



FINAL REPORT
Lake Tanganyika Floating Health Clinic
Ministry of Health Communications Network Upgrade Project
Moba Territory, Democratic Republic of the Congo
April 2012

I. Context and Justification of Project

The lack of reliable communications has rendered many Health Areas in Moba Health Zone, Democratic Republic of the Congo (DRC), unable to radio for emergency medical assistance, seek basic health-related guidance, or submit monthly reports as required by the Katanga Ministry of Health. Most of these Health Areas are located on the shores of Lake Tanganyika or on the high plateaus, which are only accessible from the water. As a result, tens of thousands of Congolese over hundreds of square kilometers are essentially cut off from access to basic health care.

II. Activities of Project

In cooperation with the provincial and national Ministry of Health, Office of Governor Moïse Katumbi and the President's Office of Social and Culture Affairs, in partnership with the Moba Regional Hospital, and with support and assistance from the Administrator of Moba Territory, Agence Nationale de Renseignements in Moba, traditional chiefs and other local governmental bodies and individuals, the Lake Tanganyika Floating Health Clinic (LTFHC) significantly upgraded the Moba Health Zone's communications network and closed an enormous communications gap by undertaking the following activities:

- Installed communications units, comprised of a Kenwood TK-90 HF radio, folded dipole antenna, a 60-watt solar panel and 12 volt battery, at the following locations:
 1. L'Hôpital Générale de Moba
 2. Le Centre de Santé de Katele à Moba-Port
 3. Le Centre de Santé de Kapakwe à Kapakwe
 4. Le Centre de Santé de Kansenge à Kansenge
 5. Le Centre de Santé de Liombe à Liombe
 6. Le Centre de Santé de Kizike à Kizike
 7. Le Centre de Santé de Kapampa à Kileba
 8. Le Centre de Santé de Kapote à Kapote
 9. Le Centre de Santé de Livua à Livua.*
- Pre-programmed each radio to enable communications by day, night and in varying weather conditions.
- Trained nurses and other Ministry of Health staff to operate the radios at each of the above installation locations.

* Because of transitory security related issues, the LTFHC was unable to conduct the Livua installation.

III. Technical Specifications

Due to the remoteness of Moba Health Area clinics, the terrain profile and distances to be covered, the options are limited; as such, the LTFHC made use of HF, Long Wave Radios operating in the 500KHz – 30MHz band. This is the frequency range on which functional radios in Moba Territory operate. Long Wave Radio waves are reflected by the Ionosphere layer of the earth's atmosphere enabling a signal hop, by adjusting the frequency one is able to obtain an optimal hop distance between two stations.

IV. Project Results

- Seven Moba Health Areas have the ability to communicate with the Moba Regional Hospital.
- Titular nurses and other health care workers have the knowledge needed to operate the radios.
- Locations newly equipped with radios are able to submit weekly reports to the Moba Regional Hospital, as well as provide monitoring for Ministry of Health activities such as vaccination campaigns.
- Tens of thousands of Congolese citizens living in the Lake Tanganyika basin are now better connected to the Moba Health Zone.

V. Budget

A Hewlett Packard Global Social Innovation grant provided the financial resources to purchase and transport the equipment to Moba Territory, hire personnel to conduct the installations and train titular nurses and other local health care workers how to operate the radios. Beach Petroleum also contributed to the project. The LTFHC used core funding to fill funding gaps. See Appendix A for project budget.

VI. Appendix

Annexe A: Budget

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Description:	Amount:
Equipment and Supplies	\$ 25,195
Equipment Clearance	\$ 2,326
Local and International Team Transport and Lodging	\$ 17,100
<i>Compensation</i>	
Local Team	\$ 4,360
International Team	\$ 12,590
Advance Trips	\$ 1,581
Immigration Fees (DRC, Tanzania, Zambia)	\$ 364
Internet/Airtime for team	\$ 345
Security	\$ 160
TOTAL BUDGET	\$ 64,021