In 2020, our support continued for the Children’s Hospital of Bangui (the country’s capital) in close collaboration with Action contre la Faim (ACF) and the Bambino Gesù Children’s Hospital in Rome. The impact of the Covid-19 pandemic was felt as the airport and borders closed, complicating the supply of medicines and deployment of international personnel. The containment measures – combined with the shortage of raw materials and foodstuffs due to the closure of the border with Cameroon – further worsened the population’s food insecurity. The year 2020 also ended with fresh clashes, which exacerbated the already extremely precarious humanitarian situation in the country. Doctors with Africa CUAMM’s support helps to improve children’s healthcare, as well as the hospital’s management-administrative capacity, by organising human resources and materials, and collecting/processing health data to plan and assess the care provided. We also help towards wage payments, training hospital staff and purchasing medicines and laboratory equipment. The general operations of the hospital’s hygiene and logistical maintenance services are ensured along with the presence of CUAMM specialised doctors to guarantee the 24-hour availability of quality paediatric care.}

In the second half of the year, planning also got underway for the renovation of the hospital laboratory, which is expected to be completed by early 2021. Despite the difficulties caused by the restrictions, Doctors with Africa CUAMM’s clinical team and doctors from Bangui Paediatric Hospital actively engaged in the country’s second paediatric congress, which was held in November 2020 and included 10 presentations by hospital staff and 2 conferences organised by CUAMM staff on operational research carried out at the hospital. Moreover, technical assistance continued in collaboration with AICS (Italian Agency for International Development Cooperation) to train and support the staff of the Équipes Cadres Régionales and Équipes Cadres des Districts of 6 health regions and 15 priority districts, as part of the AICS-led project ‘Renforcement de Capacités des Équipes Cadres de Région et des Districts Sanitaires (RECARD)’ financed by the European Commission’s Békou Fund.

**COUNTRY PROFILE**

**Bangui**
- Capital
- 4,829,767 million
- Population
- 622,980 km²
- Area
- 17.6 years
- Average age of the population
- 51.1/55.5 years
- Life expectancy (m/f)

**829**
- per 100,000 live births
- Maternal mortality rate

**116.5**
- per 1,000 live births
- Under-five mortality rate

**84.5**
- per 1,000 live births
- Neonatal mortality rate

**918**
- out of 189 countries
- Human Development Index
RESULTS ACHIEVED

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<tr>
<th>CHILD AND MATERNAL HEALTH</th>
<th>56,841 visits of children &lt; age 5</th>
<th>18,600 paediatric admissions</th>
<th>1,151 newborns admitted to neonatal intensive care</th>
<th>1,506 children admitted to intensive care</th>
<th>1,633 vaccinations</th>
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<tr>
<td>797 major paediatric surgery, including 109 orthopaedic surgeries</td>
<td>1,267 minor paediatric surgery</td>
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