

THE HOSPITALLER ORDER OF SAINT JOHN OF GOD WITH ACCRA-GHANA IN 2013



**ALL TOGETHER,
WE CAN
WE NEED
338.644,60 EURO**

GHANA



Koforidua

Accra

THE BROTHERS

The Brothers of St John of God arrived in Ghana in 1956 and established themselves at Asafo, in a rural area belonging to the SEWFI tribe in the Western region of the country. They began running a small clinic which had been built by a Dutch Missionary and, with the enthusiasm of all new foundations, the clinic soon became the benchmark Hospital for the zone, and today has more than 100 beds. A few years later, in 1959, the Brothers were invited to go to Koforidua by the Bishop of Accra, who had been asked by the national parliament to help establish an orthopaedic centre there. That is the background to the construction of St Joseph's hospital at Koforidua, about 80 km from the capital, Accra.

After several years of work in these two localities in Ghana (Asafo and Koforidua), driven by the needs of the people who had been displaced from the countryside to the cities, and in contact and cooperation with the Accra Archdiocese, in 1998 the Order decided to look for some land on which to build the Curia of the recently created African Province of Our Lady of Mercy. The Metropolitan Archbishop, Mgr Dominic Andoh, offered the Brothers a 3.20 ha plot of land in 1999 at Amrahia, which had been donated to the Catholic Church in 1977 by the local leaders. This enabled the Brothers not only to establish the Provincial Curia there but also to embark on a project to serve the neighbouring population consistently with the Charism of Hospitality. In 2005 the Brothers studied the health care requirements of the locality and of the local population in order to build a Community Health Centre.

THE PROJECT TO BUILD A COMMUNITY HEALTH CENTRE IN ACCRA (GHANA)

The purpose of this project is to provide the people of Amrahia and its environs with a number of easily accessible and efficient health care services appropriate to the needs expressed by the local population. To do this, the Health Centre will be built and incorporated into the National Health Service and will also serve as a blueprint for healthcare education and preventive medicine services to be delivered to the people within its catchment area. This initiative, consistently with the objectives laid down to achieve the Millennium Goals in Ghana, will help to improve the beneficiaries' quality of life. The people of Amrahia (where the project is being developed) and the village communities there are faced every day with inadequate healthcare, delivered by poorly qualified people, when it is available at all. The main healthcare centres in this area often require patients to travel to other healthcare centres a long distance away, or to hospitals 30 or 70 km away from Accra, with all the risks to which this gives rise.

HEALTH CARE AND PREVENTION

We have found that the most frequent illnesses from which Ghanaian patients suffer are malaria, diarrhoea and respiratory infections. The main purpose being pursued in the healthcare sector is to improve access to primary and preventive health care, which means: lower medical examination rates, more professionals per patient, and more communities being catered for, and includes Training for the healthcare professionals and for pharmacists.

The construction of this Health Centre will do a great deal to help achieve these objectives. It is expected to reach 2,500 direct beneficiaries and hundred and 162,428 indirect beneficiaries.

A local company will be commissioned to build the infrastructure and to provide the materials and equipment.

The workers building the centre and the employees looking after the patients will also be local.

The civil and healthcare authorities support the work which the Hospitaller Order has been performing in Ghana for so many years.

**TODAY, THE HOSPITALLER ORDER OF SAINT JOHN OF GOD
PROVIDES THE FOLLOWING SERVICES IN GHANA:**

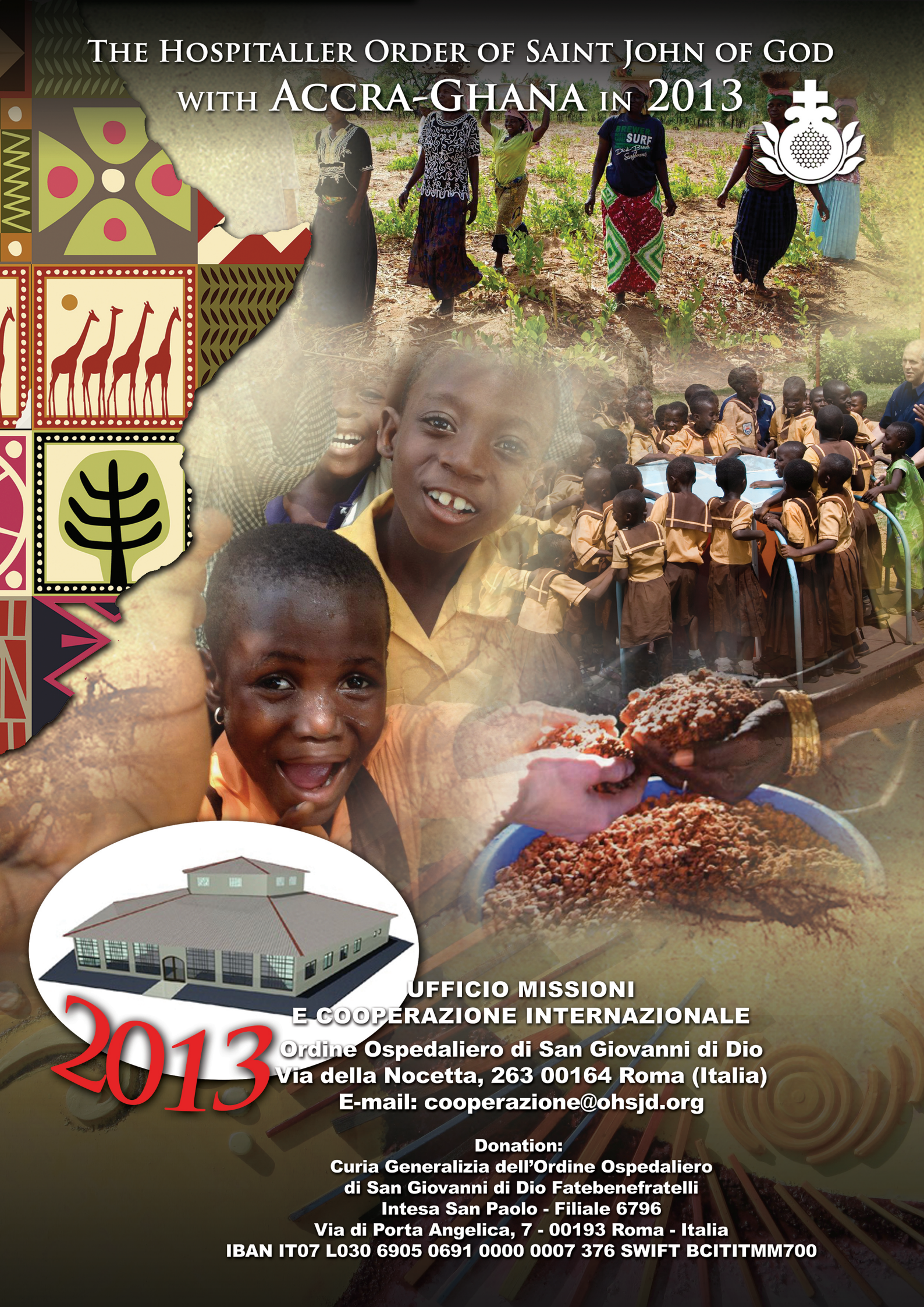
ACCRA: the headquarters of the Provincial Curia;

ASAFO: St. John of God Hospital and small healthcare posts;

KOFORIDUA: St. Joseph Catholic Hospital;

AMRAHIA: Community Health Centre (work in progress)

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**UFFICIO MISSIONI
E COOPERAZIONE INTERNAZIONALE**

2013

**Ordine Ospedaliero di San Giovanni di Dio
Via della Nocetta, 263 00164 Roma (Italia)
E-mail: cooperazione@ohsjd.org**

**Donation:
Curia Generalizia dell'Ordine Ospedaliero
di San Giovanni di Dio Fatebenefratelli
Intesa San Paolo - Filiale 6796
Via di Porta Angelica, 7 - 00193 Roma - Italia
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