COUNTRY PROFILE
ETHIOPIA
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).

SNAP-SHOT
- 1,800 People have left Italy and other countries to work on projects: of these, 515 returned on one or more occasions
- 227 Hospitals have been served
- 42 Countries of intervention

A 68-YEARS HISTORY
- 23 Hospitals
- 64 Districts (for public health activities, mother-child care, fight against AIDS, tuberculosis and malaria, training)
- 3 Nursing schools
- 1 University (Mozambique)
- 605 International Professionals
Doctors with Africa CUAMM is present in Ethiopia since 1980, when it started its activities in the country at Gambo leper colony (Oromia Region) and its upgrade to Rural Hospitals during the 80s.

Nowadays the aim of CUAMM is to work in Ethiopia linking maternal and child health interventions with measures to prevent cervical cancer, HIV/AIDS, tuberculosis, and hepatitis B. CUAMM supports St. Luke Catholic Hospital of Wolisso in South West Shoa Zone, South Omo Zone and refugees and residents in Gambella Region, at the border with South Sudan, where civil war is ongoing.
WOLISSO, URBAN AND RURAL, GORO AND WONCHI DISTRICTS

CUAMM team operates in the four surrounding districts of St. Luke Catholic Hospital (Woliso urban and rural, Goro and Wonchi) bringing health services to the communities and working to improve the peripheral health structures in the territory.

The public health activities are led by an expatriate public health specialist, coordinating a local team made by different health professionals, as midwives, nutritionists, environmental experts and public health nurses, working alongside the Zonal and District health authorities.

The public health activities vary from the support of community health workers (HEWs) to the support of the supervision of the peripheral health units and support with drugs and consumable in order to guarantee access to safe delivery. In particular, community activities are ongoing to improve management of newborn at community level in Goro district, cervical cancer screening with VIA and cryotherapy for the positive case. Finally, the team in coordination with the Hospital and district ambulance support the referral system for obstetric emergencies.

PH ACTIVITIES IN WOLISSO, GORO AND WONCHI DISTRICTS

MATERNITY
4,599 skilled deliveries

ANC VISITS
8,109 Antenatal care first visits

CERVICAL CANCER SCREENING AND TREATMENT
4,274 women screened for cervical cancer with VIA
184 VIA positive women treated with cryotherapy

REFERRAL
2,197 ambulance referral to hospital for obstetric emergencies
CUAMM is continuing to support the St. Luke Catholic Hospital and the training school for nurses and midwives attached to the healthcare facility since its design, construction and opening in 2001. This in partnership with the Ethiopian Catholic Church, owner of the Hospital, and Oromia Health Bureau. To strengthen obstetric and pediatric health services in Wolisso Hospital, CUAMM has ensured the 24/7 presence of expatriate medical doctors, namely 1 medical director, 1 pediatrician, 1 internist, 1 local gynecologist, plus 27% of the running costs in 2017. The hospital provide also emergency and outpatients services.

Wolisso Hospital and the health facilities in its referral territory are involved in CUAMM program “Mother and children first. 1,000 Days”. This special initiative promotes and guarantees a safe and free of charge delivery in health facilities for the mothers and a continuable assistance in the field of nutrition for the babies from the conception to the first two years of life (1,000 Days).

As regards the School of Nursing and Midwifery, 693 students (140 Midwives, 553 Nurses) graduated since the school opening in September 2000. Specifically in 2018, 23 midwifery students graduated.
Since 2014 Doctors with Africa CUAMM started its intervention supporting the health system of three pastoral districts in South Omo Zone in SNNP Region.

The intervention of CUAMM aims at improving access and quality of maternal and child health services on the territory of the Woredas of Hamer, Dasenech and Male, supporting the network of health services.

At the beginning of the intervention, the main health facility in the area was Turmi health center. Subjected to an upgrade, Turmi HC is now able to offer specialized and lifesaving services such as caesarean section. In total, 8 health centers (2 in Male, 3 in Hamer and 3 in Dasenech) have been supported in terms of rehabilitation of the infrastructure, provision of medical equipment, training of the health staff and reorganization of the pharmacy store. As regards training, 159 health professionals and 95 community health workers have been trained with short courses.

In the territory among communities, CUAMM staff also conducts an intervention for the prevention and treatment of cervical cancer, HIV/AIDS, tuberculosis and hepatitis B.

Turmi Health Center (Data of 2017)

Outpatients
10,608
Total outpatient visits

Inpatients
179
Total admissions

Maternity
534
Total deliveries
12
Cesarean sections

ANC Visits
1,480
Antenatal care visits, 1 and 4

Total Data 3 Districts (7HC)

Maternity
3,626
Skilled deliveries

ANC Visits
3,180
ANC visits, 1 and 4

Other Data
10,031
Under-five children treated at OPD
128
Patients diagnosed with tuberculosis
In April 2017, CUAMM started an intervention to support maternal and child health and nutrition in three district of Gambella Region (Gambella Town, Gambella Rural, Abobo) with the aim to reduce unequal access to health services in the region compared to the National average. A particular support has been to the regional hospital with the rehabilitation of maternity and delivery department.

The regional health system is particular fragile for at least two reasons: Gambella is a very remote area, thus very difficult to attract and retained qualified staff; secondly, being on the border with South Sudan, it is overwhelmed by about 500,000 of refugees escaping from the famine and civil war.

Because of the fragile health system and to mitigate the effects for the hosting community, in August CUAMM started an action to support the refugee camp in Nguenyyiel, improving infrastructure and equipment, training health personnel, supporting urgent transportation to the regional hospital of Gambella. The population in the camp raised from about 28,000 people at the beginning of 2017 to about 82,000, in January 2018.

Relevant data (2017) related to Nguenyyiel Refugee Camp should be highlighted:
- 693 deliveries
- 195 Antenatal care visits
- 545 under five children screened at OPD

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### GAMBELLA REGIONAL HOSPITAL (DATA OF 2017)

**MATERNITY**
- Total deliveries: 1,937
- Cesarean sections: 271

**ANC VISITS**
- Antenatal visits: 2,302

**ACTIVITIES IN 3 DISTRICTS (DATA OF 2017)**

**MATERNITY**
- Deliveries: 667

**ANC VISITS**
- Antenatal visits: 2,341

**PAEDIATRICS**
- SAM and MAM admitted to care for malnutrition at OTP: 22,731
- Under-five children treated at OPD: 147

**REFERRAL**
- Ambulance referrals for obstetric complication: 71
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Cover photo
Mothers and Children at St. Luke Catholic Hospital, Wolisso
Photo Andrea Frazzetta

01 CUAMM Health Extension Workers’ activity in a Hamer Village, Turmi, photo Nicola Berti
02 Women and Children at St. Luke Hospital, Wolisso
03 Doctor visiting a baby in a HC, Southomo Zone
04 Patients waiting to be visited at St. Luke Catholic Hospital, Wolisso, photo Nicola Berti
05 Hospitalised women at Gambella Regional Hospital, photo Nicola Berti
06 Graduation Ceremony of College of Nursing and Midwifery students, Wolisso