

**ANNUAL
REPORT**
INTERNATIONAL ACTIVITIES
BAMBINO GESÙ
CHILDREN'S HOSPITAL

2019





ON THE FRONT COVER:

A nurse of Bambino Gesù Hospital and a nurse of St. Gaspar Referral and Teaching Hospital of Ifigi, Tanzania, are preparing the operating room



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20
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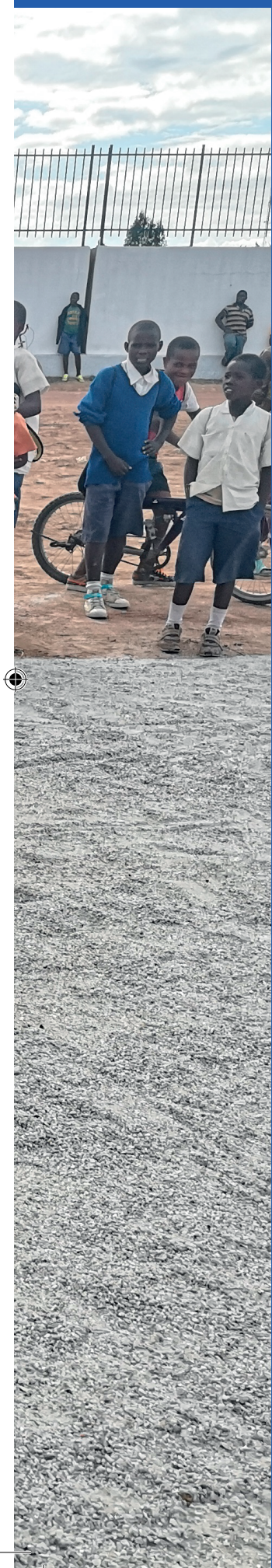
A group of children playing outside St. Gaspar Referral and Teaching Hospital in Itigi, Tanzania





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INTRODUCTION

On several occasions during his papacy, Pope Francis highlighted the centrality of the peripheries of the world, the ideal *locus* for all missions. For several years now, Bambino Gesù Children's Hospital has been engaged in the field of solidarity towards children in need. In this spirit, in addition to its clinical and research activity, the Hospital has extended its action to the rest of the world, mainly to those areas affected by conflicts or natural disasters, where children are the weakest link of what the Pope stigmatized as the "globalization of indifference". For this reason, also in 2019, Bambino Gesù Children's Hospital reiterated, in the framework of its international missions, its commitment to sharing its knowledge with the countries it is collaborating with.

As you will see in this *Annual Report 2019*, Africa, Asia and Middle East are the main macro-regions where our Hospital operates. In addition to the collaborations started some years ago with the Central African Republic, Tanzania, Ethiopia, Cambodia, India, China, Jordan and Syria, in 2019 the Hospital signed news agreements with Haiti, Ecuador, South Korea and others, as well as with the Russian healthcare authorities, formalizing new forms of partnership. In some cases, new projects were launched, in others the cooperation with public hospitals or international organizations was continued, *focusing* specifically on the training of healthcare professionals.

Aware that any kind of solidarity activity cannot neglect the real needs of the receiving countries, Bambino Gesù Children's Hospital has always planned its interventions *ad extra*, based on a careful analysis of the needs expressed in the field of paediatrics. The world map by Arno Peters – reported herein with the geographic indication of the countries where Bambino Gesù Children's Hospital operates – is the eloquent proof of a presence in which actions and facts in the sharing of knowledge bear witness to a precise will: the will to affirm the universal right of children to health.



Therefore, the Hospital keeps donating knowledge and skills, acquired in long years of practice, believing that young patients do not have to suffer the effects of social exclusion, that is the evident manifestation – as denounced by Pope Francis – of the ephemeral and devastating “logic of waste”.

We cannot forget that the results achieved over the years, in particular in 2019, were summarized by the happy words of our Pope, contained in the *Rescriptum* of April 9th last year, on occasion of the 150th anniversary of our Hospital: “It is important that this tension towards excellence does not fade. We shall never forget that the value of the results achieved is measured by the capacity to improve the quality of care and assistance. Children, teenagers and their families are – and must remain – at the centre of every activity, process and initiative taken”. In one sentence, a mission to the extreme boundaries of the world, to make the *Diplomacy of Mercy* truly intelligible, as strongly wished for by the true holder of our Hospital: Pope Francis.

Mariella Enoc
President of Bambino Gesù Children’s Hospital

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THE MAP



WORLD MAP



HAITI

ECUADOR

CENTRAL AFRICAN
REPUBLIC

Map by Arno Peters. The German historian (1916-2002) published his projection of the world map in 1973

SYRIA

RUSSIA

JORDAN

CHINA

**SOUTH
KOREA**



ETHIOPIA

TANZANIA

INDIA

CAMBODIA

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THE MISSION OF BAMBINO GESÙ CHILDREN'S HOSPITAL AND THE COUNTRIES IT COOPERATES WITH





The goal of Bambino Gesù Children's Hospital is to bring its clinical and scientific knowledge to the world, to those areas where they are most needed, through the training of the local healthcare professionals.

Africa, Asia and Middle East are the main areas of the world where the Hospital is active, while collaborations have been established a few years ago already in the Central African Republic, in Tanzania, Ethiopia, Cambodia, India, China, Jordan and Syria.

These projects are based on specific agreements signed with the Governments or the healthcare authorities of the concerned countries, as well as with international organizations, and usually include on-the-job training sessions at partner hospitals by teams composed of Bambino Gesù operators and periods of residential training in Rome dedicated to the local medical and nursing staff.

The choice of the paediatric specialties on which the training is focused depends on the analysis of the needs expressed by the countries asking for the intervention of Bambino Gesù Hospital.

In 2019, the training offered was focused on twenty paediatric specialties, among which: paediatric neurology (with a special focus on neuromotor disabilities like epilepsy, neurological/genetic syndromes and autism spectrum disorders), neurosurgery, cardiac surgery and general surgery (dedicated, in particular in Jordan, to the care and treatment of Syrian refugees and of the vulnerable paediatric population), interventional radiology, neonatology, intensive care, plastic and maxillofacial surgery, laparoscopic surgery and kidney transplantation.

New agreements have been signed with Haiti, Ecuador, South Korea and Russia.



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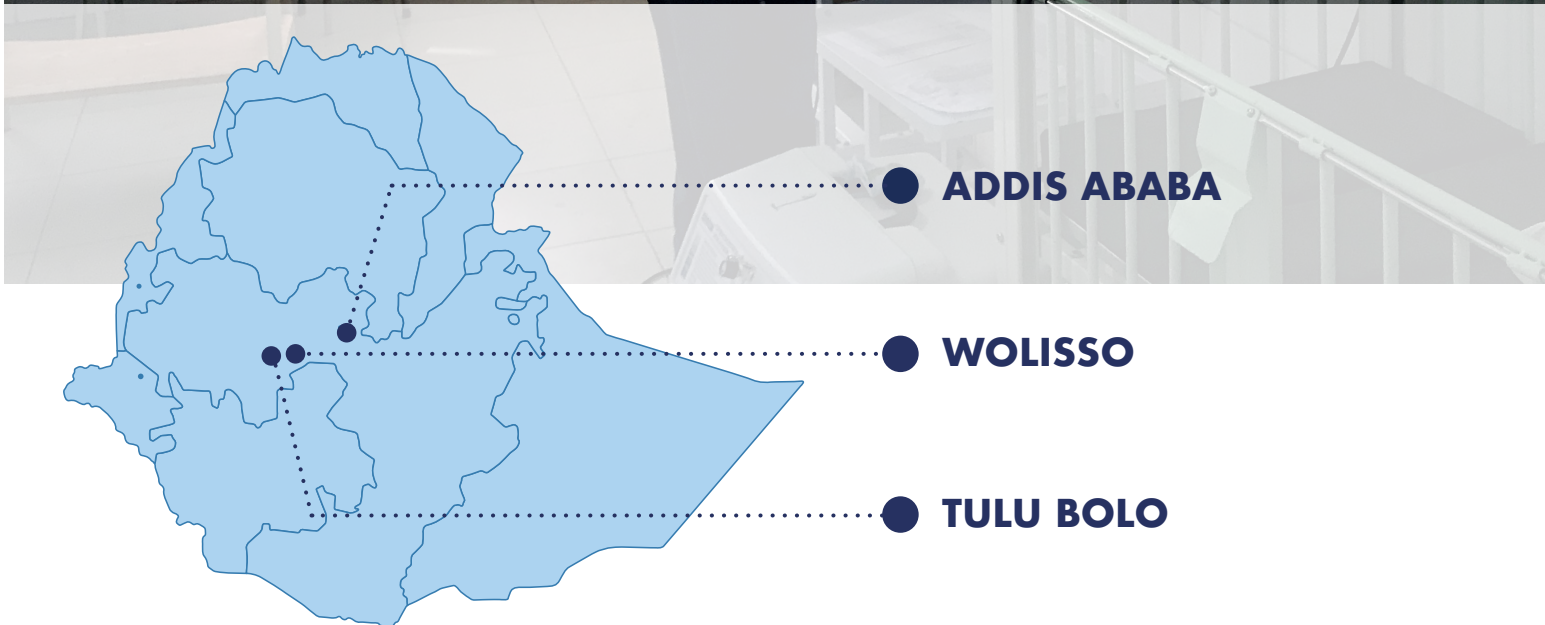


AFRICA



Ethiopia

A nurse is taking care of one of the infants hospitalized at the Neonatal Intensive Care Unit of St. Luke Hospital in Wolisso



● ADDIS ABABA

● WOLISSO

● TULU BOLO

Despite the progresses made by Ethiopia, the **newborn mortality** rate is highly variable, particularly in Oromia region, where it is 40/1,000 live births and is higher than the national average. Most deaths occur a few hours after birth (79%) and are due to prematurity (37%), sepsis (28%) and asphyxia (24%). In 2012, the Ethiopian government launched a national plan aimed at extending the coverage for neonatal intensive care unit (NICU) services. Although the number of neonatal intensive care units has increased over the years, some shortcomings are still present, related both to the coverage and the quality of the services provided¹.

¹ Concept note of the project "Newborn Survival Project"

The Newborn Survival Project by Doctors with Africa C.U.A.M.M.

The **Newborn Survival Project** carried out by Doctors with Africa C.U.A.M.M. fits into this context. The objective of the project, funded by the Italian Agency for the Cooperation to Development, is to meet the need expressed by the local authorities (as well as by the Ethiopian Catholic Church, the Ethiopian Society of Paediatrics and the Ethiopian Ministry of Health) to support the process for the expansion of neonatal intensive care within the **Neonatal Intensive Care Unit (NICU)**, thus reducing the newborn mortality rate in Ethiopia.

To achieve the objectives of the project, the NICUs of three Ethiopian hospitals were involved: the level 3 NICU at **St. Paul Teaching Hospital in Addis Ababa** and two NICUs in the South West Shoa Zone (Oromia), one of which is the level 2 NICU of **St. Luke non-profit private hospital in Wolisso** and the other one is the level 1 NICU of **Tulu Bolo Hospital**, which is the reference hospital for Bacho district. The three hospitals represent the three levels of intervention of the Ethiopian healthcare system: Tulu Bolo is a rural hospital, Wolisso is a regional hospital dedicated to complex cases, and St. Paul in Addis Ababa is the large metropolitan reference hospital.

This three-year project aims at **improving the health conditions of approximately 15,000 infants**.

Bambino Gesù together with Doctors with Africa C.U.A.M.M. against neonatal mortality

Bambino Gesù Children's Hospital takes part in the activities of the project at different levels as a partner of C.U.A.M.M., together with Tor Vergata University of Rome. The Hospital is committed to sharing skills and knowledge in the field of neonatology with the NICU healthcare staff of the three Ethiopian hospitals, supporting the introduction and the implementation of audit tools for perinatal deaths, taking part in the Steering Committee – the body guiding the project – and particip

The goal of the Newborn Survival Project, partnered by Bambino Gesù Children's Hospital, is to improve the health conditions of approximately 15,000 Ethiopian infants

Funded and implemented by

ITALIAN AGENCY FOR DEVELOPMENT COOPERATION

DOCTORS WITH AFRICA CUAMM

NEWBORN SURVIVAL PROJECT

Quality and innovation for an increased access to neonatal care in Ethiopia

In partnership with:

Bambino Gesù OSPEDALE PEDIATRICO

INFORMATICI SENZA FRONTIERE

Doctors with Africa CUAMM
www.doctorswithafrica.org
international@cuamm.org

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2019 ACTIVITIES

neonatal intensive care services. Ad ottobre 2019 il team del Bambino Gesù, composto da un pediatra e un neonatologo, ha In October 2019, a team from Bambino Gesù Hospital, composed of a paediatrician and a neonatologist, carried out a local mission, during which they shared their evaluation of the state of the art of the Ethiopian hospitals activities with the C.U.A.M.M. team and with Representatives of the Ethiopian Ministry of Health. The assessment of the results achieved until then was illustrated both during the Steering Committee meeting and on occasion of the visits to the three hospitals. During such visits, the situation observed was substantially similar to the one observed the previous year at St. Paul Hospital in Addis Ababa and at Tulu Bolo Hospital, while at St. Luke Hospital in Wolisso remarkable progresses were observed in the building of the new area dedicated to neonatology and neonatal intensive care, as well as in the implementation of monthly audits on deaths.

The Bambino Gesù team took part in one of the audits, during which appreciation was expressed for the active collaboration between the different healthcare professionals and for the compliance with the available diagnostic and care protocols; it was also highlighted that the care objectives which ought to be met by the end of the project were close to achievement. In order to give the maximum support to the project, Bambino Gesù Hospital offered to host some neonatologists from Addis Ababa St. Paul Hospital for training periods at the Department of Medical and Surgical Neonatology in Rome.

The participation in this project also included the prosecution for 2019 of the commitment of Bambino Gesù experts to give methodological support to



scientific research.

A satisfaction questionnaire, called Empathic-N, was made available to C.U.A.M.M. to survey the parents' satisfaction with the family-centered care provided in the neonatal intensive care unit, so that they could develop their own version, adapted to the local linguistic and cultural context. The questionnaire was supplied in its original version (Latour et al 2012), in the Italian language version (Dall'Oglio et al 2018), as well as in the shortened version (30 items).

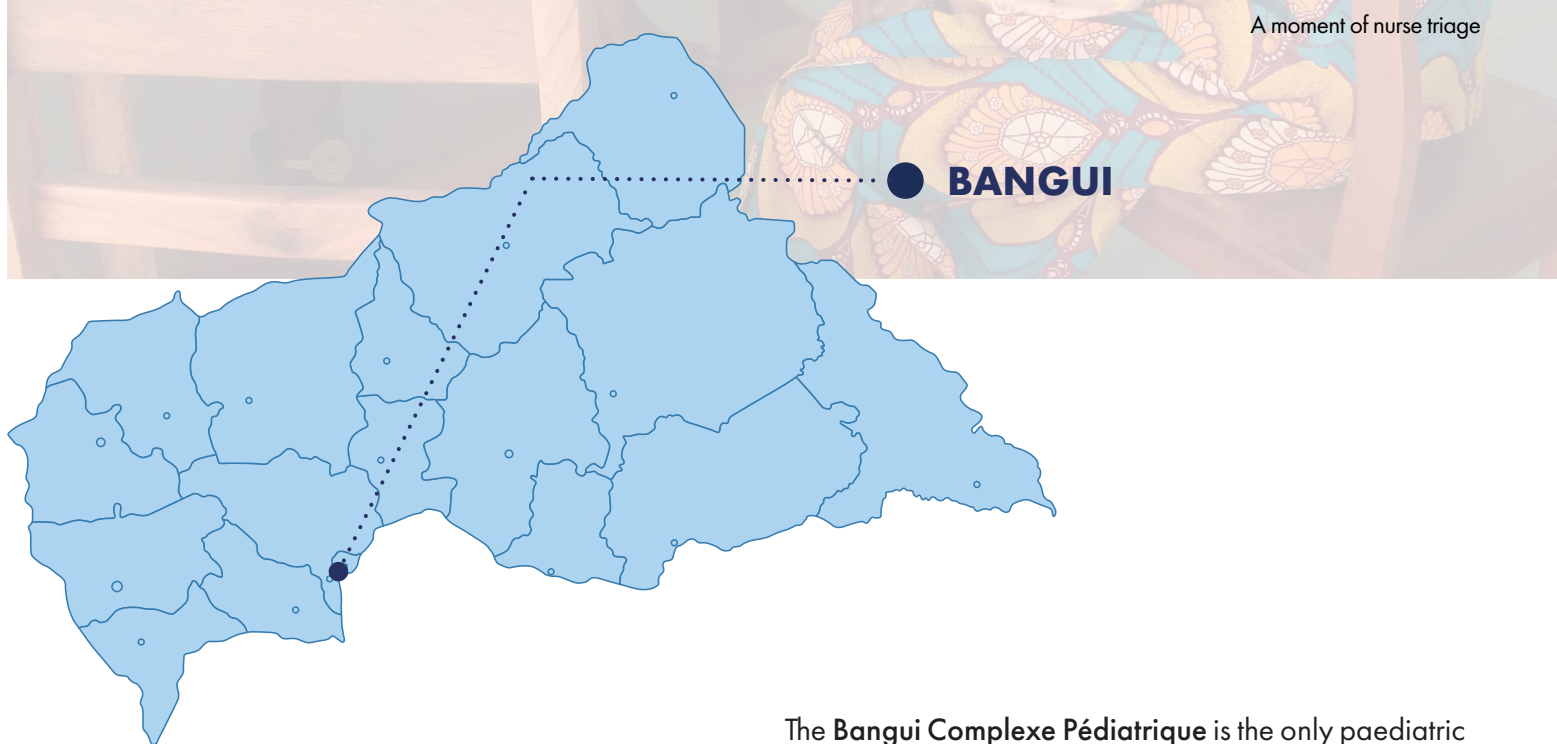
Also, a table of correspondence between the items of the different versions of the Empathic-N questionnaire was supplied, to make the assessment and selection of the items easier, considering the local context. Furthermore, the study protocol and other documents previously used (on occasion of the presentation of the questionnaire validation project to the Ethics Committee of Bambino Gesù Hospital) were made available both in Italian and English. Subsequently, the draft of the new study protocol prepared by the C.U.A.M.M. colleagues, as well as the draft of the Empathic-N questionnaire, modified and adapted to the two linguistic and cultural local contexts, were examined and integrated.

The methodological support also included the drafting of the data collection sheets and the methods for data collection. Also, a database for data entry and for their first descriptive analysis was supplied. Furthermore, some proposals for statistical analysis were suggested for the psychometric validation of the two versions of the questionnaire developed in the two local languages.



Central African Republic

A moment of nurse triage



The **Bangui Complexe Pédiatrique** is the only paediatric hospital of the Central African Republic, one of the countries with the lower Human Development Index (187th in 188). The violent civil war that broke out in 2013 destabilized the already precarious conditions of the population, namely those of the more vulnerable categories, like children. Patients accessing the emergency room of the Complexe Pédiatrique for urgent care represent 80% of all accesses, with 20% of them requiring admission for long-term care. Every year, the hospital treats **70,000 children in emergency**, 17,000 of whom are admitted for **subsequent medical and surgical care**. The most frequent paediatric conditions are malaria, diarrhoea, respiratory infections, HIV and tuberculosis, as well as malnutrition.



Bangui healthcare project

The healthcare project in the Central African Republic was launched by Bambino Gesù Children's Hospital following the visit to Bangui by the Holy Father in 2015. With the signing of a Memorandum of Understanding by the Vatican's Secretariat of State and the President of the Central African Republic, and, subsequently, of a framework agreement with the Ministry of Health and the Ministry of Education and Teaching of the Central African Republic, an intervention was planned, aimed at reducing child mortality and morbidity through the renovation of infrastructures, the supply of materials for treatment, and the support to the management and training of the medical staff of the Complexe Pédiatrique.

As to the training of the local healthcare professionals, Bambino Gesù Children's Hospital signed an **agreement with Humanitas University (Milan, Italy)** to ensure the presence of **teachers both on site and for e-learning** for a course in Medicine and a specialization course in Paediatrics, with the support of the local authorities. At a later stage, to ensure the continuity over time of the support to the Central African Hospital and to give back independence to the Management of the Hospital, Bambino Gesù Hospital signed a cooperation agreement with **Doctors with Africa C.U.A.M.M.**, in collaboration with the European Commission, the Italian Cooperation and the humanitarian organization **ACF (Action Against Hunger)**.

Simulation of the procedure for the ultrasound-guided needle aspiration of cysts during the training in Bangui by a doctor from Bambino Gesù Hospital





2019 ACTIVITIES

In the framework of the intervention on the facilities of the Complex Pédiatrique, the new “Centre for Therapeutic Re-nutrition” was inaugurated and dedicated to the treatment of severely malnourished children. The Centre was inaugurated in the presence of the Papal Almoner, Cardinal Konrad Krajewski. Furthermore, the construction works of new technical areas were completed, together with the renovation of some old wards of the hospital; also, the supply of furniture and medical equipment for the whole hospital was granted. As to the training, 16 local doctors – residents in paediatrics – have been trained through both in-presence and distance-learning courses, organized by teachers of Bambino Gesù Hospital and Humanitas University.

Furthermore, 16 grants were awarded to residents at the Faculty of Health Sciences of Bangui University, while 4 grants were awarded to residents abroad, attending the faculties of Paediatric Surgery and Anaesthesia of different Central African universities. In addition, a support was ensured for the payment of the salaries to the staffs of three hospital units. Also, as a part of the promotion of the health of Central African children, a 15-km road was renovated in the Central African forest, together with a *bac* (a barge for crossing a river), to make it easier for the local population to go from Bagandou to Ngouma and vice versa.

This intervention was necessary to make it easier for the Pygmies living in this area to reach the Ngouma dispensary. The latter, completely renovated thanks to the support of Bambino Gesù Hospital, was reopened to the population of the village, after being closed for three years due to war. In 2019, approximately 4,500 patients were treated for free thanks to the cooperation with the NGO Friends of Central Africa; furthermore, awareness and prevention campaigns were organized to protect the health of the local population. In 2019, 15 children, together with their caregiver, were transferred to Bambino Gesù Children’s Hospital, with the support of the Central African Ministry of Health. Some of them underwent surgery (83%), while others (17%) received clinical treatments that were not available in their country. Two professionals from Bambino Gesù Hospital have been working full-time in Bangui. Moreover, short-term missions have been carried out for the continuation of the training.



Dr. Loumande T Tuspín (in the centre), resident in Paediatric Surgery, was awarded one of the grants offered by Bambino Gesù Hospital

The experience of Dr. Loumande T Tuspín, resident in Paediatric Surgery

*Our training in Dakar is going well, despite the pandemic.
I am here with Dr. Galvani, a first-year resident who was also
awarded a grant by Bambino Gesù Hospital.*

*Concerning our training, the University that is hosting us
(Université Cheikh Anta Diop) is one of the best in francophone Africa.
The quality of the training is good, and it is made of two components,
theory and practice, with clear academic goals.*

*This training fully meets my expectations, and our objective is to complete this path
on schedule and go back to the Central African Republic as soon as possible,
to bring our experience and knowledge to the children in need.*



Tanzania

A preoperative visit at St. Gaspar Hospital performed together with the local nursing staff

● ITIGI



St. Gaspar Referral and Teaching Hospital is located in the city of Itigi, in the centre of Tanzania, 164 kilometres west of Dodoma City (the current capital) and 118 kilometres from the city of Singida, in the relatively sparsely populated homonymous region (1.2 million inhabitants, growing by 2.5% per year in rural areas), a very poor territory of the sub-equatorial Africa. The hospital was built, and has been managed since the '80s of last century, by the **Congregation of the Fathers of the Precious Blood**, to provide healthcare to the population of Manyoni District (300,000 inhabitants), one of the poorest of Tanzania. The centre takes care not only of the local population, but also of patients coming from several neighbouring cities.



Trauma treatment

In Tanzania, burns, often related to the domestic environment, are the main cause of trauma requiring surgery. The poorer houses are made of a single room with a brazier, that can cause burns¹ to children crawling in its proximity. Also, congenital malformations are common, namely **cleft lip/palate**, commonly referred to as "harelip". Care in the acute phase is very precarious, as in most cases burns are left to heal by themselves, leading to the formation of scars and to disfiguring outcomes.

The training project for St. Gaspar Hospital in Itigi

The partnership between St. Gaspar Hospital and Bambino Gesù Children's Hospital was renewed in 2018 with a three-year agreement aimed at transferring skills and knowledge to the local healthcare staff in the field of **Plastic and Maxillofacial Surgery**, to meet the future needs of children and their families. The goal of the project is to train a doctor from St. Gaspar Hospital who is willing to stay in Itigi, through a period of residential training at Bambino Gesù Hospital and two on-the-job training missions per year that will allow him to put into practice what he has learnt during the training in Italy

¹ Burns in Tanzania: morbidity and mortality, causes and risk factors: a review. Published in S National Library of Medicine National Institutes of Health: <https://www.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/pmc/articles/PMC3560491/#b2>

One of the plastic surgeons of Bambino Gesù team with one of St. Gaspar Hospital's nurses during the pre-operative briefing





2019 ACTIVITIES

In 2019, the Plastic and Maxillofacial Surgery team of Bambino Gesù Hospital, composed of two plastic surgeons, an anaesthesiologist and a nurse, took part in two ten-day training missions at St. Gaspar Hospital. During the first mission, which took place in May, the team visited 32 patients with cleft lip/palate, burn sequelae and tumefaction; 18 of them underwent surgery during the mission, 9 were not eligible for surgery, while 5 surgeries were planned for the following mission. During the second mission, carried out in December, 19 patients suffering from the same conditions were treated. In June, Father Oscar Boniface, a Tanzanian doctor belonging to the Congregation of the Fathers of the Precious Blood, admitted to the training programme, came to Italy to start his training period at the Department of Plastic and Maxillofacial Surgery. During the first six months of 2019, Father Oscar Boniface learnt various plastic surgery techniques, like the removal and positioning of skin grafts, plastic surgery with alternated flaps and the correction of scar retractions due to burns.

In the same year, to answer to a specific request coming from St. Gaspar Hospital for an evaluation of the economic management of the facility, an assessment mission was set up, during which two consultants of Bambino Gesù Hospital (a paediatrician and a healthcare economist) analysed the performance and the costs of the Tanzanian hospital. Subsequently, a report was drawn up for internal use by the Congregation and St. Gaspar Hospital, with useful indications for the optimization of costs according to the services provided by the Hospital.



Dr. Oscar Boniface, Tanzanian doctor trained at Bambino Gesù since June 2019, during a break outside the operating room

The experience of Father Oscar Boniface, physician trained at Bambino Gesù Hospital

My training experience at Bambino Gesù Children's Hospital is helping me understand that surgery does not mean just having a patient on the operating table: it is also a matter of organization of the surgical procedures before and after the surgery itself. That is particularly important to achieve optimal results and the satisfaction of the patient. This is what is missing in my hospital. I think that my training at Bambino Gesù Hospital will add value to my future work.





5





India

China

Cambodia

ASIA



Cambodia

A Cambodian doctor delivers medicines to the families of patients coming from the rural areas of Takeo province



The initiative carried out by Bambino Gesù Hospital in Cambodia takes place in the **Takeo Referral Hospital**, the provincial hospital acting today as the paediatric centre of reference for the whole province. The Hospital belongs to a Provincial District, which includes 28 Healthcare Centres and 3 Health Points, able to provide 24-hour medical care in: general medicine, general surgery, obstetrics, gynaecology, psychiatry, prevention programmes, diagnosis and treatment of tuberculosis and HIV. According to the data released by the Provincial Health Department (2017), the paediatric population of the whole province under the age of 1 is made of 21,233 children, while the population under the age of 5 is made of 97,669 children.



The Paediatric Department of Takeo Hospital, built with the support of Bambino Gesù Hospital, today has 47 beds, which can be increased up to 55 in case of major epidemics (Dengue, meningitis, diarrhoea). The wards are managed by the local staff, employed by the Provincial Hospital, consisting of 3 physicians and 15 nurses.

The intervention of Bambino Gesù Hospital in Cambodia takes place in a very unsteady context, both in healthcare and economic terms. According to the data released by the Asian Development Bank, over the past 20 years Cambodia made excellent progress in the reduction of poverty and in human development, in the wake of a sustained growth of the agricultural, manufacturing and tourism sectors¹. Nevertheless, over 70% of the population lives on less than 3 dollars a day, and most of those in poverty remain vulnerable.


¹ <https://www.adb.org/countries/cambodia/overview>

Protecting the health of Cambodian children

Thanks to the cooperation agreement signed by the Apostolic Nunciature and the local Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Bambino Gesù Hospital has been operating in Cambodia for more than ten years, providing **healthcare support and training** at Takeo Referral Hospital. Through the **renewal of the cooperation** in 2019, even more emphasis was placed on the improvement of medical care, not only through the assistance to young patients, but also and especially through the training of the local healthcare staff. Among the commitments made by Bambino Gesù Hospital are the implementation of the neonatology and of the movable clinic project, aimed at facilitating the access to paediatric healthcare services by the communities living in the remote rural areas of Takeo province.

A young Cambodian patient undergoing an ENT visit in the movable clinic






In 2019, Bambino Gesù Hospital also signed a partnership agreement with the Catholic Community Health Service, represented by the Apostolic Vicar of Phnom Penh, Monsignor Olivier Schmitthaeusler. This agreement is part of the initiatives promoted by the Cambodian Catholic community to protect the health of children through the dispensaries spread over the area of the provinces of Kampot, Sihanoukville, Kandal and Phnom Penh.

Thanks to this new collaboration, a **movable clinic service** was activated that reaches also the children of the kindergartens managed by the Catholic Church (thirty in total) in the provinces of Kampot, Kandal e Kampong Saom.

Thanks to the partnerships with the Government and the Church, Bambino Gesù Hospital is trying to build relationships with local and international non-governmental organizations operating in the field of healthcare, to offer a broader range of services (e.g.: child psychiatry as well as services for deaf-mute and physically disabled children) that are not available at Takeo Hospital.

Also, the ongoing **collaborations with the teams of foreign surgeons** have been renewed, in particular with a team of Spanish orthopaedic surgeons of the Hospital Universitario Rio Hortega Valladolid-Hospital Infantil Teresa Herrera (La Coruna) and with the German plastic surgeons of Interplast Bavaria. Bambino Gesù Hospital ensures the logistic support necessary for the organization and success of the mission and coordinates the training of the local staff during the missions by the foreign teams.





2019 ACTIVITIES

In the framework of the implementation of the Neonatology, the Kangaroo Mother Care Room was set up and inaugurated in June 2019.

The treatment of infants through the Kangaroo Room represents a curative therapy defined by the World Health Organization as ideal for preterm or low-birth weight infants, in the absence of severe diseases². Instead of being put in an incubator, away from the mother, the preterm or low-birth weight infant is kept skin-to-skin with the mother, who plays an active role in the therapy. Furthermore, a training programme for the local healthcare staff has been outlined for 2020.

As part of the cooperation with the Cambodian Government, 13 interventions were carried out with the movable clinic at the state healthcare centres located in Daun Keo, Kirivong and Khos Ondaet Districts, with a total of 1,708 young patients visited, 1,090 of whom received medications, 872 had also an ear check-up and 304 received specific treatments; 55 patients were transferred to Takeo Referral Hospital for further investigations (mostly in ENT), 91 underwent surgery, 20 were admitted and are waiting to be transferred to other hospitals or care centres, and 32 were put on a waiting list for surgeries by the foreign teams (orthopaedics, plastic surgery and urology).

Thanks to the cooperation with the Catholic Church, 5 interventions were carried out with the movable clinic, 2 of which in Kampot province and 3 in Takeo province, with a total of 191 young patients visited.

During the assistance at health centres, a need was noted for facilities dedicated to the provision of social services to the patients' families. Thus, a consultancy service was set up for the parents of children undergoing surgery or requiring further treatments at Takeo Hospital, to make them aware of the importance of treatments and inform them on hospital procedures. Actually, often the family of the patient does not perceive healthcare interventions as urgent and necessary. For families in disadvantaged economic conditions, the economic contribution for the surgery can be reduced or cancelled. The setting up of this service resulted in a greater confidence in Takeo Hospital by the patients' families, as well as in a significant reduction in the number of non-treated children.

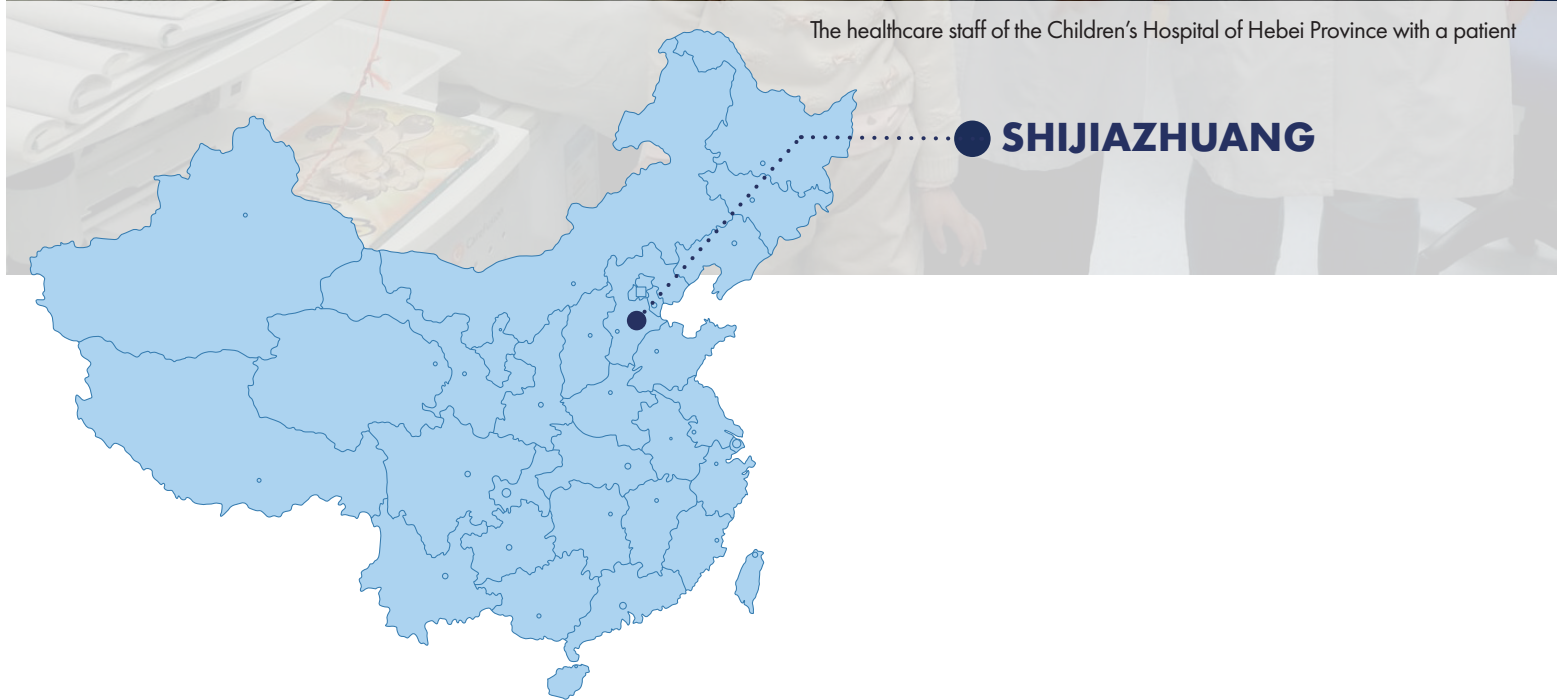
Finally, in December, a Spanish orthopaedics team (2 orthopaedic surgeons, 1 anaesthesiologist, 3 residents in orthopaedics, 1 nurse) visited 60 young patients, 27 of whom underwent surgery. During the mission, the healthcare staff of Takeo Referral Hospital was trained through on-the-job sessions.

² <https://www.who.int/bulletin/volumes/94/2/15-157818/en/>



China

The healthcare staff of the Children's Hospital of Hebei Province with a patient



● SHIJIAZHUANG

The Children's Hospital of Hebei Province is located in Shijiazhuang, the capital of Hebei Province, in the north of the People's Republic of China, and represents the paediatric point of reference for the whole province, which has a population of approximately 75.2 million. It is a public facility, established in 1989, belonging to the Hebei Provincial Health and Family Planning Commission. The hospital, of remarkable size, has **1,600 beds and 1,800 workers**. The volume of activities, as declared by the hospital itself in 2017, reaches over 1.35 million outpatient services provided and over 49,000 ordinary admissions per year. All paediatric specialties are present, and the facility is equipped with state-of-the-art medical equipment.

The hospital is also a reference centre for the screening of **congenital heart diseases** and a centre of excellence for the diagnosis and treatment of **complex paediatric conditions**.

The Hospital is recognized as a teaching and research centre by the University of Medicine of the Hebei Province, and as a teaching centre for Chinese traditional medicine by the Beijing Oriental College.

Training to improve the quality of care

Although the hospital can rely on **modern and high-tech equipment and infrastructures**, professional skills in high and very high complexity settings require improvement and specialistic training. For this reason, Hebei Hospital, already cooperating with Bambino Gesù Hospital in the field of cardiac surgery, asked for the extension of the collaboration to all paediatric specialties.

The cooperation between Bambino Gesù and China

The cooperation project is governed by a three-year agreement between Bambino Gesù Hospital and the Hospital of Hebei Province, signed in November 2017, on occasion of an institutional visit to the Chinese hospital, when the latter asked to send its young physicians to Bambino Gesù for **specialized training** in the different paediatric specialties.

To answer to this request, a cooperation project was outlined, including six-month training periods at Bambino Gesù Hospital for young Chinese specialists in the different paediatric specialties, to be defined each time by the Chinese partner. In addition to this, **on-the-job training missions** have been planned, led by OPBG teams at Shijiazhuang Hospital.

Two members of the Bambino Gesù cardiac surgery team during a meeting with their Chinese colleagues





Training of the healthcare staff at the Children's Hospital of Hebei Province



2019 ACTIVITIES

During the first semester of 2019, 5 young physicians from Hebei Hospital spent a period of training at Bambino Gesù Hospital, observing the daily clinical activity in the fields of respiratory medicine (2), orthopaedics, paediatric intensive care and urology. In two cases (orthopaedics and respiratory medicine), the renewal of the training was requested for another six months. When three Chinese physicians went back to China, three other doctors started the following semester of training in cardiac surgery, paediatric and neonatal surgery and respiratory medicine.

During the same year, two on-the-job training missions were organized by Bambino Gesù Hospital at Shijiazhuang Hospital: one in March, focusing on respiratory medicine, and another one in September carried out by a cardiac surgery team.



Dr. Gianluca Brancaccio, member of the team and Head of High Specialization in General Cardiac Surgery

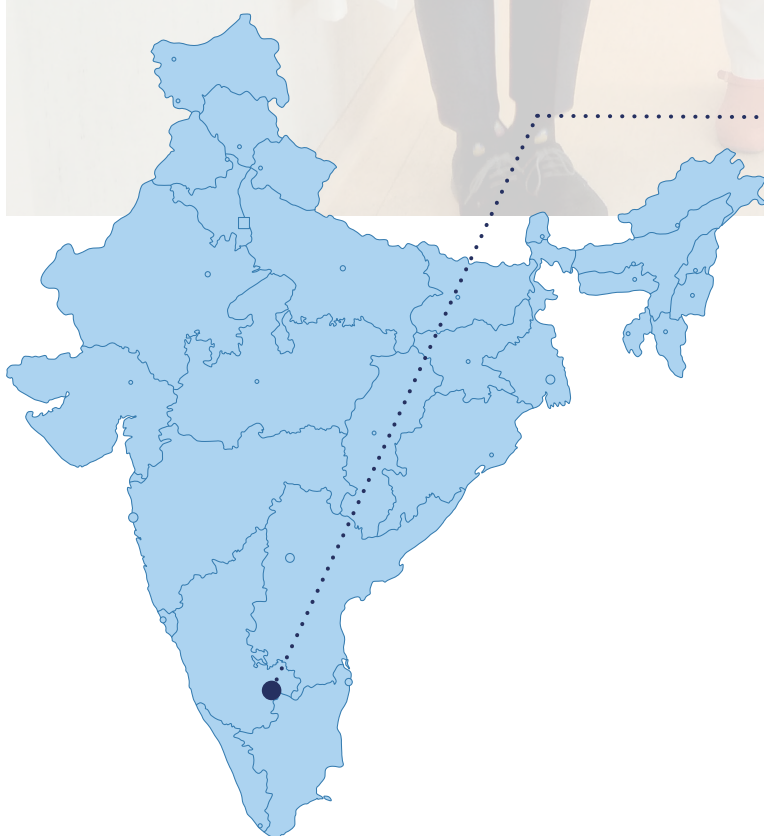
In the final report of the mission of Bambino Gesù Hospital team to the Hebei Province Hospital, Dr. Gianluca Brancaccio (member of the team and Head of High Specialization in General Cardiac Surgery) wrote:

Compared to the previous missions, the centre showed a remarkable improvement in patient care; in particular, we witnessed a better diagnostic capability in the screening of more complex patients, which is the result of a better work by the Chinese team, and of the physicians exchanges with our Hospital. We saw that the organization of the work in the intensive care unit reflects ours, and that the management of the operating room also reflects our approach. This is certainly one of the results of the collaboration with Dr. Fan Yang and Dr. Su Hang, who took part in the training at our Hospital.



India

Prof. Anil Vasudevan (on the right), nephrologist at St. John's Hospital, Bangalore, visiting Bambino Gesù



● BANGALORE

India boasts a very advanced healthcare system, dedicated to the wealthier classes, while the low-income classes have extremely limited options for care. There are three types of hospitals: governmental hospitals, ensuring free care, but with only very marginal attention to the paediatric population; non-profit private hospitals offering low-cost care; and private facilities that are very expensive and well beyond the economic means of the majority of the Indian population.

St. John's Medical College and Hospital, located in Bangalore, has been cooperating with Bambino Gesù Hospital since 2015; it is a third-level Catholic Hospital with **1,350 beds** and the only non-profit private hospital in the whole country ensuring low-cost care to children with chronic kidney failure, regardless of their ethnicity and religion.

Barriers to paediatric kidney transplantation in India

The issue of the lack of transplantation in South India has been analysed from a scientific perspective. As in many other countries, in India most kidney transplants take place from a living donor, who usually is one of the parents of the patient. The low rate of transplants is due not only to economic reasons, but also – and above all – to the refusal by the parents, mainly by the father, to engage in the transplantation procedure, even when such choice leads to the demise of the child. To give an idea of the extent of the problem, over a five-year period (2013-2017), 155 patients were examined at St. John's Hospital, but only 28 of them (18%) completed the pathway leading to the transplant. These figures do not include the figures – undoubtedly higher – concerning the children who have not been examined and probably died at

local hospitals or at home. In this context, **information** and **awareness** are the key to breaking this vicious circle, where just a minimum percentage of children (slightly higher than 20% of the total¹) has access to the transplant.


Il progetto del Bambino Gesù a Bangalore

The international cooperation project carried out by Bambino Gesù Children's Hospital and St. John's Hospital stems from the need of the Indian centre to acquire skills in paediatric kidney transplantation, with a particular focus on low-weight patients. The project included two regular missions performed over the years by the OPBG team to train the local staff, as well as remote case-management activities and a short formal course organized by the International Society of Paediatric Nephrology.

¹ "Barriers to Kidney Transplantation at a Tertiary Level Academic Paediatric Nephrology Centre in South India". Study carried out at St. John's Medical College and Hospital (Bangalore).


One of the nephrologists of the Bambino Gesù team during post-operative visits





On three occasions, Indian physicians were hosted at Bambino Gesù Hospital. This project allowed to export the organizational model for the **organ transplantation programme**, according to which the nephrologist and the surgeon shall work side-by-side through each phase – from the evaluation of the patients, to the surgery and the management following the transplant. Since the beginning, the project obtained the patronage and the economic support of the International Society of Nephrology and of the Transplant Society.

In 2019, the project was re-evaluated, with positive results, and support was granted for another two years. The International Society of Nephrology was involved also to face the cultural and social issues relating to transplantation. The Indian members of the Society expressed their willingness to set up **courses dedicated to families and to the local healthcare staff**, who often are not enough involved and are potentially co-responsible for the decisions on the transplant.





2019 ACTIVITIES

In 2019, Bambino Gesù Children's Hospital hosted prof. Anil Vasudevan, nephrologist at Bangalore Hospital, who observed the transplantation procedures, discussed the follow-up process and visited the kidney transplantation laboratories.

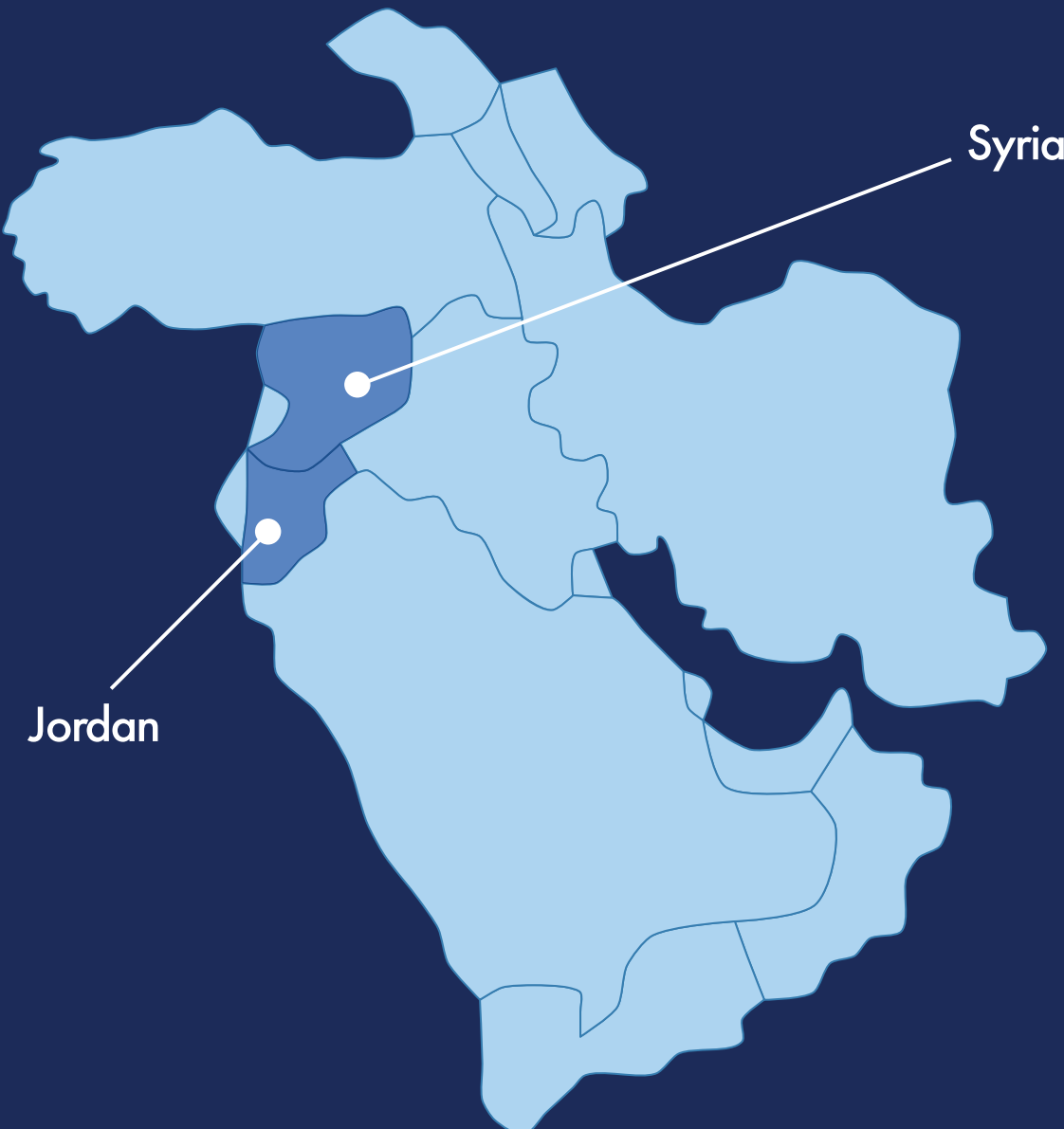
The Bambino Gesù kidney transplantation team also organized numerous conference calls, every two months, during which the colleagues from St. John's Hospital could discuss complex cases. Thanks to the remote case-management, 4 kidney transplants were successfully performed.

The ongoing project with St. John's Hospital and the subsequent scientific results were the object of a study that is currently being evaluated by the Paediatric Transplantation Journal.



6





Syria

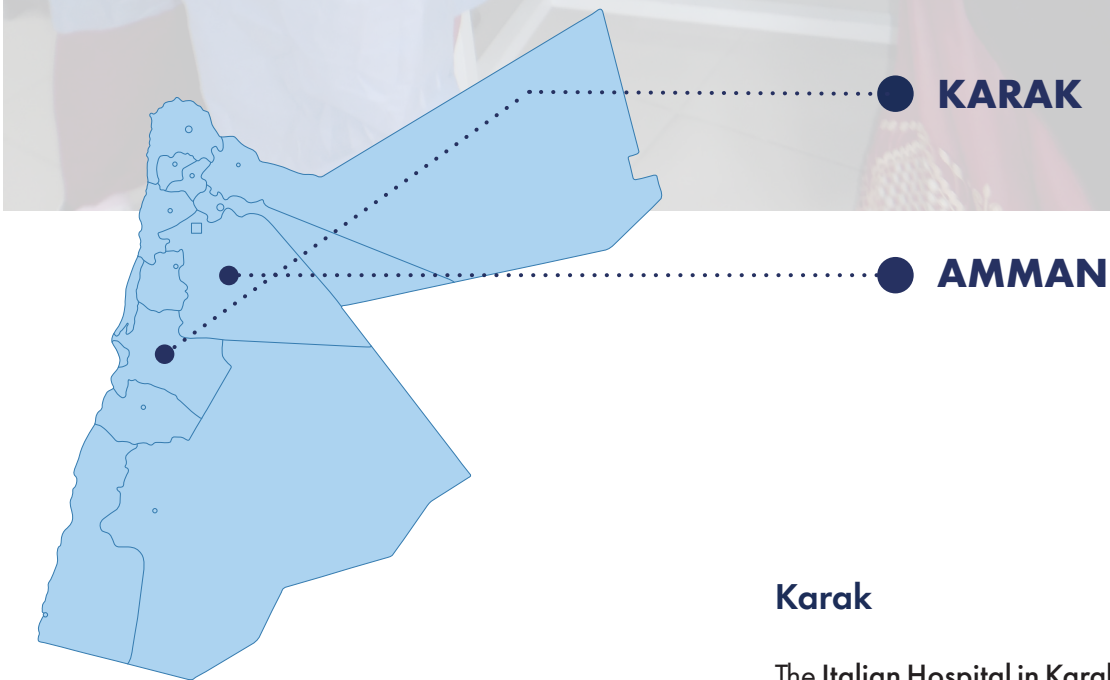
Jordan

MIDDLE EAST



Jordan

A nurse of Karak Hospital delivers the protheses to the mother of a rehabilitation patient



Karak

The Italian Hospital in Karak was established in 1935 by the National Association for Aid to Italian Missionaries – ANSMI, a non-profit organization supporting the missionary presence in Muslim countries, that during the 20th century contributed to the building of schools and hospitals across the Middle-East. Karak Italian Hospital was built to help Bedouin tribes and the Jordan population that did not benefit from any healthcare coverage. Since 1939, ANSMI has entrusted the Comboni Missionary Sisters with the management of the Hospital. With the support of the Catholic Near East Welfare Association (Cnewa) – the special Vatican agency aiding Middle East Catholic Churches and populations – today Karak Hospital is the **only equipped hospital in the region.**



The Hospital takes care of the Christian minority living in the area, as well as of the Muslim population, of Bedouins and Gorani, and of immigrants and refugees coming from bordering regions and Asia (Syrians, Iraqis, Egyptians, Sri Lankans and Pakistanis).

A centre for the treatment of neurological and developmental diseases

In November 2013, the agreement between Bambino Gesù Children's Hospital and the Comboni Missionary Sisters managing Karak Hospital entered into force. The initiative aims at setting up a paediatric neurology, neuropsychiatry and neurorehabilitation service. Thanks to this agreement, **free healthcare** is granted to many children, among whom numerous Syrian refugees living in Karak province. The goal of the intervention is to improve the offer and the quality of **neurorehabilitation**.

Indeed, most disabled children have no access to rehabilitation facilities, not only due to the lack of specialized centres, but also for the tendency of families to "hide" their children's disability. During the first years of activity, a rehabilitation room has been set up in the Italian Hospital, where every month approximately **40 young patients** regularly follow a rehabilitation pathway with the assistance of two local therapists trained by the specialists of Bambino Gesù Hospital.

The collaboration between Bambino Gesù Hospital and the Italian Hospital in Karak resulted in many missions over the years, involving different teams of specialists. Thanks to this intervention, over 1,800 children have been visited and subsequently managed for neurological and developmental diseases; many of them suffer from autism spectrum disorder and/or intellectual disability.



2019 ACTIVITIES

In 2019, the training activities for the two therapists of the Italian Hospital continued, and 4 missions were carried out by teams from Bambino Gesù Hospital, with the participation of 10 specialists in total (neuropsychiatrists, rehabilitation technicians, physical and speech therapists). During the 4 missions, 345 children were seen.

Since the beginning, the training of the healthcare staff of Karak Italian Hospital was carried out in order to improve care and make the local healthcare staff independent in the performance of healthcare activities. In particular, a neurologist, two therapists and a nurse were trained on specialized exams. Furthermore, thanks to a funding by the World Health Organization (WHO), materials for therapy, training manuals, tests for the evaluation of patients and IT tools were purchased. In addition to this, thanks to the support of Bambino Gesù Hospital, a paediatric ward with 8 beds was set up in the Italian Hospital. The ward was inaugurated in July 2019; 335 children have been managed in the first six months.

Amman

Due to the Syrian conflict, Jordan is hosting **671,551 refugees** registered at the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR), **48% of whom are children and 4% elderly**. The vast majority of them (approximately 83%) lives in urban and rural areas outside the refugee camps. The arrival of fleeing refugees represents a continued humanitarian crisis that puts a strain on the economic and social stability of Jordan. 79,000 refugees are hosted at the **Zaatari** camp, in the north of the country; 53,000 have been registered at **Azaraq** camp, 100 kilometres from Amman; and over 7,000 have been registered at the Emirates Jordan Camp in **Zarqa**. All other refugees live outside formal refugee camps, mainly in the central and northern governorates of Amman, Mafraq, Irbid and Zarqa, with no access to services, employment opportunities or humanitarian assistance. According to a survey carried out by UNHCR, **the access to healthcare services for displaced persons and refugees is very complex**. Secondary and tertiary healthcare requires continuous and massive funding for access to be granted. Expensive complex treatments are not possible with the resources available for the refugee population¹.

The project aims at improving the care and treatment of Syrian refugees and of the Jordan vulnerable paediatric population, and includes the specialized care on the spot for paediatric patients, as well as the training of the medical and nursing staff selected by the Jordan facilities.

Taking care of refugee and Jordan children

In 2017, Bambino Gesù Children's Hospital launched a new two-year initiative in Jordan. Through a **framework agreement with the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR)**, Bambino Gesù Hospital is supplying specialized medical assistance and training. In addition to the UN Agency, the Jordan University Hospital (for the support in cardiac surgery) and the Italian Hospital in Amman (for the support in general surgery) signed the agreement, thus contributing to the medical and scientific training.

¹ "Health Access and Utilization Survey Among Non-Camp Syrian Refugees in Jordan 2018", Unhcr.



2019 ACTIVITIES

In 2019 two missions were carried out: one focused on cardiac surgery and the other one on general surgery. The latter saw the participation of a team composed of two surgeons, two otorhinolaryngologists, an anaesthesiologist and a nurse. 20 surgeries were performed for the correction of hypospadias, for the treatment of urethral valves and for adenotonsillectomies. The cardiac surgery mission saw the participation of two cardiac surgeons, an anaesthesiologist, a perfusionist and a nurse; 9 life-saving surgeries were performed on Syrian displaced persons.

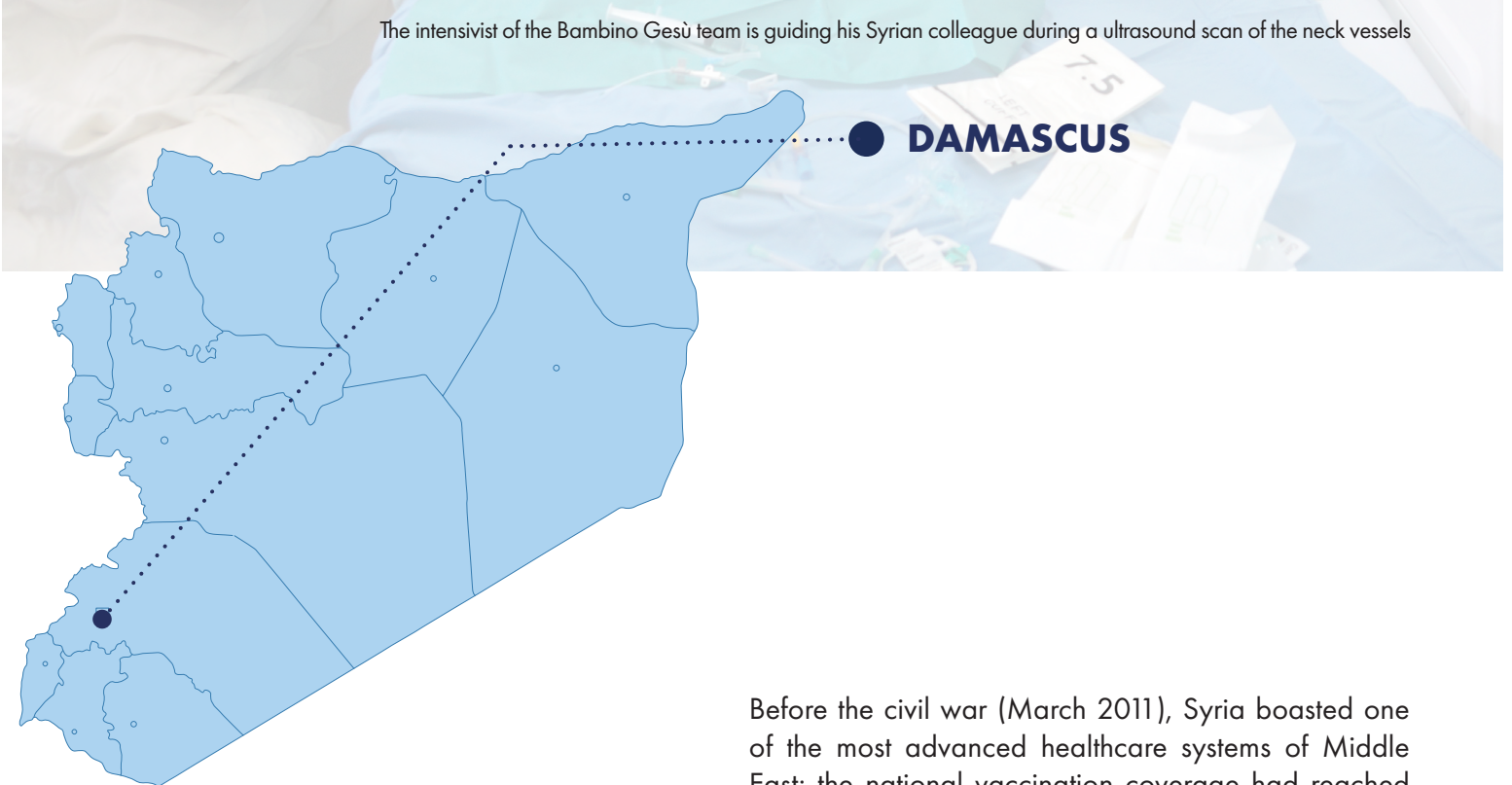
A Bambino Gesù otorhinolaryngologist during a pre-operative visit at Amman Italian Hospital





Syria

The intensivist of the Bambino Gesù team is guiding his Syrian colleague during a ultrasound scan of the neck vessels



Before the civil war (March 2011), Syria boasted one of the most advanced healthcare systems of Middle East; the national vaccination coverage had reached 95% and noncommunicable diseases were becoming a priority for national healthcare policies. The country could rely on a domestic pharmaceutical industry, covering more than 90% of the domestic demand and exporting its products to 53 countries. By the end of 2017, when Bambino Gesù Hospital launched its project in Syria, the country had just entered its seventh year of a devastating war, with no end in sight. The access to healthcare was seriously compromised, with more than half of hospitals and healthcare facilities closed or reducing their activities, and more than half of the medical and healthcare workers leaving the country.



Moreover, the procurement of medical equipment and devices was tragically difficult. The WHO Country Office in Syria reported 30,000 of wounded each month, while, due to the conflict, a quarter of the population was living in besieged or difficult to reach regions. The Syrian people were thus deprived of healthcare when they needed it most.

In the following years, the **Syrian conflict** continued with the same intensity and, in March 2020, the WHO Regional Office for the Eastern Mediterranean (EMRO) reported 494 attacks to healthcare facilities over a four-year period, with 470 persons killed (patients and healthcare workers). The WHO strongly condemned such attacks, witnessing the **complex humanitarian crisis** that has now entered its tenth year in Syria. Of all armed conflicts across the globe, Syria has for years been one of the worst examples of violence affecting healthcare¹.

A healthcare system in crisis

In this context, the public healthcare facilities that were spared from the destructions of the war started hosting an ever increasing number of patients, operating in very difficult conditions without relying on regular supplies of medicines and devices, often with outdated or non-working equipment due to the difficulties in the procurement of spare parts, and with a reduced staff. Furthermore, the physicians who remained in the country have been isolated for years from the international medical community, thus not being able to update and improve their skills.

The WHO policy of response to the health crisis focuses on **capacity building and support to the public institutions**, in an effort to restore and strengthen essential healthcare services and territorial infrastructures.

¹<http://www.emro.who.int>

Briefing of the Bambino Gesù Hospital team with WHO Representatives and Damascus Hospital medical staff



The training project in Syria

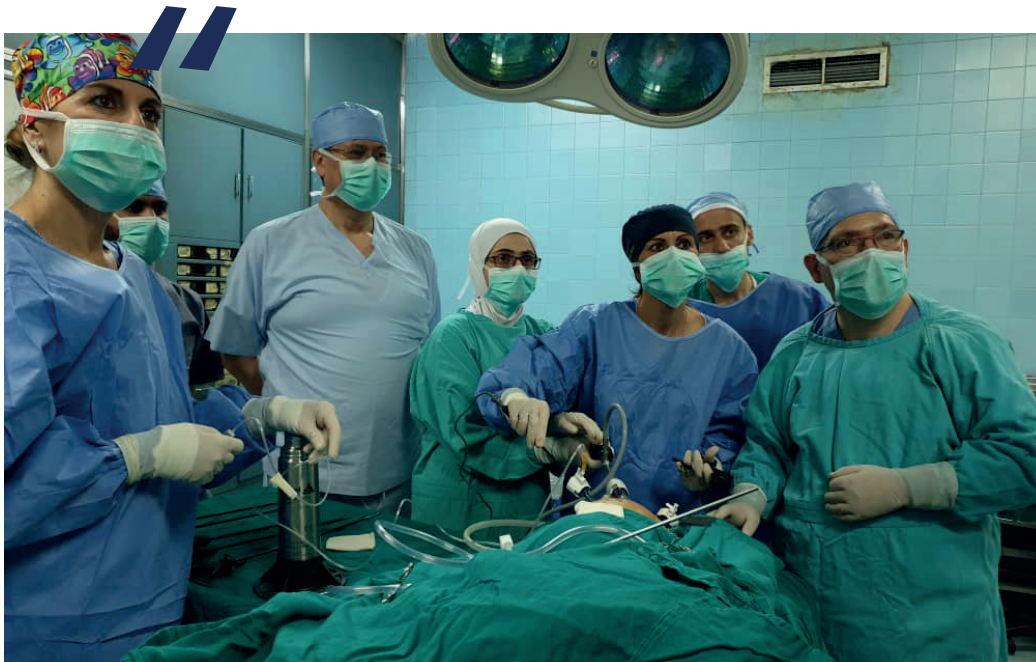
The cooperation project is governed by a three-year framework agreement signed by Bambino Gesù Hospital and the WHO Country Office in Syria in Rome, in September 2017. The collaboration focuses on **paediatric specialized medical training in Syrian public healthcare facilities**.

The agreement was signed following a first institutional mission carried out in August 2017, during which the WHO Office organized a visit to the University Children's Hospital and to the Cardiology and Cardiac Surgery Centre in Damascus; both are public hospitals depending on the Ministry for Higher Education of the Syrian Government. The visit aimed at identifying which areas were most in need of specialized training and updating.

At the end of the mission, the following areas were identified for the first phase of the project: digestive laparoscopy/endoscopy, interventional radiology, intensive care and cardiac surgery.

Subsequently, a team of Bambino Gesù Hospital was set up, composed of an interventional radiologist, a laparoscopic surgeon, an intensivist, a cardiac surgeon and an O.R./ICU nurse, who were in charge of developing the on-the-job training programme in Damascus.

In November 2017, the Bambino Gesù Hospital team went to Damascus for a careful technical inspection (local skills, infrastructures, medical equipment available) at the hospitals identified in the area. At the end of the inspection, the team reported the main critical issues/missing equipment. The latter were purchased by the WHO.



Dr. Husam Dalati, paediatric surgeon at Damascus Hospital (last one to the right)

The experience of Dr. Husam Dalati, paediatric surgeon at Damascus Hospital

In June 2019, about two years after the beginning of the project, Dr. Dalati wrote to Dr. Tamara Caldaro (OPBG Digestive Surgery and head of the laparoscopy training programme in Syria).

Dear Tamara, yesterday I did my first cholecystectomy alone.

It was good and I followed the same steps you usually do.

Unfortunately, at the last minute of the gallbladder dissection, there was a tiny perforation.

But I removed the gallbladder quickly and made adequate wash and suction.

The 12-year old boy is doing well now. The only difference is that I was standing left to the patient.

I want to thank you very much for your effort to teach us.



2019 ACTIVITIES

During 2019, three one-week training missions were carried out by the team of Bambino Gesù Hospital (in February, May and October), for a total of 15 days of on-the-job intensive training in the four areas indicated. The training programme implemented during the three missions and based on clinical practice consisted in:

Laparoscopic surgery (attended by 3 surgeons from Damascus and one surgeon from Aleppo).

The training focused on practice with the laparoscopic training box (24 hours in total over the three missions), as well as on the direct performance of laparoscopic surgeries together with the local surgeons. During the three missions, the following activities were performed: 3 laparoscopic surgeries for appendectomy, 3 for cholecystectomy due to gallbladder lithiasis, 2 Nissen fundoplication procedures by wrapping and plastic surgery of the pillars of the diaphragm, 1 surgery for the removal of a hepatic echinococcal cyst (percutaneous aspiration of the content of the cyst, marsupialization of the cyst with removal of the pericystic membrane by endo-bag and positioning of a double drainage).

During the last mission (October 2019), the local surgeons performed the medium-to-low complexity laparoscopic surgeries autonomously, under the supervision of their OPBG Tutor.

Interventional radiology (attended by 2 radiologists from Damascus Children's Hospital and 1 radiologist from Al-Assad Hospital in Damascus).

The training consisted in the joint evaluation and discussion of cases eligible for interventional radiology procedures, as well as in the direct performance of the procedures together with the local radiologists.

During the three missions, the following activities were performed: nephrostomies, percutaneous, hepatic, pleural and renal biopsies, US-guided CVC placement, angiographies, 1 cerebral embolization and 1 coiling of an acute rupture of an aneurysm.

During the last mission (October 2019), the local radiologists performed almost autonomously some of the procedures, under the supervision of their OPBG Tutor.

Intensive care – anaesthesia and resuscitation (attended by 1 cardiologist, 1 intensivist and 1 anaesthesiologist from Damascus Hospital).

The training consisted in both theoretical lessons and direct practice in the following areas: management of the ventilatory weaning, sedation, use of vasosuppressant and vasoactive drugs, monitoring of direct and indirect perfusion indexes, adjustment of volemia and support to renal function, infection control and prevention, enteral and parenteral nutrition, use of dedicated devices, presentation of the new PBLs and BLS guidelines, distribution of PALS AHA materials, NIV ventilation in the paediatric cardiac surgery intensive care unit, management of anaesthesia during cardiac surgeries, management of the capillary leak syndrome and role of volemia in the hyperinflammatory syndrome.

Cardiac surgery (attended by 3 cardiac surgeons from Damascus Children's Hospital).

The training on cardiac surgery was included in the last two missions of 2019, with the direct performance the following surgeries, together with the local cardiac surgeons: 3 surgical corrections of truncus arteriosus, 3 surgical corrections of transposition of the great arteries, 3 surgical corrections of tricuspid atresia with pulmonary stenosis and 1 surgical correction of Fallot tetralogy.



7





Russia

Haiti

Ecuador

South
Korea

THE SIGNING OF NEW COOPERATION AGREEMENTS



Training in Neonatology with the nursing staff of St. Damien Children's Hospital



The ceremony for the signing of the agreement between Seoul Catholic Medical Center and Bambino Gesù Children's Hospital



Haiti

In 2019, the cooperation agreement between Bambino Gesù Hospital and Fondazione Francesca Rava NPH Italia Onlus was renewed, including the training in Italy of the Haitian staff of the Neonatology Department of St. Damien Children's Hospital (Port-au-Prince). The goal of the project is to continue and complete the training started in 2010, following the major humanitarian crisis due to the earthquake that struck the island, to improve the skills of the Haitian staff, in particular on some issues relating to the care of sick infants. Another aim of this collaboration is the "training of trainers", to make the local healthcare staff able to pass knowledge and skills to the new staff that will be employed at St. Damien Hospital.

South Korea

In 2019, Bambino Gesù Children's Hospital and the Catholic Medical Center of Seoul Catholic University signed a cooperation agreement supporting training and scientific research. The agreement focuses on the collaboration between the two institutions aimed at the development of future healthcare activities relating to mother and child health in North Korea.



Russia

In 2019, the Secretariat of State of the Holy See, for and on behalf of Bambino Gesù Children's Hospital, and the Ministry of Health of the Russian Federation signed a memorandum of understanding aimed at strengthening the bilateral cooperation in the field of medical care and scientific research. The agreement provides for specific projects directly involving Bambino Gesù Children's Hospital and different healthcare facilities in the **Russian Federation**. Bambino Gesù Hospital is already committed in Russia with specialist training programs in the field of neurology and neurosurgery, dedicated to the medical staff of Morozov Children's Clinical Hospital (**Moscow**) and of the Moscow Research and Clinical Center for Neuropsychiatry.



The agreement was signed by Mons. Paolo Borgia, Assessor for General Affairs at the Secretariat of State of the Holy See, and by Mrs. Veronika Skvortsova, Ministry of Health of the Russian Federation

Ecuador

The collaboration with Ecuador was ratified in 2019 by the signing of a memorandum of understanding by Bambino Gesù Hospital and the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and Human Mobility of Ecuador, aimed at promoting paediatric healthcare in the country. The agreement provides for specific projects directly involving Bambino Gesù Children's Hospital and different Ecuadorian healthcare facilities. The agreement was signed in the presence of the Primera Dama Of Ecuador, Mrs. Rocío González de Moreno.



The exchange of the agreements after the signing between the Primera Dama of Ecuador, Mrs. Rocío González de Moreno, and the President of Bambino Gesù Hospital, Dr. Mariella Enoc

8 THE FIGURES OF 2019





22

**INTERNATIONAL
MISSIONS**



170

**DAYS OF MISSION
BY CLINICAL TEAMS**



476

DAY/MAN



58

**PROFESSIONALS INVOLVED
PHYSICIANS, NURSES AND
HOSPITAL TECHNICIANS**

FONDAZIONE BAMBINO GESÙ FOR INTERNATIONAL MISSIONS

About Fondazione Bambino Gesù

Fondazione Bambino Gesù Onlus is a non-profit organization **supporting the activities of Bambino Gesù Children's Hospital**, the largest University Hospital and Paediatric Research Centre in Europe and a reference point for the health of children and teenagers coming from all over Italy and from abroad.

The first activities

Since its establishment in 2000, the Foundation has been encouraging **scientific research, innovation and technological development**. Thanks to the support of private individuals, organizations and foundations, major research projects have been carried out, such as the **Biobank** for the collection, storage and distribution of biological samples and the associated data. The Biobank includes 4 historical collections, with approximately 100,000 samples collected from over 45,000 individuals, falling into 18 different chapters of the International Classification of Diseases and Health-Related Problems.

The activities

Over the past three years, thanks to the renewal and development process promoted by the President of the Foundation who, to ensure the maximum synergy, is the President of the Hospital herself, and thanks to the commitment of the people working at the Foundation and to the increasing number of donors, the Foundation expanded its activity, supporting in particular hospitality for patients' families and humanitarian aid.

The **hospitality** is in line with a simple principle: when a child gets sick, the whole family needs care and attention, especially in case of serious diseases (cancer, transplant, complex surgery, neurorehabilitation), requiring longer hospitalizations and clinical care. A small donation may provide accommodation for one night to a parent, who would otherwise experience difficulties.

Humanitarian aid is offered to patients, who have no resources and come from abroad, suffering from cancer, rare and ultra-rare diseases or wounded by weapons of war; these children and teenagers have no coverage for medical expenses because they are neither Italian nor EU citizens, and are not supported by humanitarian or charity organizations. The costs are incurred totally by the Foundation, that launched a dedicated social campaign called "**Frammenti di Luce**" (fragments of light).

International training missions

Starting from 2019, the Foundation engaged in a new activity: the support to international training missions. Actually, since the '80s the Hospital has been taking care of children in developing countries that were extremely poor or ravaged by conflicts. However, the perspective has changed in the last few years.

Today the spirit driving international activities is “**donating knowledge**”, so that the work carried out in those countries shall not be an end in itself or a simple support in a state of emergency. The Foundation’s aim is to allow the local staff and institutions to become independent, aware of their skills and able to continue providing care autonomously.

Borrowing the words of the President of the Foundation, the Hospital is “... a place that is open to the whole world, both in hosting children and in going to those countries where children need care”, that offers training pathways and, in some cases, highly specialized healthcare services, as extensively described in this publication.

In this area, the Foundation plays a merely supportive role, by gathering the **resources** that are necessary to complete the **projects** and to allow for their **evolution**.

In 2019, **donations** amounting to **256,812 euros** were received for international missions.



How to support the Foundation for the development of the Hospital

Even the smallest contribution is important to support the actions for the development of Bambino Gesù Children’s Hospital.

With **25 euros**, you can grant decent accommodation for one night to a parent (purpose of the donation: **Accommodation**).

With **50 euros**, you can support the participation of a physician or a nurse to a training session promoted by the Hospital (purpose of the donation: **International missions**).

With **100 euros**, you can contribute to hosting a child with no coverage for medical expenses at the Hospital (purpose of the donation: **Frammenti di Luce**).

With **100 euros**, you can support important research projects (purpose of the donation: **Abbraccia la ricerca**).

Donations (please mention the purpose) can be made by:

- **Bank transfer**; account holder:
Fondazione Bambino Gesù Onlus
IBAN IT05B0306905020100000016223
Banca Intesa Sanpaolo
- **Post office current account**
Account holder:
Fondazione Bambino Gesù Onlus
n. 1000425874
- **Online**: www.fondazionebambinogesu.it







Bambino Gesù
OSPEDALE PEDIATRICO

ANNUAL REPORT INTERNATIONAL ACTIVITIES

BAMBINO GESÙ CHILDREN'S HOSPITAL

HOW TO SUPPORT FONDAZIONE BAMBINO GESÙ FOR INTERNATIONAL ACTIVITIES

- **Bank transfer.** Account holder: Fondazione Bambino Gesù Onlus
IBAN IT05B0306905020100000016223, Banca Intesa Sanpaolo
- **Post office current account.** Account holder: Fondazione Bambino Gesù Onlus, n. 1000425874
- **Online at:** www.fondazionebambinogesu.it