

# NEW PERSPECTIVES: IVORY COAST

In 2023, Doctors with Africa CUAMM was engaged in assessment missions and meetings with local authorities to explore and learn about a new (to us) country: Ivory Coast. With the support of a few Catholic organizations already present there, we took the first steps to lay the foundations of a structured presence. Positioned as 166th out of 193 on the human development index ranking, Ivory Coast is an east African country with worrying health data. There has been peace in the country since 2010, after a 5-month civil war which caused 3,000 deaths. Half of its 29 million residents are under 20 years old and the average expected life span is about 58 years. The fertility rate is 4.4 children per woman; the mortality rate for children under five years old is 69.4 out of 1,000, while the maternal mortality rate is 385 per every 100,000 live births.

The average health expenditure per capita is about 75 dollars. Despite being rich in natural resources, Ivory Coast is marked by inequality and contrast between cities and rural areas, and between north and south, where the largest city, Abidjan, is home to 10 million residents. The country is a draw to the workforce of its neighbors, yet it is also the departure point for many

migrants who struggle to survive, and it's a "special observatory" onto another very fragile, impoverished area: the Sahel.

CUAMM's intervention was focused on a few important activities, mainly **supporting and coordinating the URSS-CI** (Union des Religieux dans la Santé et le Social en Côte d'Ivoire), a network which gathers all the Catholic congregations found in the country, and its legal recognition as a sole entity by local authorities; **building renovations and the provision of equipment**, including medicines and other supplies, which directly involved **13 health centers**; and the **training and updating of healthcare staff**, through classes conducted in **71 health centers** in nine different regions.

CUAMM has thus planted the seeds which will bear fruit in what is now our ninth partner country.

## COUNTRY PROFILE

**Yamoussoukro**  
capital city

**29,389,150**  
population

**322,462 km²**  
land area

**17.9**  
average age of the  
population

**58**  
life expectancy  
at birth (m/f)

**4.4**  
average n.  
of children  
per woman

**166th**  
**out of 193**  
**countries**  
human  
development  
index ranking



**385\***  
**out of every**  
**100,000 live**  
**births**  
maternal  
mortality



**69.4**  
**out of every**  
**1,000**  
**live births**  
under-5  
child deaths



**30\***  
**out of every**  
**1,000**  
**live births**  
newborn deaths

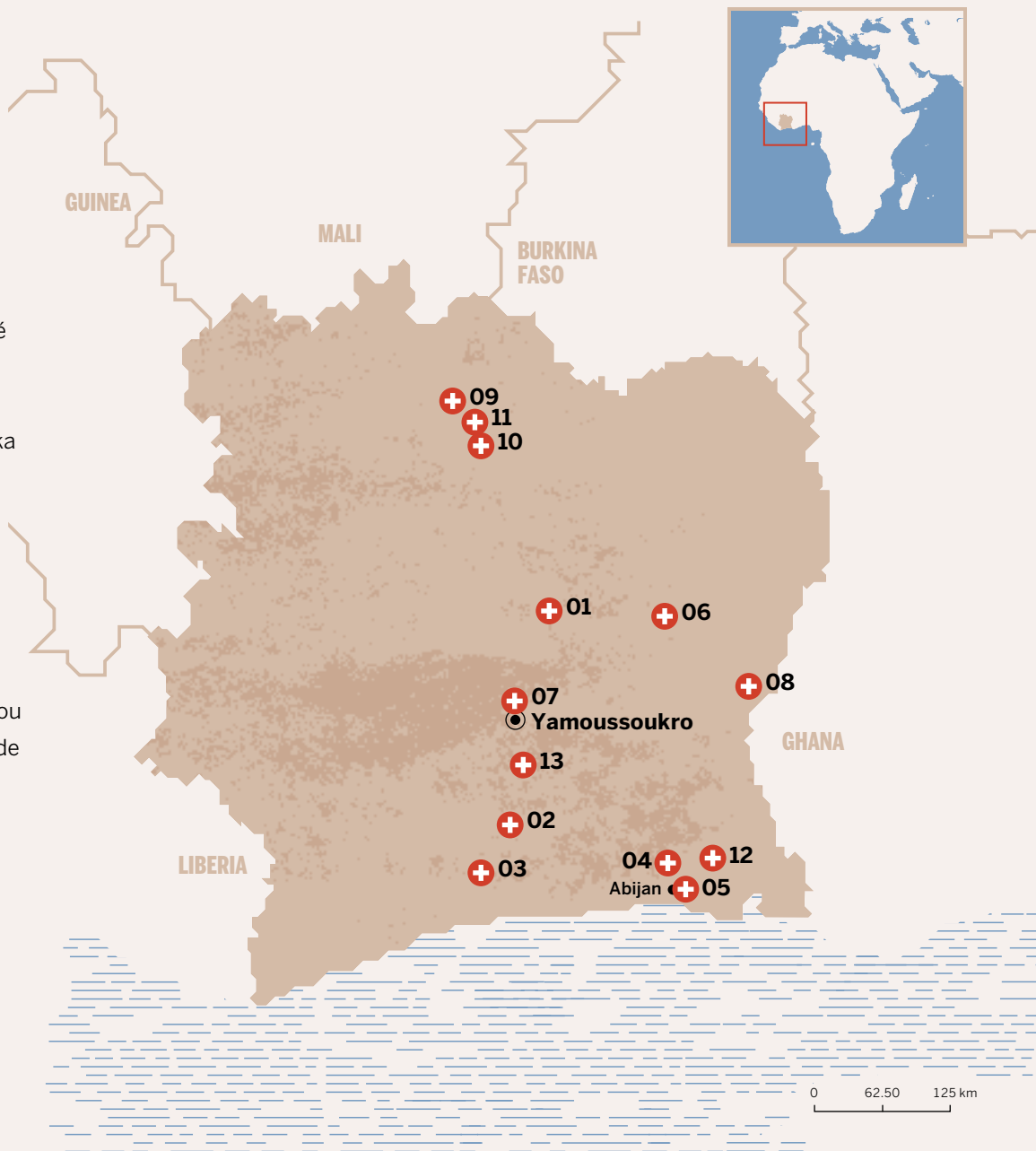
*\* Data updated  
in 2021*



# WHERE WE WORK

## 13 HEALTH CENTERS

01. Centre médical Notre Dame des Apôtres de Bouaké
02. Centre de Sante Urbain Privé Confessionnel Notre Dame des Apotres
03. Centre Médical Privé Confessionnel Mère Franziska de GBAGBAM
04. Hôpital Général Don Orione d'Anyama
05. Fsu Communautaire De Anonkoua-Koute
06. Dispensaire Urbain Privée Confessionnel Mère Leonia
07. Hôpital Spécialisé Privé Confessionnel de Kongouanou
08. Centre de Kinésithérapie et de Réadaptation Fonctionnel Sainte Teresa Verzeri d'Agnibilekrou
09. CMS Brigida Postorino
10. Centre Jubilé
11. Centre des Handicapés Don Orione Entenne de Korhogo
12. Centre Médical Spécialisé Confessionnel des Soeurs Dorothee D'Alépé
13. Centre de Santé Urbain Privé Confessionnel Bienheureux Louis Tezza



Activities and results/  
Ivory Coast