



And you... What kind  
of world do you want  
to leave behind?



Swiss<sup>+</sup>ABILITY



# Dear readers,

**A better world to leave behind is possible.**

As you know, our mission is to improve the quality of life for people with disabilities in Africa through concrete and sustainable projects that can make a difference.

Thanks to the generosity of people like you, we can continue to carry out initiatives that provide access to rehabilitative care and tools for social and work inclusion. Every contribution, big or small, is a step towards a future where every person, regardless of their abilities, can live a dignified and independent life.

We understand that making a bequest or legacy is an act of great responsibility and love. We assure you that every donation will be used with the utmost transparency and dedication to support our projects and ensure that your commitment leaves a lasting impact over time.





# A symbol of hope

Your legacy represents not only financial support but also a symbol of hope and solidarity. With your contribute, we can continue to build a more equitable and inclusive world for people with disabilities in Africa, providing them with life-changing opportunities.

People like Brigitte, who lost her leg due to a landmine in Senegal but is now walking and running again thanks to a prosthesis donated by SwissABILITY. Or girls like Joselina, born without a leg in Mozambique, but who now has a bright future ahead of her thanks to a prosthetic limb received during an orthopedic training.

And all of this is possible thanks to the generosity of people like you, who want to leave behind a better world.

# Thank you





# The world you can leave behind

**Imagine being able to make a difference in someone's life, not just today but also after you've left this world.**

A legacy is a powerful and lasting way to leave a mark of kindness and hope. Allocating a portion of your estate to an organization that provides prosthetics to amputees in Africa transforms lives in wonderful ways.

In many regions of Africa, losing a limb can mean much more than just a loss of mobility. It means losing independence, the ability to work, the possibility to support the family, to attend school, and to fully participate in community life. Amputees often face significant social stigma, further isolating them. However, a prosthesis can restore not only physical mobility but also dignity and social inclusion.

A legacy dedicated to this cause means contributing to the rebirth of amputees and being part of the change, forever.





# Testimonials of past beneficiaries



**Ibrahim** is 4 years old and lives in **Sierra Leone**, a country ravaged by civil war. With his sparkling eyes and contagious smile, Ibrahim always brings joy to those around him.

Due to a congenital condition, Ibrahim was born without some fingers on his hands, missing part of one leg, and with a clubfoot on the other leg.

The technicians at SwissABILITY created a special orthosis for his clubfoot and a custom-made new leg. Without hesitation, Ibrahim agreed to try on the new prosthesis. His determination surprised everyone: in no time, he was able to walk, run, and play with his friends.

Thanks to this new leg, Ibrahim has gained a newfound freedom. Now he can explore the world with renewed energy, face new challenges, and continue to bring smiles to everyone he meets.



# Testimonials of past beneficiaries



**Brigitte** is a radiant woman whose arrival has brightened the entire orthopedic centre in Ziguinchor, **Senegal**. Yet, behind that smile lies a story of pain and resilience. Like many others in the Casamance region, she has been a victim of a cruel fate. It was 2018, a day that seemed as serene as any other. Brigitte was walking with her friends when her life changed forever.

A misstep on a hidden landmine was followed by an explosion that shattered the air. In an instant, Brigitte found herself on the ground, her right leg completely mangled. People rushed to help her, and she was loaded onto a makeshift cart and urgently transported to the hospital. The doctors delivered an inescapable verdict: amputation below the knee.

But Brigitte, with extraordinary strength of spirit, faced her new reality. Today, she walks proudly with a colorful leg, a symbol not only of rebirth but of a victory over a fate that could not extinguish her desire to live.



# Testimonials of past beneficiaries



**Ruhanatu** is a 15-year-old girl living in **Ghana**. Quiet and sweet, she radiates a serenity that touches everyone she meets.

Ruhanatu's life has not been easy. At the age of 13, she was diagnosed with osteomyelitis, a severe bone infection, which led to the amputation of her right leg below the knee. This traumatic event profoundly affected Ruhanatu, making her feel insecure and limited in her abilities.

The turning point in Ruhanatu's life came thanks to SwissABILITY, which during a training mission in Ghana provided her with a new prosthesis.

Ruhanatu has since regained a sense of serenity. Now she can live her life without limitations, pursuing her dreams with a renewed freedom and confidence.

Ruhanatu's story is a powerful example of how the right support can transform lives, offering hope and new opportunities to those in greatest need.



# Testimonials of past beneficiaries



**Maria** arrived at the orthopedic centre in Inhambane, **Mozambique**, with a shy smile on her face, which hid a deep and devastating pain. In fact, Maria is missing a leg below the knee and a forearm, but the brutality of what she experienced tore away much more than just her two limbs.

When Maria was a young mother of five children, a trivial argument with her husband turned into an episode of blind violence. The man began to beat her and, when Maria tried to escape him, he grabbed a knife. In a moment of pure madness, he severed her arm and continued to strike her, repeatedly all over her body. Maria survived but doctors were also forced to amputate part of her left leg, which was too damaged by her wounds.

Maria saw her life turn into a prison. Yet, despite everything, she didn't give up. And thanks to SwissABILITY training in Mozambique she received a prosthesis, which gave her a dazzling smile and the ability to walk again.



# Glossary

## Inheritance Contract

It is a contract concluded by at least two parties (the testator and the potential heir). Unlike a will, to revoke an inheritance contract, the consent of those who participated in the act as potential heirs is required.

## Bequest

A bequest is a donation from your estate to a person or an organization made by you personally during your lifetime. The gift is made free of charge, meaning that you do not receive any consideration in return from the party that receives the bequest.

## Heir to the Mandatory Portion

Direct descendants, the spouse, or the registered partner have an intangible right to the inheritance share.

## Executor of the Will

You may name someone you trust as executor of your will. This person is responsible for paying debts out of the estate, distributing the portions of the estate, handling all fiscal and administrative tasks, and settling all matters with banks. The executor of the will must also prepare a distribution proposal. This person is entitled to a fee.

## Estate

The estate is the whole of the assets that a person leaves behind after their death.

## Legacy

With a legacy, you can specify in your will that a particular person or organization receives a specific item or sum of money from your estate. This recipient, known as the legatee, does not acquire the status of an heir nor does they become part of the inheritance community. The legatee can receive the legacy without having to wait for the entire estate to be settled or for the inheritance community to be dissolved.

## Mandatory portion

The mandatory portion refers to the non-retractable portion of an inheritance to which a person may be entitled under the law. The law establishes who is entitled to a mandatory portion, and it also defines the size of the share of the inheritance thereby due to certain individuals (e.g., to the spouse and children). All other individuals (including siblings) may not claim a mandatory portion. If you wish to include someone within the mandatory portion of your estate, you must explicitly state this in your will.

## Freely Available Portion

You are free to dispose of this part of your estate as you see fit. For example, if you do not have any children and you have placed your spouse within the mandatory portion, you may freely distribute the remainder of the estate (for example, to friends or to an organization).



# What to keep in mind when drafting a will

- ✓ Write the will entirely by hand, indicating the place and date, and sign it. This is almost all that is needed for the document to be valid.
- ✓ It is essential that the original will is found after your death. Therefore, choose a safe place to store it and inform family members or trusted individuals of its location. Alternatively, you can deposit the will with the competent authorities in your place of residence.
- ✓ If a significant amount of time has passed since the will was drafted, circumstances may have changed. You may have sold or purchased real estate, remarried, or changed your priorities. Therefore, it is important to regularly check that the will is up to date.
- ✓ The will can be modified and updated at any time, provided that the required formalities are followed: it must be written entirely by hand or notarized. It is essential to clearly indicate whether the new will is intended to supplement the existing one, which remains valid, or if it completely replaces it.





# Summary of the main points

- ✓ To be valid, the will must be written entirely by hand, signed, and dated, specifying the location.
- ✓ Add a title such as "Will," "My Will," or "My Last Wishes" to clarify immediately what it is about.
- ✓ If you create a new will, revoke all previous provisions.
- ✓ Clearly indicate whether the new will supplements an existing will.
- ✓ Store the will in a safe and easily accessible place; you may also consider depositing it with the competent authorities in your residence.
- ✓ To ensure the correctness of the will, it is advisable to have it reviewed by a lawyer or notary.
- ✓ If you wish to include SwissABILITY in your will, please let us know.







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