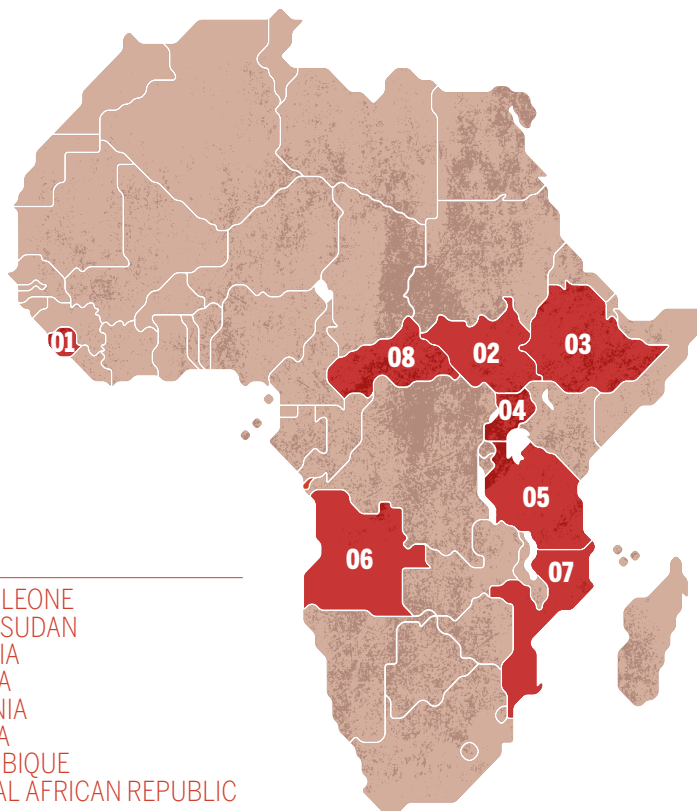


COUNTRY PROFILE
ETHIOPIA
2020



DOCTORS WITH AFRICA CUAMM



- 01 SIERRA LEONE
- 02 SOUTH SUDAN
- 03 ETHIOPIA
- 04 UGANDA
- 05 TANZANIA
- 06 ANGOLA
- 07 MOZAMBIQUE
- 08 CENTRAL AFRICAN REPUBLIC

Doctors with Africa CUAMM has been the first NGO working in the international health field to be recognized in Italy and is the largest Italian organization for the promotion and protection of health in Africa. It works with a long-term developmental perspective. To this end, in Italy and Africa, it is engaged in training, research, dissemination of scientific knowledge, and ensuring the universal fulfilment of the fundamental human right to health.

Doctors with Africa is for everyone who believes in values like dialogue, cooperation, volunteerism, exchange between cultures, friendship between people, the defense of human rights, respect for life, the choice to help the poor, the spirit of service, and those who support the organization's action criteria.

VALUES

- «With Africa»: the organization works exclusively with African populations, engaging local human resources at all levels.
- Experience: CUAMM draws on over sixty-six years of work to support developing countries.
- Specific, exclusive expertise in medicine and health.

PRIORITY ISSUES

- Reproductive, maternal, newborn, child and adolescent health.
- Nutrition.
- Infectious diseases.
- Non communicable diseases (NCDs) and traumas.
- Universal Health Coverage (UHC).

SNAPSHOT

Doctors with Africa CUAMM is currently operating in Angola, Central African Republic, Ethiopia, Mozambique, Sierra Leone, South Sudan, Tanzania and Uganda through:

23
Hospitals

127
Districts
(for public health activities, mother-child care, fight against AIDS, tuberculosis and malaria, training)

3
Nursing schools

1
University
(Mozambique)

4,777
Human Resources

605
International Professionals

A 70-YEARS HISTORY

2,000
People have left Italy and other countries to work on projects: of these, 515 returned on one or more occasions

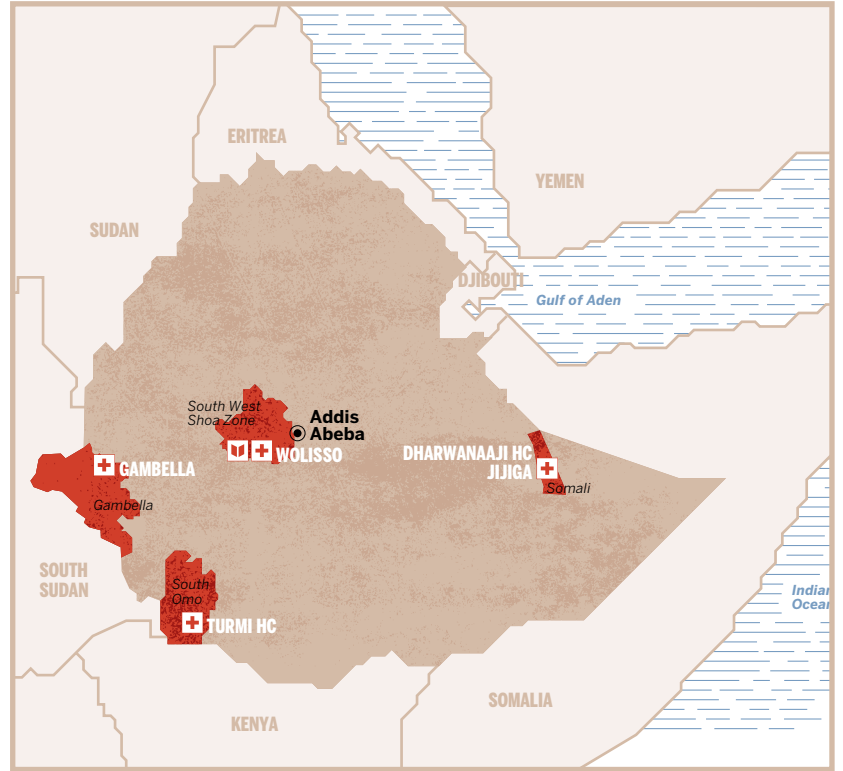
232
Hospitals served

43
Countries of intervention

OUR WORK IN ETHIOPIA

Doctors with Africa CUAMM operates in Ethiopia since 1980, when it started its intervention at Gambo leper colony in Oromia Region. CUAMM gradually expanded its activity to rural hospitals and other regions of the country.

Today, CUAMM aims to integrate maternal and child healthcare interventions with measures to prevent NCDs, HIV/AIDS, tuberculosis, and hepatitis B. CUAMM operates in South West Shewa Zone, South Omo Zone, along with supporting refugees and host population in Gambella Region, at the border with South Sudan, which is still a very fragile context.



1997 SOUTH WEST SHOA ZONE

An agreement signed with the Ethiopian Bishops' Conference, leading to the construction of St. Luke Catholic Hospital of Wolisso with an attached school for midwives and nurses.

1980 ARSI ZONE, OROMIA REGION

First doctor sent to the Gambo leper colony.

2014 SOUTH OMO ZONE

CUAMM started its intervention in South Omo Zone in SNNP Region.

2000 ST. LUKE CATHOLIC HOSPITAL, WOLISSO

Inauguration of St. Luke Catholic Hospital of Wolisso.

2017 GAMBELLA REGION

A three-years project started to address the inequity of access to health services of Gambella Region compared to the national average, plus a project to mitigate the effect of immigration from South Sudan. CUAMM is active to strengthen the health system and to assist the resident and refugee population.

2016 "MOTHERS AND CHILDREN FIRST. 1,000 DAYS" PROGRAM

"Mothers and Children First. 1,000 Days" program started. Period from the beginning of pregnancy up to 2 years of age.

2020 MULTI- REGIONAL PROJECTS

The NICU project, started in 2018, aims at improving newborn care both at hospital level (St. Luke of Wolisso, Tulubolo and St. Paul Hospitals) and at community level. A wide program at national level is underway, focusing on non-communicable diseases and involving 15 hospitals and 45 health centres.

MULTI-REGIONAL PROJECTS



photo Reed-Young

Doctors with Africa CUAMM is engaged in the management of various projects covering both different thematic and geographic areas of operation. Among others, CUAMM is developing a wide program to face the growing challenge of **Non-Communicable Diseases (NCDs)**, in particular diabetes mellitus (DM) and hypertension (HTN) by increasing prevention, access and quality of health care services. The project involves **15 hospitals** and **45 health centres** in Oromia, Amhara, SNNPR, Tigray and Gambella regions and in Addis Abeba area, reaching a population of nearly 2 million people.

Furthermore, Doctors with Africa CUAMM aims to contribute to the **reduction of newborn mortality** in the country by: improving quality and accessibility of **Neonatal Intensive Care Unit services (NICUs) in three hospitals** (St. Paul, St. Luke Wolisso, and Tulubollo); strengthening the capacity building of skilled staff for NICUs, and increasing the availability of standards and methodologies for the evaluation of neonatal care services. The project then expands to 15 *Kebele* in different *Woredas*, actively involving the communities in **awareness raising activities** on good practices of newborn care particularly.



MULTI-REGIONAL PROJECTS 2020



NEONATAL CARE

4,473

newborn admitted in the 3 hospitals' NICUs

4%

reduction in neonatal mortality rate in the 3 hospitals



AWARENESS-RAISING

32,447

pregnant and lactating women sensitized on health



TRAINING

53

NICUs' nurses trained



NCDs

4,403

n. of patients treated at established/strengthened clinics

OROMIA REGION, SOUTH WEST SHEWA ZONE



Doctors with Africa CUAMM operates in the districts of Goro, Wonchi, Wolisso Urban and Rural to strengthen the peripheral health structures. CUAMM works with the most vulnerable, in particular women and children, **providing quality health services** to the communities.

The intervention focuses on the supervision of the peripheral health units, the training and support of **health extension workers (HEW)** as well as the provision of drugs and consumables to guarantee access to safe delivery. Through the community based activities, CUAMM aims to improve **newborn, child and maternal care** and to promote cervical cancer screening with VIA and treatment with cryotherapy for VIA+.

The public health activities are led by an expatriate public health specialist along with local health professionals, as midwives, nutritionists, environmental experts and public health nurses, working alongside the zonal and district health authorities.

CUAMM is also **expanding the intervention** to 50 villages in the *woredas* of Amaya, Goru, Seden Sodo and Wolisso Zuria with an integrated initiative to **prevent and treat child malnutrition**, along with promoting healthier diet and care habits.



WOLISSO, GORO AND WONCHI DISTRICTS 2020

OUTPATIENTS

383,440

total outpatient visits

103,550

U5 visits



MATERNITY

4,851

total skilled deliveries



NCDs

671

women screened for cervical cancer with VIA

13

n. of VIA+

8

n. of VIA+ treated with cryotherapy

ST. LUKE CATHOLIC HOSPITAL AND NURSING AND MIDWIFERY SCHOOL, WOLISSO



ST. LUKE CATHOLIC HOSPITAL OF WOLISSO 2020



Since 2001 Doctors with Africa CUAMM continues to support **St. Luke Catholic Hospital** and the Nursing and Midwifery School attached, in partnership with the Ethiopian Catholic Church, owner of the hospital, and Oromia Health Bureau.

CUAMM ensures 24/7 presence of medical staff in order to guarantee **high quality obstetric and paediatric services**. Wolisso hospital and the health facilities in its referral area are involved in "Mothers and Children First. 1,000 Days" program, which ensures every mother free access to a safe delivery and focuses on nutrition during the mother's pregnancy and for the first two years of the baby's life.

Among the most relevant, the hospital provides emergency and outpatients services, along with orthopaedic and physiotherapy ones. Moreover, a **Therapeutic Feeding Unit (TFU)** is operational in the paediatric ward.

As regards training, CUAMM supports the **Nursing and Midwifery School** where 30 students on average per year enrolls. Since the school started its activities in 2000, 721 students have graduated, in particular 155 midwives and 566 nurses.

OUTPATIENTS

65,615
total outpatient visits

INPATIENTS

12,167
total admissions



MATERNITY

4,015
total deliveries

704
caesarean sections

826
n. of MDOC treated



ANC VISITS

1,728
first antenatal care visits



NCDs

226
women screened for cervical cancer with VIA

32
n. of VIA+

11
n. of VIA+ treated with cryotherapy



TRAINING

109
total n. of students in the three years

13
n. of midwives graduated

14
n. nurses graduated

SOMALI REGION, HAWARA DISTRICT



Somali Region is the second largest region in the country and among the most disadvantaged in terms of health. Doctors with Africa CUAMM focuses its intervention in **Hawara Woreda** where there are only two health centres and more than 60% of the population does not have any access to primary healthcare. Therefore, CUAMM aims to: choose a **public health expert** to coordinate the project and provide technical support to the HCs' staff and the local authorities; organise **mobile clinics** to provide services to the communities in the most distant areas, referring the most complicated cases to the HCs. Moreover, the project includes

basic infrastructure works in the HCs, the provision of a generator to guarantee electricity supply in case of emergency, along with **basic equipment** and a stock of **essential medicines**. Finally, CUAMM promotes **trainings** for both HCs staff and Health Extension Workers (HEW) aimed at improving knowledge on maternal and child health, with a specific focus on the management of obstetric emergencies. Furthermore, the communities have been involved in mobilization and **awareness rising activities**, aimed at stimulating the demand for services and their use.



HAWARA DISTRICT 2020



TRAINING

31

HEW received refresher training on HEW package

16

Midwives trained on BEmONC



AWARENESS- RAISING

60

clan and religious leaders, and community representatives participated in community mobilization activities



DHARAWANAJI HC

(Data Oct.2019-Sep.2020)

OUTPATIENTS

6,486

OPD visits



MATERNITY

478

Total deliveries



ANC VISITS

486

first antenatal care visits

270

4 antenatal care visits

SOUTHERN REGION, SOUTH OMO ZONE



Doctors with Africa CUAMM has operated in South Omo Zone, in the Southern Nations, Nationalities, and Peoples' Region (SNNPR) since 2014. This semi-nomadic rural area has high rates of neonatal and infant mortality, above the national average, and strongly related to high rates of malnutrition. Therefore, CUAMM intervention aims to **increase access to quality health services** for mothers, newborn and children under five, including nutritional services, focusing on two key facilities of the regional health system: Jinka District Hospital and Turmi health centre, in Hamer *woreda*. Nutritional services are integrated with **Early Childhood Development** in order to promote

cognitive stimulation and development of children. The intervention includes training, **capacity building** and supervision of health professionals and community health workers. Furthermore, rehabilitation of health facilities, supply of medicines, consumables and equipment have been ensured, in particular **8 health centres** (2 in Male, 3 in Hamer and 3 in Dasanech) supported. The support to the referral system through ambulance is guaranteed as well as community awareness raising activities. Moreover, CUAMM team promotes prevention, screening and treatment of cervical cancer, HIV/AIDS, tuberculosis and hepatitis B.



TURMI HEALTH CENTER 2020

OUTPATIENTS

13,368
total visits

INPATIENTS

263
total admissions



MATERNITY

593
total deliveries

19
caesarean sections

47
MDOC



ANC VISITS

1,405
first antenatal care visits



JINKA HOSPITAL

OUTPATIENTS

79,846
total visits

INPATIENTS

5,169
total admissions



MATERNITY

2,859
total deliveries

500
caesarean sections

545
MDOC treated

GAMBELLA REGION



Gambella is a remote western region of Ethiopia, right up against the border with South Sudan. Thousands of **refugees** poured over the border escaping from famine and civil war, increasing the burden on an already fragile health system and hosting communities. Moreover, this region hardly attracts and retains qualified staff due to its complexities.

Doctors with Africa CUAMM focuses on **maternal and child health and nutrition** in three districts of the region – Gambella Town, Gambella Rural and Abobo – in order to mitigate the unequal accessibility to health services. In particular, Gambella regional hospital has been supported with the

rehabilitation of the maternity ward and 7 health centers.

Furthermore, since August 2017 Doctors with Africa CUAMM has been operating into **Nguennyiel Refugee Camp**, which accommodates **82,826 persons** of concern¹. The action is mainly focused on strengthening infrastructures, training health personnel and supporting emergency transport to Gambella regional hospital.

Due to the Covid-19 epidemic outbreak, an **emergency intervention** has started in addition to that already underway, providing support also to Tierkidi and Jewi Refugee Camps.



GAMBELLA GENERAL HOSPITAL 2020

OUTPATIENTS

321,100

total visits

78,616

U5 OPD visits

INPATIENTS

5,960

total admissions



MATERNITY

2,172

total deliveries

218

caesarean sections

38

MDOC treated



ANC VISITS

1,673

first antenatal care visits

ACTIVITIES IN 3 DISTRICTS

(Gambella Town, Gambella Rural, Abobo)

OUTPATIENTS

18,062

U5 OPD visits



MATERNITY

1,296

total deliveries



ANC VISITS

2,746

first antenatal care visits

¹ UNHCR Ethiopia, ARRA, *Camp Profile Gambella: Nguennyiel Refugee Camp*, May 2020.

COVID-19 EPIDEMIC: WHAT WE HAVE DONE



At the outbreak of the Covid-19 epidemic, Doctors with Africa CUAMM took action to cope with the spread of the virus, prioritizing the safety of the 23 supported hospitals, health workers and communities in the 8 countries of operation. The most urgent need in Ethiopia, as in the other contexts, was to ensure:

- **personal protective equipment** for healthcare personnel and cleaners, as well as the material necessary for the disinfection of rooms;
- essential **equipment** for diagnosis and clinical management of the patients affected by Covid-19;
- tents to set up **triage areas and isolation units**;
- **training** of personnel for the management of suspected cases of Covid-19;
- **awareness-raising activities at the community level** by promoting good practices.

In the **Oromia Region** and at **Wolisso Hospital**, CUAMM has contributed to the definition of the emergency response plan by Oromia regional health authorities, rescheduling the activities in progress. The strategy aimed to strengthen the emergency response

capacity, trying to ensure the continuity of essential health services. Among several challenges, CUAMM had to deal with the fear of a new disease, along with the negative impact on the population caused by restrictive containment measures, jeopardizing the access and use of basic health services.

In **Gambella Region**, particularly at Gambella regional hospital, CUAMM guaranteed medical equipment and protective devices' supply. In July 2020, in collaboration with local authorities, a **training** for the health personnel was organized on how to prevent and manage suspected cases of Covid-19. Moreover, CUAMM has started an **emergency intervention** to reduce the risk of Covid-19 spread in the **refugee camps** of Nguenyiel, Tierkidi and Jewi where the epidemiological risk is really high due to the large number of refugees who live there. An **extraordinary support** has been then provided to the isolation centers set up in the same refugee camps and at regional level. The intervention focused on staff training and promotion of good hygiene, sanitation and nutritional practices to prevent the main communicable diseases.

THE UNDERTAKEN ACTIONS



PROVISION

of personal protective equipment (PPE), such as surgical masks, FFP2 or N95, visors and goggles, disposable gowns and gloves;



SUPPLY

of materials for disinfection of spaces (liquid soap, floor detergents, sodium hypochlorite, etc.);



DEFINITION

of a triage path at the entrance, with mandatory hand washing, temperature screening, and clinical evaluation to identify potential infectious patients and possibly send them to predefined areas of isolation;



PROCUREMENT

of medical equipment: infrared thermometers, pulse oximeters, oxygen concentrators, etc.;



STRENGTHENING

of knowledge of health personnel on prevention, diagnosis and treatment of Covid-19;



AWARENESS- RASING

of the communities on the disease prevention and on the risks associated with the virus;



CONTINUITY

in the provision of essential services, also thanks to the supply of medicines' stocks.

BEHIND THE NUMBERS: FACES AND STORIES OF REAL PEOPLE



01
A mother and her newborn in Gambella Region,
photo Nicola Berti

03
Ambulance referral system,
photo Nicola Berti

05
A village of the Dassanech community,
South Omo Zone, photo Nicola Berti

02
Community health extension workers,
photo Nicola Berti

04
A south sudanese girl at Nguenyiel
Refugee Camp in Gambella Region,
photo Nicola Berti

06
A nurse feeding a newborn at Neonatal Ward
in Wolisso Hospital, photo Andrea Frazzetta

Contacts

Addis Ababa - Coordination Office

Sub city Bole Kebele 03/05
House nr. 4040
P.O. Box 12777 Addis Ababa
t. 00251.116612712
t. 00251.116620360
f. 00251.116620847
ethiopia@cuamm.org

South West Shoa Zone

St. Luke Catholic Hospital
t. 00251.113410800
st.lukehospital@ethionet.et

Doctors with Africa CUAMM

Headquarter Italy, Padua
via San Francesco, 126
35121 Padova, Italy
0039 049 8751279
cuamm@cuamm.org

Cover photo

A mother with her children
in a village in Gambella Region,
photo Nicola Berti

Back

Women and children during
a "coffee ceremony" in a HC
in Gambella, photo Nicola Berti

