



Annual Report 2018 - 2019

A.I.S.P.O.

Associazione Italiana per la Solidarietà tra i Popoli
Italian Association for Solidarity Among People



جمعية الإيطالية
للساندين الشعوب

Aid 1100



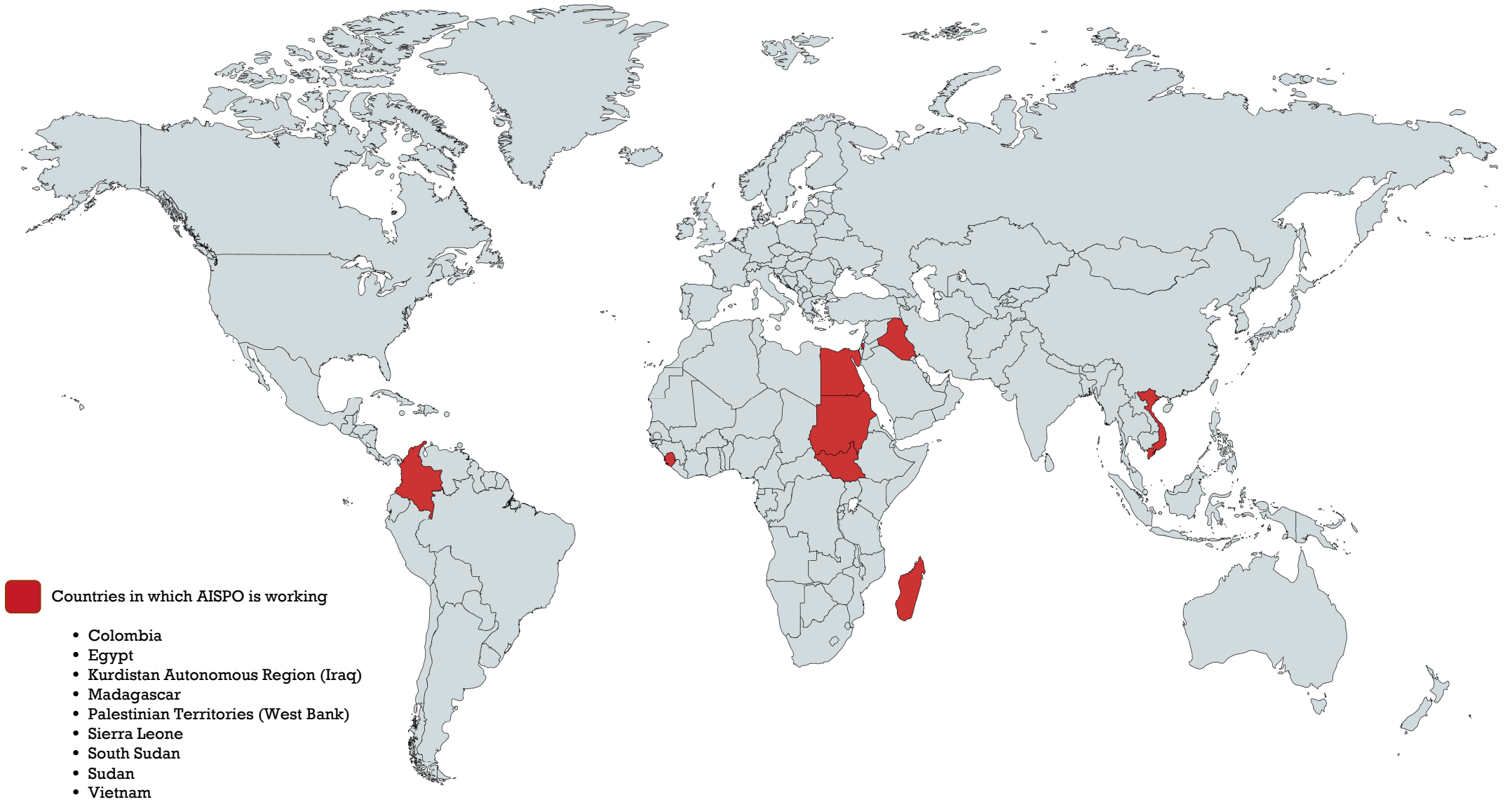
AISPO is a Non-Governmental Organization founded by a group of operators from the Scientific Institute San Raffaele Hospital of Milan. The Italian Ministry of Foreign Affairs formally recognized AISPO in 1985 as an organization suited to implement international cooperation activities in developing countries in the health sector.

AISPO operates through:

- **Development projects** in the healthcare sector that support and supply human and material resources to hospitals, health centers and dispensaries. AISPO offers expertise and technical assistance to enhance basic healthcare services, support general hospitals, implement national health programs and upgrade highly specialized hospital units. These activities rely on ambitious civil works projects to rehabilitate and equip units as well as collaboration with public authorities at both local and national levels to ensure cooperation and the sustainability of projects. AISPO aims to reach even the most remote areas, which are often in the most need, using mobile clinics.
- **Projects in emergency and post-emergency contexts** to aid those suffering from natural disasters and lethal epidemics as well as from war and conflicts. AISPO provides relief and health services to those affected by chronic emergency due to war, host communities dealing with refugee and internally displaced populations and victims of tsunamis and earthquakes, among other projects.
- **Training activities**, which are carried out as a part of all AISPO projects. AISPO arranges for experts to provide on the job training, seminars, workshops, courses and conferences in the field. In addition, AISPO organizes trainings and fellowships for health, technical and managerial staff from the beneficiary countries at San Raffaele Hospital.

AISPO mainly uses human resources available within the San Raffaele Hospital and the Vita-Salute San Raffaele University with which it is associated. Thanks to these links, the association has great expertise and know-how that make it a unique organization in the panorama of Italian NGOs.

FRONT COVER: Mariam Ibrahim, a nursing coordinator at the Maternity Hospital in Port Sudan, caresses a baby named Abdulrahman, while the mother is hospitalized for anemia at the hospital's semi-intensive therapy.



FOREWORD



“Thank you to everyone: AISPO staff, the Donors and the Local Partners for what we have achieved together.

There is no cooperation without the daily collaboration between those who bring help and those who enhance and manage this help to serve their people.

On behalf of the whole team of AISPO, we thank you for your support.”

Federico Chiodi Daelli
AISPO Director

ACTIVITIES BY COUNTRY

COLOMBIA

Intervention for the improvement of health conditions in the rural population of the Chocó, Cauca, Valle and Nariño districts near the Pacific Coast Region through health promotion actions and prevention of diseases



Funded by
European Union
Civil Protection and
Humanitarian Aid

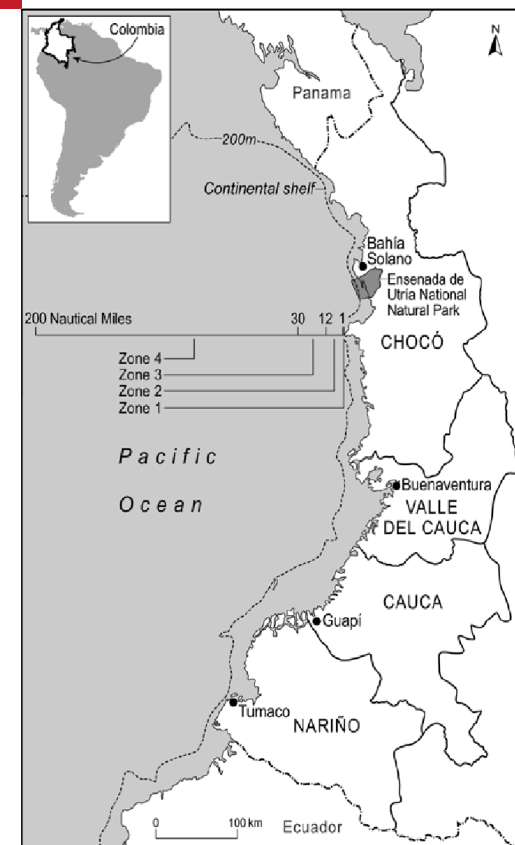
Because there are no care strategies to bring health services closer to these communities where the population has multiple difficulties in terms of access to health services, this project aims to directly reach victims of the armed conflict with the San Raffaele Hospital Ship to bring medical care to the indigenous populations living along the rivers of the Colombian Amazon rainforest and to help reduce morbidity and mortality.

The Hospital Ship is the result of collaboration between AISPO and the Italian Colombian Foundation of Monte Tabor and is funded by the Directorate-General for European Civil Protection and Humanitarian Aid Operations (DG ECHO).

ECHO Funding € 350.000,00 | **Status** In Progress

Objectives

- Provide health services to mothers, children and families
- Organize a Hospital Ship mission, which lasts 10 days (plus 2 days of navigation), each month to carry out: actions of primary health care, medical consultation, pediatric consultation, laboratory tests, cytological evaluations, family planning, delivery of medicines, nutritional epidemiological surveillance of children from 0 to 10
- Create action plans among communities, leaders and community councils
- Provide training of traditional birth attendants and health promoters in risk prevention, with an ethnic cultural approach
- Conduct awareness campaigns on sexual and reproductive health, HIV/AIDS prevention, adolescent pregnancy, cervical and breast cancer, violence and sexual abuse, nutrition and hygiene





On November 26, 2018, the San Raffaele Hospital Ship launched its first mission, bringing health services to Salahonda and Satinga (Nariño District) in Colombia's Pacific Coast Region. The second mission took place from January 23, 2019 to February 1, 2019 in the municipalities of El Charco (Nariño District) and Guapi (Cauca District).

The San Raffaele Hospital Ship sailed from Buenaventura on March 19, 2019 to carry out a 10-day mission in the Iscuande area (Nariño District).



Activities

- General medical consultation through the Hospital Ship
- Medical consultation on growth and development and nutritional epidemiological surveillance in children from 0 to 10 years
- Prenatal check consultation to detect obstetric risk factors, under the application of guidelines and protocols and other clinical safety practices
- Laboratory tests for pregnant women for identification of risks
- Counseling for rapid HIV/Syphilis test application, pregnant women and population of childbearing age
- Cervical cancer detection through vaginal cytological evaluation
- Consultation on family planning and sexual and reproductive health
- Attention to cases of violence and sexual abuse
- Implementation of an Ambulance Boat, which guarantees the stabilization of patients in critical condition until they reach a higher level of care with closer attention
- Performance of the census and the location of midwives
- Training course for traditional birth attendants
- Training of community mothers in AIEPI Strategy, First Aid, management of watery diarrheal disease, acute respiratory infection and nutrition
- Identification and construction of the map of health risks of the communities
- Design of ethnic-educational materials for awareness campaigns
- Workshops to reinforce knowledge about sexual and reproductive health
- Workshops for health promotion, nutrition, hygiene and disease prevention
- Preparation of epidemiological reports
- Application of a food safety survey for a dietary evaluation of the population served in growth and development





EGYPT

Technical assistance program at the Port Said Nursing School



This project is developed in cooperation with University of Sassari and funded by the Italian Agency for Development Cooperation (AICS).

AICS Funding € 586.005,00 | **Status** Closed

Objectives

- Increase the coverage of health services and improve health care in the Governorate of Port Said and in neighboring areas by improving the skills and performance of the nursing staff
- Strengthen the functioning of the Institute for Technical Training of Port Said Nursing through teacher training and the strengthening of the basic two-year period of the school through continued education, distance learning and operational research

Results

- Training of personnel:
 - Teachers from the School of Nursing: theoretical teaching methods via distance learning
 - Tutors/mentors: educational activities of practical training to improve their clinical skills
- Development of research activities related to the priority issues of health care
- Organization of periods of trainings in Italian and other international academic facilities
- Organization of workshops/conferences for dissemination of the project's research results
- Organization of missions with experts from Italy to coordinate and develop on-site activities





Participants of a nursing course carried out in the framework of
"Technical assistance program at the Port Said Nursing School" in Port Said, Egypt.



KURDISTAN

Support to the emergency/critical care services and maternal and child health in Duhok governorate



FUNDED BY THE EUROPEAN UNION

EU REGIONAL TRUST FUND 'MADAD'

الصندوق الاستئماني الأوروبي 'مدد'

This project is developed in collaboration with the Duhok Directorate General of Health (DGoH) and funded by the European Union (EU Regional Trust Fund 'MADAD').

EU Funding € 5.727.303,52 | **Status** Closed

Objectives

- Increase access to quality and equitable Mother and Child and Emergency health care for Syrian refugees, Internally Displaced Persons (IDPs) and affected host local populations both through direct interventions and through strengthening health systems and capacities in the Duhok Governorate - Autonomous Kurdistan Region (Iraq)
- Reinforce Mother and Child Health services in selected health centers and in Maternity and Hevi Pediatric Hospitals

Results

- Three main areas of intervention include: Civil Works, Equipment/Supplies and Training/Technical Assistance
- New Neonatal Intensive Care Unit with 25 beds at Duhok Maternity Hospital (co-financed by WHO)
- New surgical unit with 3 operating theatres and 50 beds in the medical and surgical unit, renovation of the Emergency Department and supply of an Oxygen Factory at Hevi Pediatric Hospital
- New surgical block and 3 operating theatres at Duhok Emergency and Trauma Hospital
- New surgical block with 4 operating theatres at Akre Emergency Hospital
- Light renovation and furniture for 50 Primary Health Care Centers in the host community, IDP camps and Syrian refugee camps
- Structured training and mentoring programs to increase capacities of the hospitals' staffs





On December 16, 2018, AISPO inaugurated a new surgical unit with 2 operating rooms at Duhok Emergency Hospital and a renovated, expanded and equipped area (2,200 m²) of Hevi Pediatric Hospital – including a new surgical unit with 3 operating rooms, a new medical ward with 40 extra beds and a new surgical ward with 10 beds – to cope with the increasing demand of health care in Iraqi Kurdistan, following the crisis after the conquest of Mosul in June 2014 by the Islamic State (ISIS), which brought about 1 million Syrian refugees and Iraqi IDPs to the Duhok Governorate.



The insertion of the umbilical venous catheter in a critical/premature infant ensures immediate vascular access to stabilize vital functions through the administration of liquids, medicines and total parenteral nutrition. The role of nurses in the management of umbilical catheters requires specific preparation, which AISPO provided to the personnel of Hevi Pediatric Hospital.



TOP: In June 2018, the first course on calculation, dilution and administration of drugs in the ICU was carried out at Hevi Pediatric Hospital. The aim of this pilot project, based on 6 months of clinical observation and data analysis, was to improve the administration of treatments diluted in the best possible way for newborns and pediatric patients. This aims to reduce the mortality rate, reduce the percentage of error of the health personnel and ensure the correct and careful preservation of different drugs.

RIGHT: In July 2018, Kangaroo Mother Care training courses were carried out for the nursing staff of the ICU at Hevi pediatric Teaching Hospital. According to the World Health Organization, Kangaroo Mother Care is a safe and effective alternative to conventional neonatal care, especially in under-resourced settings and may reduce morbidity and mortality in low-birth-weight infants.





New operating theatre at Akre Emergency Hospital



Funded by
European Union
Civil Protection and
Humanitarian Aid

KURDISTAN

**Essential lifesaving health services for the most vulnerable patients referred to
Duhok's Health facilities (KR-I)**

This project is funded by the European Civil Protection and Humanitarian Aid Operations (ECHO).

ECHO Funding € 350.000,00 | **Status** Closed

Objectives

- Enhance emergency preparedness in the health sector, which requires continuity of quality essential lifesaving/high-impact services for the most vulnerable populations in need in the conflict-affected area
- Improve the emergency medical care services for trauma patients/casualties from the trauma scene to ward/post-operative care by enhancing integrated quality emergency services at Duhok Emergency and Trauma Hospital

Results

- Duhok Emergency and trauma Hospital technical capacities improved to manage trauma patients through training and creation of standard operating procedures for reception, triage and intensive care
- Emergency Department working environment at Duhok Emergency and trauma Hospital improved for better reception and the flow of patients
- DEH capacities enhanced to provide quality emergency care services through the provision of essential equipment and medical supplies



Supply of essential medicines and medical equipment to
Duhok Emergency and Trauma Hospital



Construction of the Waiting Room at Duhok Emergency and Trauma Hospital

KURDISTAN

Critical care and lifesaving services for the most vulnerable patients referred to Duhok Emergency Hospital (KR-I)



Funded by
European Union
Civil Protection and
Humanitarian Aid

This project is funded by the European Civil Protection and Humanitarian Aid Operations (ECHO).

ECHO Funding € 350.000,00 | **Status** Closed

Objectives

- Enhance critical care services for internally displaced persons (IDPs), refugees and local community in Duhok Governorate at Duhok Emergency and Trauma Hospital through the creation of a High Dependency Unit (HDU) for the care of semi-critical patients

Results

- Construction of a new High Dependency Unit in Duhok Emergency and Trauma Hospital to increase the number of available beds for critical patients from 4 to 9. This creates a new unit for critical patients that delivers semi-intensive care services, in addition to the existing intensive care unit, to improve the quality of care.

The Duhok Emergency and Trauma Hospital is the only tertiary hospital in the province that, before AISPO's intervention, delivered intensive care services through a 4-bed Intensive Care Unit (ICU). According to the Duhok Directorate General of Health (DGoH) statistics, the bed occupancy rate of this unit was above 98%, and most often there was no space for critical patients in the emergency observation unit or ICU; an average of 25-30 emergency operations were carried out daily in 2 operating theatres with a total of 3 operating beds.



On February 11, 2019 AISPO inaugurated a new High Dependency Unit (HDU) in Duhok Emergency and Trauma Hospital. In addition to the existing ICU, this new unit for critical patients will greatly improve the quality of care offered to the population.

KURDISTAN

Support for the emergency-urgency health care system in Zakho, Duhok Governorate



This project is funded by the Italian Agency for Development Cooperation (AICS).

AICS Funding € 434.676,90 | **Status** Closed

Objectives

- Improve health conditions of the internally displaced population and of the host community
- Strengthen emergency services of the Emergency Hospital of Zakho through training activities and civil works
- Integrate the urgency-emergency service (122) of the Zakho District

Results

- Secured and reorganized the Emergency laboratory services of the Emergency Hospital of Zakho into a new facility
- Enhanced ability to deliver accessible and quality emergency services

LEFT: On September 19, 2018, AISPO in cooperation with Duhok Directorate General of Health (DGoH) inaugurated the new laboratory of the Emergency Hospital in Zakho. The former laboratory was an unsteady structure, at risk of collapse, unsafe for the health staff and for the patients (more than 6,400 in 2017). In 8 months, AISPO, thanks to the emergency funds of the Italian Agency for Development Cooperation, built and furnished a structure of about 300 m², according to international standards.



Nurses taking part in the "Grand Rounds Nurses' Module" training at the Zakho Emergency Hospital in June 2018



KURDISTAN

Support to mental health services for minors and youth in the Duhok Governorate

This project is funded by the Italian Agency for Development Cooperation (AICS).

AICS Funding € 609.963,00 | **Status** In Progress

Objectives

- Strengthen mental health services for minors and young people at a central level and integration at a peripheral level

Activities

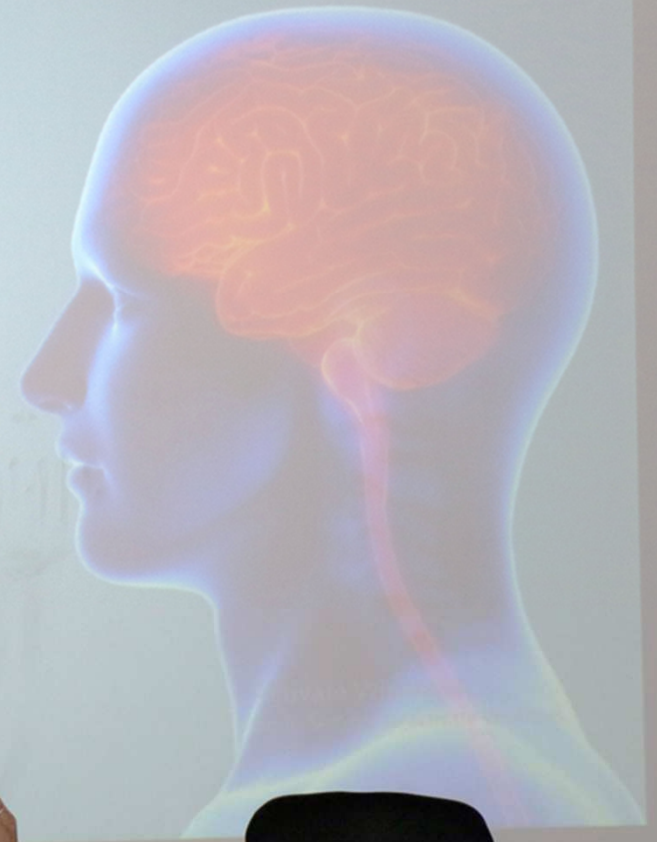
- Elaboration and implementation of a training program by a multidisciplinary team of Italian experts for the Child and Adolescent Mental Health Center (CAMHC)
- Evaluation of the tools used at the CAMHC, elaboration and implementation of a plan for their revision and adaptation to the local context
- Activation of an afternoon shift at the CAMHC by a team of local experts to enhance mental health services provided
- Activation of 2 mobile teams for home visits in camps and in the host community
- Data collection and development of scientific articles together with the Duhok Directorate General of Health (DGoH) and CAMHC to disseminate scientific knowledge of the situation in the region
- Selection and purchase of training and informational materials
- Development and implementation of the restructuring/reorganizing of CAMHC spaces



From April to December 2019 AISPO expatriate staff will carry out training modules at the CAMHC (Child and Adolescent Mental Health Center) in Duhok that cover the neuropsychological and clinical approach in the developmental age (3-18 years).

WHY IS THE BRAIN IMPORTANT?

Dr. Pamela Filiberto
Dr. Giulia Bresciani & Dr. Elena Farrugia
Prof. Anna Pelamatti



The principal aim of the CAMHC training program is to teach the typical and atypical development (3-18 years) of cognitive, social, relational and affective competences utilizing observational practice of theoretical topics, cognitive and clinical perspectives.

KURDISTAN

- 1. Support the Duhok Directorate General of Health (DGoH) in providing quality primary and secondary health services to address the needs of Syrian refugees and host community**
- 2. Support the Duhok Directorate General of Health (DGoH) in providing quality mental health services to address the needs of IDPs, refugees and host communities**

These projects are funded by the World Health Organization (WHO).

1. Support the Duhok Directorate General of Health (DGoH) in providing quality primary and secondary health services to address the needs of Syrian refugees and host community

WHO Funding \$ 282.309,00 | **Status** In Progress

Objective: Reduce avoidable morbidity and mortality among the Syrian refugee population and host community, with special focus on children, by ensuring timely access to primary and critical healthcare services for the population affected by the ongoing crisis

Activities

- Renovation, rehabilitation, expansion and furnishing of 4 PHCCs in 4 Syrian Refugee Camps in Duhok Province
- Enhancement of technical capacity of Hevi Pediatric Teaching Hospital staff as per international best practices and clinical standards
- Update/introduction of clinical protocols and Standard Operating Procedures (SOPs)
- Supply of equipment for the Critical Care Unit (n. 11 beds)
- Supply of medical equipment and consumable materials

2. Support the Duhok Directorate General of Health (DGoH) in providing quality mental health services to address the needs of IDPs, refugees and host communities

WHO Funding \$ 454.001,00 | **Status** In Progress

Objective: Provide quality mental health services to IDPs, refugees and host community in Duhok Province

Activities

Enhance technical capacity of Duhok DGoH staff to monitor, promote and coordinate MHPS services

- Set up Mental Health office at Duhok DGoH
- Update/introduction of SOPs
- Development of DGoH MHPSS Policies and Plan of action
- Development and implementation of M&E

Enhance technical capacity of Azadi Hospital - Department of Psychiatry and Child and Adolescent Mental Health Centre staff

- Design and implementation of capacity development programs
- Update/introduction of clinical protocols and SOPs
- Provision of MHPSS mobile outreach services
- Light renovation: maintenance and provision of furniture
- Supply of psychotropic medications
- Design and dissemination of educational and awareness material
- Development and implementation of capacity development program at PHC level
- Design and dissemination of educational and awareness material at PHC level





MADAGASCAR

Pregnancy and Newborn Diagnostic Assessment (P.A.N.D.A.) Project



This project was funded by the *Tavola Valdese*.

Tavola Valdese Funding € 41.850,00 | **Status** Closed



Objectives

- Give continuity to the P.A.N.D.A. 2015/2016 program for the improvement of maternal and newborn health of women involved in gynecological obstetric surgery at the St. Damien Center in Ambanja
- Improve and standardize prenatal screening with a Mobile Health system, consisting of a smartphone that guides the operator to perform standardized prenatal visits in accordance with WHO guidelines
- Strengthen maternal and newborn health services both at central and peripheral/rural level

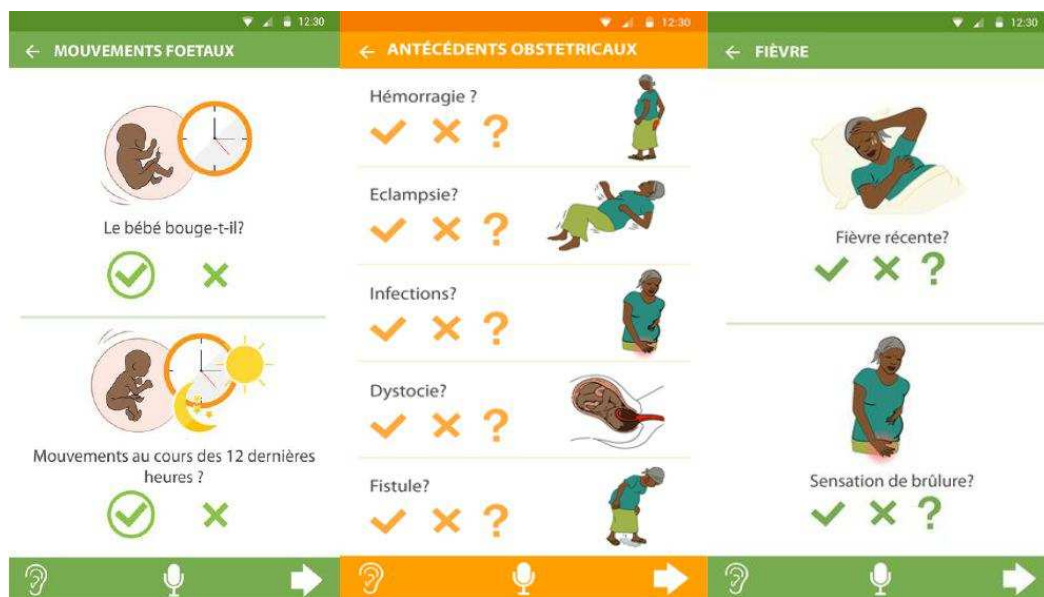
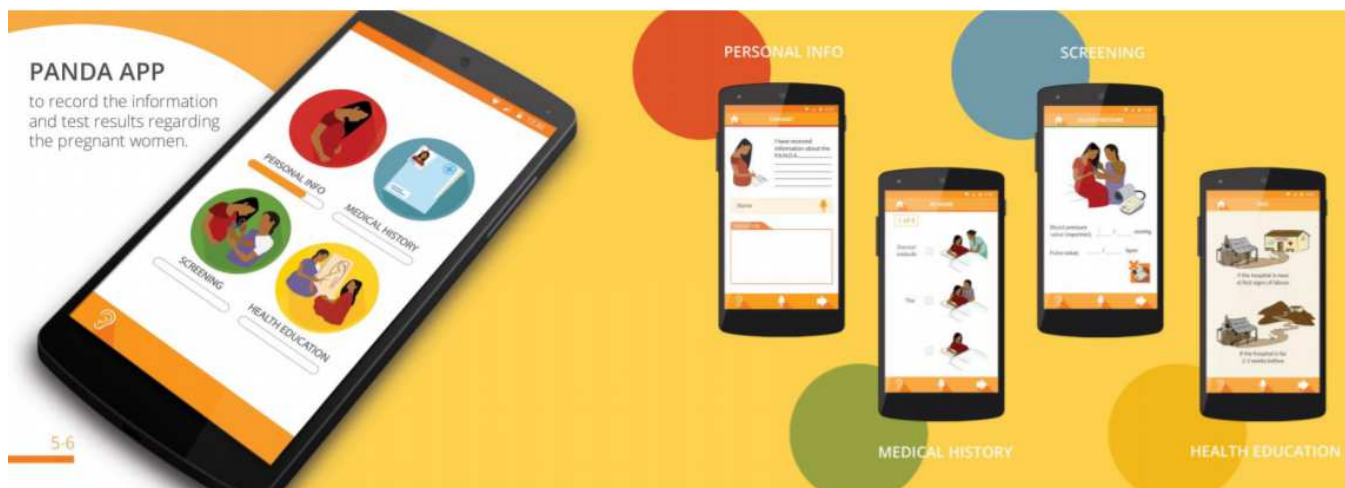
Results

- Reinforced maternal and newborn health through the supervision of FaTo Committee
- Trained the staff of the St. Damien Center continuously

LEFT: In August 2018, AISPO screened the thousandth woman with the P.A.N.D.A. program, which is a telemedicine system that uses mobile technology to perform prenatal visits in which a smartphone guides the operator to perform standardized prenatal visits in accordance with WHO guidelines and communicates the data to the closest reference hospital. This system allows prenatal visits to reach the most remote areas with a diagnosis process and treatment plan at hospital level.



p.a.n.d.a.
Pregnancy And Newborn Diagnostic Assessment



PALESTINIAN TERRITORIES

IN DEPTH (Inclusive Development in Education, Protection, Health):
Promoting the rights of persons with disabilities



Established with the Palestinian NGO QADER and funded by the Italian Agency for Development Cooperation (AICS), this project implemented the program “MOVE” (Mobility Opportunity Via Education) throughout the West Bank and introduced it in the nursing course at the University of Bethlehem and University of Hebron.

AICS Funding € 456.042,00 | Status Closed

Objectives

- Promote the rights of persons with disabilities in Palestine according to the United Nations Conventions on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities (UNCRPD)
- Promote inclusive policies and practices at the institutional level, shared with civil society (Organizations People with disabilities and Organizations on a Community basis), for the promotion and protection of the rights of persons with disabilities

Results

- Consolidated and institutionalized the MOVE program in Palestine
- Guaranteed technical support to relevant departments of the Ministry of Education
- Guaranteed technical support to competent departments of the Ministry of Health
- Raised sensitivity on the rights of persons with disabilities in institutions and communities



MOVE was established to maximize the physical movement and learning capabilities of individuals as well as increasing their autonomy using minimal technology and the participation of relatives, social operators and trainers of children with severe and multiple disabilities.

The program established clear objectives alongside parents to reach the end goal of being autonomous. Objectives were pursued through a daily practice of simple physiotherapy exercises that can be done at home with the help of parents, social operators and through initial support of a physiotherapist.



April 15, 2018: Photo taken at the closing event of the IN DEPTH project in which students from different schools involved in awareness raising activities put on plays about inclusion of peers with disabilities



SIERRA LEONE

Creation of the first transfusion center



This project is funded by the Italian Agency for Development Cooperation (AICS).

AICS Funding € 1.365.347,00 | **Status** In Progress

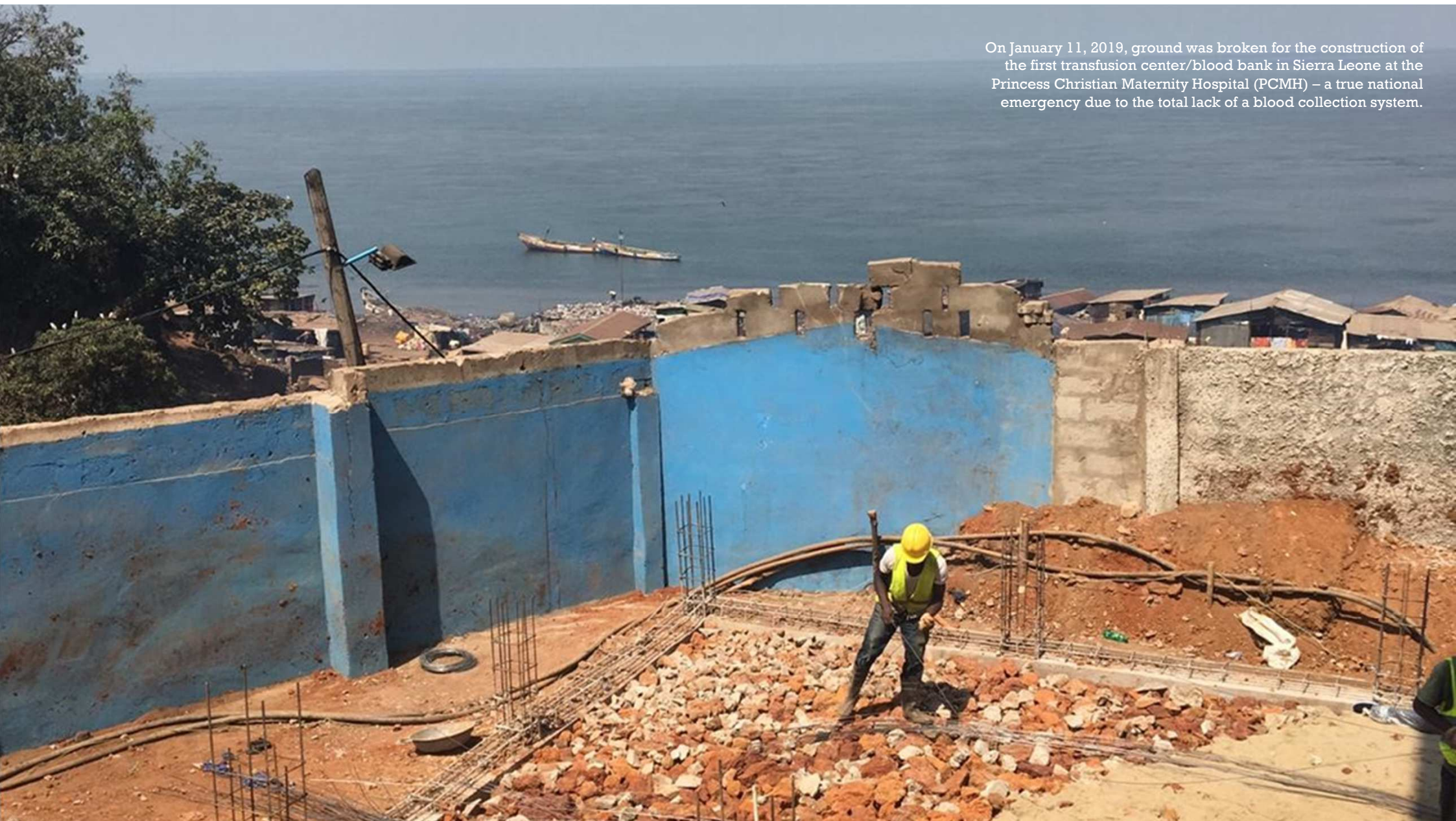
Objectives

- Ensure the accessibility to blood and safe derivative products for patients in need, particularly women, nursing mothers, infants and children
- Improve transfusion services and ensure the availability of blood, with priority to the Freetown area

Activities

- Development of working drawings for the construction of the first transfusion center in Sierra Leone at the Connaught Hospital in Freetown
- Supply of equipment, consumables and reagents for the transfusion center
- Organization of a long mission by a laboratory expert with experience in blood transfusion services
- Organization of a short mission by an expert in hospital management
- Sponsorship of 6 scholarships (2 months each) for laboratory operators at the transfusion center of San Raffaele Hospital in Milan
- Development of clinical protocols and Standard Operating Procedures (SOPs)
- Training of personnel involved in methods of production of blood derivatives

On January 11, 2019, ground was broken for the construction of the first transfusion center/blood bank in Sierra Leone at the Princess Christian Maternity Hospital (PCMH) – a true national emergency due to the total lack of a blood collection system.





LEFT: One of the characteristics that distinguishes AISPO's approach is that it is inside and linked to the San Raffaele Hospital in Milan. This allows us to begin the training of health personnel through scholarships in Italy while the project's civil works are still in progress in the field. Pictured are the first two scholarship recipients in the San Raffaele Hospital Transfusion Center.



February 2019: continuation of civil works on the first transfusion center at Freetown, Sierra Leone.

SOUTH SUDAN

Strengthening services provided by the Comboni Hospital in Wau in its clinical and educational responsibilities also in response to the migration flows



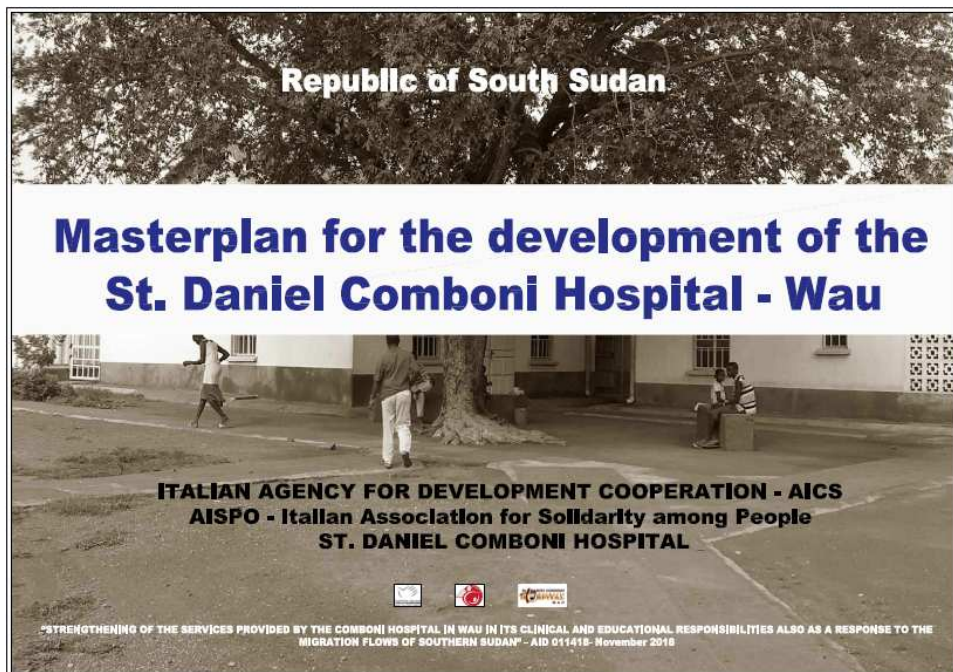
This project is funded by the Italian Agency for Development Cooperation (AICS).

AICS Funding € 297.857,00 | Status In Progress

Objectives

- Contribute to improved access to healthcare services with an upgraded capacity of assistance for the population of South Sudan, also to prevent migration flows out of the country and improve the living conditions of internally displaced persons (IDPs)
- Expand and improve some services of the Comboni Hospital in Wau that are considered priorities by local health authorities and by hospital management: polyclinic services, maternal and child health services, maintenance and supervision/management





LEFT: The masterplan details how the infrastructure of the Comboni Hospital will be improved through the rehabilitation of buildings, general maintenance and acquisition of new equipment.
RIGHT: 15 local nursing assistants and midwives were selected to participate in a 6-month training, which consisted of both theoretical lessons and on-the-job training in the wards at the Comboni Hospital.

Activities

- Provision of technical assistance and training of local nursing, obstetrics and gynecology staff
- Supply of equipment, medicine, consumables and non-medical materials
- Sponsorship of 7 nursing scholarships and 4 obstetric scholarships
- Technical assistance for the organization of the Clinical Engineering Service and for the training of local personnel in equipment and systems maintenance
- Launching of a laboratory for equipment and systems maintenance
- Elaboration of Standard Operating Procedures (SOPs) and consolidation of the maintenance service
- Development a 5-year strategic plan for structural and organizational/functional development of the hospital



On September 27, 2018, certificates were given to 34 Nurse Aids, auxiliary staff to whom AISPO provided both theoretical and practical training that will support nurses in all departments including the operating room and obstetricians in the delivery room.

SUDAN

Support to the rural communities in the Kassala State to face the malnutrition of pregnant women, young mothers of children under the age of five and their children



This project is funded by the Italian Agency for Development Cooperation (AICS).

AICS Funding € 349.946,21 | **Status** In Progress

Objectives

- Improve the prevention, control and treatment of moderate acute malnutrition (MAM) and severe acute malnutrition (SAM)
- Promote good nutritional practices of young mothers in the North Delta in the state of Kassala

Activities

- Training of 9 paramedics at 3 health centers on the latest guidelines on the treatment and management of nutritional patients
- Supply of equipment, furniture, drugs, consumables and nutritional products for the proper functioning of the nutritional/health centers
- Installation and activation of water points for beneficiary health centers and rehabilitation of baths
- Training of community volunteers on the recognition of signs and symptoms of malnutrition
- Community activities on food preparation, food safety and improvement of home hygiene conditions with groups of women
- Distribution of food, nutritional products and non-food items to children, pregnant women and infants
- Community income-generating activities for groups of women
- Health promotion activities on proper nutrition during pregnancy in the beneficiary villages
- Training for community leaders and representatives of the North Delta Health Authority on good hygiene practices and correct use of water
- Distribution of materials on home protection and food security
- Analysis of the water situation in the villages and the presence of micro-organisms in their water



LEFT: In February 2019, AISPO implemented the sampling and analysis of almost all the water sources throughout the beneficiary area.

RIGHT: In February and March 2019, 225 women took part in a training about food preparation, nutritional intake of local ingredients, varied diet and good hygienic practices during food preparation and consumption.





The training process also implemented aims to provide skills that would generate extra income for the female participants through the creation of artefacts to sell at local markets. AISPO will purchase a part of the products developed by the groups, in particular palm leaf mats used for the protection of shelters, to distribute to other participants later in the project so as to guarantee the sustainability of the groups through the creation of a small capital to reinvest in raw material.

SUDAN

Support to medical education of public institutions in Kassala State

This project is developed in cooperation with University of Sassari and funded by the Italian Agency for Development Cooperation (AICS).

AISPO's strategy aims to work with local public institutions in order to improve local infrastructure, following international standards and integrating strong components of training and technical assistance into our projects.

AICS Funding € 1.002.719,00 | **Status** In Progress

Objectives

- Reinforce teaching and research capacities in the field of communicable diseases at the University of Kassala
- Improve educational offer at the Academy of Health Science in Kassala
- Improve capabilities in molecular diagnostics at the Mycetoma Research Center in Khartoum
- Improve capacities of the Teaching Hospital's laboratory services

RIGHT: Construction on the Polymerase Chain Reaction (PCR) lab at the University of Kassala





The finished microbiology lab at the University of Kassala, which has been rehabilitated and equipped with lab benches and equipment

Activities

- On-site technical assistance and training activities by skilled Italian staff
- Supply of equipment and laboratory instruments to develop various diagnostic methods
- Sponsorship of teachers in the Faculty of Medicine of Kassala to participate in a course on molecular methods at the University of Khartoum
- Development of protocols for quality assurance in the University and General Hospital laboratories with apprenticeship for college students
- Organization of training courses for Laboratory Assistant and Laboratory Technicians
- Organization of a period of professional training at hospitals/Italian universities for 2 teachers (2 people for 2 months per year)
- Developing lines of research to obtain epidemiological data, particularly on instances of mycetoma, with the development of molecular diagnostics in collaboration with the Mycetoma Research Center in Khartoum.
- Introduction and refinement of laboratory techniques and quality control protocols
- Support for the operation of services



LEFT: Rehabilitation of the microbiology lab



RIGHT TOP: A student in the newly rehabilitated and equipped microbiology lab



RIGHT BOTTOM: Training session with new equipment at the microbiology lab



In October 2018, 6 Olympus brand microscopes, 3 electronic balances and 2 water basses were delivered to the newly rehabilitated microbiology laboratory at the University of Kassala, which will contribute to improving capacities of the Teaching Hospital's laboratory services at the Academy of Health Science of Kassala.



SUDAN

**Support to the development of human resources
in the health sector in the Red Sea State**



This project is developed in cooperation with University of Sassari and funded by the Italian Agency for Development Cooperation (AICS).

AICS Funding € 1.955.236,00 | **Status** In Progress

Objectives

- Strengthen the Academy of Health Science (AHS) through teaching skills: technical and laboratory assistants, midwives, medical assistants and nurses
- Improve the General Hospital of Port Sudan in some departments such as practical training units for AHS students (Hospital Maternal, Pediatric Hospital and Central Laboratory)
- Launch the Hospital University research lines in Port Sudan, in collaboration with scientific and research institutes (both Italian and international)

RIGHT: Photo of a member of AISPO expatriate staff in the special nursery, which hosts premature babies or those who need special care.





Activities

- Technical assistance through long and short missions of experts in various disciplines and for activities related to education and for those related to the organization and functionality of the internship locations departments (development of operating procedures, protocols)
- Support to the organization of courses for “laboratory technicians,” for medical students in the field of microbiology, bacteriology, virology, etc.
- Technical assistance and distance learning from a health expert
- Technical assistance of a Sudanese medical expert high professional profile, for the entire duration of the project
- Financial contribution to the running costs of AHS of Port Sudan
- provision of specialization scholarships for AHS teachers
- Provision of a 2-month scholarship in Italy for 3 people per year
- Technical assistance and training of a construction expert for 3 months
- Priority/urgent rehabilitation of pediatric and maternity wards, and laboratories at General Hospital of Port Sudan
- Supply of equipment and furniture to the health departments at point above
- Economic support for supplies (contribution for drugs, reagents and consumable medical materials, equipment maintenance)
- Introduction of clinical guidelines/protocols in line with “international best practices”
- Technical assistance from the University of Sassari on the field and from Italy
- Development of applied scientific research lines (as epidemiological knowledge on communicable diseases, research on antibiotic resistance)
- Provision of 18-month master in Khartoum, for professional training and acquisition of skills in the field of research
- Elaboration of scientific documentation and publications in international journals



تدريب الكوادر البشرية لتطوير المستقبل !
Train human resources to develop the future !

Project AID 10821 - Support for the development of human resources in the Health Sector of Red Sea State
 funded by Italian Agency for Development Cooperation
 لدعم تنمية الموارد البشرية في قطاع الصحة - ولاية البحر الأحمر - AID 10821



Local Sudanese and AISPO expatriate staff in the newly renovated Port Sudan Pediatric Hospital



Mothers and their children at the newly renovated Teaching Pediatric Hospital in Port Sudan, Sudan



LEFT: Central laboratory in Port Sudan, Sudan
RIGHT: Patients in the newly renovated Teaching Pediatric Hospital in Port Sudan, Sudan



SUDAN

Support to the Teaching Obstetric Hospital in Port Sudan to tackle the malnutrition of pregnant women, of young mothers of children under the age of five and their children



This project was funded by the Italian Agency for Development Cooperation (AICS).

AICS Funding € 348.739,00 | **Status** Closed

Objectives

- Reduce food insecurity and malnutrition of refugees, displaced persons, migrants, host communities in the Red Sea State
- Contribute to the improvement of prevention, control, treatment of acute and moderate malnutrition, in children under the age of five, of pregnant women and of young nursing mothers

Results

- Trained health personnel to provide prevention, control and treatment of malnutrition, with particular reference to pregnant women and children under the age of five
- Increased access to therapeutic devices for the prevention and treatment of malnutrition and reduced the rates of malnutrition in target locations
- Restructured/upgraded clinics for the prevention, control and treatment of severe malnutrition cases

LEFT: Photo taken at the new nutritional center of the Teaching Obstetric Hospital in Port Sudan, Sudan



Local Sudanese and AISPO expatriate staff in the new semi-intensive unit at the Teaching Obstetric Hospital in Port Sudan



Local Sudanese and AISPO expatriate staff at the Teaching Obstetric Hospital in Port Sudan

VIETNAM

**Improvements of health services at selected areas of central Vietnam and
at Hué University of Medicine and Pharmacy**



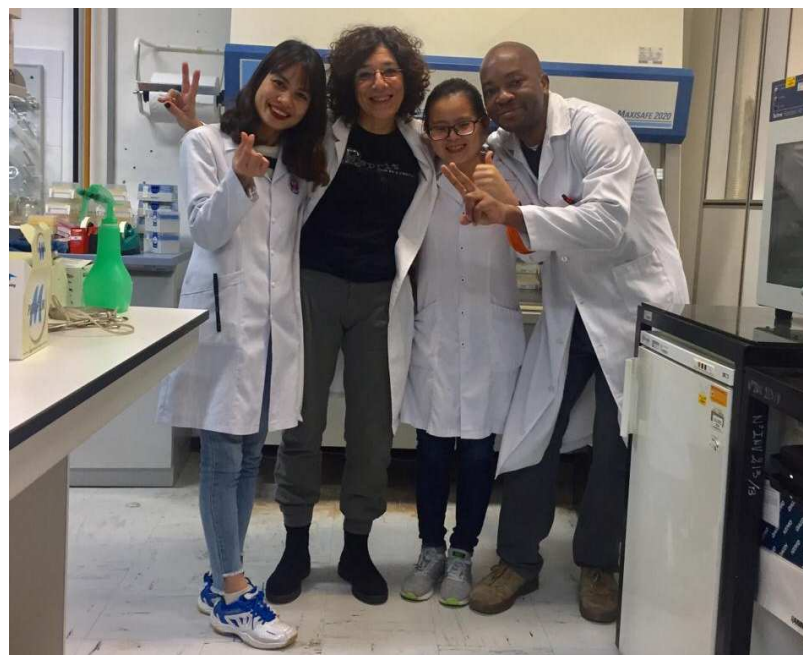
This project is funded by Hué University of Medicine and Pharmacy within the framework of a soft loan by the Italian Agency for Development and Cooperation (AICS). The training, fellowships and technical assistance are carried out in collaboration with University of Sassari.

AICS Funding € 448.752,16 | **Status** In Progress

Objectives

- Support development of human resources of the International Institute for Biomedical Research and Biotechnology at Hué University of Medicine and Pharmacy (HUMP) with architectural planning, design, supervision of civil works, training, fellowships and technical assistance activities

LEFT: In March 2018, a Vietnamese delegation visited the San Raffaele Hospital.



LEFT: Masters students from Hué University of Medicine and Pharmacy participated in 3-month scholarships at the University of Sassari

Activities

- Architectural planning and design: consultancy about the preparation of the tender and the choice of equipment, rendering of the external appearances, etc.
- Liaison with a local architectural firm for the executive design and the cost estimation
- Consultancy about the suitability of manufactures and of sources of machinery, equipment and materials proposed by the Contractor to be used for the works
- Supervision of civil works implementation
- Training of 10 Junior graduates at master level, 3 intermediate graduates at PhD level, and 4 senior graduates in medical/biomedical sciences at specialist level
- Selection and procurement of hardware to be located in the new library building
- Testing and implementing of distance education programs, including 5 courses at master level
- Connection of the bioinformatics lab for data exchange and teleconferencing
- Exchange visits to Italian and/or EU research institutions
- Visit to Vietnam of Italian experts for technical and scientific assistance

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- Fabio Ciceri, AISPO President



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AISPO
Via Olgettina, 58
20132 Milano
Italia

T : +39 02 2643 4481
F : +39 02 2643 4484
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