



# ACTION SWISS SIERRA LEONE



## What happened in 2010

### Some figures

#### Near Makeni, at the Magbenteh Community Hospital

- **300 patients** cared for monthly at Magbenteh
- **4'923 patients** were provided with outpatient care at our clinic during the 3<sup>rd</sup> quarter.
- **190 operations** were performed monthly during the 3<sup>rd</sup> quarter (hernia 18%, laparotomies 16%, hysterectomies and/or C-Sections 18%).



#### In Lungi, at the Bai Bureh Memorial Hospital

- **112 patients** were admitted each month
- **1'798 patients** received care at our outpatient clinic during the 2<sup>nd</sup> quarter
- **58 operations** were performed during the 2<sup>nd</sup> quarter.



#### At the TFC, our therapeutic feeding centre for children under 5



- **170 children** were cared for during the 3<sup>rd</sup> quarter
- **8%: mortality rate** during the 3<sup>rd</sup> quarter (lower than in 2009: 13%).

#### Educational sponsorship program

- **183 children** are in our educational sponsorship program
- **126 children** have sponsors in Switzerland



### February 2010

#### Water pump repaired at primary school

Water is once again accessible at a primary school in Makeni. Thanks to a generous donor, we have been able to have the water pump repaired.

The primary school in Makeni, with about 600 students in total, has about 90 students per class and the need for water is large. Now, fewer children get sick as they have access to clean water at school.



### March 2010

#### A new incinerator and water for the operating block!

An incinerator has been put into service to replace the old refuse pit that had become quite an unhealthy issue at the hospital.

A water tower with a 3'000 litre tank has been constructed close to the operating block of the hospital to facilitate access to water in this building.

### June 2010

#### The X-ray machine has been repaired

Thanks to Theo, who was visiting the hospital, the C-arc X-ray machine is back in use. He creatively managed to get it operational again with a work around to switch the machine on (operating the on/off switch directly on the printed circuit board with a pencil through a hole drilled into the cover casing). After more than half a year without an X-ray machine, MCH has an operational X-ray machine once again!!



#### SSLDF offices move to Magbenteh

The offices in Freetown have been moved to the Magbenteh Community Hospital grounds where a building has been erected to house the offices. This will eliminate the cost of renting offices in Freetown and will allow for a better management of organizational affairs (health, education, agriculture and relief). Victor Tobler, from Switzerland, went to supervise the work from start to finish. The result is great!!



## June 2010

### ***MCH has solar power now***

Thanks to the Germans Johannes, Fred, Eric and Uwe and to all the donations they received (€150'000), we now have light in all the wards of the hospital and the TFC. This project started in September 2008, work started in March 2010 and finished in June 2010.



Emergency equipment can now run day or night on the solar power, like the oxygen concentrators. Deliveries at night are no longer dependent on a dangerous kerosene lamp and flashlights that run out of batteries, a good lamp gives light at any time of the day as necessary now.

The use of the big generator has been considerably reduced as has the cost for fuel to run the generators.



## July 2010

### ***A volunteer from Switzerland spends 5 weeks at the Magbenteh Community Hospital***

For 5 weeks, Manuela assisted Henry in the physiotherapy department of the Magbenteh Community Hospital putting to good use her skills in lymph drainage..

## August 2010

### ***First exchange student from ALMA University, USA***

Taylor Gibson stayed at Magbenteh for 3 months to give literacy classes to some of the staff. She also gave computer classes to other staff who need to work with computers.



## September 2010

### ***Student nurses at MCH***



Student nurse for the Northern Polytechnic and from Lunsar have been doing their practical placements at Magbenteh Community Hospital. They assist in the wards and learn from the nursing aids, nurses, doctors and patients. It is great to

have them, especially when they are eager to learn and willing to do a good job!

## October 2010

### ***The staff cantine is open***

The staff canteen has been given a finishing touch by our maintenance staff and was officially opened at the beginning of October in the presence of the Sierra Leone National Television. All staff and also patients and caretakers can now enjoy a meal without having to go in to town!



## November 2010

### ***Swiss physiotherapists at MCH***

Two Swiss physiotherapists joined Magbenteh Community Hospital as volunteers for half a year. Muriel and Deborah work together with Henry to continue to improve the physiotherapy department at the hospital. They are a great help for the department and for the patients.



### ***First blood bank at MCH***

Up till now we have had to find family members or friends to donate blood for transfusions. Dr Saskia assisted us in getting a blood bank for Magbenteh. Now we can collect blood at any time and store it for when we need it. This is a big improvement in the care given at Magbenteh, it will definitely save lives.



## A BIG THANK YOU TO ALL OF YOU!!!!!!

All the members of the committee of Action Swiss Sierra Leone thank you wholeheartedly for your support during 2010 and for your generosity. Without you, we would not be able to help the population of Sierra Leone as we are able to currently.

We wish you as well as all of your family  
a Very Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year 2011!

