

**LEPROSY REGIONAL MEETING  
CAIRO**

JULY 15th - 16th 2009



**Arkangelo Ali Association**

**COMPREHENSIVE  
LEPROSY REHABILITATIVE PROJECT**  
In  
**SOUTH SUDAN**

**PRESENTATION BY**

**Dr Callixte Minani**

**Ms Natalina Sala**



**ABOUT**

**Arkangelo Ali Association**

- An indigenous Sudanese NGO, under the umbrella of the Verona Fathers
- Working in Southern Sudan since 1997
- Vision: AAA believes in Human Dignity

**AAA PROGRAMS**

- Leprosy control program: - Surgical Program & Social Economic Rehabilitation
- TB and TB-HIV collaborative programs
- Primary Health care programs
- Eye care Programs
- Malaria Control Program
- Community Mobilization and Training

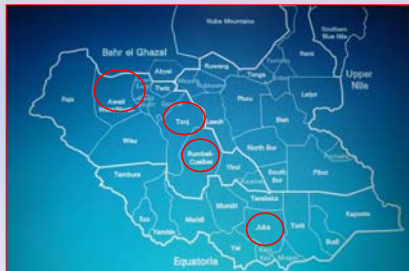
**AAA COMPREHENSIVE LEPROSY / DISABILITY  
REHABILITATION PROJECT IN SOUTHERN SUDAN**



NB: AAA is the only NGO implementing this program in Southern Sudan

## Program areas

- Lake States:- Mapuordit, Yirol, Agangrial, Kw el Kwac and WouWou (about to start)
- Warrap State: Marial-Lou and Tonj
- Northern Barh El Ghazal State: Gordhim
- Western Equatoria:



## Introduction

- ❖ The *extent* and *severity* of *disability* in So. Sudan is yet to be accurately determined.
- ❖ The disabled must be rehabilitated so as to contribute to the development of the 'new' So. Sudan(!)

## AAA Surgical/Rehabilitation Project Goals

- Survey of Health facilities to examine all leprosy ( & other disabled persons)
- Physiotherapy
- Reconstructive/R ehabilitative Surgery



## AAA Rehabilitation Project GOALS

### D. In-service Training Courses (8-10days)



Lectures

Clinical Exercises



## Activities ...

Started with survey of all leprosy facilities to..

1. **Examine Register..accuracy of recording..**
2. **Assess the competency & performance of all health workers.**

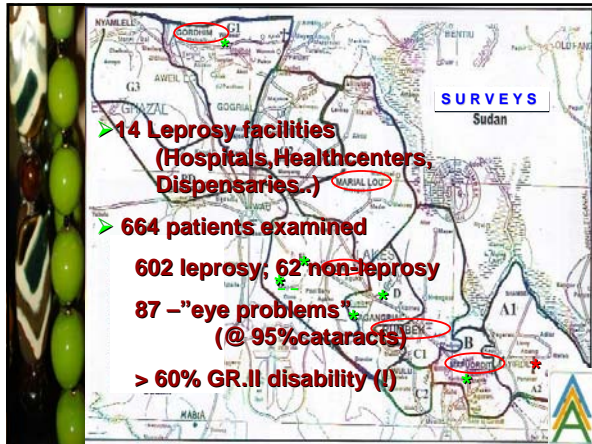


## Activities ...

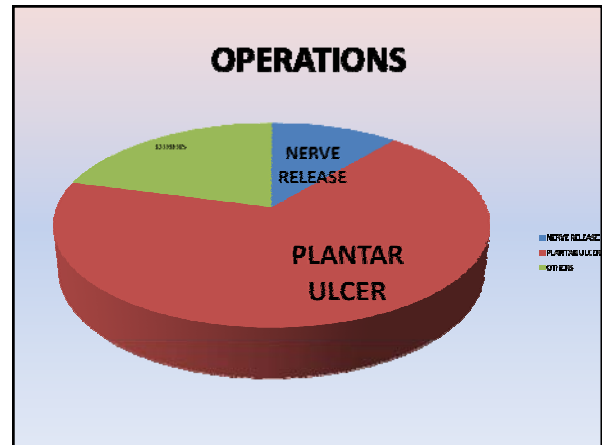
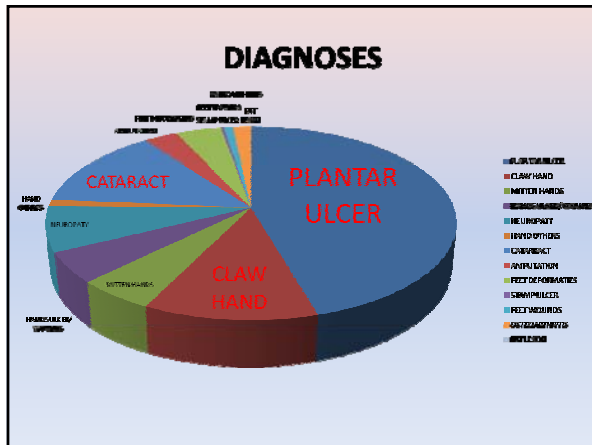
Screening.....

1. **Examine patients ..assess disabilities..**
2. **Determine mode of management...**





- ### Activities ...
- Surgery and rehabilitation: To return function to limbs that had lost function due to nerve damage.
  - Care and support: e.g. by use of protective footwear, vaseline, avoid injuries, etc
  - Training of all health personnel at all levels..



### FINDINGS

- Condition of many/most patients is **VERY** poor with severe limb mutilations(!)
- ...due to lack of home 'self-care'
- **IGNORANCE & NEGLECT!**
- General knowledge of most health workers is very weak...re: nature of leprosy, accurate clinical diagnosis

### FINDINGS

- **Lack of availability of protective footwear**
- **No Physiotherapy programme..training of PT 'aides'**

## FINDINGS

- \* Doctors/Clinical Officers not trained in septic & rehabilitative surgery...
- \* High percentage of leprosy patients with preventable & treatable blindness..



## CONSTRAINTS

- Inadequate skills among local staff about leprosy
- Stigma related with leprosy attitudes (even staff who fear to touch patients)
- Lack of awareness communities as well as the patients
- Poverty – not able to obtain simple preventive measures like shoes....
- Access – bad roads, hospitals are far apart



## WAY FORWARD OR RECOMMENDATIONS

- Intensify In service training
- Physiotherapy
- Surgeon Consultant
- Provide protective footwear
- Augument the existing eye program to reach more patients



THANK YOU