



Project code 003

“LONDO MO TAMBULA” PROJECT

Realization and support of a surgical unit at the Niem'dispensary

THE PROJECT

The health center of Niem covers a territory of one hundred thirty kilometers from south to north and seventy kilometers along a track that goes from west to the border of Cameroon.

The population of this area is about 23,000 inhabitants. They find in the dispensary the only healthcenter for treatment. Many sick people also come for treatment from neighbour Cameroon: about three hundred people a year.

Given the continuous and growing need for health care, especially for emergency surgeries such as caesarean sections and hernias, a strengthening of the structure for this type of surgery has become indispensable.

The “**Londo mo tambula**” (“Get up and walk” in sango) **project began in 2016**, which involved the construction of a new building connected to the existing one where a surgical unit is being built.

Given the dramatic political situation in which the country was, the construction of a surgical unit in Niem became indispensable in order to welcome and take care of patients in the north-west of the country, avoiding them to travel kilometres, often on foot, to reach the city hospital.

The first private hospital, in the Bouar district, is located in Maigarò at 60 km. from Niem. The first public hospital is located 75 km away.

It takes about two hours during dry season and three hours during rainy season to reach them from Niem.

It should also be noted that even for routine, easy and planned surgical operations, patients are often unable to reach the city dispensaries and hospital mainly for economic reasons and because of the lack of adequate transportation. The dispensary is "a real field hospital", where all those who show up receive adequate care. In reality, nobody pays the entire cost of their care. Only a small contribution to cover at least part of the expenses is requested, according to the possibilities of each one.

Once the construction of the structure was completed and after the training of the staff, phase 2 could begin, support for the surgical unit activity.

The goal we want to achieve

With the construction the new surgical unit, sick person and patients who need surgery and who would never go to the health facilities of the city of Bouar, will be able to be assist. In the absence of the surgical unit, the population of the Niem area will continue to suffer, for example, from uterine fibroids, simple hernias, osteomyelitis and also from other disabling pathologies, without the possibility of appropriate and suitable treatments. Another important result will be the possibility of immediate assistance to women who need caesarean section; this would reduce the maternal and child mortality rate.



In summary, the project involves the construction and implementation of:

- surgery room
- patient reception and preparation room
- Dressing room and washing area for the surgeon
- Pre / post operative room
- Instrument washing area
- Purchase of suitable equipment
- Warehouse for medicines and equipment
- Purchase of the necessary equipment
- Solar panels for machinery operation

Currently the health center of Niem offers the following services to the population.

- Basic medicine
- Laboratory tests
- X-rays
- Maternity and gynaecology
- Paediatrics
- Pharmacy
- Dentistry

With the opening of the new surgical unit, the number of patients will increase from 200 to 250 units for year.

The second phase of the project provides the support to the surgical unit activity.

The health system of the Central African Republic

- 3 central hospitals: located in the capital Bangui with a total capacity of 753 bed
- 4 regional hospitals: total capacity of 508 beds
- 11 province hospitals: total capacity of 730 beds
- 156 Health Centers
- 1 national laboratory of clinical biology and public health
- The Pasteur Institute for Research with the Faculty of Health Sciences

Health personnel available on the territory:

- 1 doctor every 20,000 inhabitants
- 1 nurse every 7,500 inhabitants
- 1 midwife every 15,000 inhabitants
- 1 general nurse per 7,000 inhabitants
- 27 pharmacists

Of the 150 doctors, 70% are concentrated in the capital.



It's important to know that only 45% of the population has access to a health facility and the average distance between the various health facilities is around 60 km.

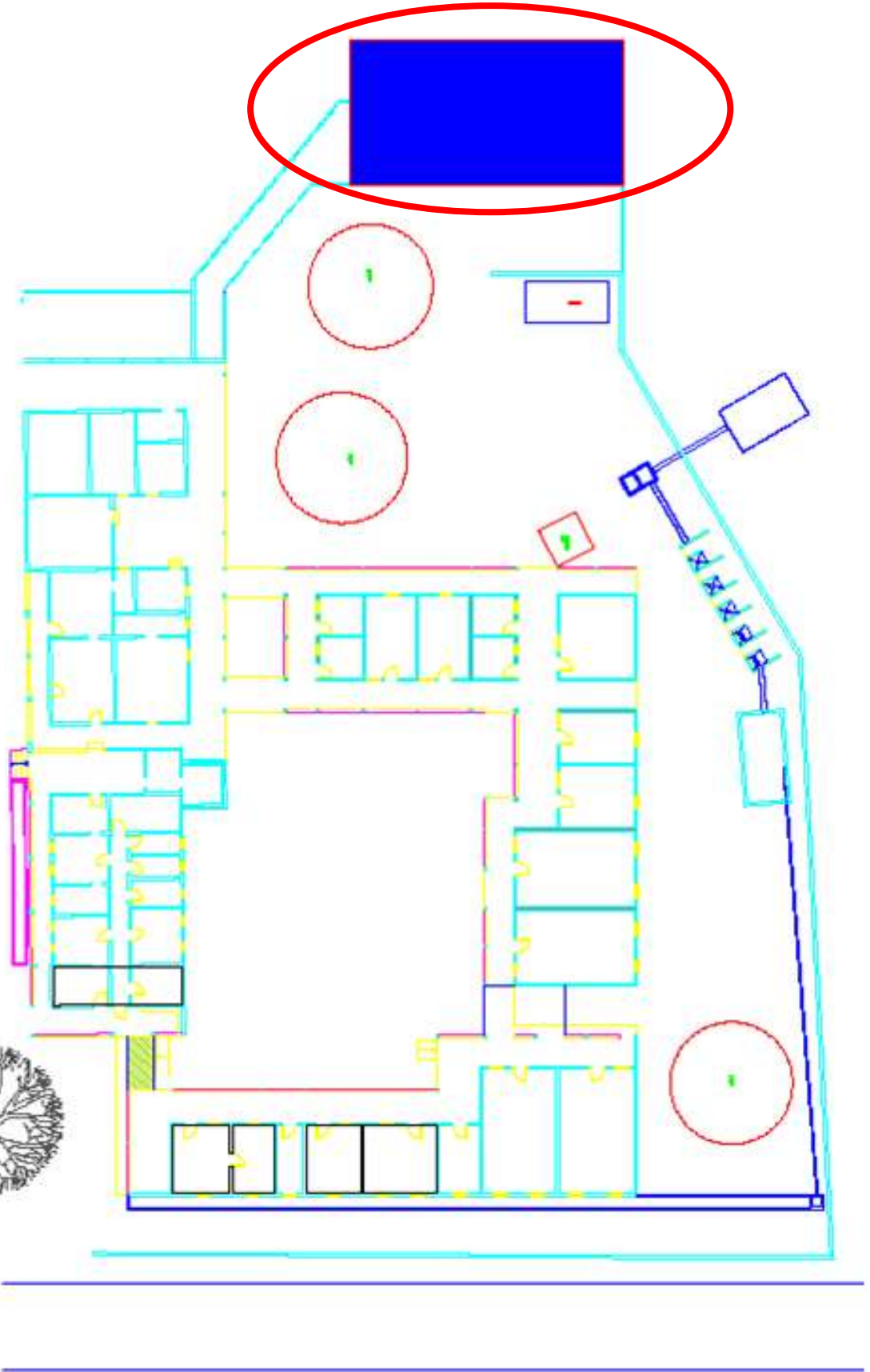
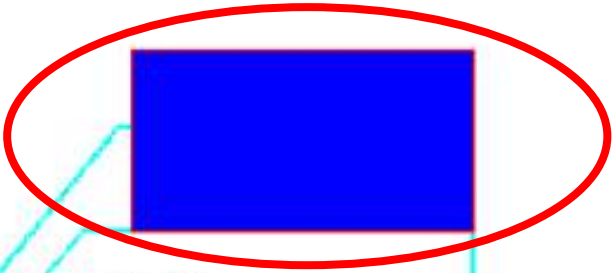
The import of medicines comes from:

- 60% private sector
- 23% donors, churches and NGOs
- 16% French cooperation
- 1% State

Outside the capital Bangui and in the savannah, state health center facilities are practically non-existent; the humanitarian and religious entities intervene to help the poorest rural population.

Private health facilities

- 16 dispensaries and health centers
- 2 nutritional centers
- 10 centers for disabled people
- 4 diocesan pharmacies
- 2 dental offices (built and managed by Betharram fathers)



PLANIMETRIA

Dispensary of Niem

Central African Republic



