

ACTIVITY REPORT

2019



**ORDER OF MALTA
SWITZERLAND**

CIOMAL FOUNDATION



OBJECTIVES OF THE CIOMAL FOUNDATION

To fight leprosy and all forms of exclusion and disabilities around the world.

For centuries, the Order of Malta has been faced with leprosy and its medical and socio-economic consequences and it has kept on fighting the stigmatization induced by this disease. In order to contribute properly to its elimination, the CIOMAL foundation has been created in 1958, and became a Swiss not-for-profit Foundation in 1999 under the name of CIOMAL Foundation of the Order of Malta (Order of Malta's International Campaign Against Leprosy).

Today, the CIOMAL Foundation develops projects based on :

- **the treatment of the disease**
- **the rehabilitation of the persons affected.**

As a matter of fact, CIOMAL is coordinating medical and surgical interventions, organizing campaigns allowing for prevention, sensibilisation and early detection, running dedicated trainings for health professionals and providing socio-economical rehabilitation support.

Board of Directors of 31st December, 2019

Chairman : Mr. Thierry Zen Ruffinen

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Dr. Henri Perroud
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Operational Manager for Cambodia : Ms. Carole Vann

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LETTER FROM THE CHAIRMAN

"For weeks now, it has been evening. Thick darkness has gathered over our squares, our streets and our cities; it has taken over our lives, filling everything with a deafening silence and a distressing void, that stops everything as it passes by; we feel it in the air, we notice in people's gestures, their glances give them away. We find ourselves afraid and lost." These words verbatim from the "Extraordinary Moment of Prayer" presided over by Pope Francis on 27 March 2020 feel perfectly suited to describe what must be the experience of a person affected by leprosy. Yet, back in 1961, Raoul Follereau made this solemn call: "Is it going to last? Are we going to let millions of human beings die, rot, due to lack of money when we know now that we can treat them, save them, cure them?"

Although leprosy is no longer considered by the World Health Organisation (WHO) as a public health issue and it can now be cured, the fight against this disease remains urgent as 200,000 more people are infected every year in the world's poorest countries.

One out of ten victims is a child under 14.

And an estimated 3 million people are affected by leprosy throughout the world. Due to the physical marks it causes, leprosy also results in social exclusion, particularly in schools, workplaces and healthcare centers. We all have experienced the strict confinement imposed by the authorities in the spring of 2020, which may have given us an insight into the rejection, the fear and the isolation that those affected by leprosy have to live with.

As a central figure in this fight for over 60 years, the CIOMAL Foundation of the Order of Malta has provided support in Cambodia, Laos, Vietnam, Brazil, India, Senegal and Somalia among others. CIOMAL has worked in Cambodia for 25 years and over the last quarter of a century, it has offered 50,000 dermatology consultations, detected 4,000

new leprosy cases, and carried out thousands of surgical procedures. Its field work is focused on several priorities: prevention and awareness-raising, early detection, medical and surgical treatment, socio-economic rehabilitation, and local capacity-building.

- In 2019, over 6,000 people (including 1,400 children) received treatment at CIOMAL's Kien Khleang center, 700 persons affected healed from leprosy and 85 patients received surgery ;
- 56 former leprosy patients received a micro-credit while 36 schoolchildren and 5 students got a scholarship ;

- finally, over 29,000 garment workers were trained on leprosy and its treatment.

- All throughout the year, we have worked relentlessly to carry out early detection activities in every part of Cambodia. Nearly 3,000 people received a consultation and 25 new leprosy cases were discovered through 7 screening campaigns, including a pilot project in the North of Cambodia, where indigenous minorities live in remote conditions.

After receiving special consultative status with the United Nations Economic and Social Council, the CIOMAL Foundation delivered its first interventions in New York and Geneva. In addition,

thanks to the Permanent Mission of the Order of Malta to the United Nations in Geneva, CIOMAL representatives were able to have discussions with Ms. Alice Cruz, United Nations Special Rapporteur on Leprosy. Bilateral talks also gave me the opportunity to establish promising contacts with WHO representatives as well as H. E. Dr. Hilda Heine, President of the Republic of Marshall Islands.

In the spring, the CIOMAL Foundation joined the Geneva Federation for Cooperation (FGC) and its declaration of principles on international solidar-

**« Is it going to last?
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let millions of
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Raoul Follereau

LETTER FROM THE CHAIRMAN

ity. Thanks to this membership, CIOMAL can now interact with the FGC partners and use its label to fund sustainable development projects focused on the transfer of skills and local capacity-building. In addition, to strengthen its governance, the Foundation Board welcomed Ms. Verena Vorwerk, Hospitaller of the Swiss Association of the Order of Malta, who has a strong experience in business, coordination and strategic planning for charities.

Two CIOMAL delegates participated to the 20th International Leprosy Congress in Manila, where they were able to meet with representatives of the WHO, the Raoul Follereau Foundation, the Pacific Leprosy Foundation, the Philippine Association of the Order of Malta, the Most Venerable Order of Saint John, as well as dermatologists from Ethiopia, Madagascar, the DR Congo and Senegal.

In the fall, a delegation of seven persons affected by leprosy had the opportunity to join the Asia-Pacific Camp for Disabled Youth organized by the Hong Kong Association of the Order of Malta, a unique experience for them. Several of the participants flew for the first time in their lives.

Moreover, as a member of the Global Partnership for Zero Leprosy, CIOMAL continued its highly appreciated contribution to the work of the Operational Excellence Working Group. The conclusions, which focus on the stigmatisation, discrimination and exclusion of victims, will be published soon.

Finally, following a request of the WHO, we intervened in Pohnpei, in Micronesia and in other Pacific Islands, for an international training mission which was also joined by the Pacific Leprosy Foundation and the United States Center for Disease Control and Prevention.

While they are extraordinary, the achievements of 2019 appear trivial when looking at them in 2020, a year characterised by the upheavals from a COVID-19 pandemic that will leave an indelible mark and lead CIOMAL to adapt in order to continue its action for the poorest. However, it is crucial to maintain these efforts so that leprosy does not regain any ground.

With nowadays less than 100 new cases detected every year (against a mere 1,000 two decades ago), Cambodia has entered into the final stage of the fight against leprosy. This will imply a decen-

tralisation of screening, diagnosis and treatment of the malades toward the provincial health centres. As agreed with the ministries, CIOMAL will maintain its strong commitment towards active detection, so as to break the chain of transmission of the infection and reduce the risk for those affected to have permanent disability and altogether reintegrating the convalescents by offering them medical and socio-economic rehabilitation. The remarkable results posted in Cambodia have furthermore enticed the Board of Directors to work on a strategic reorientation, thus studying other geographical clusters where CIOMAL could help alleviate the pain of the victims of leprosy.

The ability to meet these ambitious objectives is contingent on the financial support that our private and institutional donors renewed once again in 2019. In the name of those we were able to help, the Foundation Board expresses once again its utmost gratitude to CIOMAL's loyal and generous donors.

Thierry ZEN RUFFINEN
Chairman



From left to right: Mr. Raymond Loretan, member – Pr. Philippe Jaeger, member – Mr. Thierry Zen Ruffinen, chairman
 Ms. H  l  ne Genillard, member – Dr. Henri Perroud, member – Mr. Simon von Oppenheim, Director of Finance.
 Not pictured : Ms. Verena Vorwerk.



TABLE OF CONTENTS

3	CIOMAL'S OBJECTIVES
	• Board of Directors
4-5	LETTER FROM THE CHAIRMAN
9	FOREWORD
10	LEPROSY THEN AND NOW
11-15	AREAS OF FOCUS
	• Kien Khleang, a Medical Healthcare Centre
	• Training for different groups at the KKLRC
	• Active and passive detection of leprosy cases
	• Socio-economic rehabilitation
16-21	LEPROSY AWARENESS CAMPAIGNS
	• Raising awareness in garment factories
	• World Leprosy Day
	• Visit of Miss Cambodia 2019
	• Interview with H. E. Dr. Hilda Heine
	• Human Rights Council
	• Membership of the Geneva Federation Cooperation
	• Sketches to play down leprosy
	• 20 th International Leprosy Congress
	• Third Asia-Pacific Camp of the Order of Malta for young disabled people
	• Activities in Micronesia
	• Advocacy and Human Resources
22	THANKS

A woman with short, light-colored hair is sitting in a rustic, possibly outdoor or semi-outdoor setting. She is wearing a light-colored, patterned top. The background shows some wooden structures and foliage. The entire image has a strong red tint. Overlaid on the image is white text.

There are five cornerstones of CIOMAL's work :

- 1. Medical care and rehabilitation services :**
administering the polychemotherapy, treating the leprosy reaction and the consequences from the disease, reconstructive surgery and physiotherapy care ;
- 2. Prevention of disabilities :**
through trainings for the healthcare staff as well as the persons affected by leprosy ;
- 3. Early detection of new leprosy cases :**
with active search in the most affected areas ;
- 4. Socio-economic rehabilitation :**
financial aid for micro-businesses, providing vocational trainings, scholarships and food aid, house building or renovations ;
- 5. Awareness campaigns :**
to slow and stop the spread of the disease, reduce heavy disabilities and the stigmatisation of the persons affected by leprosy and their relatives.

The CIOMAL Foundation of the Order of Malta (Order of Malta's International Campaign Against Leprosy) is a Swiss not-for-profit registered charity headquartered in Geneva. Its main objective is to fight leprosy and all forms of exclusion and disabilities around the world.

ACTIVITIES IN CAMBODIA

The CIOMAL Foundation has been working in Cambodia for 25 years and partnering on the ground with the National Leprosy Elimination Program, which was established by the Ministry of Health and the Ministry of Social Affairs, Veterans and Youth Rehabilitation. In 2000, with the support of several partners, CIOMAL opened a rehabilitation and training center for leprosy patients in Phnom Penh.



LEPROSY THEN AND NOW

For centuries, leprosy, also known as Hansen's disease, was a scourge of humanity and induced terror in people due to the disabilities and disfigurements it caused but also the catastrophic psychological and social consequences it unleashed through the lifetime internment and isolation once forced onto patients.

Leprosy was associated with destitution and precarious health. In Central Europe, it was endemic in the Middle Ages, underwent a major decline in the 16th century and nearly disappeared naturally in the 18th century.

But it is in Southeast Asia (India, Bangladesh, Indonesia) that there are now the highest number of people affected, by far.

It seems that colonisation introduced leprosy on the American continent. To this day, Brazil remains one of the world's most affected countries.

There are also many countries in Sub-Saharan Africa with a high endemicity due to wars, lack of governance and malnutrition, which make infections more likely and access to healthcare more difficult.

The disease is characterised by disability and contagiousness and it always stirred fear and rejection but also feelings of compassion and assistance for lepers through the building of leper colonies and hospitals everywhere in Europe as well as the charity work of communities, churches and the orders (among which the Sovereign Order of Malta).

Nowadays, this admirable commitment continues through many non-governmental organisations that are very active in the fight against leprosy. For several decades, the World Health Organisation has determined and coordinated the strategy with the final aim of eliminating leprosy.

A crucial turning point in the fight against leprosy was the introduction in 1981 of a treatment associating three drugs (dapsone, rifampicin and clofazimine) that is curative and fully eliminates the infection by the *Mycobacterium leprae* from the human body.

This allowed for the drastic reduction in the global number of people affected by leprosy, from 5.4 million in 1980 to a few hundred thousands these last few years.

In Cambodia, we have also witnessed a progressive decrease in the number of new cases detected every year. We believe that we are currently in the final phase of the fight against leprosy. The active search for the last people affected through detection campaigns in remote rural areas will make it possible to break the chain of transmission of the infection and reduce the risk for those affected to have a permanent disability. This still requires an increased effort in the next few years.

One of our missions is to integrate the diagnosis and treatment of leprosy - as well as the continuous treatment of related disabilities - within the general healthcare services. Our ambitious objective remains to create a world without leprosy. It is within reach.

We believe that we are currently in the final phase of the fight against leprosy.

This still requires an increased effort in the next few years.

Dr. Henri Perroud, M. D ., dermatologist
Member of the Board of Directors

KIEN KHLEANG, A MEDICAL HEALTHCARE CENTER

CONSULTATIONS AND TREATMENTS

In 2000, the CIOMAL Foundation opened the Kien Khleang Leprosy Rehabilitation Center (KKLRC) in Phnom Penh. The rehabilitation center for those affected by leprosy is the largest in Cambodia. It offers both outpatient and inpatient care. In addition to treatment for leprosy, the center provides dermatology consultations. All healthcare services are provided free of charge.

KKLRC has a capacity of 37 beds but can accommodate up to 47 patients if necessary.

In 2019, 5,170 dermatology consultations were provided as well as 725 leprosy consultations. In total, 5,895 people came to the Center, including 2,159 men, 2,391 women and 1,345 children under 15. These consultations resulted in the detection of 17 new leprosy cases, including one case of multibacillary leprosy and one case in a child.

811 people received physiotherapy services and 377 rehabilitation equipment: sunglasses, crutches, protective shoes or gloves. 89 pairs of orthopedic shoes were tailor made for leprosy patients.

The average hospital stay is about 42 days.



Left:
Kien Khleang, Medical
Healthcare Centre.

Right:
Surgery operation.

SURGICAL SERVICES

In July, an assessment mission was carried out in various Cambodian provinces in order to detect patients scheduled for surgery at Kien Khleang and provide post-operative monitoring for some patients who were hospitalised.

Then, in early August, a Vietnamese surgical team associated with the KKLRC staff performed reconstructive surgery for leprosy patients.

In total, 101 persons with leprosy who stayed at KKLRC underwent surgery, including 10 children.

In partnership with All Ears Cambodia, which the CIOMAL Foundation has collaborated with for many years, 157 persons received treatment or were provided with ear prosthetics following an examination performed during their stay at KKLRC.

TRAININGS FOR VARIOUS GROUPS AT KKLRC

In collaboration with the University of Health Sciences, the International University and the Technical School for Medical Care, trainings on leprosy-related clinical techniques and practical activities were integrated into the university curriculum for fifth-year medicine students.

This means they attend a 20-day leprosy training while physiotherapy students follow a 10-day one and dermatology interns a specific 60-day course.

In 2019, 92 students completed a training :

- 35 medical students ;
- 21 dermatology interns ;
- 15 physiotherapy students ;
- 21 prosthetic and orthotic students.

DAILY LIFE

The Center patients have access to recreational and educational activities that help them learn how to live with their disabilities in a sanitary and healthy way. They learn how to cook or garden without burning themselves or getting injured in limbs that have lost all sensation. They can also learn how to read and write, or have computer lessons. Once a month, they go on group outings into town to overcome inhibitions related to their disabilities.

The recreational activities organised at the Center include theater workshops, karaoke nights and board games. Every year, KKLRC patients also join various social events organised by the government, such as the International Day of Persons with Disabilities or singing contests.

By taking part in various activities together with the paramedical staff, hospitalised patients increase their self-confidence and general knowledge during their stay at the Center. This may include cooking, cleaning their own living space, learning how to read and write in Khmer, going to the market or visiting cultural sites.

In 2019, leprosy patients carried out 226 daily life events.



Training.



ACTIVE DETECTION OF LEPROSY CASES

Active detection is characterised by a search for new leprosy cases. In its routine activities, the National Leprosy Elimination Program (NLEP) is in charge of carrying out such monitoring, detecting new cases and taking a census of those affected.

The Contact Tracing pilot project was implemented in 2011 by the CIOMAL Foundation, with the support of the Novartis Foundation, the Netherland Leprosy Relief, the Raoul Follereau Foundation, and the Order of Malta France. It consists in the early detection of newly declared cases of leprosy. To this end, together with NLEP staff, the CIOMAL team visits former patients in order to detect new leprosy cases among their neighbours and relatives and treat them as fast possible to avoid any propagation of the bacillus to healthy persons.



Early detection of the disease campaign.

These campaigns started in the districts with the highest prevalence of people affected by leprosy. From 2011 to June 2015, more than 600 new cases were identified and received treatment. The data collected during this first cycle was used to determine the scope of action for the next cycle (which started in 2017) and provided reliable statistics on the situation of leprosy in the country.

In 2019, CIOMAL carried out 7 leprosy detection campaigns in the family and social circles of already identified patients in the provinces of Tbong Kamom, Ratanakiri, Kompong Cham, Preah Vihear, Siem Reap, Takeo and Kratie. These campaigns took place in remote rural areas and resulted in the examination of 3,000 people and detection of 27 new leprosy cases (including 1 child). This number is decreasing, likely because the rural population's high migratory movements make it difficult to implement contact tracing. From 2020, in accordance with WHO recommendations, all healthy persons in a patient's family and neighbours will be examined and receive information before being provided with prophylaxis through a single dose of rifampicin (LPEP project). They will also remain monitored as persons at risk.

PASSIVE DETECTION

The many healthcare centers in Cambodian districts are responsible for first aid medicine. Their managers, healthcare workers and supervisors also receive training on the diagnosis and treatment of leprosy. The polychemotherapy which is administered for 6 to 18 months is provided on an outpatient basis in 90% cases. Inpatient care is required only for patients who have a disability (paralysis, ulcerations) or experienced inflammatory reactions during the treatment.

Out of the 83 cases reported in Cambodia in 2019, 44 of them (i.e. more than half) were detected directly by CIOMAL: 23 through contact tracing and 17 through the dermatology consultations carried out at KKLRC.

The other 39 cases were detected either by the provincial centers (including by supervisors trained by CIOMAL) or through the LPEP project.



In 2019, the CIOMAL Foundation provided support to many leprosy affected people in their socio-economic rehabilitation :

- **Sponsorship for 41 students ;**
- **Vocational training for 1 person ;**
- **Assistance for the construction of 5 new houses and the renovation of 2 houses ;**
- **Annual food aid for 20 persons ;**
- **8 new loans to start a new business ;**
- **48 loan renewals to support recently created businesses ;**
- **34 bicycles to students and persons affected by leprosy ;**
- **Capacity-building trainings for 126 persons .**

SOCIO-ECONOMIC REHABILITATION

In 2002, the CIOMAL Foundation created a socio-economic rehabilitation (SER) project as part of its wider activities to fight the consequences of leprosy in Cambodia. The SER project emphasised the reintegration of isolated persons affected by leprosy in their communities.

In its holistic approach to leprosy, CIOMAL addresses not only the preventive and curative aspects of the disease at the rehabilitation center of Kien Khleang but also works to provide all former patients with follow-up and support at the psycho-social and economic levels.

The SER project meets the specific needs of the persons affected by leprosy by encouraging and supporting their social reintegration, and by providing a roof if necessary, financial assistance to start a new business or education sponsorship.



House after renovation.

In 2019, the Peter Donders Foundation gave its support to scholarships and house renovations, also supported by the Compounding Partnership Fund. The scholarships are reserved for youth affected by leprosy or living in a family with a member affected by the disease. The CIOMAL Foundation seeks to support the students until they graduate. A close follow-up is crucial in this project. To do so, the team visits the beneficiaries regularly and remains in contact with them, their families and their teachers. Scholarships are awarded to students so they can buy school materials and pay for their accommodation and food.



Scholarship student.

AWARENESS CAMPAIGNS



Awareness raising.

Leprosy awareness campaigns aim to help people learn how to recognise the first symptoms of the disease, understand its complications and treatment, reduce transmission and alleviate the moral and physical suffering of the patients. They also publicise the activities of CIOMAL so everybody feels concerned by leprosy.

In this respect, the website khmer.ciomal.org and social media have contributed to a notable increase in the spreading of information about the disease.

Raising awareness in garment factories

In 2019, 12 garment factories were visited by teams of the CIOMAL Foundation accompanied by staff from the Ministry of Social Affairs, Veterans and Youth Rehabilitation as well as the Ministry of Health. Six visits were carried out in the week before the Khmer New Year and six others in October. These events were attended by a total of 29,050 workers who have been trained on how to heal and how to act when confronted to a case of leprosy.

Leaflets and posters were distributed in each factory. They describe the signs and symptoms of leprosy.

The overwhelming majority – not to say all – of the persons surveyed knew where to go in case of symptoms.

During awareness campaigns in garment factories, a survey carried out among 250 workers showed that 97% of them had :

- read CIOMAL leaflets on leprosy ;
- understood that leprosy was contagious and its treatment free of charge ;
- confirmed bringing the leaflet back home .

World Leprosy Day

On 30 January, on the occasion of the 66th World Leprosy Day, the Kien Khleang leprosy rehabilitation center organised an open day. Former leprosy patients were invited and a theatre play on leprosy was performed in 2019.

The event was attended by about 200 people. Three among the Miss Cambodia contenders came at KKLRC for a catwalk show. Then, everybody danced and enjoyed the unforgettable day.



World Leprosy Day Celebration.

Visit of Miss Cambodia 2019

In July, KKLRC was visited by Miss Cambodia 2019 and three of her runners-up. They came to the Center to meet leprosy patients. Like every year, they taught several female patients how to use make-up.

This annual event aims to raise awareness about leprosy. The beauty queens' presence resulted in the filming of a short news report for television channel PNN.



Interaction between Miss Cambodia 2019 and her runners-up with the leprosy patients.

Interview with H. E. Dr. Hilda Heine, President of the Marshall Islands

As part of its mission to fight against leprosy, Mr. Thierry Zen Ruffinen, Chairman of the CIOMAL Foundation, had the honour to meet with H. E. Dr. Hilda Heine, President of the Republic of the Marshall Islands, and H. E. Ms. Doreen Debrum, Ambassador Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary and Permanent Representative of the Republic of the Marshall Islands to the United Nations and other organisations in Geneva.

This meeting was possible thanks to the kind intercession of the Diplomatic Club of Geneva and its Chairman, Mr. Raymond Loretan, who is also a member of CIOMAL's Board of Directors.



From left to right:
H. E. Ms. Doreen Debrum - H. E. Dr. Hilda Heine - Mr. Thierry Zen Ruffinen.

Joining the Geneva Federation for Cooperation

On 27 June, the CIOMAL Foundation of the Order of Malta joined the Geneva Federation for Cooperation (FGC) and its declaration of principles on international solidarity. Thanks to this membership, CIOMAL can now interact with FGC partners and use its label to fund sustainable development projects focused on the transfer of skills and local capacity-building.



2019 FGC General Assembly.

Human Rights Council in Geneva

On 24 June, Mr. Hervé Arot, member of the Executive Committee of CIOMAL, took the floor during the 41st session of the Human Rights Council in Geneva.

During his statement, he recalled that the CIOMAL Foundation, together with the Sovereign Order of Malta, supports the recommendations of Ms. Alice Cruz, United Nations Special Rapporteur on leprosy, who has emphasised the importance of eliminating discrimination against the persons affected by leprosy, in particular women and children.

The CIOMAL Foundation calls upon all States to implement in their domestic legislation the principles and directives aimed at the “elimination of discrimination against persons affected by leprosy and their family members.”

20th International Leprosy Congress in Manila

The CIOMAL Foundation was well represented at the 20th International Leprosy Congress which took place in September in Manila. Dr. Henri Perroud, M. D., Member of the Board of Directors, and Ms. Carole Vann, operational manager for Cambodia, participated to the discussions and exchanges of experiences. The congress offered them the opportunity to meet with representatives of the World Health Organisation, the Raoul Follereau Foundation, the Pacific Leprosy Foundation, the Philippine Association of the Order of Malta, the Most Venerable Order of Saint John, as well as dermatologists from Ethiopia, Madagascar, the DR of Congo and Senegal.

The diagnostic, therapeutic, epidemiological and psycho-social aspects were at the center of the hundred conferences that took place. Even though leprosy has continued its decline, a lot remains to be done. The stigma and lack of information are hampering the total eradication of the disease.



20th International Leprosy Congress in Manila.



Dr Henri Perroud and Mrs Carole Vann at the 20th International Leprosy Congress in Manila.

3rd Asia-Pacific Camp of the Order of Malta for Disabled Youth - Hong Kong

In October 2019, more than a hundred people traveled to Hong Kong to participate to the 3rd Asia-Pacific Camp of the Order of Malta for youth with Disabilities. Participants came from Australia, China, Indonesia, Cambodia and the Netherlands. They were able to play, have fun and enjoy a happy holiday. For several of them, this was their first international trip.

Three representatives of the CIOMAL Foundation were present to accompany four persons affected by leprosy. To celebrate their first trip outside of Cambodia, they showed Khmer dances and costumes. Sportswise, CIOMAL's Cambodian team won the Christopher Cup in the croquet competition organised every year at the International Camp in memory of Christopher Breisky and four others who lost their lives in a car accident in 1994, on their way back from the summer camp. Christopher Breisky's parents gave the camp organisers the sports equipment of their late son's favorite game. Each year, the competition takes place in memory of Christopher Breisky, Ingrid Reithofer, Paul Kaltenegger, Markus Knezevic and Thibault de Montjoye.



Delivery of the "Christopher Cup" during the Asia-Pacific camp of the Order of Malta for handi-capped youth, in Hong Kong.

Activities in Micronesia

From 18 to 22 November, the CIOMAL Foundation was solicited by the WHO to participate to the training of the managers in charge of the National Leprosy Elimination Program in hyper-endemic island countries. The session took place in Pohnpei and gathered representatives of the Federated States of Micronesia, the Island of Guam, Kiribati and the Republic of the Marshall Islands.

The training was organised under the leadership of the WHO Global Leprosy Program and the WHO Regional Office for the Western Pacific, in collaboration with the Pacific Leprosy Foundation and the United States Center for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC).

As the CIOMAL Foundation's representative, Mr. Saren CHAN acted as a consultant for the training. By the end of their stay, the participants carried out field visits for persons affected by leprosy in Pohnpei.

Sketches to play down leprosy

The CIOMAL Foundation works closely with Pekmi, a sketch comedy group that performs in a traditional Khmer style and is very famous in Cambodia. The Pekmi company usually performs on television but also in the provinces, without ever dealing with politics.

The objective is to explain clearly the main issues around leprosy and the fight against its stigmatisation. This show was then broadcast more than ten times on various television channels in the country.

Advocacy and human resources

In 2019, 41 interested persons came to discover the Kien Khleang Leprosy Rehabilitation Center in Phnom Penh. During their visit, they had the opportunity to learn what leprosy was, its characteristics and the Foundation's activities.

In the past year, thanks to CIOMAL's teams, it has been possible to :

- **sign an extended three-year Memorandum of Understanding with the Ministry of Health ;**
- **participate to several meetings on leprosy, including a three-day training ;**
- **participate to the annual Congress of Dermatology in Milan ;**
- **participate to the World Leprosy Conference on Indochina, in Laos ;**
- **organise a team-building weekend for all of the Foundation's staff .**

THANK YOU !

We wouldn't achieve anything without you.

Your daily support is indispensable to us.

We would like to thank here all our donors, private and institutional, without whom none of these activities could be carried out. The persons affected by leprosy and their families are our raison d'être.

We would like to give a special thanks to :

- The Sovereign Military Hospitaller Order of St John of Jerusalem of Rhodes and of Malta ;
- The Swiss Association of the Order of Malta ;
- The Monaco Association of the Sovereign Order of Malta ;
- The Order of Malta France ;
- The Global Fund for Forgotten People ;
- The Fondazione Don Fiorentino Galliciotti a favore dei poveri ;
- The Peter Donders Foundation ;
- The Compounding Partnership Fund ;
- The Carène Foundation ;
- The Gertrude Hirzel Foundation ;
- The Xavier-Marie Dubois-Barbier et Armand-Aline Spaenhoven-Barbier Foundation ;
- The Symphasis Foundation ;
- Carigest SA ;
- The Genolier Foundation ;
- The Geneva Federation for Cooperation.

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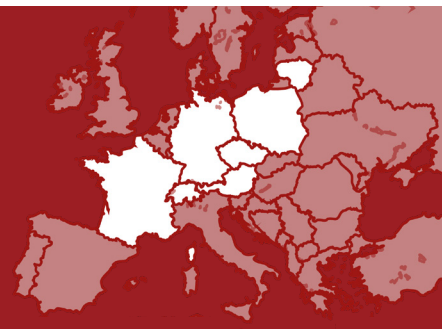
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peoplefone was founded in 2005 and is one of the leading VoIP providers in Switzerland. The peoplefone group has subsidiaries in 7 European countries: Switzerland, France, Germany, Austria, Poland, Slovakia and Lithuania. Currently, more than 20'000 business customers all over Europe make phone calls through peoplefone systems. The telecom operator works with over 1'000 installation partners throughout Switzerland and supports more than 50 new SMEs on VoIP every week. In addition, peoplefone is certified by all known PBX manufacturers.

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