



## Swiss doctors and nurses on a mission to improve medical care in Laos

For over 25 years, medical professionals from Switzerland have been supporting Laotian hospitals with their expertise. Through continuous training and further education of local staff, we are improving healthcare in a sustainable manner.

In 2024, 77 volunteers served for about 1,200 days on site. They all work without pay, so your donation will go entirely toward the project work.

# The Swiss Laos Hospital Project at a glance

Child mortality in Laos is 10 times higher than in Switzerland. Many treatments that we take for granted are not available because public hospitals lack the expertise and resources.

The Swiss Laos Hospital Project is a Swiss non-profit organization that aims to improve healthcare in Laos through medical training, expert advice, and financial contributions. The focus is on partnership-based cooperation with specialists in Laos.

Our members are doctors, nurses, and other medical professionals who regularly volunteer in Laotian hospitals. Their areas of expertise include gynecology and obstetrics, neonatology, internal medicine, psychiatry, and hospital management. Our approach is based on mutual learning, professional exchange, and locally anchored solutions.

Our projects are coordinated with the Lao Ministry of Health through a memorandum of understanding. We are committed to the UN Sustainable Development Goals.

The Swiss Laos Hospital Project has been organized as an association since 2000 and has been certified by Zewo since 2018. It is run exclusively by volunteer work and financed by donations.



**Your donation  
in good hands.**

# Our strategy

In accordance with its overall strategy 2024–2028, the Swiss Laos Hospital Project contributes to improving healthcare in Laos, particularly by reducing child and maternal mortality.

To this end, it supports public hospitals throughout Laos on a medical, organizational, and financial level.

The aim is to jointly develop expertise and structures in accordance with the following principles:

- Partnership based  
We treat our colleagues in Laos as equals. Decisions are made jointly, with responsibility remaining with the Laotian institutions.
- Sustainable  
We are aligning ourselves with the UN Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) and the Lao Health Sector Reform Strategy 2021–2030.
- Impact-oriented  
We focus on the areas where our partners see the greatest need and combine training, advice, and targeted financial support.





# Our areas of activity

## 1. Health care for mothers and their newborns

Providing better care for mothers before and after childbirth and for their newborns is the most important area of activity for the Swiss Laos Hospital Project in terms of both finances and personnel. To this end, our two working groups, Gynecology & Obstetrics and Neonatology, work closely with the Mother and Newborn Hospital (MNH) in Vientiane and various provincial hospitals. The fact that up to 35 newborns can now be treated professionally in the MNH's neonatology department is largely thanks to this commitment.



# Our areas of activity

## 2. General internal medicine

A working group of internists and general practitioners is primarily active in the province of Xieng Khouang. Its goal is to improve basic care in the district hospitals of Muang Kham and Nong Het and their affiliated health centers. To this end, regular workshops and bedside teaching sessions are held for medical staff, and scholarships are awarded for further training. Infrastructure projects are also financed on a case-by-case basis, such as the construction of a maternity ward and a pediatrics ward in Muang Kham.





# Our areas of activity

## 3. Psychiatry

The treatment of mental disorders is currently virtually unavailable in Laos. Our psychiatrists in the Mental Health Working Group are therefore doing pioneering work in the field of adult and adolescent psychiatry. To this end, they hold conferences, workshops, and bedside teaching sessions. In order to establish this field of medicine in Laos, they also award scholarships for specialist training in psychiatry and psychotherapy in the neighboring country of Thailand.



# Our areas of activity

## 4. Hospital management

The Swiss Laos Hospital Project focuses on providing professional training for medical staff. However, even well-trained doctors and nurses can only perform their job to the best of their ability if they operate within a well-functioning organization. That is why our specialists advise the Laotian Ministry of Health on hospital management issues and organize courses on leadership and organizational topics for hospital managers.





# Facts & figures

## Volunteer assignments in Laos

2024: 77 volunteers, 1'185 days

2023: 73 volunteers, 1'761 days

These figures do not include voluntary work in Switzerland.

## Financial key figures

Donations & membership fees:

2024: CHF 285'000

2023: CHF 357'000

Project and service expenses:

2024: CHF 259'000

2023: CHF 449'000

Administrative expenses (relative to operating expenses):

2024: 6.3%

2023: 3.1%

## More information

Annual report

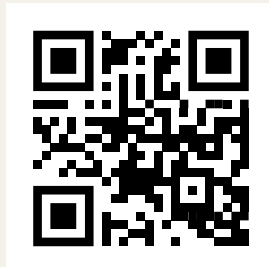
[www.swisslaos.ch/xar](http://www.swisslaos.ch/xar)

Financial statements

[www.swisslaos.ch/xjr](http://www.swisslaos.ch/xjr)

Bylaws

[www.swisslaos.ch/xby](http://www.swisslaos.ch/xby)





# Where we operate



# Board of directors

Dr. med. Marion Mönkhoff, MD  
Specialist in pediatrics and neonatology  
President (ad interim)

Dr. med. Toni Berthel, MD  
Specialist in psychiatry and psychotherapy

Dr. med. Nathalie Brunner, MD  
Practicing physician, MBA IHM  
Vice president (ad interim)

Dr. med. Stefanie Huggle, MD  
Specialist in gynecology and obstetrics

Claudia Reichmuth  
Pediatric and neonatal nurse

Martin Sauter  
Consultant for ICT and digital marketing  
Vice president (ad interim)

Stefanie Schmucki  
Expert in accounting and controlling  
EMBA FH Graubünden

Dr. med. Christine Zehntner, MD  
Specialist in anesthesiology and intensive care medicine  
EMBA HSG



# Contact

Swiss Laos Hospital Project

c/o Kinderpraxis am See

Bellerivestrasse 147

8008 Zurich

[www.swisslaos.ch](http://www.swisslaos.ch)

[info@swisslaos.ch](mailto:info@swisslaos.ch)

Dr. med. Marion Mönkhoff, MD

President (ad interim)

Mobile +41 78 791 06 74

[marion.moenkhoff@swisslaos.ch](mailto:marion.moenkhoff@swisslaos.ch)

## Donation account

Swiss Laos Hospital Project, 8008 Zurich

IBAN CH57 0070 0114 8075 5267 6

Bank clearing number 700

BIC (SWIFT) ZKBKCHZZ80A

