



MISSION REPORT

Bidibidi refugee settlement

6 - 9 March 2023

*Advanced training mission
3 orthopedic technicians trained
Restored the mobility of 8 amputees*



The Mission

From March 6-10, 2023, SwissLimbs organized a second training mission in lower limbs and the innovative monolimb technology at New Hope Bidibidi Rehabilitation Center. Bidibidi is the Settlement, Uganda.

From 06 to 10 March 2023 the SwissLimbs team (composed of the President Filippo Nishino and the Head-trainer and Ambassador for Africa Emmanuel Kalanzi) carried out the 45th training mission in its history in Uganda! The mission began in the Bidibidi refugee settlement, where the SwissLimbs team trained 6 orthopedic technicians and a shoemaker in new low-cost and high performing technology innovations, restored mobility to 7 amputees, but also inaugurated the new rehabilitation center that SwissLimbs has built in 2021 in partnership with the English NGO Hope Health Action, the New Hope Bidibidi Rehabilitation Center. Not just training, as the mission allowed Filippo Nishino to visit during the 7th March 2023 the Office of the Prime Minister Bidibidi Refugee Settlement to discuss the “offgridbox project for the production of energy and clean water, a solution that SwissLimbs designs to install at the New Hope Rehabilitation Center in Bidibidi, with the support of some Ticino municipalities. On Friday, 10th March, he travelled to Juba – South Sudan, where SwissLimbs, to visit the orthopaedic center of OVCI with its wheelchair workshop and and the workshop of the International Committee Red Cross. Later on, the 13th March he visited as well the orthopaedic workshop in Iganga to perform a “one-day” monolimb manufacturing demonstration.



Training times

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Here are some pictures that best represent the four days of mission for the orthopedic technicians at the New Hope Bidibidi Rehabilitation Center, both in training sessions and during the manufacturing of the prostheses.



Presentation of certificates

At the end of the training week in Uganda, the orthopedic technician, ambassador and head trainer of SwissLimbs Emmanuel Kalanzi, together with the President of SwissLimbs Filippo Nishino, handed the certificates to the three orthopedic technicians and to the Bidibidi shoemaker in training. Our wise ambassador addressed encouraging words to the trained technicians, urging them to do better and better and to pursue perfection in the manufacture of prostheses and orthoses. As always at the end of each SwissLimbs mission, the delivery of the certificates has turned into a joyful and festive moment.

Congratulations to everyone!



Emmanuel Emor (New Hope Bidibidi Center)
Asianzu Sylvia Cynthia (New Hope Bidibidi Center)
Onyanga Richard (New Hope Bidibidi Center)



The SwissLimbs technical trainer

Emmanuel is a highly experienced Certified Prosthetist and Orthotist, committed and passionate to humanitarian causes and projects. He works for AVSI Foundation Uganda at Gulu Regional Orthopedic Workshop "GROW", and has over 40 years of experience in the profession.

He is SwissLimbs representative in Africa and responsible for the implementation of training modules to CPOs on the field.

The beneficiaries

8 Patients and 10 devices



Samuel Data, 47 years old, South Sudanese male, bi-lateral transtibial (modular) amputee, since 1985 due to road traffic accident.



Faith Asio, 17 years old, Ugandan female, bilateral transtibial (monolimb) amputee, since 2015 due to congenital disease.



James Taban, 45 years old, South Sudanese male, right symes amputee, since 2005 due to land mine explosion.



Matata Yasir, 23 years old, Ugandan male from APO sub county, right transtibial (monolimb), amputee since 2018 due to road traffic accident. The prosthesis received on this mission is his first prosthesis.



Hassim Daut, 67 years old, Ugandan male, left Trans-femoral amputee since 2020 due to car accident. The prosthesis received on this mission is his first prosthesis.



Julius Gilla, 48 years old, South Sudanese male, left transtibial (monolimb) amputee, since child due to accident. The prosthesis received on this mission is his first prosthesis.



Lilian Doru, 56 years old, South Sudanese female, right symes amputee, since 2012 due to road traffic accident.



Embati John, 61 years old, Ugandan male, left Trans-femoral amputee, since 2020 due to diabetes. The prosthesis received on this mission is his first prosthesis.



Visit to other projects

During the mission, the president of SwissLimbs had also the opportunity to visit some projects in South Sudan and Uganda, in order to deepen some issues and develop future projects. Firstly he met the Settlement Commandant of the Office of Prime Minister in Bidibidi. On 10th March, it was the turn of the South Sudanese workshop managed by OVC "La Nostra Famiglia NGO" - Ustratuna and the Physical Rehabilitation Reference Center (PRRC) Juba, managed by ICRC team. During these meetings the president hold meeting with the managers to discuss on potential future cooperations between the organizations.

On Tuesday 13th March, the President of SwissLimbs had the opportunity to visit the St. Joseph Community Orthopaedic Health Centre in Iganga. During this visit the head trainer of SwissLimbs Emmanuel Kalanzi, together with the President Filippo Nishino, had made a demonstration workshop by manufacturing one monolimb in the same day. At the end of the mission the trainees have congratulated SwissLimbs for restoring the mobility of one patient. The Beneficiary is Mutasa Moses, 50 years old Ugandan, amputee since 1998 due to a road traffic accident.

Finally, SwissLimbs visited the orthopaedic school of Mulago and CoRSU Hospital to discuss on potential future scenarios about 3d CAD/CAM strategie in the orthopaedic field.



