We really appreciate the Australian Doctors for Africa the well done job they have done to the poor people of Somaliland. They have operated over twenty patients with very short time. It was really time in need where we don’t have such specialities and enough equipment to be done such operations. We hope ADFA to regularly visit to Somaliland to be done more operations and help many disabled people in the region.

Omer Jama Farah, Taakulo Somaliland Community, Hargeisa, Somalia
Working together to improve health. To develop healthier environments and to build capacity through the provision of voluntary medical assistance, medical equipment, supplies and training to those in need overseas.
The organisation operates in four major locations comprising:
- Addis Ababa the capital of Ethiopia
- Tukular in the south-west region of Madagascar
- Bosaso, Somalia’s main port city
- Hargeisa, Somalia’s second largest city

It has a commitment to effect significant change in health care and well-being in those countries through the provision of overseas medical teams, services and assistance.

Australian Doctors for Africa is setting Ethiopia, Somalia and Madagascar on course to a more stable future by assisting them with medical equipment, medical supplies, medical training, surgical operations and medical building projects.

Established in 2005, ADFA is a non-profit community based organisation with its headquarters located in Perth, Western Australia.

It has no political or religious affiliations. Succinctly, the goals of ADFA are to:
- provide medical supplies and equipment
- consult and undertake orthopaedic surgical procedures
- provide other medical specialties to meet demand
- disseminate best practice in healthcare
- build capacity and skill with local medical staff and students
- assess future training needs of local staff to build capacity
- maintain sustainable projects, such as immunisation and cholera programmes to address high disease morbidity and mortality
- improve hospitals through the provision of better equipment
- undertake a mandate to effect significant change with the building of new hospital facilities

The cornerstone of ADFA commitment is to provide extensive orthopaedic medical teams, to furnish medical assistance through screening and treatment, and to support communities in Addis Ababa (Ethiopia), Hargeisa and Bosaso (Somalia) and Tukular (Madagascar).

Since its inception the growth of ADFA has been phenomenally successful through six (6) medical assignments to Madagascar, four (4) to Ethiopia and five (5) to Somalia involving fifty-five (55) medical practitioners.

In addition, sea containers have been dispatched as well as 300 kgs of air freighted equipment. It is estimated that $12m of medical equipment and supplies has been shipped to these countries.

Donations for medical equipment and supplies has enabled the following to support our operations: 178 ward beds and mattresses, endoscopy scopes, image intensifier, operating table and equipment, 80 wheel chairs, office furniture, disinfectant, plaster bandages, bedside tables, uniforms, drapes and zimmer frames.

ADFA also responds to the unforeseen which refers to the occurrence of events or developments that are large-impact, hard-to-predict and rare and thus outside the realm of normal expectations of ADFA.

As an example, in 2007 and 2009, ADFA responded to an immediate causal humanitarian need resulting in organising cholera vaccines to Somalia which enabled seventy (70) hospital staff to be immunised in order to continue working during an epidemic. A follow-up immunisation program was successfully completed in September 2009 through support from Sanofi Pasteur.

A medical team typically comprises orthopaedic surgeons, an anaesthetist and theatre nurses with additional specialised support incorporated into the team such as a gastroenterologist, plaster technician or general practitioner with expertise in topical medicine.

With an operating budget of less than $200,000 per annum ADFA relies on the support of corporate partners, donations, fundraising activities and volunteers to maintain its core business.

The core of our business has always been to provide humanitarian and volunteer medical teams to Ethiopia, Somalia and Madagascar, in particular orthopaedic treatment.

Unfortunately, the political instability in Somalia prevented ADFA from sending medical teams to Bosaso although we were fortunate to accommodate a trip to the teaching hospital in Hargeisa in inland Somalia.

During the last twelve months, we were able to dispatch two medical teams to Ethiopia and two medical teams to Madagascar which involved fifteen (15) medical specialists.

In addition, we were able to source over $12m in product donations encompassing medical supplies and medical equipment which was distributed to individual hospitals in our locations in the three countries.

A significant direction for ADFA has been the development and undertaking of two major building projects in Somalia and Madagascar.

With financial support from the Federal Government’s Direct Aid Program a sanitation project was completed at the General Hospital in Tukular in Madagascar in April. The construction of the ‘The 3’ – new paediatric wards at Bosaso General Hospital in Somalia is under way and should be completed later in 2010. ADFA is providing a significant amount of donated operating theatre equipment as part of a refurbishment commitment for the new wards.

The appointment of a Compliance Officer, the development of policy, the establishment of an Events Committee to support fund raising activities and the maintenance of a professional relationship with international orthopaedic organisations have been notable achievements which have ensured maximum operational capacity for the organisation.

While the above is a snap shot our ADFA’s achievements, very little could have been achieved without the involvement of our resourceful human resources who have displayed so much energy, passion and acumen.

I would like to extend my warmest thanks and appreciation to ADFA’s Management Committee for their guidance, leadership, wisdom and vigilance; the Events Committee for their commitment towards fund raising activities; the many volunteers who have assisted ADFA with administrative responsibilities; the volunteer medical teams who continually put their hands in to help; the public and sponsors from the corporate and medical sectors for their generous donations, ADFA looks forward to another engaging twelve months.

Dr Graham Forward

FOUNDER AND PRINCIPAL
Orthopaedic surgery and treatment
A large number of orthopaedic consultations and operations were carried out including crucial arm and hip operations.
Significant progress, however, was also made with the Talipes program where, on one occasion, a conference was held on the Ponsetti treatment of talipes between a visiting French physiotherapist, the Director of the Akany Fantananena Clinic, a representative from the General Hospital and an ADFA orthopaedic surgeon.
Many young children were again expertly treated. However, significantly a management plan was put in place to sustain a coordinated approach to the treatment of talipes.

Other medical specialities
In response to a specialist need, ADFA despatched diverse teams which included a gastroenterologist, urologist, paediatric physiotherapist and nurse in addition to orthopaedic surgeons.
ADFA also ensured that intensive training continued through the involvement of Tuilear endoscopists and a young gastroenterologist from the capital city Antananarivo.

Despatching medical teams, equipment and supplies
Two volunteer medical teams have been despatched to Tuilear in south-west Madagascar in the last twelve months.
Besides the donation of large amounts of equipment including hospital beds, wheelchairs, crutches, anaesthetic, an ultrasound machine and medical equipment, the three hospitals supported by ADFA received a new air conditioner, the upgrading of the electrical system and the plans for a suitable location for washing an endoscope.
Medical equipment was also distributed to some of the smaller clinics on the outskirts of the city who offer primary medical treatment.

Constructing new medical buildings and facilities
A significant project undertaken by ADFA in the last twelve months has been the construction and completion of a sanitation project attached to the Hospitale Generale.
This has been the first medical project undertaken by ADFA and it is pleasing to report that the opening of the new block coincided with a medical team visit to Madagascar in April.
ADFA has not been able to send a medical team to Bosaso for a medical mission this year due to the political unrest and instability in the country. However, we have still managed to provide the best possible assistance through a sea container of equipment in addition to financial assistance towards the construction of three new wards for paediatrics.

Due to the political turmoil, ADFA was unable to include medical specialists as part of a medical team. Hopefully, the situation will improve in the next twelve months for ADFA to resume medical team visits.

Sanofi Pasteur very generously donated 70 Cholera vaccines needed for the second stage of the Cholera vaccination programme for the staff at the Bosaso Hospital. The vaccine was administered to the hospital staff, who were able to treat patients during the outbreak of cholera.

ADFA made a commitment to furnish the new wards with medical furniture, medical equipment, operating tables and office furniture. A sea container filled with hospital beds, mattresses, pillows, lockers, heart tables, wheelchairs, frames, linen, office furniture for the doctors and nurses stations and administration offices and general medical supplies was collected and shipped.

At the request of the hospital to resolve the water shortage at the hospital, ADFA undertook a feasibility study for a water project as a challenge.

In addition, ADFA has undertaken to refurbish the operating theatres at the Edna Adan Maternity Hospital and recently provided funding for the refurbishment of the laundry in the same hospital.

A huge financial commitment has been the constructing of three new wards for paediatrics at the General Hospital in Bosaso. These should be completed later in 2010 and be fully equipped with equipment provided by ADFA, including an operating table and monitors.

Rotary Clubs throughout WA have been very supportive of this project through donations with thirteen responding to a plea to donate $1500 per club.

We are extremely grateful for the contributions made by Dr Rod Thelander and Professor Allbrook in teaching these medical students.

The Edna Adan Maternity Hospital in Hargeisa has always been closely associated with Australian Doctors for Africa with ADFA providing medical equipment and medical supplies.

Establishing a teaching program at Hargeisa, Somalia

The Faculty of Medicine at the University of Western Australia and Australian Doctors for Africa have been working together on a medical curriculum in conjunction with the Hargeisa Hospital Medical School.

A program for general surgery, paediatrics, GP and general medicine for the 6th year interns is well underway and voluntary Australian doctors have come together to provide input into this project.

A visit by Dr Graham Forward in March 2010 afforded the opportunity to teach the medical students at the University Medical School in Hargeisa. In addition, international links have been established with orthopaedic organisations in the USA, UK and Norway who will undertake to continue the work undertaken by ADFA.

We are extremely grateful for the contributions made by Dr Rod Thelander and Professor Allbrook in teaching these medical students.

From left to right: 1 A young patient recovering from orthopaedic surgery. 2 Three new wards project nearing completion. 3 The University of Western Australia teaching medical students. 4 Medical supplies being handed over.
The Black Lion Hospital is the major teaching and referral hospital for the entire population of 75 million people who reside in Ethiopia. As you can imagine the workload and needs are overwhelming.

Orthopaedic surgery and treatment

ADFA provided two medical teams comprising seven (7) medical practitioners to Addis Ababa during the last twelve months.

Of particular significance was the continuation of the screening and treatment of talipes. A Talipes Clinic has been established by a local doctor, Dr Woubalem, who is actively supported by ADFA.

It is pleasing to report that the training programme for physiotherapists and nurses to apply plasters is now expanding. The CURE Hospital also supports this project by giving plaster supplies. The medical records are being well maintained, which will help future research projects based upon the non operative treatment of talipes in Ethiopia.

ADFA has sponsored a project to maintain the operating theatres at the Black Lion Hospital on a weekend to assist the backlog of patients requiring orthopaedic surgery. The result of this initiative has been staggering with 275 major orthopaedic surgeries being performed over a twelve month period.

Dr Graham Forward and Dr Tim Keenan gave advice and guidance for the management of trauma patients, and several teaching seminars were conducted by Dr Forward regarding knee injuries, the management of post polio weakness and the clinical examination of the hip.

The operative approach and technique for implantation of prostheses was taught to two senior residents and the result has been much improved surgical techniques and skills of the trainees and the consultants.

Other medical specialities

A visit to the Black Lion Hospital by Dr Tony Jeffries Orthopaedic Surgeon specialising in upper limb surgery afforded the opportunity to perform and teach many surgical cases.

Paul Maloney also worked in organising orthopaedic equipment, assisted with the arrival, customs and unloading of a sea container sent by ADFA, and taught theatre staff in preparation of surgical equipment. Victoria Gibson taught nurses sterile technique, how to scrub for theatre cases and general aspects of theatre work.

Despatching medical teams, equipment and supplies

A significant improvement to the hospital has been the reorganisation of instruments for surgical procedures. This task was undertaken by Paul Maloney who also taught orthopaedic nurses how to classify, organise, label and assemble a variety of orthopaedic equipment for surgery. He was also able to repair electrical equipment such as diathermy machines and light sources for operating theatres and tourniquet systems. In between he taught theatre staff how to maintain and store equipment, and established communication between the operating room and the bioengineering section. Paul’s contribution has been outstanding and resulted in many benefits for procedures and processes within the hospital.

Earlier in the year ADFA financed a consignment of hemiarthroplasties from India to maintain orthopaedic surgery by local doctors.

Constructing new medical buildings and facilities

There has been no building project undertaken in Ethiopia as yet. However, ADFA is currently conducting a feasibility study for the construction of an orthopaedic hospital which is seen as a long term project.
The overall management of Australian Doctors for Africa has been entrusted with the Management Committee.

The Management Committee has adhered to best practice governance and ensured that all regulatory and compliance requirements are met and ethical standards maintained.

Between them, they have developed a Strategic Plan and Framework to ensure that a vision, mission and strategic goals have been formulated and established; monitored their execution through operational plans; approved budget requirements; arranged for the collection and distribution of medical equipment and medical supplies; determined policy procedures and processes; outlined roles and responsibilities for internal and external personnel and monitored the performance of the medical teams.

The Management Committee consists of the founder and principal, Dr Graham Forward, Robert Forward, Ms Jeanne Bell, Ms Christine Tasker and Paul Tye and each brings their skill set, business acumen and experience to the organisation.

The Events Committee has overseen a number of fund raising activities in the past twelve months.

Of particular importance has been a Cocktail Party event by Dr Digby Cullen in August and the Little Feet Walk in May.

Both events raised significant amounts totalling over $35,000.

Little Feet Walk

The South Perth foreshore has been the background for this important fund raising activity for two years. In May, a total of 150 walkers exited Wesley College to commence their 10 km walk.

The Events Committee would like to acknowledge the support of Wesley College, Salmark, Eco Pharmaceuticals and Coles for their generous support in making this another successful fund raising event and an icon event on the Events Committee calendar.

Cocktail Party

In August, Dr Digby Cullen was instrumental in organising a special event to raise funds for Madagascar. Over 200 people attended the event with the auction generating an amazing $8,000.

Membership & Donations

Our list of members has continued to grow with over 500 members now registered with ADFA. This is a significant increase over the previous year. The level of donations has also increased as specific projects have been identified for additional funding.

We would like to express thanks to all those who supported ADFA in the last twelve months, particular the Events Committee who have maintained energy and passion for our activities to generate funds to sustain ADFA’s operations.

Jeanne Bell & Robert Forward

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Jeanne Bell & Robert Forward
Robert Forward has had a distinguished career in marketing through managerial positions. Associated with a steel fabrication company based in Victoria, Robert was responsible for the entire Australian marketing operations.

As an avid member of Rotary for over twenty years, Robert brings a strong corporate and rotary network to the organisation.

Robert also held many financial and presidential positions with local community sporting organizations.

Now retired, Robert’s skills complement the vision and direction of Australian Doctors for Africa.

Jeanne Bell provides financial and organisational skills and as Chair of the Events Committee provides direction, experience, expertise and acumen for fund raising events and activities.

Appointed in 2005, Jeanne has a background in the commercial building construction industry having held the position of financial controller for a private building construction company for over 12 years.

A background in Applied Science, Jeanne has been associated with several community service organizations.

Christine Tasker is Practice Manager and Personal Assistant to Dr Graham Forward and has held this position for 17 years.

Christine is an inaugural member of the Management Committee of Australian Doctors for Africa. She brings strong administration skills to the organisation and is prominent in the logistics of liaising with and co-coordinating the volunteer medical teams.

Christine is a proactive member in fund raising activities and functions. Prior to her current position, Christine nursed at 520GH Subiaco, Hollywood Hospital, King Edward Hospital, Morawa District Hospital and the Red Cross Blood Transfusion Service.

Paul Tye joined Australian Doctors for Africa in August 2009 and is a Director of TeamWorks Australasia Pty Ltd and a Board member of Neerigen Brook Primary School.

He has completed a Master of Education and a Master of Science (Utah) and has received numerous business and marketing awards and nominations. Paul has extensive experience in project management, business development, social marketing and community – business - government partnerships, research, evaluation and sponsorship.

His work has seen him connect with many corporates, non-government and government agencies in local and regional communities covering the length and breadth of Western Australia in addition to liaising with local government shires, councils, state government departments and federal agencies.

Paul brings to Australian Doctors for Africa expertise in administration and organisational skills, marketing and concept facilitation.

Jeanne Bell

Paul Tye

Christine Tasker

Graham Forward

Robert Forward

Jeanne Bell

Christine Tasker

Paul Tye
As a volunteer organisation, ADFA relies heavily on the financial donations of its members, fund raising activities, sponsors and the corporate sector.

It is pleasing to report that the overheads of ADFA are zero so that every dollar raised is ensured of finding its way to Ethiopia, Somalia or Madagascar through supporting medical specialists, medical teams, medical equipment, medical supplies, medications or building projects.

Australian Doctors for Africa is very grateful for everyone’s support as their contribution has been vital to ADFA’s sustainable operations.

The Dale Alcock Foundation has been a sponsor of ADFA for the last 3 years. They continue to donate financial support to ADFA which has been used for medical aid and our sea container program. The sea container program has provided a huge amount of medical aid and hospital equipment to our three countries. This equipment allows our doctors and nurses to operate on patients who would not normally be able to have surgery due to the lack of equipment.

We are extremely grateful to the Emirates Airline Foundation who has supported ADFA through complimentary air travel to transport our medical teams to Ethiopia. In addition they have provided excess baggage weight so that the medical teams can carry vital medical supplies and medications.

Peter Corven from Snap Printing West Perth continues to provide ADFA with printed stationery in the form of brochures, newsletters, flyers, posters, enlarging and laminating. They have supported ADFA since its conception and over the last twelve months have made a significant in-kind donation.

Air Mauritius for their support in providing excess baggage for the medical team visits to Madagascar.

Smith & Nephew donated bandages for the screening and treatment of talipes.

3M provided bandages and plaster.

Ansell Asia Pacific has donated surgical examination and general purpose gloves.

Rotary Club in Perth have donated funds for the building of three new wards for paediatrics in Bosaso, Somalia.

The Perth Apex Club has been involved in the sea container project from inception and has continued to provide assistance with the packing of the sea containers.

The SJOGH Foundation donated funds to sponsor a theatre nurse at the General Hospital in Bosaso.

Stryker Medical has sponsored Saturday operating at the Black Lion Hospital in Addis Ababa to help alleviate the long waiting lists which consist of thousands and thousands of people. By assisting in programs such as these, an increase in screening, treatment and operations has been achieved.

Sanofi Pasteur Pty Ltd donated the cholera vaccine for the second booster for the staff at the General Hospital in Bosaso in Somalia which enabled them to carry out their duties.

We also have strong support from many other organisations that are recognised below.

CHARLESTON PRINTERS
JULIAN RANDALL WEBSITE
AOA HUMANITARIAN FOUNDATION
CABELL PTY LTD
SOMES & COOK WHEELCHAIRS FOR KIDS
JOYCE BEDDING
TOLIARA SANDS MINING
MALAGASY MINERALS
PAYDIRT
WESLEY COLLEGE
HELENIC SEWING GROUP
ADCORP DHL EXPRESS & SERVICE CONTAINERS

Thank you for your interest in our important projects.