

THE CONCEPT OF 2ND CHANCE FOR TRAINING RECONSTRUCTIVE SURGERY IN EAST AND WEST AFRICA: LESSONS LEARNED FROM THE PAST AND FUTURE PERSPECTIVES.

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Reconstructive surgery changes life

Background

- Burns, congenital malformations, and trauma sequelae in Africa remain inadequately addressed due to deficiencies in infrastructure and surgical expertise.
- Training programs in reconstructive surgery across many African nations are limited

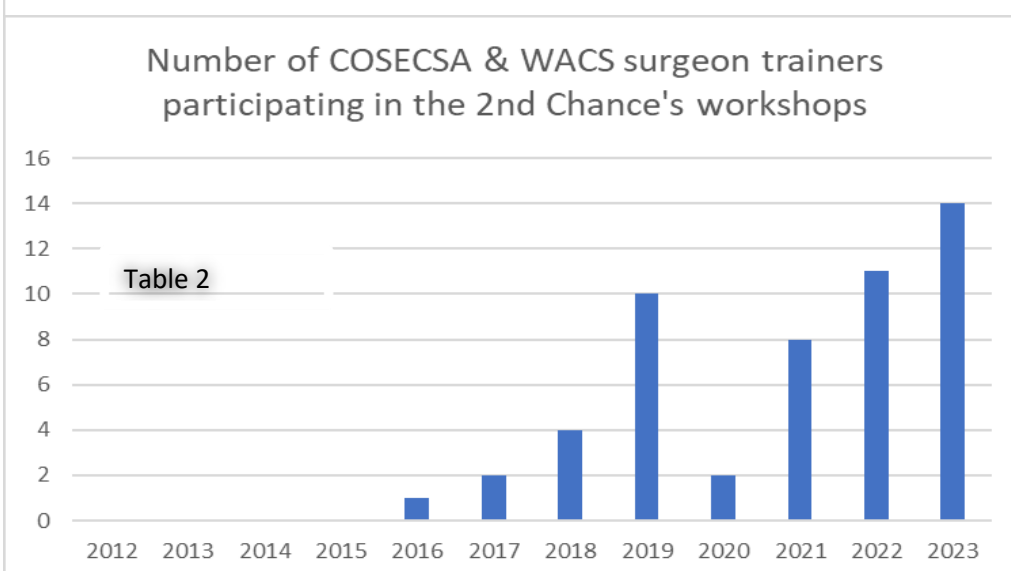
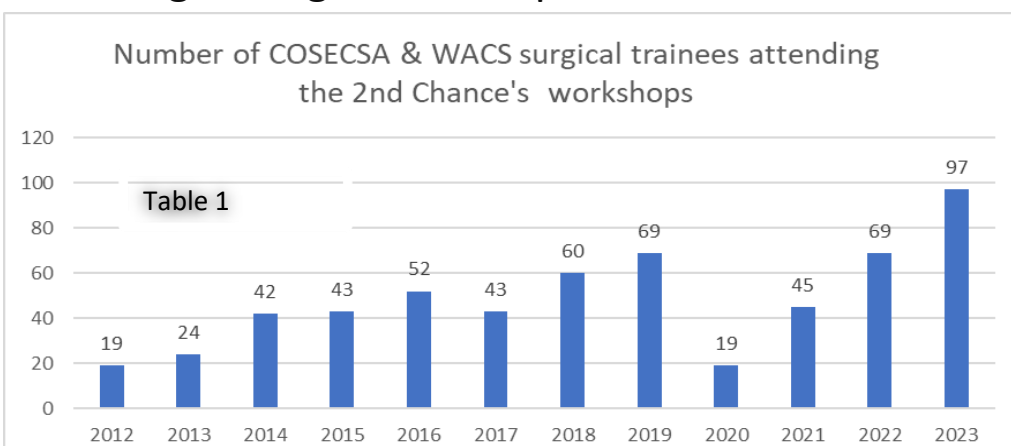


Surgical fellowship training

The 2nd Chance Model (Training, Treatment, Advocacy)

To provide educational support to reconstructive surgery training programs run by Colleges of Surgeons in Western and Eastern Africa (COSECSA & WACS).

- Surgical 5-day workshops (5-7 times/year for ex. 2023 in Guinea, Tanzania, Namibia, Ghana, Ethiopia, Kenya)
 - Theoretical, clinical, and practical training
 - Non technical skills (WHO checklist...)
 - Perioperative medicine care
 - Long-term follow-up
 - Online resources, books, and videos, granting scholarships



Challenges:

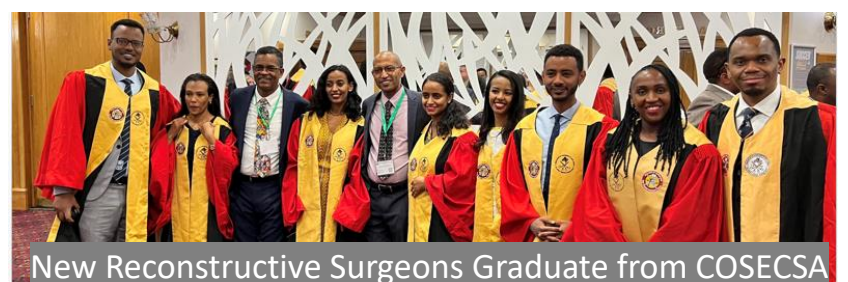
- To train enough surgeons in each African country
 - Safe environment
 - High Patient case load
 - Educational & academic environment
- Financial sustainability
- Distinguishing essential reconstructive surgery from aesthetic procedures

Results : Training perspective :

- Increased qualified surgeons (from 15 to 65 in 10 years)
- Integrated as instructors in the workshops (=50% of the association's trainers). (Table 1)
- Increase of interest to reconstructive surgery (Table 2)

Patients' perspective

- Documented good surgical outcome
- Functional and aesthetic improvement
- Alleviate social exclusion



New Reconstructive Surgeons Graduate from COSECSA



Surgical suture workshop

Practical surgical training



COSECSA trainer

HUG Hôpitaux Universitaires Genève



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