



MISSION REPORT – Kibaha, Tanzania 29 August - 1 September 2022

- **Officially** opened the first hospital entirely built by SwissLimbs!
- **7 orthopedic technicians** trained
- Restored mobility of **6 amputees**

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The mission

From **August 29 to September 1, 2022**, SwissLimbs organized a training mission to its new rehabilitation hospital in **Kibaha, Tanzania**.

Five orthopedic technicians, a physical therapist and a bench worker from different orthopedic centers scattered around Tanzania participated in the training. The training restored the mobility of **six amputee patients**, who were given Monolimb, Amparo and transfemoral prostheses.

The mission was also an opportunity **to officially inaugurate** the Desire Charitable Hospital and Rehabilitation Centre DCHRC in Kibaha, in the presence of government dignitaries, the media and local people.

This mission was attended by several members of the Switzerland team of SwissLimbs and numerous partners on the field, who did not want to miss the important milestone of the inauguration **of the first hospital entirely built by SwissLimbs!**

This mission was attended by President **Filippo Nishino**, Technical Director **Daniele Kläy**, Operations officer **Nicole Rossi**, volunteer **Gianluca Nishino**, SwissLimbs Ambassador for Africa and head trainer from Uganda **Emmanuel Kalanzi**, AVSI Uganda project manager **Joyce Laker**, and Mwanza Prosthetics & Orthotics Workshop MPOW manager **Claude Mushi**. This large group joined the local DCHRC staff consisting of Director General **Stella Kitali**, Orthopedic Surgeon **Dr. Bryceson Loti Kiwelu**, and Orthopedic Technician **Nsengiyumva Magogwa**.



Training times

The training week was very intense, as it was also interspersed with the inauguration of the hospital. Despite the timing, it was still possible to fabricate seven prostheses for six amputee patients. As always, the goal of this mission was to provide participants with a broader view of state-of-the-art low-cost technologies specifically designed for countries in the Global South. These technologies are affordable and durable while providing the highest possible comfort and mobility. The innovations presented were **Monolimb** and **Amparo technology**.

The training began on Monday, August 29, with a brief introduction of SwissLimbs and its members. After that, the casts were taken of four of the six patients, to whom five prostheses were donated. One of these prostheses was fabricated with Amparo technology: the orthopedic technician from Mwanza **Claude Mushi** then presented to the technicians in trainings the methodology by which to fabricate these prostheses.

On Tuesday, August 30, they proceeded with the cast taking of the mission's only transfemoral amputee patient and continued with prosthesis fabrication, under the watchful eye of SwissLimbs Technical Director **Daniele Kläy** and SwissLimbs Ambassador for Africa **Emmanuel Kalanzi**.

On Wednesday, August 31, the official opening of the hospital was held instead, but nevertheless, there was no shortage of time to catch the cast of little Kelvin, who arrived unexpectedly to receive a prosthesis.

On Thursday, September 1, technicians instead finished the cosmetic covering of the prostheses, which were then delivered to the beneficiaries.



Presentation of certificates

At the end of the training, the SwissLimbs orthopedic technicians - Daniele Kläy and Emmanuel Kalanzi - along with President Filippo Nishino presented certificates to the technicians in training. As always, it was a very joyful and festive moment.

It was also an opportunity to present certificates of appreciation to the local partners who made it possible to create the first hospital entirely built by SwissLimbs!



The Desire Charitable Hospital and Rehabilitation Centre DCHRC

The **Desire Charitable Hospital and Rehabilitation Center DCHRC** is the first hospital entirely built by SwissLimbs. It is a facility which offers modern and innovative rehabilitation services, consisting of two operating theaters, a medical laboratory, an orthopedic workshop, a pharmacy and an X-ray room.

The DCHRC can accommodate up to 28 patients and is solar powered. Its services are free or subsidized for patients who cannot afford to pay (at least 30 percent of total patients). Since its soft opening in April 2022 to date, the DCHRC has provided services to more than 700 patients. The DCHRC is also equipped with a dedicated ambulance for patient transport.

On the back of the hospital- following a request from the Ministry of Health - an area with three rooms (one for counseling and family planning, one for immunization, and one for consultation) is under construction, with an attached veranda that will serve as a waiting area, triage, registration, and anthropometric and vital signs measurements.

There is also a restaurant on the west side of the hospital that serves low-cost meals to patients being treated at the DCHRC, their families and caregivers. To supply this restaurant, it was preferred to use mainly 0-kilometer foods (fish, vegetables, fruits). For this purpose, two fish ponds have been dug (for aquaculture, mainly for tilapia fish) and a vegetable garden has been established to supply the restaurant with fresh vegetables (and a small animal farm will also be set up in the future).



The exteriors of the DCHRC



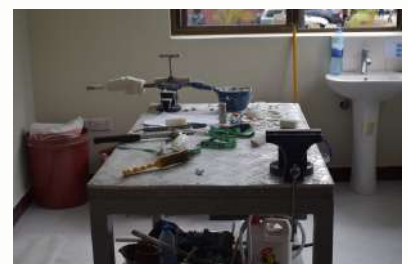
The ambulance



The reception



The pharmacy



The orthopedic workshop

The Desire Charitable Hospital and Rehabilitation Centre DCHRC



The in-patient rooms



The two operating theaters

The endoscopy room



The X-ray room

The medical laboratory



The hospital restaurant

The hospital garden



The solar panels

The incinerator

The water tanks

The opening

On **Wednesday, August 31, 2022**, the **official opening** of the Desire Charitable Hospital & Rehabilitation Center was held in the presence of government members, media and a large local population who flocked to the occasion.

Under the motto of "**We care, we restore, we rehabilitate**", **Abubakar M. Kunenge**, Regional Commissioner of Pwani, cut the symbolic ribbon together with SwissLimbs President **Filippo Nishino** and DCHRC Director General **Stella Kitai**. This was followed by an official tour of the hospital, where government members and journalists were able to appreciate the modernity and efficiency of all the rooms and equipment.

Local people were able to virtually visit the hospital thanks to screens placed outside the hospital. A whole range of free medical services, from diabetes and HIV tests to blood pressure measurement, were also offered to the population since the morning.

After the tour of the hospital, there were official speeches, where thanks were profused toward those who made the opening of the hospital possible. A convivial time followed with a rich lunch for all.



The 7 participants



Adeline G. Mbeyale
Pwani - Tumbi



Amani Y. Msangi
Kigoma - Maweni



Hamisi Nyange
Iringa Hospital
(Physiotherapist)



Herode Sindano
Bulongwa



Nadhifa H. Biggo
Student



Salum M. Shabani
DCHRC Kibaha
(Bench worker)



Tumaini Matandala
Iringa Hospital

The beneficiaries



Victor Gasper

Victor is 44 years old and lives in Dar es Salaam with his wife and his three children.

He does not have a steady job, but is involved in small odd trades to support his family.

He lost his leg in 2020 due to a traffic accident. While walking down a road, a car ran over him, and doctors could do nothing but amputate his left leg below the knee. He received a Monolimb during the mission, which is the first prosthesis in his life. Victor is very happy and believes that his new prosthesis will significantly improve his life.



Subira Nyamkini

Subira is 53 years old and lives in Kibaha with her husband and three children. She works from home as a housewife.

In 2018, she lost her left leg to a forest fire. She was in a forest with her son when the fire broke out and initially, only her left foot was damaged by the fire. However, Subira also suffers from diabetes, a disease that caused her wounds to worsen instead of healing, forcing doctors to amputate below the knee. During the mission, she received an Amparo prosthesis, which is the first artificial leg in her life.



Aloyce Mrianga

Aloyce is 40 years old and lives in Dar es Salaam with his wife and three children. He works as a civil engineer and thus supports his family.

When he was only six months old, his house caught fire. The fire caused irreparable damage to both his legs, so nothing could be done at the hospital except to amputate them both below the knee. Having undergone an amputation at such a tender age, Aloyce has never walked on her own legs, only with prosthetics. He has had more than 40 in his lifetime. He is overjoyed to have received two Monolimbs, which are much less heavy than the prostheses he previously used.



Hija Wazira Bushiri

Hija is 78 years old and lives in Dar es Salaam with his wife. Before retiring, he worked in the textile industry, while later he opened a street food stall, which still exists although it is currently run by some of Hija's family members.

Hija suffers from diabetes, a disease that resulted in the amputation of his right leg below the knee in 2019. The Monolimb he received during the SwissLimbs mission is his first prosthesis, and Hija hopes to be able to return to his street food stall.



Kelvin Ulf Halstrom

Kelvin is 5 years old and lives in Kibaha with his twin sister, brother and father. He attends kindergarten and dreams of becoming an engineer. He was initially not on the list of patients to be treated during the mission, but his brother heard about the hospital opening and brought him on his own initiative.

In 2019, he was involved in a car accident, a car ran over the motorcycle he was riding on with his parents. His mother died instantly, while Kelvin lost his left leg below the knee. The Monolimb he received was his second prosthesis.



Zainab Kiango

Zainab is 78 years old and lives in Dar es Salaam. She is a widow, has four children and is a retired soldier.

In 2022, she was involved in a traffic accident while traveling by bagiagi (a kind of Tanzanian tuk tuk). The accident resulted in a fractured femur and tibia. Zainab spent three weeks in the hospital, where they tried to save her leg, but complications arose that forced doctors to amputate her left leg above the knee. The femoral prosthesis he received during the mission is his first prosthesis.