



HEALTH-AID
IGP-SABOBA
Italian-Ghanaian Project
for the Rural-deprived in Saboba-Chereponi District

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DESCRIPTION OF HEALTH-AID

HEALTH-AID is a public health-oriented project whose aim is to improve the health situation of a selected community in the north of Ghana, a developing country in Africa. HEALTH-AID is an international health project regularly registered in Ghana as Non-Governmental Organization (NGO).

The project was born from the idea and strong desire of two medical students, now young doctors from Ghana and Italy, when they met in last September 2000.

The project was officially inaugurated in July the 21st of 2001 at the presence and with the blessing of the Ghanaian government.

Now it is spreading to other countries in a more global perspective.

Dr. DIVINE, living in a rural area in the north of Ghana, got his degree in medicine at the University of Ghana in Accra in 2003. He is the director of the project in Ghana and organizes all the activities directly in the territory, deciding the priorities and special needs of the villages and the whole community.

Dr. DIEGO, got his degree in medicine at the University of Brescia in Italy, 2002. He has travelled to the Third World countries and has seen with his own eyes the poverty among his own brothers. He is the director in Italy and is involved in the finance and fund raising to make all the activities possible for the project.

Recently a partner association from Germany joined HEALTH-AID (GGP-SABOBA: German-Ghanaian Project for the Rural-deprived in Saboba-Chereponi District); it is directed by the friend of ours Dr. MEIK.

HEALTH-AID wants to create a medical centre, managed by local staff and coordinated by medical personnel and Italian volunteers.

The project will educate the communities of Saboba and Chereponi on hygiene and health

problems in general. Involvement of local staff will assure continuity and acceptance of the project as community-based, also at the end of the international contribution (2001-2011).

The district of Saboba is located in the north of Ghana and occupies a total area of 2,810 Km². The land is largely plain in the savannah with hills that suddenly give way to stretches of valleys.

Rains occur between June and October. The average monthly temperature is between 25°C and 35°C. The total population of the district according to the 2000 population census data stands at 94,215. There are over 408 settlements. The population is largely rural with 20% being urban. Majority of the people constituting over 80% live below the poverty line. At the moment in the district there are only one hospital with no doctor.

The commonest diseases in the district in order of frequency (1999 Health Review):

1. Malaria
2. Diarrhoea
3. Urinary tract infections
4. Diseases of the skin
5. Anaemia
6. Accidents and fractures
7. Pneumonia
8. Intestinal worms
9. Ear and eye infection
10. Snake bite.

We have both medical and educational aims:

- Educating the population on hygiene and public health, disease screening and control.
- Providing mother and child care, improving assistance to labour (Traditional Birth Assistant) and teaching effective nutrition.
- Educating and training Traditional Birth Assistant and Health Volunteers in every village.
- Teaching how to prevent infectious diseases, sexually transmitted diseases and HIV/AIDS. Providing education on family planning.
- Visiting the villages regularly in order to bring them health care.
- Sending drugs and medical equipment to Saboba Medical Centre.

We will be able to do all this by building a HEALTH-AID CENTRE, to use as a headquarter, and other outdoor-centres located in different villages, regularly visited by our staff.

HEALTH-AID is entirely managed by volunteer personnel and sustained by donations of friends and people that believe in the project.

Thanks to all of our supporters HEALTH-AID is collecting funds and drugs that are very expensive and often unavailable in Saboba.

It's common, in the rich countries, to have a large amount of drugs and medicines that are usually unused and that could be really precious for region like Saboba.

HEALTH-AID has so decided to collect drugs, long-term preferably, (due to the long time needed for the transport) and in a reasonable quantity to provide effective cures.

The following drugs would be very useful for the project:

- Broad-spectrum Antibiotics; Penicillin and Cephalosporin; Metronidazole.
- Analgesics and anti-inflammatories (Aspirin, Paracetamol, Fans).
- Antimalaric (Cloroquina).
- Disinfectants and Antibiotics for skin diseases, parasitosis, urinary tract infections (e.g. Candidiasis).
- Eye drops.
- Anti-asthmatics (e.g. Salbutamol, Sodium Cromoglicate...)
- Antiacids and antiulcer (e.g. Omeprazole and H2 inhibitors)
- Anti-hypertensives and diuretics.

We collect also gauzes, bandages, plasters, syringes, gloves, disinfectants and any else medical-nursing stuff.

We will be grateful to anyone who will help us.

Best regards,

the director,

Dr. Diego Manzoni

For donations

In Ghana:

- Stanbic Bank Ghana LTD
P.O. BOX 2344 Castle Road,
Cantoments, ACCRA (Ghana)
A/C 04411851
for the further credit of Divine Ndonbi Banyubala
A/C 0240001260251

In Italy:

- C/C bancario 110941
ABI 5018 CAB 11200
presso la Banca popolare Etica,
Piazzetta Forzaté, 2 - 35137 PADOVA
intestato a HEALTH-AID ONLUS

In Germany:

- Volksbank Bielefeld
BLZ 480 600 36
Konto 1500 793 410
Stichwort "GGP-Saboba"
Konto-Inhaber: Meik Askenas