



«Each year, against a background of general indifference, thousands of young children living in the world's poorest regions pay an unacceptable tribute to malnutrition, poor hygiene and ignorance. The fight against Noma is a door to the world's most disadvantaged peoples. Let's open this door so that noma is no longer seen as inevitable.»

Dr Bertrand Piccard / President Winds of Hope Foundation / President No-Noma Federation

2010



YEARS OF WINDS OF HOPE

Ten years ago, Bertrand Piccard and Brian Jones's round-the-world balloon flight ended in the Egyptian desert with a promise: to advance further in combating forgotten or neglected suffering on our planet.

YEARS OF ACTION AGAINST NOMA

a sudden, violent necrosis that destroys the faces of thousands of children.
a disease that is unacceptable in our largely indifferent 21st century

Together let us pursue our commitment
to eliminate this poverty-based disease.



10 YEARS OF ACTION IN THE FIELD TO ...

... tackle the roots of the evil and treat the consequences

Fighting noma before its appearance or at the first sign of the disease: this is the approach of Winds of Hope, with initiatives relying on preventive information, early detection, and primary health care.

... raise the awareness of people living in extreme poverty and train local health workers.

The foundation has opted to finance both government prevention programs and several private initiatives by NGOs in this field. So far, more than two million francs have gone to supporting, supervising and coordinating this effort.

... have in every village someone trained to detect the very first symptoms of noma

Every trained health worker means an entire village protected not only against noma but also many other infections caused by poor hygiene and malnutrition.

NATIONAL ANTI-NOMA PROGRAMS IN

Niger, Burkina Faso, Mali, Benin, Togo and Senegal

In 2000, support from the Winds of Hope Foundation made it possible to launch national anti-noma programs which had been initially planned by the WHO but abandoned for lack of funding. Today, with funding from Winds of Hope, six sub-Saharan countries **are conducting large-scale national awareness and health worker training programs**. The aim is to educate and train medical personnel in successive cascades from national to regional to sub-regional to local level. In Niger alone, over 4,000 health workers have been trained since 2001.

100,000 Swiss francs a year to finance the program for an entire country:

an inexpensive investment given the high leverage of these operations aimed at malnutrition and the consequences of extreme poverty. These programs are implemented by the health ministries of the countries concerned, managed and controlled by the WHO and supervised by ourselves.



SEVEN NEW PROJECTS SINCE NOMA DAY

RURAL HEALTH AND PREVENTION

Burkina Faso

The rural health program in the Gourma region in the east of the country led by the 'A Better Life Foundation', as well as raising awareness in poor rural communities, has made it possible to train 31 head nurses and 66 community health workers. More than 1,400 persons have been cared for and several surgical interventions organized.

NOMA MEETINGS

Burkina Faso

This program is undertaken by the 'Persis-Burkina' association and the 'La Voix du Paysan' radio in the region of Ouahigouya in the north of the country. These organize theatre tours and information forums, which are then radio broadcast in the local language, in which actors and medical staff invite people to join in fighting noma. The program also aims to bring noma sufferers into contact with ad hoc structures.

SENSITIZATION AND TRAINING

Burkina Faso

This health worker training project, which the 'Sentinelles' association has just launched last November, will cover the five districts of the Central West region. Traditional practitioners are being included in the educational campaign.

COMMUNITY AWARENESS-RAISING AND HEALTH WORKER TRAINING

Mali

34 mission days conducted by the 'Au Fil de la Vie' association in the region of Kayes have put the message across directly to 10,000 people and 46 health centres, set up local information relays and distributed Spirulina to combat infant malnutrition. 5 new noma cases were brought to light during the mission.



INTENSIFYING AWARENESS AND PREVENTION

TRAINING TRADITIONAL MIDWIVES

Mali

9 weeks' training were organized by the 'Idées'Elles et Prométhée' association in the region of Mopti and Bandiagara (84 villages and 50,000 residents) to enable 164 traditional midwives to provide hygiene and nutrition advice to the women they accompany during pregnancy, childbirth and breastfeeding.

ACCOMPANYING SURGERY MISSIONS

Mali and Burkina Faso

Three missions, one in Mali and two in Burkina Faso, involving 54 volunteers from the 'Ensemble pour Eux' (Together for Them) association, provided post-operative care for 160 children treated by surgeons from the Children of Noma association.

TRAINING AND PREVENTION

Guinea-Bissau

The 'Hilfsaktion Noma' association has undertaken a country-wide information and education program. Training seminars have been organized in all health regions for 492 physicians, nurses, midwives, parents, educators, traditional chiefs, opinion-leaders, healers, communicators, journalists, NGOs etc., along with awareness raising campaigns attended by 1881 school pupils, 1186 community health workers and 3500 people at public meetings.



10 YEARS OF HUMANITARIAN COMMITMENT TO ...

... setting up simple, high leverage prevention programs.

It is all about giving people in remote and disadvantaged areas basic education in hygiene and basic care, providing mothers with advice on nutrition, preventing imbalances that can lead to the onset of noma, learning to recognize the first symptoms of the disease, providing first aid to halt the disease and finally fighting deep-rooted beliefs that noma is an untreatable curse.

... forming a chain to combat noma

In creating the international No-Noma Federation in 2003, the Winds of Hope Foundation has sought to bring together all actors involved in the fight against noma to develop synergies and enhance fieldwork. Each year, at a round table organized and funded by Winds of Hope, 30 associations and NGOs exchange experiences and develop partnerships, both locally and internationally, to improve the effectiveness of their actions.

... getting noma known, mobilizing international action

In 2008, Winds of Hope undertook, in collaboration with the No-Noma Federation, the first international event dedicated to the children who are victims of this disease. Noma Day, a scientific and information event, was organized parallel to and in collaboration with the WHO General Assembly. This enterprise has successfully helped bring this 'face of poverty' out into the open and to collect nearly 1 million Swiss francs to increase prevention efforts.

... setting up a team to accompany and to act

The thrust given by Noma Day has enabled Winds of Hope to expand its activities in the field. To support this development, the Foundation is pleased to now have its own director and welcome four new members to its Board.

Foundation Board : Patrick Delarive, Brian Jones, Njack Kane, Bertrand Piccard, Michèle Piccard, Igor Ustinov **Director :** Philippe Rathle **Secretary :** Valérie Stillavato



COMMITTING AND PREVENTING

A child with an unbalanced diet, living in precarious conditions, is a potential noma victim.

In conditions of extreme poverty, noma is favoured by several factors: poor hygiene, in particular oral, malnutrition which lowers immune defences, and infectious diseases like measles or malaria which weaken the body. Survivors are disfigured for life and will never be able to eat, speak or breathe normally.

A few francs' worth of antibiotics given in time can stop the disease.

The presence of trained personnel at village level is one of the surest ways to pass on these concepts of hygiene and nutrition, and prevent and detect cases of noma before it is too late.

Support our prevention and early detection programmes

CCP : 17-120000-4

IBAN : CH27 0900 0000 1712 0000 4

BIC : POFICHBEXXX

Every donation made to Winds of Hope Foundation, a recognized charity, entitles the donor to a tax deduction.

100% of donations are allocated to humanitarian action.

Thanks to the generous support of its partners and board members, who fully fund the foundation's running costs, Winds of Hope can guarantee that every franc donated is allocated to humanitarian action in the field.

100 CHF = training for 1 health worker = 1 village protected against noma

