

HEAL  AFRICA

Annual Report 2020

Promote a Healthier and Resilient
Community

HEAL Africa Hospital



FROM THE CEO



Dear Partners,

A year ends and another begins! I take this opportunity to greet you in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ.

As we entered the year 2020, full of energy and hopeful for a better tomorrow, our country recorded its very first case of Corona Virus in Kinshasa on March 10. That was the beginning of the disaster! Life was affected at the national level. Humanitarian activities were severely disrupted by the measures taken by the government of DRC, attempting to contain the spread of the disease throughout the country. From March to August 2020, we could not work outside of north Kivu province.

Of course, some of our personnel contracted COVID-19, but we did not record any deaths. Glory to the Lord!

You helped us open a "Covid-19 Isolation and Treatment Center" at HEAL Africa. This center has allowed us to save the lives of several patients in our province. You have also allowed us to contribute to the response to this pandemic in other parts of our province through your valuable support.

Although 2020 was a very difficult year for the whole world, you have allowed us to complete and inaugurate new infrastructures at the hospital (AMANI Community Health Centre of Excellence, 20 new hospital rooms, a new TABERNACLE Temple with new sound equipment and new chairs, an extension of the ECODIM center with a large room for Spiritual Ministries (EcoDim, Capoeira, Team Dance.)

When travel was allowed in provinces of our country, you enabled us the rescue of women and children who remained isolated and who required specialized surgery. A total of 691 surgical repairs were done during outreaches and in Goma. These repairs concerned women with fistula, children with lip and labio-palate clefts, and those born with repairable deformities.

Confident, we aspire to a better and brighter future! With the dynamism that is currently being seen in our government, we believe in a prosperous Congo where poverty will give way to a more decent life for all.

We intend to actively participate in this transformation with your support, our dear partners.

Let us keep our faith unshakeable and remain united in prayer!

Dr Justin PALUKU

HEAL Africa DRC, CEO



INTRODUCTION

The year 2020 was characterized by the unique event of the COVID-19 pandemic. Global borders were closed, negatively affecting activities in almost every area of life. With the lockdown decided by governments, everything idled. The humanitarian sector suffered a major impact.

Working mainly in the field of health, HEAL Africa has been forced to continue providing services to the population, despite the many difficulties encountered following the COVID 19 pandemic, mobilizing the necessary resources to give assistance to the needy in eastern DRC. As usual, HEAL Africa has supported the efforts of the Government of the Democratic Republic of the Congo and has continued to respond to its mission of holistic assistance to vulnerable, resource-poor people, especially women and children.

In this report, we present the achievements that HEAL Africa made in 2020, from its three departments:

- **Tertiary Hospital** located in Goma
- **Community Projects** implemented in different provinces of DRC
- **Training and Research** conducted at the hospital and in community projects.

MAIN ACHIEVEMENTS FOR THE YEAR 2020

A. THE HOSPITAL

1. Dedication and opening of the AMANI Health Center of Excellence, co-financed by AMADE Mondial and HEAL Africa.
2. Dedication and inauguration of the second part of the Mother-Children's Pavilion (20 hospital rooms built above the hospital's Medical Imaging building).
3. Launch of the COVID-19 Isolation and Treatment Center at the hospital.
4. Acquisition, with self-funding, of new equipment for the diagnosis and monitoring of patients (Radiology device, ultrasound machine, Monitors, etc.).

B. COMMUNITY PROJECTS

B.1. WABABA Sector, Men and Churches

1. Dedication and opening of the new TABERNACLE Chapel completely renovated and equipped with new chairs and new, high quality musical equipment.
2. Elaboration of the updated mapping of all The Nehemiah Committees in 6 provinces: North Kivu, South Kivu, Maniema, Ituri, Tshopo and Bas-Uélé.
3. Accreditation of 2 HEAL Africa chaplains as "CPT Trainers".

B.2. WAMAMA Sector

Launch of the Gender-Based Violence Prevention and Response (PRVBG) project in Maniema province with funding from the World Bank.

B.3. WATOTO Sector

1. HEAL Africa's neonatology department has been honored with the “**Nursing Award**” from the University of SURREY of England, conferred to nurse Elisabeth Samvura for 2020;
2. Implementation of two key projects on nutritional care in Alimbongo and Kamango health zones with funding from the Humanitarian Funds in DRC;
3. Extension of the Center for Sunday School (ECODIM) with a large room for Spiritual Ministries (EcoDim, Capoeira, Team Dance, etc.)
4. Upgrade of playground facilities

C. TRAINING & RESEARCH

1. 100% of Family Medicine Resident Physicians passed the aptitude exams (written and oral). All are now Senior Resident Physicians.
2. Training and certification of the fourth class of Chaplains trained in Clinical Chaplaincy (CPT) of the Heal Africa School of Chaplains.

PRAYER REQUESTS FOR THE YEAR 2021

1. Good health for all HEAL Africa members and partners.
2. Procure and upgrade hospital equipment and ensure access to quality medicine.
3. Having the means to continue building HEAL Africa's infrastructure.
4. Safety of staff when travelling for field activities.
5. Having the means to keep contributing to the training of health professionals.



Renovated Tabernacle



New Sunday School Complex (EcoDim)

I. TERTIARY HOSPITAL

I.1. OUTREACH (MOBILE SURGERY)

In 2020, HEAL Africa organized mobile surgery missions: 4 for Uro-gynecology, 3 for General Surgery (plastic surgery) and 7 for Orthopedics.

A total of **614 patients** were successfully operated on in rural areas:

- 185 cases of lips and labio-palatal clefts repaired
- 124 cases of clubfoot, varum knee and valgum knee corrected
- 221 vesico/recto-vaginal fistula cases repaired
- 84 genital prolapses corrected

NB: Clubfoot corrections in Clinics supported by HEAL Africa:

With support from the HOPE WALKS project, a total of **979 club feet** have been corrected applying the **PONSETI method** among which 156 in the clinic in Goma (HEAL Africa) and 823 in those far from Goma (Bukavu, Uvira, Kayna, Kindu, Butembo, Mambowa, Beni, Mangina, Oicha, Bunia).

Table 1: Outreach missions conducted by HEAL Africa from 2013-2020

Years	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020
Accomplished missions	7	10	13	16	14	12	9	14
Beneficiaries in Orthopaedics	218	300	265	235	244	77	158	124
Beneficiaries in Uro-gynecology	226	104	421	441	390	530	241	305
Beneficiaries in general surgery	294	-	33	149	465	284	277	185
TOTAL (Beneficiaries)	738	404	719	825	1,099	891	676	614

I.2. EXTERNAL CONSULTATION

In 2020, **4,3315** patients were seen in external consultation. This figure shows a decrease of 3,125 (7.2%) compared to the number of patients seen during external consultation in 2019, which was 46,440. Among cases received in 2020: **37,262** (86%) were new cases and **6,653** (15%) old cases. A total of 16404 (**38%**) men and 26911 (**62%**) women consulted in 2020.

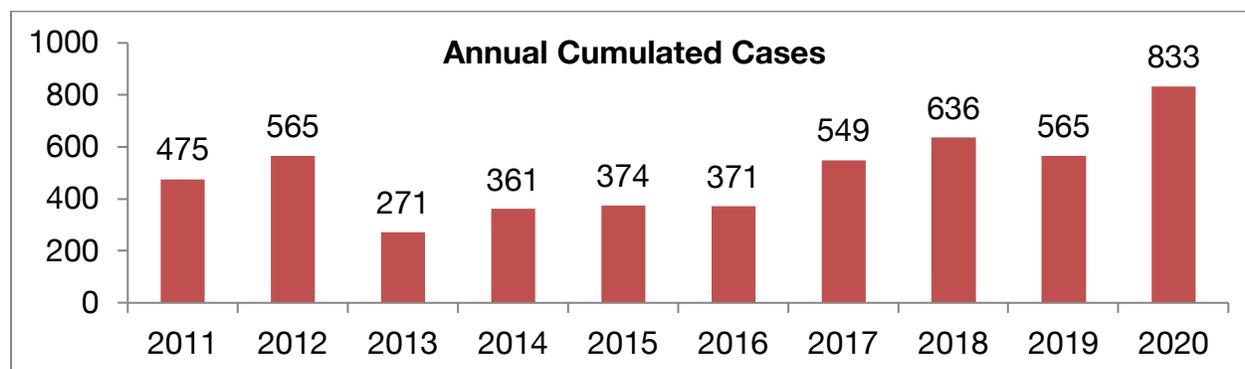
Among the patients consulted, there were **12,889**(30%) children under 5 years of age and **6,118** (**14%**) pregnant women.

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

A total of 833 new survivors of sexual violence were registered at HEAL Africa Hospital in 2020, including:

- 410 (49%) registered within 72 hours after rape and received free PEP kits
- 833 (100%) benefited from psychological care
- 352 (42%) received legal support (legal advice)

Figure I: Cases of SGBV treated at HEAL Africa Hospital from 2013 to 2020



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

The HEAL Africa Health Center received in consultation preventive care services: **5,766 clients for Antenatal Care (ANC)**, **21,241 clients for Preschool Care (PSC)**, **1,696 clients for Post-Natal Care (PoNC)**, **402 clients for Nutritional Consultation** and **437 clients for Family Planning (FP)**. The rate of adherence to family planning methods was estimated at 1.4%.

In 2020, a total of **30,505 former and new clients** were served at the HEAL Africa Health Centre.

Table 2: Clients served at the Health Centre in 2020

	New cases	Old cases	Total
Antenatal Care (ANC)	1,325	4,441	5,766
Pre-school Care (PSC)	1,624	19,617	21,241
Family Planning (FP)	259	178	437
Post-natal Care (PoNC)	1,519	177	1,696
Fully vaccinated children (FVC)	582	381	963
Nutrition	234	168	402
Total	5,543	24,962	30,505

Table 3: Achievements of preventive activities at the Health Centre from 2012 to 2020

	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020
ANC	3,807	3,865	4,541	5,014	4,851	6,091	6,595	5,699	5,766
PSC	5,974	6,052	8,903	9,887	9,558	13,304	20,270	15,152	21,241
FP	4,880	3,631	2,747	2,806	1,715	1,273	967	538	437
Nutrition	434	393	409	307	389	609	586	788	402
PoNC	2,009	2,201	2,512	2,614	2,648	2,179	2,521	2,304	1,696
FVC	1,234	1,011	1,745	1,602	1	1,259	1,472	931	963
Total	15,095	13,941	16,600	18,014	16,513	24,715	32,411	25,412	30,505

Note:

- A marked increase in attendance of the Antenatal Consultation service (ANC) of around 67 cases compared to 2019.
- A net increase of 6089 children followed in pre-school consultation, compared to 2019.
- A slight decrease of clients who have come for FP and those who have come for nutritional advice.

I.5. OPERATING THEATER ACTIVITIES

Surgeries performed in Goma:

For the year 2020, our operating theater in Goma performed **4,553 surgeries**, among them 2,130 (47%) major acts, 1,391 (30%) average acts and 1,032 (23%) minor acts.

Specialized surgical procedures performed in outreach:

As in all previous years, HEAL Africa's surgical teams have done most of their **specialized interventions** in remote rural areas (Outreach), a total of **614 cases**.

Table 4: Pathologies that required specialized surgery in Goma and on Outreach in 2020

Pathologies	Outreach	Goma
Hydrocephalus	0	6
Lip and labio-palate clefts	185	59
Spina bifida	0	5
Osteonecrosis of the femur head	0	19
Club foot, varum knee, valgum knee	124	48
Vesico/recto-vaginal fistula	221	143
Prolapse (genital)	84	151
Other gynecological complications	84	51
Anal imperforation	0	20
Sub/extra-dural Hematoma	0	12
Hypospadias	0	3
Total	614	517

Table 5: Surgeries conducted from 2013 to 2020

	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020
Goma	2,916	3,841	3,261	3,687	5,117	5,102	3,450	4,130	3,895	4,553
Outreach	754	803	690	404	776	825	1,153	891	841	614
Total	3,670	4,644	3,951	4,091	5,893	5,883	4,603	5,021	4,736	5,167

Note: There was an increase of 658 surgical procedures in Goma and decrease of 229 in those done during outreaches, compared to the year 2019. These differences are due to the COVID-19 pandemic which caused cancellation of some mobile surgery missions.

I.6. CHILDBIRTHS

This year, a total of 1,698 deliveries were carried out, of which 903 (53, 1%) were vaginal and 795 (46, 3%) by caesarean section. The hospital reported 3 cases of maternal death throughout 2020.

Table 6: Types of deliveries conducted at HEAL Africa Hospital from 2013 to 2020

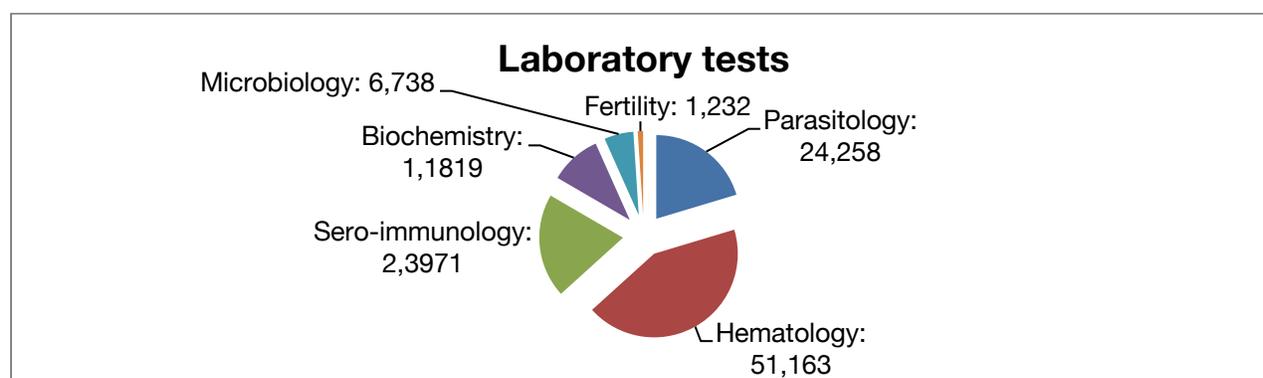
	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020
Normal vaginal deliveries	1,133	1,263	1,321	1,317	1,342	1,130	957	1,105	781	706
Complicated vaginal deliveries	12	13	10	75	7	23	252	71	186	197
Caesarean section deliveries	217	202	275	463	582	675	679	654	758	795
Total	1,362	1,478	1,606	1,855	1,931	1,828	1,888	1,830	1,725	1,698

Note: HEAL Africa hospital handles more complicated deliveries than normal ones.

I.7. LABORATORY TESTS

In 2020, a total of **119,181 tests** were requested for ambulatory and hospitalized patients.

Figure 2: Laboratory tests conducted in 2020



Note: Hematology examinations were the most requested.

I.8. MEDICAL IMAGING

In 2020, a total of **14,776 examinations** were done in this department.

Table 7: Medical Imaging examinations review from 2013 to 2020

	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020
Radiology	4,782	4,231	6,070	5,220	4,237	5,544	6,272	6,772	7,005
Ultrasound	2,602	2,717	3,176	30,19	34,63	3,498	53,83	5,993	7,043
ECG	778	341	506	482	436	422	467	579	728
Scanner							145	81	0
Total	8,162	7,289	97,52	8,721	8,136	9,464	12,267	13,425	14,776

I.9. OTHER HOSPITAL SERVICES

- **Endoscopy**

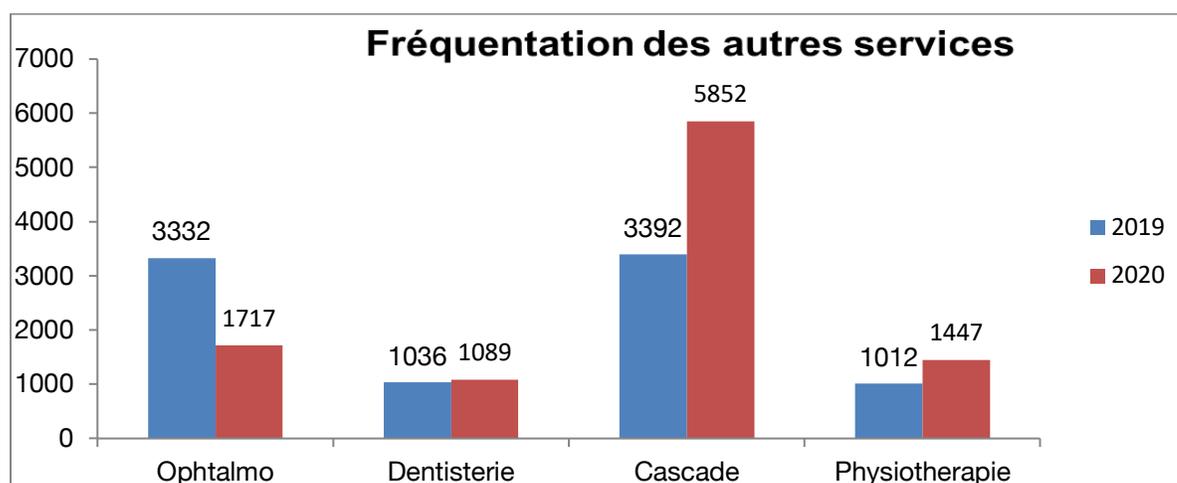
Table 8: Number of endoscopic examinations conducted from 2015 to 2020

	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020
Esophago-gastro-duodenoscopy	59	85	97	149	131	92
Colo-rectoscopy	5	19	18	29	46	5
Total	64	104	115	178	177	97

Note: There was a decrease in endoscopic examinations in 2020. This is due to the multiple failures experienced by all endoscopy equipment during the year.

OTHER SERVICES:

Figure 3. Other hospital services



Note: The CASCADE unit was busier than others in 2020.

I.10. OTHER INDICATORS OF QUALITY CARE AT THE HOSPITAL

Table 9: Other indicators of quality care in 2020

	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020
Number of beds assembled	155	155	197	197	197	200	200	200	220
Mortality rate	1.19	1.31	1.37	1.34	0.97	2,18	2.08	2.02%	3.3%
Bed occupancy rate	72%	86%	75%	72%	72%	67%	80%	72%	57%
Total hospitalized cases	5,865	6,506	6,549	7,154	6,887	6,045	7,384	6,986	6,956

Note:

- The hospital has increased its capacity by 20 beds compared to the previous 3 years,
- The mortality rate has increased slightly.
- The bed occupancy rate has fallen by almost 15%, certainly due to the fear of contracting COVID-19 at the hospital in the community of Goma, from March to May 2020.

II. COMMUNITY PROJECTS

To accomplish its mission and vision, HEAL Africa implements projects grouped into three sectors according to the characteristics of its beneficiaries who are children, women and men as follows:

1. WATOTO SECTOR: for all projects that deal with children;
2. WAMAMA SECTOR: for projects that work in favor of women;
3. WABABA SECTOR (Nehemiah Committee, Men and Church): which aims to involve men, community leaders and grass root churches in all areas of community life.

II.1. WATOTO SECTOR

II.1.1. Introduction

In 2020, through the interventions of various projects supported by 9 partners, the WATOTO Sector **took care of 10,535 children** divided as follows:

- **Medical score:** 2,903 (411 newborns, 542 HIV-infected children, 837 children exposed to HIV and 277 club feet)
- **Nutritionally:** 4,199 children (1,140 in Goma, 1,561 in Birambizo, 1,151 in Kamango and 345 in Alimbongo)
- **Socio-psychological score:** 2,252 children (364 in CAP, 1,715 for VBG, 173 in Children's Space and CAPOEIRA)
- **Educational score:** 370 (36 at Tuungane School, 113 in Sponsorship program and 221 at Mugunga School)
- **Legal support:** 911 children

II.1.2. Health

The Pediatrics department of HEAL Africa Hospital, in collaboration with Community Projects, takes care of sick children and prevents avoidable diseases.

For 2020, 21 projects have taken care of newborns and children whose data are included in this report:

A. Newborn care

HEAL Africa has provided a framework of excellence and an opportunity for other health facilities in North and South Kivu to improve the care of newborns in order to reduce neonatal mortality, by contributing to the training of health providers.

In 2020 we significantly controlled mortality and according to our curve, the proportion of deaths from the community fell very low to 12.98% compared to the 30% of 2016.

Annual achievements in 2020:

- 87 health providers trained, from 12 health zones (2 urban and 10 rural).
- 80% of trained structures in the 2 urban zones have already integrated the package of essential care for newborn.
- 3 clinical mentorships were carried out with the PNSR.

B. Management of pediatric HIV: Children Aid Program (CAP):

Day to day, HEAL Africa has reached 14 years of follow-up of children exposed and infected with HIV. **That is an irrefutable experience that conferred to HEAL Africa second place in the country in the monitoring of children living with HIV.**

Our current data show that we have reached both 90/90 on the 90/90/90 of the WHO targets. This is thanks to experienced staff and community support that meets the patient's real need.

For the year 2020, the clinic has taken care of 667 children including 535 HIV-positive children who are all already on ARV (100% ARV).

According to WHO, each management program 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 remove their viral load at 6 months after the start of ARVs.*

Table 10: Evaluation of CAP activities regarding the 90/90/90 target

Indicators	Number	Rate	90/90/90	Gap
Total patients taken care of	667			
Total HIV Positive Patients	542			
Patients following ARV treatment	542	100%	100%	0
Patients on ARV with viral load made	495	91.3%		
Patients on ARVs who have suppressed their viral load	430	86.9%	86.9%	13.1%
Patients on ARV with viral load not removed	65	13.3%		
Patients on ARVs who have not made viral load	47	9.4%		
Patients on ARVs under the age of 12	364			
Patients on ARV aged 12 and over who know their status	345	94.8%	94.8%	5.2%

Notes:

- 100% (542 including 270 girls and 272 boys) of our patients are on ARV treatment
- 345 know their HIV status and so the first two 90% are already reached
- 86.9% of our patients removed their viral load in 2020 compared to 64.94% in 2019

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

With our interventions in 24 PMTCT sites, we identified 207 new cases (NC) and tracked 505 old cases. Out of a total of 232 infants who reached 18 months, 189 (81.4%) showed up for testing and all came out HIV-negative.

- PMTCT: Of the 207 infants exposed, 98 (47.3%) cases of HEAL Africa did the PCR (Polymerase Chain Reaction) test all tested negative (0% transmission).
- CAP: 109 children were followed. Among them 44 reached 18 months and 43 (2.33%) were screened, only one came out positive.
- Among the children received from the pediatrics department via DCIP, 40 had their PCR and 5 (12.5%) were tested positive.

D. Integrated Management of Acute Malnutrition (IMAM):

The year 2020 was marked by a feat in the management of severe acute malnutrition. With funding from UNICEF and HFDRC we carried out 4 PCIMA projects (Goma, Alimbongo, Birambizo and Kamango).

With these 4 projects we took care of **4199 children** (1857 boys and 2342 girls) of whom **295 (7.2%) admitted to hospital (UNTI or Pediatrics) and 11 tested for HIV, of which (3.7%) positive and 3904 (92.8%) outpatient care (UNTA).**

Table 11: Acute malnutrition integrated care

Sex	Alimbongo		Birambizo		Goma		Kamango		Total
	G	F	G	F	G	F	G	F	
# Cases Of Acute Malnutrition Identified	151	196	612	949	598	542	496	655	4199
Outpatient care (UNTA)	138	179	612	949	536	470	437	583	3904
Inpatients (UNTI)	13	17	0	0	62	72	59	72	295
Admitted cases tested HIV +	0	0	0	0	7	4	0	0	11
Admitted cases tested HIV -	0	0	0	0	55	68	59	72	254
Healed	133	147	314	323	422	455	481	636	2911
Abandonments	1	2	3	5	22	67	12	17	129
Death	0	0	0	0	9	18	2	3	32
Healing rate	98.9%		98.7%		88.3%		97.0%		
Dropout rates	0.7%		0.5%		3.7%		2.4%		
Death rate	0.0%		0.0%		20.1%		0.5%		

Note:

- The healing rate is higher than 85% (which is the norm)
- The dropout rate is less than 15% (which is the norm) and
- Only Goma sites supported by HEAL Africa have a higher death rate than the norm that is of 5%

E. Management of club feet

For the 7 outreach missions carried out by Orthopedics department in 2020, a total of 124 cases were repaired by the specialist teams of HEAL Africa.

II.1.3. Protection

The 8 projects funded by HFDRC (Alimbongo, Kamango, Masisi), FSRDC (PRVBG) and UNICEF (Notre Espoir - Our Hope) enabled the holistic care of 2024 children survivors of SGBV.

Table 12: Holistic management of SGBV cases

Sex	G	F	Total	
Community mobilization	47,949	61,893	109,842	
TOTAL cases identified	85	1,939	2,024	
*SSV identified within 72 hours	0	836	836	41%
*SSV having received PEP kit	0	831	831	99.4%
Pregnancy from rape	0	247	247	12%
Psychological care	60	1,655	1,715	85%
Legal support	61	850	911	45%
Started records	45	266	311	15%
Judgments	1	24	25	8.3%

*SSV: Survivor of Sexual Violence

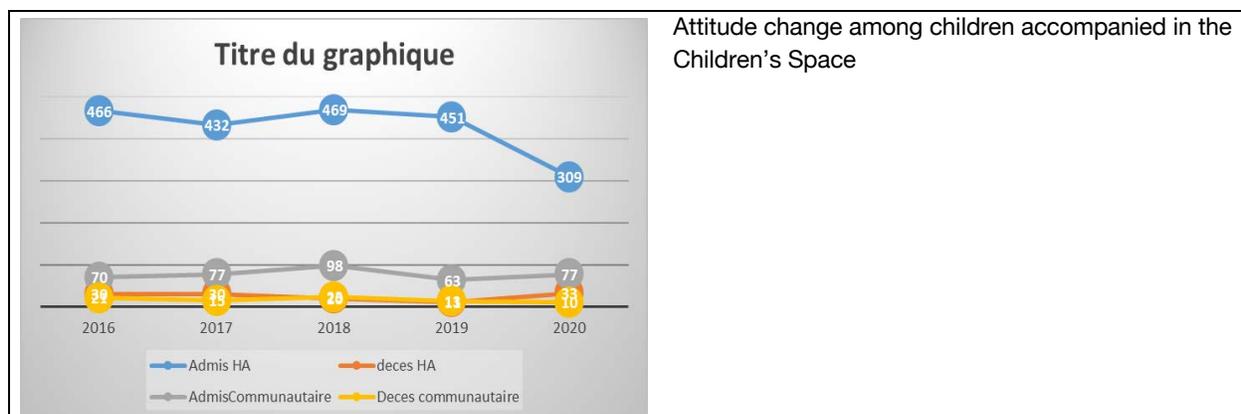
Notes:

- 99.4% of survivors identified before 72h had access to PEP kits.
- Of the 311 cases brought to court, only 25 judgments were pronounced.

In our psychological care we use 2 approaches (Dance and Children Friend Space and PSA).

- *Psychosocial support to sexual violence survivors:* a total of 1,715 survivors of gender-based violence were accompanied. Among them 1,655 (96.5%) female children and 60 (3.5%) male children.
- *Treatment of traumatized children in Children Friend Space:* 173 children were accompanied by the psycho-clinician and achieved positive change. The Children Friend Space uses CAPOEIRA as one of the methodology for de-traumatizing children.

Table 13: Results of psychological support for children in children's space:



Age range	0 to 5 years		6 to 12 years		13 to 17 years		Total
Sex	F	G	F	G	F	G	
Total of children who have achieved positive change	8	4	45	24	74	18	173
Remarkable change at 75-90%	0	0	22	5	40	3	70
Average remarkable change between 50 and 75%	4	0	13	1	28	1	47
Quite remarkable change between 25-50%	4	4	10	18	6	14	56

Note: There has been a very remarkable positive change of 75-90% and a good psychological evolution for children.

II.1.4. Education

For the year 2020, 419 children were educated according to the following models:

- **Instruction of children who are out of school in the hospital (Tuungane School):** a total of **85 children** (55 girls and 30 boys) have been instructed, 27 have entered formal schools with a 100% of success rate.
- **GSF (Goma Student Fund)**, which educates vulnerable children in Mugunga quarter, had **221 children** who completed the school year with an average success rate of 89.5% (198 out of 221) Among them, 29 obtained their **PRIMARY SCHOOL COMPLETION CERTIFICATES (82.8%)**.
- **Supporting the schooling of orphans affected and/or infected with HIV:** 113 children orphaned by HIV/AIDS, under the guardianship of grandparents have benefited from the schooling program with a success rate of 85%.

Table 14: Repartition of children schooled at GSF, Tuungane and Sponsorship

Allocation of schooled children (OEV/HIV)				
	Number	Girls	Boys	Success rate
Schooled	419	221	198	
Abandonment	29	16	13	
Having fully participated	416	220	196	
Obtained marks + 50%	310	165	145	74.5%
Obtained marks - 50%	80	39	41	

Note: Students who actively participated to classes succeeded by 74.5%.

SUCCESS STORIES:



Gilbert KAZIGARI - Malnutrition

At 3 years old, second born in a family of 3 children, Gilbert KAZIGARI was admitted at HEAL Africa hospital in November 2019. Upon admission, He had wounds on almost his entire body, swollen feet, and eyes. His family lives in Rusayo village, and face economic hardships—carrying wood for local retailers as their source of income.

“The low income of the family has led to a general undernourishment of my children,” stated Ms Furaha Bahati, Gilbert's mother. She added, “Because my little Gilbert had could not eat for a period of time, the symptoms of malnutrition soon appeared. We tried to give him traditional products, but his situation continued to get worse.”

Gilbert was taken immediately to CARITAS center of Goma, where he was referred to HEAL Africa Hospital for better care. “I could not have my son treated without the assistance from HEAL Africa hospital, that I thank from the bottom of my heart,” said Ms Furaha Bahati when her son was discharged from the hospital.

Healed from malnutrition, Lucie has her smile back! Due to severe acute malnutrition with generalized edema and skin ulceration in the lower limbs, Lucie, a 4-year-old girl, was admitted to Kalimba Intensive Therapeutic Nutritional Unit in November 2019. Fourth born in a family of 5 children, "Lucy started showing symptoms of malnutrition when her mother became pregnant again," shared the HEAL Africa activists assigned to the project of Building Community Resilience, for people affected by armed conflicts in the Alimbongo health zone.



Abandoned by her husband, Lucy's mother could not fully respond to the needs of her family and the care related to her pregnancy. "Always moody, sad, constantly isolated and no longer playing with her friends, Lucie seemed the most affected by this state of things," recalled her mother.



Lucie was admitted to the health center for intensive care for 2 weeks. When her health restored, she returned home and made her family happy. "Lucy is a case of divine providence shown in the work of HEAL Africa's community activists and the hand of caregivers".

The final stage of Lucie's medical and nutritional care was at her home. Lucie's smile seems to be the expression of victory over malnutrition.

II.2. WAMAMA SECTOR

Under this sector, 3 themes were developed through 16 projects implemented in North-Kivu, Maniema, Ituri, Tshopo and Bas-Uelé provinces.

II.2.1. REPRODUCTIVE HEALTH

II.2.1.1. Care in our areas of intervention

Two projects have implemented coupled ANC (Model Father) approach in reproductive health, with 6815 couples under the IMPACT and PMTCT projects. In the projects executed in Alimbongo and Kamango we trained 225 community relays and 54 health workers in reproductive health, which allowed us to improve the ANC1 from 40% to 54.7% for Alimbongo and from 45% to 79.9% for Kamango.

Table 15: Allocation of reproductive health interventions in different health zones

	Alimbongo	Kamango	IMPACT/PMTCT	Total
Pregnant women who attended ANC	767	1,875	672	3,314
ANC 1	420	1,498	618	2,536
ANC 4	732	1,760	546	3,038
Total Childbirth	1,197	1,915	628	3,740
Childbirth under Partogram	1,195	1,915	628	3,738
Caesarean section	228	433	0	661
Cases of STIs supported	2,703	651	0	3,354
Referred Rural Health Center /General Referral Hospital	559	336	521	1,416
Coupled ANC			6,815	6,815

Note: ANC 4 has increased significantly in all our areas of intervention and a routine use of the partogram (99.9%).

II.2.1.2. Fistula and other gynecological complications care at HEAL Africa

HEAL Africa has carried out 3 missions (outreach) with support from its financial partners (FSRDC–Social Funds of DRC, Fistula Foundation and Engender Health –Fistula Care Plus) in North Kivu province (HEAL Africa, Beni and Lubero health zones) and Kwilu (Yasa-Bonga health zone).

A total of 652 cases were surgically repaired, including 345 fistulas, 279 uterine prolapse and 28 other obstetric complications.

Table 16: Allocation of repaired cases according to the diagnose

Case type	Outreach	HEAL Africa	Total
Fistula	221	143	364
Prolapse	84	151	235
Other gynecological complications	0	51	51
Total number of beneficiaries	305	345	650

Note: Out of 305 cases operated on, 277 (90.8%) were declared healed.

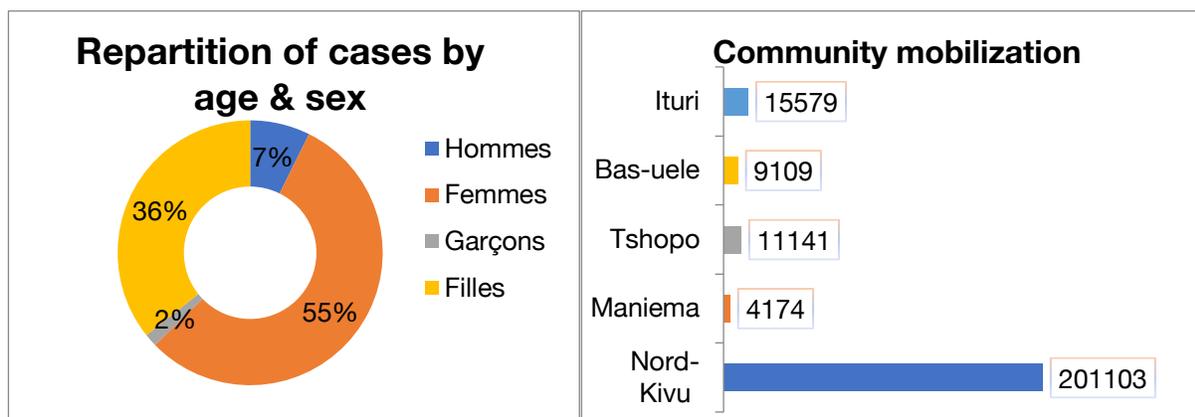
II.2.2. COMBATING GENDER-BASED VIOLENCE

A. Community mobilization

In its mission to establish a healthy and non-violent community, HEAL Africa focuses its interventions in the fight against sexual and gender-based violence using as strategies: listening houses (safe and secure spaces) and legal clinics. Through nine projects Heal Africa has integrated the aspects of prevention with the help of civil society organizations that are working together to advocate for behavioral change.

In total 241,106 people were reached by messages sensitizing against sexual and gender-based violence through different channels (door-to-door awareness, media and church) in North Kivu, Ituri, Bas-Uelé, Tshopo and Maniema provinces.

Figure 4 & 5: Sensitized people according to province and age of client



Note: Awareness has reached more of the adult population than youth and adolescents, with a total of 57% female and 43% male. Projects in North Kivu province have mobilized more people compared to other provinces, probably because of the long implementation period.

B. Holistic response to gender-based violence

A total of 5,343 cases of sexual and gender-based violence were managed under the “**One Stop Center**” approach at HEAL Africa.

Table 17: Allocation of SGBV cases treated by HEAL Africa in 2020

Indicators	North Kivu	Maniema	Tshopo	Bas-uele	Ituri	Total	
Total SGBV	4,897	243	57	48	98	5,343	
Sexual violence	3,180	227	57	48	93	3,605	67%
Rape with penetration	2,865	219	57	48	93	3,282	91%
Other GBV	1,717	16	0	0	5	17,38	33%
SVV Identified within 72 Hours	1,805	22	37	9	77	1,950	59%
SVV having received PEP Kit	1,719	20	9	5	25	1,778	91%
Rape cases screened for STI	1,939	237	52	18	87	2,333	44%
Cases of STIs supported	1,093	108	41	16	62	1,320	57%
Psychosocial assistance	4,408	146	29	48	68	4,699	88%
Cases accompanied by clinical psychologists	394	20	3	19	48	484	10%
Cases that have completed therapy	339	15	3	17	36	410	84.7%
Complaints received at the legal clinic	1862	86	0	48	36	2,032	38%
Initiated records	630	49	0	48	32	759	37%
Passed sentences	185	49	0	9	3	246	12%
Civil Authors	3132	110	35	48	67	3,392	70%
Police, military and armed groups	1315	133	0	8	29	1,485	13%
Unidentified authors	794	42	0	0	0	836	17%

Note:

- 91% of VBG are rapes with penetration.
- 91% of the received cases had access to PEP Kits.
- 84.7% completed psychological therapy with a good psychological evaluation.
- 246 (32.4%) sentences passed, out of the 759 records initiated before the Courts.

RECORDS OF THE COVID-19/VBG PROJECT

The project number FHRDC 15867 COVID-19/VBG was launched in July 2020 in the health areas of Goma, Karisimbi, Rutshuru and Rwanguba for a period of 6 months. It has supported 15 health trainings in the prevention and response to the COVID-19 pandemic and GBV by developing community sensitization activities, supporting the supply of PCI/COVID and dignity kits to structures, building and/or rehabilitating WASH works in FOSA, and reinforcing the capacity of health providers through training and supervision.

During the first quarter, several activities were developed in the health/PCI, VBG and WASH components.

Among the 1,363 people trained, there were 683 men and 569 women. For the disability category we had 111 people including 55 men and 56 women. Before training the level was low and estimated below 30%, but after increasing the aptitude of health care providers, community relays, psychosocial workers including other members of the community, it was significantly improved from 30% to 80%.

Regarding the fight against gender-based violence in the intervention areas (Goma, Karisimbi, Rutshuru and Rwanguba) the project identified 330 cases, including 29 men and 301 women. Community mobilization reached 38397 people, including 16681 men and 21706 women.

In the COVID-19/VBG framework, the initial KAP (Knowledge, Attitude and Practice) analysis showed that the level of Knowledge, Practice and Attitude on VBG/COVID was very low. However, the final KAP survey with the benefit satisfaction survey reveals a high frequency rate of survivors who receive quality service at the supported FOSA level.

The impact of the project in the prevention and response to COVID is justified by the level of card score PCI-WASH which has significantly increased through the various supervisions from 20% to 80% and more.

II.2.3. FIGHT AGAINST HIV / AIDS

See PMTCT section above.

II.2.4. CONGOLESE WOMEN EMPOWERMENT PROGRAM

A. Village Savings and Credit Association

During the year 2020, four (4) projects of HEAL Africa organized four hundred and three (403) Village Savings and Loan Association (VSLA) through in different bases of Wamama Simameni (WASI).

In total of 12,090 people are grouped together in this approach; 394 other members have been reintegrated economically and 1,893 beneficiaries have been supported in IGA.

A total of 196 people received training in different trades (cutting and sewing, pastry making, culinary art, pottery, banana leaf art, hairdressing and aesthetics).

Table 18: Summary table of VSLA results

Table of VSLAs in the project sites	
Indicators	Total
Total VSLA	403
Number of units purchased	845017
Number of units granted	113005863
Number of members assisted with cash	4802
Number of beneficiaries supported with IGAs	1893
Number of VVS economically empowered (re-inserted)	394

Table 19: Total in currency

Total en devise		
Indicators	Total FC	Value in USD
Average value of units	1000	0,5
Average value of units purchased	171076275	85538,1375
Value of loans granted	134981475	67490,7375

Note: Each member of VSLA saves for a part, on average the amount of 1000 Fc, equivalent to half a US dollar (0.5\$\$ or 50 cents); with exception of Tushinde project where some members save 1000 Fc, 1600 Fc, 2000 Fc according to their means. A small loan of an average amount of US \$20.50 is granted to members who have saved for 3 months.

B. HEALING Arts program

This program works closely with WASI program, for supervision of its members in professional or vocational training in collaboration with the Ministry of Social Affairs of North Kivu province. This multidisciplinary learning center trained 196 people, during this year, among them 195 women (female) and 1 man (male), distributed as follows:

Table 20: Number of people trained

HEALING ART	
Indicators	Total
Pastry and Culinary Arts	43
Hairdressing and Aesthetics	50
Pottery and Banana Leaf Art	45
Cut and sew	58
Grand total	196

C. Literacy

The “Love in Action” and “PRVBG – FSRDC” projects support HEAL Africa in literacy. A total of 51 women (21 from Goma, 12 from Beni and 18 in Kayna) were educated (attended literacy sessions) during the year 2020.

SUCCESS STORIES OF FISTULA

KATUNGU MBAHIKYAMWENGE - Recurrent fistula recovery

Treated and cured during an outreach of free fistula repair campaign carried out in September 2020 in Lubero territory of North Kivu province, KATUNGU MBAHIKYAMWENGE was not expected to be free of her condition because she had suffered from it for so long.

When she left the hospital, smiling, she confided in her benefactors these words:

I had been carrying this fistula for over 40 years, contracted from my first childbirth. I was 18 at the time. This childbirth, which left me ill, was carried out in Kaheri village, about 45 km from the rural commune of Lubero.

In 2006 I underwent a first operation at the HEAL Africa Hospital, in Goma. I was healed after the surgery, but my fistula reopened as soon as I returned to my village because I did not observe any rest after the treatment. Due to lack of funds, I did not go back to Goma.

It was really embarrassing to appear in front of people with my dirty clothes and the smelling of urine I gave off. I had to change diapers all times, causing me thigh burns. Before sleeping, I had to put a rubber on the bed to make sure it doesn't get it wet while I am sleeping. I had come back to



the stage of a baby who do not control his needs. My first husband left me, and I wasn't sure I would keep the second who married me for long.

My gratitude is great for this second healing which I have just benefited, free of charge. May God bless HEAL Africa beyond all limits.

58 years old, KATUNGU MBAHIKYAMWENGE is the mother of 5 children, 4 of whom were born after having fistula.

BAENI KITSA – Fistula story

BAENI KITSA was released from HEAL Africa hospital on Wednesday, November 11, 2020. Coming from Walikale, she became pregnant as a result of a rape she suffered in her village.



"At the end of my pregnancy, the delivery took place in a local health center without any assistance from experienced medical staff, and with very old equipment," she told the psycho-social assistants of HEAL Africa at her arrival.

She, unfortunately, lost the baby during childbirth and, to her dismay, contracted a fistula.

"As I had divorced my husband two years before the rape, I was victim, I was alone in the terrible situation that this disease brought me," she recalls. Having met with HEAL Africa community activists in Walikale, Baeni was referred to HEAL Africa Hospital for appropriate care.

"The work that HEAL Africa is carrying out in eastern DR. Congo is so laudable that my prayer is that God grant you all the resources you need to continue to provide relief to women made more vulnerable by the throes of war in this country, where woman who gives life is threatened."



VSLA SUCCESS STORY

Thanks to the savings of the women in the VSLAs, they are able to buy a field and cultivate maize and beans there.

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

This sector brings together the following projects implemented by HEAL Africa: (a) Engaging Faith Leaders in the community, (b) Love in Action, (c) Village, Justice and Empowerment (Entrust Foundation), (d) Overcoming cultural attitudes to Gender-based violence in Nyiragongo region (Cornerstone), (e) Pro-routes, (f) Project of holistic assistance to children victims of abuse and sexual exploitation in the territory of Beni and Living Peace (g).

Several approaches have been used in the prevention of gender-based violence in the context of human awareness.

II.3.1. Transformation of masculinities

In the context of transforming masculinities, HEAL Africa used different strategies and approaches to organize sessions to prevent acts of violations generally committed by men. Six territories of North Kivu province were targeted for these activities, namely: Beni, Lubero, Rutshuru, Nyiragongo, Masisi, Walikale and in South Kivu Idjwi North and South.

The 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 stigma to helping survivors
5. From silent witnesses to frank witnesses
6. Community justice
7. Self-care

A total of 153 community dialogue groups were set up to follow discussion sessions on the above themes. Each group followed 6 socio-therapy sessions for the transformation of masculinity.

A total of 1,733 men followed the socio-therapy sessions for the transformation of their masculinity. Three hundred and six (306) men out of 1,733 who followed the socio-therapy sessions, having proven their transformation, are called “Gender Champions”. These perpetuate our actions in the community through VSLAs and other new community dialogue group activities.



Dialogue group in April 2020 at Nyiragongo

After training on the concepts of transforming masculinities, the participants, called “Gender Champions” initiated 76 VSLAs, including 70 in North Kivu and 6 in Idjwi North and South in South Kivu. These VSLAs were initiated to keep communities and gender champions around a common interest and thus for the sustainability of the achievements of our activities.

WABABA SUCCESS STORY

“I am P15 participating in the LP groups of Mubambiro. I want to share this testimony to educate friends who collaborated with me before my change. Prior to being part of these men's discussion groups, I was a bad-behaved person because I had firearms that I used to steal with; and before this session I was coming back from a suicide operation at Rubaya. When I arrived in Mushaki I was intercepted by soldiers who wanted to stop me, and I threw the bag which contained two weapons and I fled. Once at the meeting I followed the discussions of the 12th and of the 13th sessions of dialogue. This touched me very much and I opened up to the 14th and here I am today. I share with you my brothers of the community

that day I decided to leave this dirty work, because I could kill, rape whenever I want, but today I have become a new creature thanks to this Living Peace project of HEAL Africa in our community. I thank HEAL Africa and everyone involved in this project, and I invite you to be like us who changed ".

II.3.2. Community mobilization

HEAL Africa works in the community with an approach called “Nehemiah”. A “Nehemiah Committee” is a group of twelve to eighteen (12 – 18) community and faith leaders, trained and used to implement mobilization and awareness-raising interventions according to themes of HEAL Africa projects: *Let's stand up for the reconstruction of our community*.

In 2020 we updated the mapping of all Nehemiah Committees in 6 provinces of DR. Congo: North Kivu, South Kivu, Maniema, Ituri, Tshopo and Bas-Uélé Provinces.

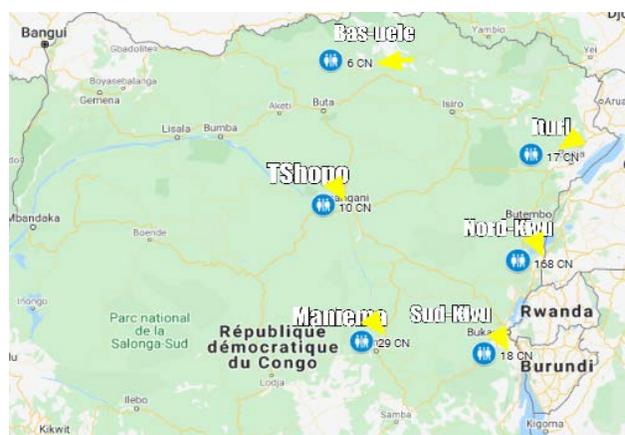
Field data showed that, apart from 236 existing committees, 12 new Nehemiah Committees were created, thus having a total of 248 Nehemiah Committees (among them 150 are active and 98 non-active).

Of the 248 NCs, 134 (54.04%) were monitored and supervised and 10 CNs or 24.8% (CAG) were revitalized. Two other NCs have become autonomous (model, champion in conflict management) which makes a total of 6 compared to 4 NCs that were autonomous in 2019. A total of 120 (48.3%) were trained in advocacy, self-care and financial education.

Apart from the themes that have been implemented for a long time, this year NCs have also added the COVID-19 theme / topic for the year 2020.

(Re) Mapping of Nehemiah Committees

Note: In this geographic map, the blue color represents locations of Nehemiah Committees, arrows indicate their numbers, and Provinces are indicated in white.



II.3.3. HEAL Africa Chaplaincy

In 2020, activities within the TABERNACLE were paralyzed from March to August due to the COVID-19 pandemic and the fight to prevent its spread. However, after confinement, devotions resumed as well as hospital visits.

When the lockdowns were removed, the five key Chaplaincy Departments were revitalized, including the Sunday School Department, Youth Department, Mothers Department, Worship Team and the Support Department.

Good News in 2020:

1. God blessed us with the acquisition of new and very high quality sound equipment and seven hundred (700) new chairs in the Tabernacle.
2. The Tabernacle was rehabilitated, and five (5) new offices were equipped where different Departments are now working.
3. Construction of four (4) new Sunday school classrooms was completed and one (1) large room for Spiritual Ministries (Sunday school, Team Dance, Capoeira, etc.) was added.
4. Some young people from UAMSHO group benefited from educational support, and one (1) of them obtained his state diploma.



The COVID-19 pandemic disrupted the morning devotional program for a period of 6 months, and the program was operational for 6 months (first 2 months and last 4 months of the year 2020).

During 6 months of activity in 2020, the chaplaincy organized:

- 5 Bible conferences,
- 48 morning devotions,
- 16 major Sunday services,
- 80 visits in favor of the sick,
- 2 wedding blessings and
- 15 new believers of the 40 people baptized on December 25th, 2020

Sunday School (ECODIM)

In 2020, 64 Sunday School monitors were trained on the importance of children, care of children, and effective teaching methods. The number of children increased significantly to a total of 900 who were reunited on Christmas Day of the season 2020. It was an unexpected great success for the team after the lockdowns removed. Everyone was very happy with the reopening of the temples, especially the children.



HEAL Africa celebrated Christmas on December 25th with 900 children.

Youth in the Tabernacle

The youth of the chaplaincy is grouped into 3 categories: (a) UAMSHO and TEAM DANCE choirs, (b) football team and (c) other young people surrounding HEAL Africa for a number of 150 young people including 50 girls and 100 boys.

Over 2020, many children took part in English and Computer classes, as well as Leadership and Bible Study outside of regular Sunday School.

The young people evangelized in the marathon they organized, and 15 young people joined the UAMSHO group.

III. TRAINING & RESEARCH | HEAL Africa Training Services

During 2020, activities within HATS slowed down as a result of the COVID -19 pandemic.

III.1. COSECSA program

In the MCS (Membership of College of Surgeon) course, we had eight (8) Resident Doctors, among them, six (6) were in the second year and two (2) in the first year. Of the six in the second-year applicants, two (2) were in their fifth year in the program, two had just completed their third year and two were doing their second year.

Three (3) out of six (6) residents passed their written exam organized by the college in September 2020. Of those who failed, 2 were allowed to retake the year and one was excluded from the program.

In December 2020, the three (3) candidates who had passed the written exams, only one (1), Dr Bienvenu HANGI MBIDA, passed successfully the oral exam. Among those who failed, one was dismissed from the program, and another is in the process of retaking the year.

Currently, the program works with five (5) resident doctors. There was no recruitment of new candidates for the 2020 – 2021 academic year due to lack of funding. The process of transferring/sending the two residents excluded from the COSECSA program to the University of Kisangani to continue their specialization studies in Surgery is underway.



III.2. FAMILY MEDICINE Program

The cohort of Family Physician Residents of 2019 – 2022 sat for a written Examination in September 2020 in Goma. All 10 candidates successfully passed this exam. In October 2020, they went to Kinshasa for

the oral exam. The results of the oral exams were satisfactory with nine successes out of ten candidates (9/10). The one who failed the oral exam will retake the exam in March 2021.

Two former finalists from the past cohort are preparing their Memoirs in order to complete their studies. One of them has finished his memoir and will be able to defend it in March 2021.



III.3. CHAPLAINCY SCHOOL Program (Clinical Pastoral Training of Chaplains).

Nineteen Chaplains successfully attended the Clinical Pastoral Training in 2020. During this year's training session, two (2) Pastors (KASIKI and BOLINGO) have been accredited as CPT trainers. Two (2) supervisions of Chaplains previously trained were carried out in Beni and Butembo.

III.4. Orthopedic Officers Training Program.

This year, the school operated with 33 students enrolled; two students dropped out due to lack of academic fees. Nine out of ten (9/10) student finalists have successfully passed their final exams after 3 years of studies and that qualify them as Nurse - Orthopedic Officer.

The plan to open the second cycle of the Orthopedic Officer School is underway. The development of the curriculum of this training program is being finalized and will be presented to the academic authorities soon.

III.5. Training Program for Medical Students

Eight (8) finalist Medical students from the Faculty of Medicine of the University de Goma (UNIGOM) were supervised in 4 departments of HEAL Africa hospital, especially in Surgery, Obstetrics and Gynecology, Internal Medicine and Pediatrics.

In addition, ten (10) other finalist Medical students from UCNDK University and one (1) from "Université Officielle de Bukavu" (UOB) were supervised in two departments at HEAL Africa hospital.

III.6. Medical Imaging Program

Two (2) Resident Doctors (1 from COSECSA and 1 from Family Medicine) have been trained in the above-mentioned program out of the 17 who are in the hospital. The training focused on ultrasound and interpretation of CT scanner images. A doctor from General Hospital of Reference of Beni also trained with the two.

Five midwives from HEAL Africa Hospital have been trained in obstetric ultrasound.

Currently, there is a need for a General Practitioner who can benefit from training with Dr Sosthène

Tsongo, the specialist in Medical Imaging at HEAL Africa. The trained general practitioner will be able to ensure permanence in the service in the absence of the Radiologist.

III.7. Training program for nurses and doctors.

All nurses of HEAL Africa have been trained in resuscitation and intensive care. A total of 150 staff members of HEAL Africa hospital, including nurses, doctors and hygienists, were trained on PCI (Prevention and Control of Infections). A Webinar training session on infection control was organized with AusHEAL.

A training on pain management was organized under the facilitation of Dr Jean-Pierre Kigayi the Anesthesiologist – Resuscitator of HEAL Africa.

A total of 80 nurses were trained on nursing care planning.

A nurse acquired skills on the management of parturient in the labor room in Tanzania.



III.8. Training program for Nurses in neonatal care

During the year 2020, six (6) nurses (out of 12 planned) from our partners' health structures, have been trained in neonatal care due to budget reduction by the donor.

III.9. Anesthesiology Training Program

The following trainings sessions were conducted at HEAL Africa Hospital during 2020:

- Use of the electric syringe
- Pain medicines
- COVID-19: Management of severe cases
- Oxygen therapy for COVID-19 patients
- Interpretation of the capnography: 9 anesthetists

Trainings received outside HEAL Africa:

- Training of 20 anesthetist technicians on Management of COVID-19.
- Training of anesthesiologists in Butembo and Beni on anesthesia and resuscitation of COVID-19 patients.
- Training on the well-being of the anesthesiologist.
- Webinar training on the challenges of anesthesia in the DRC (Smile Train).
- Training of two professional development trainees.
- Training of residents of Family Medicine and COSECSA in Anesthesia and Resuscitation.

III.10. Research, Scientific publication and participation in Conferences

III.10.1. Participation in Conferences

- 1) **Dr Justin PL** and **Dr Esther KK** moderated the conference on “End Gender Inequalities, End Health Inequalities, End Fistula Now” on the International Day for the Elimination of Obstetrical Fistula, celebrated on May 23, 2020 in the Jubilee Center at HEAL Africa;
- 2) **Dr. Simplicie V** and **Dr. John Musubao** took part in several video conferences (General information on fractures, Fractures of the pelvis, clubfoot repair, etc.)
- 3) **Dr. Hangi** and **Dr. Marlène** participated in conferences with the Provincial Division of Health on the care of Covid-19 patients, Prevention and Treatment of Cancers
- 4) **Dr. Kigayi** hosted a conference on the occasion of International Anesthesia Day.
- 5) **Dr Serge** and **Dr Albin** attended/participated in a Video conference on the care of patients with Covid -19.
- 6) **Dr Muller** attended the 5th Annual Conference of the African Federation of Emergency Medicine held in Kigali in November 2020.
- 7) **Dr Justin PL** and **Dr Médard K** participated in the Video conference on the National Plan on Surgery, Obstetrics and Anesthesia organized by Global Surgery.
- 8) **Dr Médard Kabuyaya** participated in several Video conferences on the global management of cleft lip and palate organized by the ACPA (American Cleft Palate-Craniofacial Association) and Smile Train.

III.10.2. Publications

- 1) Mpunga M, Félicien Banze D, Nembunzu D, Raha Maroy K, **Paluku J**, Kinja R, **Kitambala E**, Tena-Tena Aussak B, **Bulu Bobina R**, Amisi N, Anne M, Altine Diop N, Tripathi V, Romanzi L, Delamou A. **Frequency and management of non-obstetric fistula in the Democratic Republic of Congo: Experience from the Fistula Care Plus project.** Trop Med Int Health 2020 Mar 29. doi: 10.1111/tmi.13394. [Epub ahead of print]
- 2) **Paluku J.L., Kalole, B.K., Furaha, C.M.** et al. **Late abdominal pregnancy in a post-conflict context: case of a mistaken acute abdomen - a case report.** BMC Pregnancy Childbirth 20, 238 (2020). <https://doi.org/10.1186/s12884-020-02939-3>
- 3) **Kiringa SK**, Quinlan J, Ocama P, Mutyaba I, Kagimu M. **Prevalence, short term outcome and factors associated with survival in patients suffering from upper gastrointestinal bleeding in a resource limited-setting, the case of Mulago hospital in Kampala, Uganda.** Afri Health Sci. 2020;20 (1):426-36. <https://dx.doi.org/10.4314/ahs.v20i1.49>
- 4) **Tsongo V Sosthene, Kahatwa K Serge, Kabuyaya K Medard, Kighoma V Simplicie, Musubao K John, Serugendo S Albin.** **Duplex ultrasound in upper and lower limb deep venous thrombosis.** Annals of Circulation. 2020
- 5) Jodie Pritchard, Amanda Collier, **Muller Mundenga** and Susan A. Bartels. **COVID in crisis: The impact of COVID-19 in complex humanitarian emergencies.** Journal of Military, Veteran and Family Health. 2020, 6(suppl 2). doi:[10.3138/jmvfh-CO19-001](https://doi.org/10.3138/jmvfh-CO19-001)

IV. RESOURCES

IV.1. Human Resources

During the year 2020, HEAL Africa worked with 534 staff members for the Community Projects implementation and in the Hospital. Among them 286 Male (52%) and 248 Female (48%).

A. Hospital

A total of 230 staff members are under employment or consultancy contract or under status (public servants or state agents) including 123 male (53.5%) and 107 females (46.5%). They are assigned in different services and department as follows:

- 30 Doctors (17 specialists and 13 Residents)
- 15 Officers of Administration
- 40 Paramedics and Support Technicians
- 18 Technicians (Laboratory and Medical Imaging)
- 127 Nurses

B. Community projects

A total of 305 staff members including 189 Male (62%) and 146 Female (48%) are spread over several projects implemented in different communities.

C. HEAL Africa Training Service (HATS)

The Department of Education of HEAL Africa (HATS) has always operated with staff members who are counted as hospital's staff members.

IV.2. Donations of Equipment and Materials received in 2020

HEAL Africa received 1 container from one of its partners, **AMERICARES**, on January 17th, 2020 which essentially included: Medicines, Pampers, Syringes, disposable drapes, Shower chairs, Disposable surgical gowns, Crutches, and delivery kits.

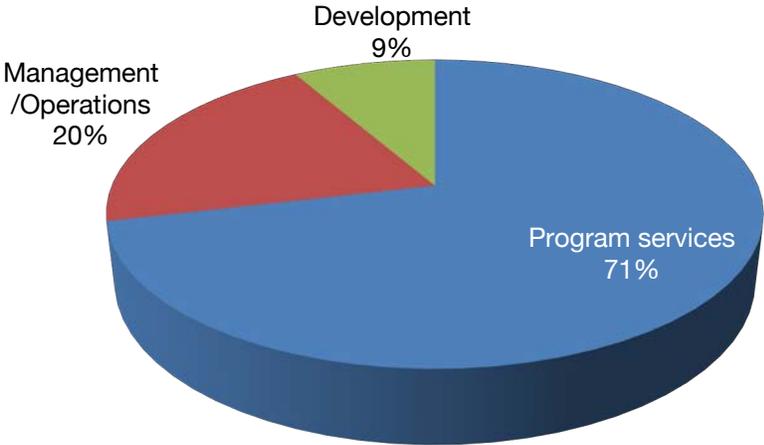
HEAL Africa also received from its other partners several other donations of materials, drugs and consumables in order to cope with the Covid-19 pandemic and other pathologies in general.

Donations of equipment, materials and consumables received in 2020

NO	DATE	ARTICLES	DONATEUR
01	21/02/2020	Midwifery kits for childbirth	Direct Relief
02	05/ 05/ 2020	Personal protective equipment (PPE) against COVID-19 pandemic	ALIMA
03	22/ 05/2020	Personal protective equipment (PPE) against COVID-19 pandemic	Cordaid
04	10/ 06/2020	Consumables and materials (PPE) for the response against COVID-19	UNICEF
05	06/ 10/ 2020	Protective equipment against COVID-19	AVUDS
06	22/ 10/ 2020	PCI-WASH materials	UNICEF
07	13/ 10/ 2020	Anesthesia and resuscitation equipment	Smile Train
08	26/10/2020	Medicines and other materials	HPIC
09	16/11/ 2020	Protective equipment (PPE) against COVID-19	IMA/World Health
10	07/ 12/2020	Protective equipment against COVID-19	FNSCC/EQUITY Bank

*HPIC: Health Partners International of Canada; FNSCC: Fonds National de Solidarité Contre Corona virus.

IV.3. Financial Resources



V. AUSHEAL REPORT 2020

AusHEAL works with HEAL Africa Hospital in 4 key areas: Healthcare, Education, Advocacy and Logistics. During the year 2020, activities of AusHEAL at HEAL Africa were severely/significantly affected in each area of its intervention by the actual global pandemic of Covid-19.

While Dr Neil and Ms. Gwen Wetzig were able to spend 3 weeks at HEAL Africa in early March 2020 teaching and training Congolese health professionals, the Australian government, through the urging of the Australian Foreigner Office, issued directives for all Australians abroad to immediately return to their homeland as soon as possible. They were then obliged, to leave Goma – DR. Congo reluctantly and quickly.

Since the time the above-mentioned couple left DR. Congo, AusHEAL has participated in regular COSECSA trainings via Zoom meetings and has implemented a given number of other online training activities with HEAL Africa staff members (Gyneco-Obstetrics and Nursing Protocols during Covid). The use of the HEAL Africa Training Center (HATS) and the Internet and audiovisual capacities developed in 2019 made it possible to successfully conduct online training sessions.

AusHEAL continued to financially support the COSECSA training program. In September 2020, 3 of the 5 COSECSA trainees who took the multiple-choice exam passed. These 3 trainees (residents) then progressed to the OSCE (oral) exam in December 2020. Only one of the 3 passed this oral exam. This candidate (Dr Bienvenu Hangi Mbida) was accepted by COSECSA for further surgical training in Moshi, Tanzania.

In addition, in the area of health and education, AusHEAL continued to provide scholarships to Dr Barthelemy AKSANTI who is doing his specialization in Gynecology-Obstetrics in Kenya and Dr Justin TSANDIRAKI in General Surgery in Moshi, in Tanzania. However, due to the border closure, only one short term training grant for a midwife to attend a 1 month training in Tanzania was possible during 2020.

Most other AusHEAL activities at HEAL Africa could not take place. However, advocacy for HEAL Africa and the DRC continued through the annual fundraising appeal and other online activities.

In January 2020, Dr Neil and Ms. Gwen Wetzig received each a prestigious Officer of the Order of Australia (OA) award as part of the Australia Day's Honors List. Through radio broadcast and television interviews, they were able to provide to the Australian audience an overview of life and medical care in Democratic Republic of the Congo.

Unfortunately, due to Covid-19, AusHEAL's Logistics Support component has also been extremely affected.

The HEAL Africa financial system assessment initiated and supported by AusHEAL has been completed. The General Assembly accepted the assessment report and decided to implement a program that aims to improving internal procedures and solving financial problems within the organization.

An echocardiogram, computer equipment and donations of other medical equipment were purchased for HEAL Africa. However, due to Covid-19, the shipment of a container of various materials scheduled for 2020 did not take place.

Once international travel is re-authorized by the Australian government and a suitable vaccine available, we hope that AusHEAL's visits and activities will resume successfully.

VI. SUMMARY OF THE ACHIEVEMENTS OF THE WORLDSHARE, STEPHEN LEWIS AND ENTRUST FOUNDATION 2020 PROJECTS.

VI.1. WorldShare Projects

In partnership with WorldShare Australia, HEAL Africa has implemented several activities to provide assistance to vulnerable outcasts and forgotten people in several communities in the eastern part of the Democratic Republic of the Congo, through 5 micro-projects, including:

- **Sponsor A Child:** During the year 2020, one hundred (100) families of sponsored children enrolled in this program have been economically empowered / strengthened to conduct their own income-generating activities that enable them to properly care for these vulnerable children sponsored by Australians. Most of these sponsored children live in foster families. Among the 100 sponsored children, 9 have graduated from high school (received their state diploma) in 2020.



- **Mugunga School:** WorldShare Australia helps support teachers of the Mugunga School to facilitate the education of vulnerable children enrolled in this school. For the school year 2019-2020, the Mugunga School enrolled 221 students, among them 183 students (82.80%) passed their school year final exams and moved up into the next grade. Among the 33 students enrolled in grade 6 or last year of primary education, 26 passed the TENAFEP exams and received their Ending Primary School Certificates; they are ready to begin secondary studies.



- **Chaplaincy Training:** During the year 2020, 19 chaplains and pastors from prisons, schools and churches partners of HEAL Africa successfully completed the session of "Pastoral Clinical" training. This session was fully co-funded by WorldShare Australia and WorldShare UK. At the end of the CPT session of November 2020, two (2) chaplains of HEAL Africa were accredited as Clinical Pastoral Training Supervisor-Trainers by the National Office of CPT DR. Congo.



- **The Uamusho Project** supports several young people who once lived in the streets. During this year 2020, 18 young people out of the 60 who are currently attending Spiritual Ministries and who are part of the Uamusho group, were registered for vocational training in established training centers of Goma. Others attended local schools and universities for their education. Among those who resumed studies, one (1) obtained his State Diploma in 2020.



- **Mercy Fund:** 45 vulnerable and poor patients received quality healthcare, free of charge with support from the Mercy Fund - WorldShare project that covered their medical invoices.

VI.2. Village Justice & Empowerment project funded by Entrust Foundation Australia in 2020.

The support of Entrust Foundation Australia to the "Village Justice and Empowerment" project of HEAL Africa has enabled the creation of 2 new Nehemiah Committees of 18 members each in 2 different communities. In addition to these 2 Nehemiah Committees, this project has strengthened and enabled 72 other local leaders who are members of 4 Nehemiah Committees during 2020. These trained leaders successfully led several conflict mediations in their respective communities. The statistics for the accomplishments of this project are shown in the section relating to the Wababa Sector.

VI.3. Mothers of the Nation Project funded by Stephen Lewis Foundation in 2020.

With support from the Stephen Lewis Foundation, HEAL Africa implemented the Mothers of the Nation project in Masisi territory of North Kivu. This project supported 48



households of grandmothers who take care of their grandchildren who are victims of HIV / AIDS and the multiple conflicts that have afflicted this area for more



than a decade. During one year, the project supports the schooling of the grandchildren and helps, at the same time, each of the grandmothers to start income generating activities (IGA) that will allow them to perpetuate the schooling of the children at the end of the project.

VI. INTERNATIONAL MINISTRIES (AMERICAN BAPTIST FOREIGN MISSION SOCIETY) 2020 PARTNERSHIP & SUPPORT

A formal partnership agreement was signed between International Ministries and HEAL Africa in March 2020 in their joint mandate to provide holistic healthcare and education to vulnerable people.

The following priorities were outlined in the agreement signed by **Dr Justin Paluku** and Rev **Sharon Koh**:

- *Education.* IM and HEAL Africa will seek to promote the liberating power of education through ministries that range from basic literacy through graduate study.
- *Evangelism.* IM and HEAL Africa will seek to share the gospel of Jesus Christ in respectful and creative ways.
- *Health and Wellness.* HEAL Africa and IM will engage in curative, preventive and educational ministries around the world that promote holistic health and wellness.

In the spirit of this agreement, ABFMS funded the completion of the Tuungane School and EcoDim complex started in 2017 per request of HEAL Africa. During the calendar year 2020 the final phases V-VII were completed at a cost of \$100,105. The cumulative cost of the three-year project (phases I-VII) was \$216,036 (see table below).

Construction Projects (Tuungane & ECO-DIM)	Amount
TOTAL	\$216,036

In addition, ABFMS, through their missionaries Ann and William Clemmer with the generous support of American Baptist Churches provided general support to children’s and women’s ministries in 2020 ranging from training, classroom supplies, computers, provision of food (Tuungane School), clothing, and school kits as well as a limited number of scholarships. Compassionate care to indigent persons was provided per request of Spiritual Ministries and Fungua Maisha (women of the HEAL Tabernacle). See table below for support provided during calendar year 2020.

American Baptist Church General Support Children’s Women’s Ministries (Jan-Dec 2020)	
TOTAL	\$33,913.54

VII. KEY VISIT OF THE YEAR 2020

The COVID-19 pandemic which created lockdowns in most countries around the world as well as the closure of borders, did not allow HEAL Africa to receive distinguished visitors during the year 2020.

VIII. CONCLUSION

Despite the Corona Virus Disease (COVID-19) pandemic, the year 2020 ended with a positive note at HEAL Africa. The hand of the Almighty God has, once again, been visible in this organization. While the whole world is experiencing an unprecedented financial crisis and many activities are paralyzed, HEAL Africa was able to implement most of its planned activities.

Amidst the turmoil, HEAL Africa has consistently contributed to the response of the 10th Ebola Virus Disease (EVD) outbreak that was raging in North Kivu, as well to the current COVID-19 pandemic. HEAL Africa has also provided the necessary assistance to vulnerable populations in several provinces of the Democratic Republic of the Congo, particularly women and children.

May all Partners, public and private, who supported the humanitarian interventions of HEAL Africa in the year 2020, be abundantly blessed by the Lord. May the same spirit of love and compassion animate them to continue to support the organization for months and years to come. Let us remain committed for the happiness of the beneficiaries of our actions!

IX. ANNEX

2020 HEAL AFRICA PARTNERS

VIH/SIDA

1. Global Strategies
2. UNICEF
3. Stephen Lewis Foundation
4. Tearfund

SGBV

1. Banque Mondiale/Fonds Social RDC
2. UNICEF
3. Fonds Humanitaire - RDC
4. Tearfund
5. Worldshare Australia
6. IMA WORLD HEALTH /USAID
7. Living Peace International
8. ECI
9. Christian Aid
10. Cellules des Infrastructures/Ministere des Infrastructures et Travaux Publiques, RDC

Reproductive Health

1. Banque Mondiale/FSRDC
2. EngenderHealth
3. Fistula Foundation
4. Direct Relief
5. HEAL Africa USA

Reintegration, community recovery and community-based rehabilitation

1. Banque Mondiale/FSRDC
2. CBM International
3. Entrust Foundation
4. Stephen Lewis Foundation
5. HEAL Africa USA
6. Fonds Humanitaire-RDC

Spiritual Ministry

1. American Baptist International Ministries, King of Prussia PA, USA
2. Cornerstone
3. Worldshare UK
4. WorldShare Australia
5. HEAL Africa USA

Administration and Finances

1. HEAL Africa USA
2. AusHEAL

Hospital

1. HEAL Africa USA
2. PREIK's Foundation
3. SONIC Healthcare
4. AusHEAL
5. HOPE Walks
6. AMADE Mondial
7. Birth Link/Global Strategies
8. Smile Train
9. Engender Health
10. Fistula Foundation
11. Interchurch Medical Assistance/IMA.

Education (Training and Research)

1. University of Florida
2. COSECSA
3. Université Protestante au Congo (UPC)
4. AusHEAL
5. Worldshare UK
6. Worldshare Australie
7. HEAL Africa USA
8. Global Strategies
9. Queen's University of Canada
10. University of Goma (UNIGOM)

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