



MISSION REPORT – MOZAMBIQUE

Maputo/ Beira – 12-19 August 2021

- **2 training sessions facilitated**
- **14 technicians trained**
- **10 amputees fitted**

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The mission

Maputo, Mozambique - 12-19 August 2021

Due to Covid restrictions the mission was divided into two phases. From 12 to 15 August 2021, five technicians were trained in a workshop which was equipped by SwissLimbs at the Obra Dom Orione Institute in Maputo. Five patients received prosthetics during the training. The second phase ran from 16 to 18 August at the Central Hospital also in Maputo. There, nine orthopedic technicians received training while five patients' mobility was restored.

The SwissLimbs team was made up of Filippo Nishino (President), Roberto Agosta (Executive Director), Nicole Rossi (Operational Officer), Daniele Kläy (Technical Director) along with 2 volunteers, an orthopedic technician Edoardo Tognola and Enea Agosta. Both orthopedic technicians collaborated to provide training in new, innovative and low-cost technologies as they evaluated the needs of each patient before providing them with a comfortable, high mobility prosthetic device.

Training in orthopedics at the Obra Dom Orione Institute

In 2019, Swiss Limbs initiated a project to establish an orthopedic workshop within the Obra Dom Orione Institute. For the past decade this centre has treated children with spasticity, motulosis and severe motor and brain difficulties. They have 40 resident patients, while hundreds more are assisted every year as outpatients. This newly established orthopedic center, equipped with machinery and materials to manufacture orthotic and prosthetic devices was established in a space that stood empty since the center's inauguration, waiting to be transformed into the workshop it is today. In the presence of numerous journalists, SwissLimbs took advantage of their presence in Maputo to officially inaugurate the new workshop on 19th August 2021.

Two of the participants who attended the training, Henrique Luis Matsinhe and Tomas Salomão Langa, are the orthopedic technicians at the new workshop. The 5 patients who benefited include three transtibial amputees a transradial amputee, and two orthoses were also manufactured for a girl with flat feet.



Training in orthopedics at the Central Hospital in Maputo

The second round of training took place from 16 to 18 August 2021. All 9 orthopedic technicians who participated in the training are staff at Maputo Central Hospital.

During the training process another five patients were helped: two transtibial amputees, one transfemoral amputee and two prostheses for a bilateral transradial amputee were produced. As a final project the trainees fabricated a KAFO (knee - ankle - foot) orthosis for a patient with pseudarthrosis of the tibia.

Significant meetings

Maputo, Mozambique - 12-19 August 2021



On August 18, 2021, SwissLimbs' president, Filippo Nishino had the opportunity to meet with Lucas Mangrassa, the Mozambican Deputy Minister for Gender, Children and Social Action, as well as Dr Teresa Tiago, Director of the Central Hospital in Maputo. During the meeting he introduced the pair to the work of SwissLimbs, their projects in Mozambique and discussed Mozambique's need for the production and supply of prosthetics in the nation. Deputy Minister Mangrassa, himself a transradial amputee, showed particular interest in these matters.

On the same day, Mr. Nishino met with Mozambique's Minister of Health, Mr. Armindo Tiago. They discussed the action plan which is currently being drafted for Orthopedics in Mozambique. SwissLimbs made itself available as an actor in this plan. In conclusion it was decided that a Memorandum of Understanding will be signed between SwissLimbs and the Mozambican Ministry of Health.



On 19 August 2021, the SwissLimbs team, in the presence of the director of the Central Hospital of Maputo, Dr. Teresa Tiago, and the Director of the Obra Dom Orione Institute, Father Denis, officially inaugurated the orthopedic workshop set up by SwissLimbs. Two local television stations also attended the inauguration, STV Noticias and TV Surdo, who gave ample airtime to the SwissLimbs project in Maputo.



Training times

Maputo, Mozambique - 12-19 August 2021

These images showcase the two training activities carried out in Mozambique.



Presentation of certificates

Maputo, Mozambique - 12-19 August 2021

At the end of the two training events, the 2 training orthopedic technicians - Daniele Kläy and Edoardo Tognola - together with the President Filippo Nishino awarded certificates to the technicians who had attended the training. As always, it was a very joyful and festive moment. Congratulations to all involved!



The 14 participants

Maputo, Mozambique - 12-19 August 2021



**Henrique Luis
Matsinhe**



**Tomas Salomão
Langa**



**Ercilia Flugênci
Macuacua**



**Celeste Elias
Mapate**



**Gertrudes Lázaro
Simbine**



**Endro Paulo
Cossa**



**Deolinda
Nhacufane**



**Nélio Sousa
Fénias Bila**



**Paulo Rafael
Waene**



**Moisés
Vilanculos**



**Sergio Antonio
Nhatumbo**



**Anastacio Bibitine
Manhique**



**Ernesto Alfonso
Manjate**



**Jacinto Eugénio
Manjate**

The SwissLimbs technical trainers



Daniele Kläy – SwissLimbs Technical Director

Daniele's career in the field of rehabilitation and orthopedics spans 17 years. Before this he specialized in the construction and repair of automotive, nautical and aeronautical composite materials. His broad range of experience has increased his ability to find ortho-prosthetic and prosthetic solutions to the most complex rehabilitative needs. His passion to find solutions and share his experience on a technical level is an advantage to any orthopedic technician who undergoes SwissLimbs training with him.

Daniele holds a Masters in Prosthetics and Orthopedics from the Bundesfach School of Orthopedic Technology in Dortmund, Germany as well as distinctions in a Federal Diploma as an Orthopedic Technician from the Luigi Brentani Foundation, Switzerland.



Edoardo Tognola – Orthopedic technician and SwissLimbs' volunteer

Edoardo Tognola began a 4-year apprenticeship in the field of technical orthopedics in Switzerland in 2010.

After a season of practice, he earned a Masters in Orthopedics from the Bundesfach School of Orthopedic Technology in Dortmund, Germany. He also obtained a Federal Diploma as an Orthopedic Technician.

Active as an orthopedic technician in German-speaking Switzerland and volunteered to join SwissLimbs for this training mission to Mozambique.

The beneficiaries

Maputo, Mozambique - 12-19 August 2021



Luana Virginia Cupane

11 years old, from Maputo, Mozambique
Congenital malformation since birth



Adriano Armando Canda Junior

8 years old, from Maputo, Mozambique
Congenital malformation with clubfoot since birth



Paulo Piter

30 years old, from Maputo, Mozambique
Transradial amputee since 2021



Adriele Machava

3 years old from Maputo, Mozambique
Born with flatfeet.



Albano Fernandes Botelho

38 years old from Maputo, Mozambique
Transtibial amputee since 2009



Mario Maute

56 years old, from Maputo, Mozambique
Transradial amputee since 1985



Arao Josefa Simbine

58 years old from Maputo, Mozambique
Transradial amputee since 2012



Alberto Adriano Chuquela

53 years old, from Inhambane, Mozambique
Transfemoral amputee since 1998



Gabriel Rosario

12 years old, from Maputo, Mozambique
Pseudoarthrosis in the tibia since 2021



Rafael Pedro Nhanombe

52 years old from Matola, Mozambique
Bilateral transradial amputee since 2020

Testimonies

Maputo, Mozambique - 12-19 August 2021



Paulo Piter, 30 years old from Maputo, Mozambique, transradial amputee since 2021.

Paulo is a police inspector in the capitol city of Mozambique. He is married and a father of three children. In January 2021, at the end of a police drill, a colleague of his mistakenly tampered with the ignition ring of a hand grenade before returning it to the arsenal. The movements caused by the return of the other weapons triggered the grenade, which exploded in close proximity to Paulo and his other colleagues. One policeman died instantly; many others were wounded while Paulo lost three fingers of his left hand but the doctors decided to amputate his entire hand. Paulo stayed in the hospital for two weeks after the amputation but returned a month later due to a blood clot. As a beneficiary patient during the SwissLimbs training in Mozambique, Paulo received a myo-electric hand, the first prosthesis of his life. He is convinced that this prosthesis will improve all aspects of his life, from doing administrative work in the police, to playing with children and driving a car.



Albano Fernandes, 38 years old from Maputo, Mozambique, transtibial amputee since 2009.

12 years ago, as Albano was travelling through town on his motorcycle, he swerved to avoid a vehicle coming straight for him from the other side of the road. In his effort to avoid a collision, he rode full speed into a traffic sign, breaking an arm and a leg. Unconscious, he was taken to hospital for treatment. His arm healed easily, meanwhile his leg, a compound fracture, caused circulation problems that lead to gangrene and an inevitable amputation.

During the SwissLimbs training, Albano received a Monolimb, which is his fourth prosthesis in 12 years. He is delighted with his new prosthesis, as it is much lighter and more comfortable than the previous ones.

The 40 resident children at Obra Dom Orione

Maputo, Mozambique - 12-19 August 2021



Abilio Mariana



Agostinho Manuel



Aldo Lopez



Alista Jamaio



Argentina Armando



Arsenio



Carlos Antonio



Celeste Cavel



Chady Mandlate



Chanila Nizar



Chausio Nelson



Clemencia José



Clercio Mutambe



Daniel Ferreira



Davilton Laurenço



Delfina Silvino



Edmilson Francisco



Ekson Beto



Emerson Lucas



Fleita Luis



Flora André



Francis Bene



Henriques André



Henriqueta



Herito Francisco



Isabel Francisco



Joaquim Pedro



José



Julinho



Kelven Recebu



Maria de José



Mario de Jesus



Matias Abel



Missuai Alberto



Nicole Heleia



Noemia Maria



Roda Matavel



Sean Manjate



Usselia Canda



Wanga Frade

Visit to other projects

Beira - 16-19 August 2021

While most of the team stayed in Maputo to conduct the second phase of the mission to Maputo Central Hospital, Roberto Agosta, along with a volunteer team member, Enea Agosta, travelled to Beira to visit the projects SwissLimbs has been involved in since cyclone Idai caused extensive damage there in 2019.

Over the past 2 years, SwissLimbs has rehabilitated the orthopedic center located at Beira's central hospital. They also partnered with internationally based donors and local Mozambican project managers to build new, solidly constructed homes for 19 of some of the poorest families affected by the cyclone. Eleven more families await the completion of their homes before they can move in later this year.

Construction was also carried out to repair some damaged buildings on a property which houses an orphanage and a school with 687 students being taught by 14 teachers in 7 classrooms. Furthermore, a new computer training centre was added to the school. Classes which began in February were suspended until July due to the pandemic.

The SwissLimbs duo visited all the renovated and newly constructed buildings and met the families of those who had or will benefit from the donation of new family homes in the suburb of Inhamizua, on the outskirts of Beira.



The orthopedic center



The school centre at Inhamizua



Visit to other projects

Beira - 16-19 August 2021



A house under construction will be donated to Arquelino and Chica, who will live there with their two children.



House under construction to be donated to Chico and Lucia, who will live there with four of their seven children.



The house under construction will be donated to Zelia, who will live there with her daughter, three grandchildren and great-grandchild.



The house was built in 2020 and donated to Margarida, who lives with her two sisters and two children and also hosts three other children.



House built in 2020 donated to Luish and Joaquina, who live there with their five children.