INTRODUCTION

CHAINE DE L’ESPOIR / CHAIN OF HOPE – EUROPE (COHE) unites the skills and resources of 4 founding European NGOs: La Chaîne de l’Espoir (France), Chaine de l’Espoir (Belgium)/Keten van Hoop België, Bambini Cardiopatici Nel Mondo (Italy) and the RobinAid Foundation (Germany). In March 2015, Cadeia da Esperança (Portugal) joined the organisation as its fifth member. Most recently, in September 2017, Chaîne de l’Espoir Luxembourg joined the organisation as its sixth member.

The COHE is a non-profit network of medical and surgical experts who have been caring for populations in need and sharing knowledge in Asia, Africa, the Middle East, Eastern Europe and South America for over 20 years.

Its objectives are as follows:

- To increase the impact of its projects abroad
- To advocate for its projects informing international authorities and the European public
- To launch Europe-wide awareness and fundraising campaigns to gain the support of international agencies, private companies and the public.
COHE cooperation in 2018

A) Missions

Surgical missions are currently carried out in Africa and Middle-East. The targets of these missions are the following:

- consult, perform surgery, and treat a great number of children
- train local doctors and paramedics through organised work in pair, aiming for the local staff to acquire autonomy in treating pediatric pathologies
- hand out medical supplies and equipment

The teams include voluntary surgeons and doctors, expert in specialised pediatric disciplines, but also qualified paramedical staff (nurses, bio-technicians, physiotherapists, prosthethists….)
DES Seminar in Dakar (07-12 May 2018) – Visceral and Orthopedic Surgery

**COHE Members:** La Chaîne de l’Espoir France, Chaîne de l’Espoir Belgique

**Medical team:** Prof. Em. Yann Révillon, pediatric surgeon and medical referee of the program; Prof. Naziha Khen-Dunlop, pediatric visceral surgeon; and Dr. Damien Desmette, pediatric orthopedic surgeon. Assistance to the operating room was provided by Mrs. Brigitte Perroux and Mrs. Cristina Perez.

**Location:** Hopital d’Enfants Albert Royer, Dakar

**Context:** Chain of Hope - Europe (COHE), in collaboration with la Chaîne de l’Espoir France (CDEF) and Belgium (CDEB), funded and supported the organisation of the 9th seminar in support to the pediatric surgery specialization program (DES-CP). The seminar was led by Professor Gabriel Ngom, coordinator of the DES-CP in Senegal and head of the surgery department at the Albert Royer Children’s Hospital in Dakar (HEAR).

This seminar is part of the teaching program of pediatric surgery in West Africa, supported by the CDEF since 2014. The universities of Abidjan, Lomé, Cotonou, Ouagadougou, Conakry and Dakar offer this teaching program, which is supervised by the African and Malagasy Council for Higher Education (CAMES) and whose curriculum is harmonized by the West African Health Organization (WAHO).

The support to the DES-CP program is conducted in partnership with the African Pediatric Surgery Society (SACP)

**Mission results:** Among the 22 children seen in consultation, 8 (five girls and three boys) were operated during the week of the seminar. These were mainly orthopedic cases (6/8).
DES Seminar in Ouagadougou (07-12 May 2018) – Visceral and Orthopedic Surgery

**COHE Members:** La Chaîne de l’Espoir France, Chaîne de l’Espoir Belgique

**Medical team:** Prof. Em. Yann Révillon, pediatric surgeon and medical referee of the program; Prof. Greta Dereymaeker, Pr. Jérôme Viala, Prof. Jean Martin Laberge, Mrs Brigitte Peroux

**Location:** Hopital Charles de Gaulle, Ouagadougou

**Thematic:** Caustic burns and clubfoot

**Mission results:** 21 consultations, 10 surgeries, 8 endoscopies

**Context:** All these operations were livestreamed on a giant screen in the seminar room, using two cameras allowing students to follow the entire operation (one camera attached to the operating light giving a clear picture of the operation, and the other one mounted on the wall providing an overview of the work of the entire team working in the room). A micro endoscopic camera was also connected to the system when treating a fistula of the esophagus.

The surgeon in charge of the operation was equipped with a wireless microphone attached to his work coat, which allowed him to describe his actions without compromising his operation. Two other microphones were made available to the professors in the training room so that they could also share his observations. This system also offered the students the opportunity to ask "live" questions to the operating surgeon.

The filmed operations were recorded and retrieved on an external hard drive. The videos have been uploaded on an internet platform to allow the various participants to download them freely.
B) Other cooperation

Children treated in Europe

One of the main actions undertaken by the members of the Chain of Hope Europe is to treat children, who do not have access to specialised healthcare in their country. Children stay in Europe for a period of 4 to 8 weeks, and live with voluntary foster families, who look after them and take care of their material and emotional needs. At the end of their treatment, and once they have fully recovered, the children return to their country and family.

Applications for these children are evaluated by a specialised medical committee, based on a full medical report. For the application to be accepted, various standards have to be fulfilled, related to the pathology type, the child’s age, and the lack of access to the required medical treatment in the issuing country.

The complex surgery technics as well as the strict post-operative follow-up require medical equipment and infrastructures with security and hygiene standards which most developing countries lack.

Medical equipment

In order for the medical teams to perform high-end surgeries on children in developing countries, it is often required to purchase and transport specialized medical equipment for partner hospitals. This is another important area of cooperation for the members of the COHE.
Pr. Gabriel Ngom was invited in the show « Kenkelibaa » in May 2018 to talk about the DES seminar:

La retransmission de la cérémonie d’ouverture ainsi que les interviews des professeurs Ngom et Révillon au HEAR sont accessibles directement sur le compte YouTube de l’hôpital

SEMINAIRE PEDIATRIE: LE PR G. NGOUM CHEF SERV CHIRURGIE PEDIATRIE INVITE SUR LE PLATEAU KENKELIBAA RTS
Financial Report

In 2018, the total income of the Chain of Hope Europe accounts to the following number: 43.915,00€

- Membership fees: 4.000,00€
- Project funding: 39.915,00€
- Other: 12,66€

The total expenditure of the Chain of Hope Europe accounts to the following number: 66.219.14€

- Project implementation: 39.914,99€
- Human resources: 23.724,43€
- Office costs: 656,09€
- Travel expenses: 1.923,63€