



We have been informed that...

**TWINNING BETWEEN THE MABESSENEH/
LUNSAR HOSPITAL (Sierra Leone) and the
SANT JOAN DE DEU HOSPITAL
ESPLUGUES (Barcelona)**

That programmes were promoted by the General Curiaor which invited all the Provinces in the Orderto implement them. The Province of San Rafael-Aragón (Spain) took responsibility for carrying through a Cooperation Programme with the Order's Hospital at Mabesseneh-Lunsar, Sierra Leone.

This programme began with a cooperation plan in June 2005 between the Sant Joan de Déu de Esplugues Hospital and the Mabesseneh-Lunsar Hospital, both paediatric hospitals. Throughout this time a number of professional physicians, nurses, lab technicians, and administrative and maintenance staff have participated in it.



Subsequently, in 2008, after a process of internal reflection to work out the future thrusts of the work, in 2008 the Sant Joan de Déu Hospital published its Strategic Plan, called PAIDHOS, an acronym using the first letters of the Spanish words Próximos, Accesibles, Investigación, Docentes, Hospitalarios, Organización abierta, Solidarios ("near, accessible, research, teachers, hospitals, open organisation, solidarity") and among other objectives and initiatives it was planned to implement this Cooperation Programme.

COOPERATION
PROGRAMME
BETWEEN
WORLD
HOSPITALS
IN
SIERRA
LEONE
AND
BARCELONA

The choice of the Hospital at Mabesseneh/Lunsar was dictated by historical ties. The Lunsar Hospital was founded by the Brothers of St John of God from Catalonia in 1967. It was destroyed twice in 1998 by the civil war which afflicted the whole of Sierra Leone. It opened again in 2002 with serious shortages in terms of infrastructure and human and financial resources.

Cooperation between the Sant Joan de Déu hospital and Lunsar Hospital, focuses on:

1. Child health care. The secondment of qualified paediatric staff.
2. Training local professionals. In basic paediatric care and the use of new techniques and equipment.
3. Drawing up care protocols. For both physicians and nurses.
4. Providing equipment and apparatus. To improve the Central services in terms of instrumentation and staff training.
5. Installing a satellite link, for continuing communication between the two centres.
6. Logistical support for the nursing school.

Through specific projects:

- ◆ Developing medical and nursing paediatrics in the hospital, by applying medical and basic nursing protocols.
- ◆ Organising the management of the centre and of the pharmacy and stores.
- ◆ In the laboratory. Blood Bank.
- ◆ Updating and equipping the surgical block.
- ◆ Providing specific training for the local personnel in anaesthesia.
- ◆ Communications coverage and infrastructure: the Internet and telemedicine.
- ◆ The construction of a hospital laundry and kitchen, a mortuary and a residence for nursing students.
- ◆ Study grants for an anaesthetist in Freetown.
- ◆ A community health project for expectant mothers implemented by Farmamundi.
- ◆ Teaching aids for the Nursing School

The manresa General Hospital is also involved in this cooperation effortus sending professional physicians and nurses for their operating theatre and for the maternity unit with the support for the NGO Farmamundi, under a project for community care of expectant mothers.



COOPERATION BETWEEN THE SPANISH PROVINCE OF ST JOHN OF GOD AND THE AFRICAN PROVINCE OF ST AUGUSTIN

In February 2008, acting on a proposal made by the Brother General, Donatus Forkan, the Provinces of the Hospitaller Order of Castile and Africa, represented by their Provincials, Brothers José M^a Bermejo de Frutos and Robert Chakana, signed an agreement for the management of St Joseph's Catholic Hospital in Monrovia, Liberia.



Under this agreement, the Province of Castile will help the Monrovia Hospital (Liberia) by taking over the management for five years. Now that one year has passed since the Castile Province took over this responsibility a number of programmes currently being carried through in relation to planning, organisation, management and oversight.

In other words, the Agreement signifies that the management of the Hospital has been taken over by the Castile Province in order to foster its architectural and functional reform in order to make the Centre viable at a time of great social, political and economic difficulties affecting the country.

Nevertheless, the African Province continues to remain the proprietor of the Hospital, and retains responsibility for everything referring to the Religious Community (appointing the Superior, changing Brothers, etc).

We believe that this kind of collaboration on an equal footing can have a positive influence on the future course of the Hospital and on the presence of the Order in Liberia.





Everyone must work together because at all times what the Castile Province is seeking to achieve is to generate trust and teamwork between the African Brothers and Co-Workers. We are offering for support and advice with regard to the organisation, a counting, auditing and information and management systems in general.

At the present time we are encouraging and implementing projects, in various phases, following a specific timetable and schedule for rebuilding the hospital at every level (installations and services, improving the architectural structures, maintaining the laboratory testing and diagnostic facilities etc...

In order to to comply with the commitments entered into and to continue financing the project the Castile Provinces actively co-operating with the NGO Juan Ciudad and Health for All, submitting needs to the various government departments and private entities.

