningitis in an infant. Asian Journal of Science and Technology 2019; 09 (06): 9703-9705
 - c. Stan Hangi, Megan Singh, Sejal Doshi, Susan Bartels. Obstetric risk factors for neonatal malaria in the Democratic Republic of Congo. Global Health: Annual Review-Canada 2019; 1 (4)
 - d. Mumbere Hangi, Jane Achan, Aime Saruti, Jacklyn Quinlan, Richard Idro. Congenital malaria in newborn presented at Tororo General Hospital in Uganda: A cross-sectional study. Am.J.Trop.Med.Hyg 2019; 100 (5): 1158-1163

4. The Abstracts Presented in International Conferences:

At the Annual Scientific Conference held at Kampala (Uganda) in December 2019, **Dr Medard KK** and **Dr Jacques FB** presented the following abstracts, respectively: “**Success of surgical correction of cleft palate in remote areas**” and “**Neonatal surgery in low-resource setting**”.

III.8.2. Conferences

- a. **Dr Neil Wetzig** participated to the Congress of the Royal College of Australian Surgeons held in Bangkok in May 2019 and to the World Congress of Surgery held in Poland in August 2019. He presented the following article: 'Maternal outcomes from poor surgery and anaesthesia in LMICS / DRC - Abdominal catastrophe (**MJK Kabuyaya, JF Bake, JK Tsandiraki**)
- b. Dr MUSUBAO John participated in a conference organized by SIGN NAILING Corporation held in Richland, WA at Sign Fracture Care International, September 2019.
- c. **The HEAL Africa Smile Train team** participated in the Symposium on Global Management of Cleft-lip held in Bukavu in March 2019.

III.8.3. Challenges of the Hats Department in 2019

Lack of funding for operating and research cost.

IV. RESOURCES

IV.1. Human Resources

During 2019, HEAL Africa used **287 employees with contracts** and **149 consultants** (74 for the hospital and 75 for projects), a total of **438 people**. Women represent 40.50% (177 women) and men 59.50% (261 men).

A. The Hospital

A total of **208 employees, some under contract and under consultancy**, of which 90 (43.5%) women and 108 (56.15%) men were used. They are distributed as follows:

- Doctors: 17 specialist doctors and 18 resident doctors (doctors in training)
- The paramedics: 84 nurses of levels A1 and A2
- Technicians (Laboratory and Medical Imaging, Ophthalmology, Physiotherapy, Dentistry): 25
- Assistants: 44
- Agents appointed to the Administration of the hospital: 20.



B. Community Projects

A total of **230 employees** including 80 (38.47%) women and 136 (61.53%) men were used. They are located in different intervention sites of HEAL Africa, and among them **14 are administrative clerks**.

C. HEAL Africa Training Service (HATS):

The education department operates with staff who are included in the hospital employees.

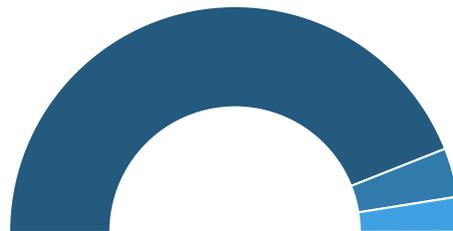


FINANCE



HEAL Africa USA

Program Support: 88%



Administration: 7%

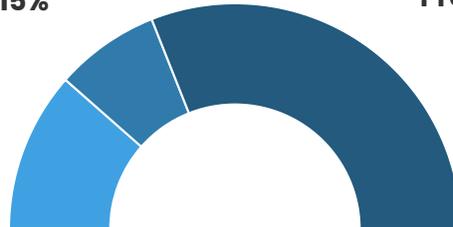
Fundraising: 5%

HEAL Africa DRC

Development: 15%

Program Services: 62%

Operations: 23%



IN KIND



March 2019, from Australia (SONIC HEALTHCARE)



May 2019, from the USA (Project C.U.R.E)



June 2019, from Canada (HPIC)



August 2019, from the USA (Project C.U.R.E)

HEAL Africa received FOUR CONTAINERS

The containers included medical equipment (beds, wheelchairs, crutches, ultrasound scanners, monitors, vacuum cleaners, stretchers, operating tables, examination tables, chairs, etc.) and other necessary materials (single-use surgical gowns, use fields clothing, clothing for vulnerable patients, laboratory equipment, Pampers, syringes, etc.).

AusHEAL REPORT

Introduction

AusHEAL continues to support medical care in the Democratic Republic of Congo in partnership with HEAL Africa and Global Development Group (GDG) through the AusHEAL Congo J730N project. The main activities are: education and training; annual visits by multidisciplinary teams; scholarships for specialized training; short-term development grants; and logistical support. Unfortunately, the annual multidisciplinary teams scheduled for August / September 2019 were canceled due to the risk of Ebola virus after the declaration on July 17, 2019 by the WHO and the UN of a “Public health emergency of international scope (USPPI)” after a case of Ebola was detected in Goma.

HEAL Africa Training Service (HATS)



AusHEAL aims to empower Congolese doctors to improve the sustainability of health care at HEAL Africa and build the capacity of the Congolese health system. A noble key to this transition is the HEAL Africa Training Center (HATS) which was opened on April 12, 2019 by the mayor of Goma. Construction and equipment were



funded by **Gateway Baptist Church** from Brisbane, AusHEAL and a DAP grant from the Australian government. It was nice to see key personnel using the center for training in 2019.

Presence of AusHEAL at HEAL Africa in 2019

The presence of AusHEAL at HEAL Africa in 2019 was provided by longer-term volunteers, **Neil and Gwen Wetzig**, involved in clinical support in surgery; teaching basic and essential surgery (Neil and Gwen were both vaccinated against Ebola in March); **Paul Bakes** and others in March and April contributed to the final layout of the HATS Center. Paul B. also installed computer cabling for other HEAL Africa buildings. Mechanical training was also provided, and **Dr Peter Tralaggan** provided intensive anesthesia training to HEAL Africa staff and COSECSA trainees as well as mentoring to Dr Kigayi, HEAL Africa's first medical anesthesiologist specialist. **Julie** Tralaggan sorted and cataloged old and new books in the new library at the HATS Center.

Basic Training in Essential and Emergency Surgery COSECSA

Along with HEAL Africa USA and “Twice the Doctor” (an Australian charity association), AusHEAL continues to contribute to the funding of the training program for Congolese doctors in basic and emergency surgery (starting 2016). It is a pleasure that **Dr. Jacques Fadhili Bake** and **Dr. Justin Tsandiraki** have now successfully passed the COSECSA exams of MCS (Membership). All trainees as well as Dr Médard Kabuyaya (HA surgeon) and Dr Jo Lusi participated in the COSECSA Annual Scientific Congress which was held in Kampala, Uganda, from December 4 to December 6, 2019.

Scholarships



Dr Barthelémy AKSANTI is continuing his specialization in Gynecology-Obstetrics in Nairobi with the AusHEAL scholarship. He will be able to complete his studies between September 2020 and March 2021.

Short-term Development Grants (STDG): These grants are worth \$ 1,500 for a Congolese staff member to travel to a neighboring African country to improve their skills in a particular area of medicine / nursing. In 2019, the following staff benefited from STDG: Nurse **Adrien Binwa** – Tanzania (pediatric nursing); Nurse / OO **Elisha Litho** –Tanzania (Operating room and burns management); Nurse **Jackson** –Tanzania (ICU); **Dr Albin S.**-Nairobi (Cardiac ultrasonography).



Ausheal Funds for Hospital Patients: The criteria for access to this funding are: patients must be treated by a member of the AusHEAL team; the treatment must be a teaching / training exercise; the patient must sincerely be unable to pay for his care. In March / April 2019, five (5) new patients were operated at a total cost of 3000 USD. As no AusHEAL team was present during the last months of the year due to the Ebola crisis, no expenditure from the AusHEAL Fund for patients was incurred.



HEAL Africa Financial Review: Following a GDG evaluation in late 2017, financial irregularities regarding how AusHEAL-funded funds were spent were noted and a review was recommended. The General Assembly of HEAL Africa (GA) approved it. AusHEAL (jointly with HA-USA and HA-UK) funded the assessment by Australian forensic accountant, Mr. Ted Sherwood, and his report was then presented to GA 2020. The GA decided to restructure the finance department in response to Ted's report.

VI. PROJECTS REPORTS FROM OTHER AUSTRALIAN PARTNERS

VI. 1. Project Funded by Worldshare Australia in 2019.

The partnership between WorldShare Australia and HEAL Africa RDC for the year 2019 has enabled the latter (HEAL Africa) to implement projects that have brought holistic assistance to several vulnerable and marginalized people in different communities of Eastern DR. Congo. This holistic assistance has given a smile and hope to several beneficiaries of these different projects actions, including:

- **Sponsor A Child:** 113 foster families have received financial support to strengthen their income-generating activities which enable them to ensure the education of sponsored children under their responsibility. The 113 sponsored children also benefited from psychological and spiritual support for their social well-being.



- **Mugunga School: 236 vulnerable children** in the communities of Mugunga and its surrounding areas, enrolled in the GSF Mugunga Primary School, benefit from good quality primary education thanks to the financial contribution of the project funded by WorldShare for the proper functioning of the school.
- **Uamsho: 19 young people** out of 84 in the UAMSHO group, which brings together young people retrieved from the streets of Goma, were sent to different vocational training centers and schools of Goma to learn different trades for their social integration. Three of these 19 young people are those who were supported last year and who obtained their State diplomas. They decided to continue with their university studies.

- **Chaplains training and Support: 17 chaplains and pastors** from partner churches at HEAL Africa have successfully completed training in “Clinical Pastoral Care”. This session got the contribution of WorldShare up to 33% of the total cost of the training. This project also supports the functioning of the HEAL Africa Chapel for the spiritual, psychological and social assistance of patients admitted at HEAL Africa hospital and the surrounding communities.



- **Mercy Fund: 55 vulnerable and poor patients**, admitted to HEAL Africa hospital, benefited from free quality healthcare thanks to the support of the Mercy Fund - WorldShare project.



VI. 2. PROJECT FUNDED BY ENTRUST FOUNDATION OF AUSTRALIA IN 2019

Through the “Village Justice and Empowerment” project, HEAL Africa was able to create 4 new Nehemiah Committees of 18 members each, in different communities.

This project which first phase was implemented from July 2018 to June 30, 2019, trained and capacitated 72 community leaders who are members of the 4 newly created Nehemiah Committees. The training focused on community justice, positive masculinity and the fight against gender-based violence, conflict management and transformation, Christian leadership, good governance, community development, etc. This capacitation enables them to better deal with the injustices experienced in their respective communities, thereby providing support to the vulnerable and marginalized.



VIII. KEY VISITS OF THE YEAR 2019

1. Mrs. **MARION EKPUK**, Deputy Head of Mission of the US Embassy in Kinshasa (December 04, 2019)



2. World Bank delegation and the Congolese Ministry of Health (November 26, 2019).



3. Visit of the US Ambassador in DRC, Mr. **Mike A. HAMMER** (October 17, 2019)



4. Visit of the **Governor and Vice-Governor of North Kivu province** (August 28, 2019)



5. **Mrs. DENISE NYAKERU TSHISEKEDI**, First Lady of the DRC (June 05, 2019)



6. **Fenner HORTON**, Representative of UNFPA in the DRC (February 13, 2019)
7. **Ambassador Daniel VERN SPECKARD**, President of IMA (January 28, 2019)

IX. CONCLUSION

HEAL Africa's activities have focused on health, education, advocating for those without voice, and empowering individuals to improve their local communities. These areas encompass our approach to provide holistic care for the most vulnerable populations in the Democratic Republic of the Congo. The majority served are women and children, who are the most affected by persistent conflicts in the region.

It has been affirmed to us, year after year that HEAL Africa's contribution, in partnership with external organizations, as well as the efforts and partnership with the Congolese government, is integral to the promotion of man in the DRC, and thus should be supported.

We express our gratitude to all Partners, public and private, who supported our work in 2019 and invite your continued support. We would like to reassure the old and new Partners of our determination to respect our commitments for the benefit of the beneficiaries of our work, in the spirit of accountability and sustainability.

X. APPENDIX

HEAL Africa PARTNERS in 2019

HIV / AIDS

1. Global Strategies
2. MSF / France
3. PATA
4. STEPHEN LEWIS FOUNDATION (Canada)
5. UNICEF

SGBV

1. Christian Aid
2. DRC Humanitarian Funds
3. IMA World health / USAID
4. PROMUNDO
5. Tearfund
6. UNICEF
7. UNFPA
8. WFP
9. World Bank / DRC Social Funds
10. Worldshare Australia

Reproductive Health

1. CBM
2. EngenderHealth
3. Fistula Foundation
4. Direct Relief
5. World Bank / DRC Social Funds
6. HEAL Africa USA

Training and Research (HATS)

1. AusHEAL
2. COSECSA
3. Gateway Church (Australia)
4. HEAL Africa USA
5. Queen's University (Canada)
6. University of Florida (USA)
7. UPC / PMR de l'ECC

Reintegration, Community Recovery And Community-Based Rehabilitation

1. CBM International
2. CBM Irish Aid
3. Cornerstone
4. Entrust Foundation
5. HEAL Africa USA
6. Jim Gallop Family (USA)
7. UNDP
8. Worldshare Australia

Spiritual Ministry

1. HEAL Africa USA
2. International Ministries, USA
3. Jim Gallop Family (USA)
4. WorldShare Australia
5. Worldshare UK

Administration

1. HEAL Africa USA

Hospital

1. AMADE Mondial
2. AusHEAL
3. Birth Link/Global Strategies
4. G4 Alliance
5. HEAL Africa USA
6. Health Partners International of Canada
7. HOPE Walks
8. Mater Hospital (Brisbane, Australia)
9. Preik Family Foundation
10. Project C. U. R. E
11. Smile Train
12. SONIC Healthcare

GOMA LEADERSHIP

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HEAL Africa DRC, CEO/Legal Representative | Ob/Gyn Surgeon

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