

THE HAPPINESS OF THE MOVEMENT

# Wheels of Hope

Project Helps the Disabled in Angola & Africa

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*Alma*   
O.N.G SIN FRONTERA





# Topics of this presentation

## HIGHLIGHTS AND IDEAS

Project Objectives

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Real Cases in Angola

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Disability and Development

ALMA initiatives N.C.O

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# Objective of the Project

## FIRST JOURNEY OF ALMA N.G.O ANGOLA

### WHEELS OF HOPE

It arises after this vision:

.- See how children and adults crawl on the ground. Well, it's your only option, to move around, it's a sad and shocking scene.

(Filipe Daniel Paulo)



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2014 ELECTORAL ROLL DATA

52%

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OF THE TOTAL POPULATION OF  
RESIDENTS IN ANGOLA ARE PEOPLE WITH  
DISABILITIES



In Angola, people with disabilities in vulnerable situations do not usually have a job. Access to transport is limited, they cannot benefit from basic services such as; health, education and access to information. They lack drinking water and decent housing in most cases. There are a highly worrying number of children. On the other hand, poor women and men with disabilities without any job opportunities than other people. As a consequence the number of families in a state of poverty grows due to this circumstance. These families and people do not receive the services they need according to the needs of their disability. 99.9% of people with disabilities in extreme poverty do not have a wheelchair, an extremely unfortunate percentage. His way of moving from one place to another is crawling on the ground in his daily life. They are forgotten by Angolan society, not only in their daily lives but during the rest of their lives, being treated with discrimination by other people.



# Transportation Issue

## **"Life is movement"**

in Angola, or if they do, they are going through a situation of extreme difficulty, even putting their lives at risk.

Move around the city of Luanda and surroundings to go to school, work, take a walk, travel or shop. They are daily activities of real difficulty for them, since transport is not enabled for people with reduced mobility, or does not exist in many populations.

As a consequence, it is shown that people with disabilities are in a worse socioeconomic situation, and suffer more poverty than people without disabilities. In Angola there are 85,465 disabled people, most of them do not have wheelchairs.

Despite the magnitude of the issue, neither society nor the government have a conscience of support and solidarity with this part of the population. Many disabled people suffer discrimination and contempt from the rest of the inhabitants. Most of the disabled are victims of mine explosions, because of the innumerable wars that the country has been suffering for more than 30 years.

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**"They, innocent victims of war,  
crawl on the ground, being their  
only consolation ...**

**Those who walk on foot do not  
bow their eyes.**

**But from a distance they  
discriminate the absence of arms  
and feet of their brothers, who  
drag their dignity on the ground ”**

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# No Access to Education

**"If I don't have access to the infinite world of possibilities, I won't know who I am"**

In Angola most of the education system is private. Here is the main reason why people with disabilities cannot access to have an education.

The main affected are children and young people. There are a large number of illiterate children with disabilities, who have never attended schools and their chances of doing so are void.

We rename the transport problem again. Even if families could afford to take their children to school, or young people to schools and universities. There is no transport enabled for disabled people. In addition, in many of the towns, bus line combinations carry long waits or are nonexistent directly.

Consequently, these children and young people will not have the opportunity to acquire an education and develop their capacities in an optimal way for their development as normal people. The future both work and personal for them will be complicated, or void. The opportunities to get out of their poverty situation will be limited, since in most cases they will not be able to obtain decent work, or if they do they will be discriminated against because of their disability with a lower salary and precarious conditions

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All people and mainly children and youth. They should be able to have the opportunity to access education.

Regardless of your physical conditions. In fact, people with disabilities should be treated for this same reason, with more love. Facilitate education. It is to facilitate LIFE.





# Humanitarian Demand

**“If we are all human, have one leg or none, I am too”**

The main characteristic of people with disabilities is; unable to perform certain actions and needs help from other people, losing their autonomy.

In today's society (in Europe and the West) there is a tendency to adapt the environment and public spaces to the needs of people with disabilities, in order to avoid social exclusion, as a disability is perceived as such, while the person is unable to interact with their own environment. This is what we want to happen in Angola.

The essential and human rights based message is; that persons with disabilities should not be considered «objects» that must be handled, but «subjects» that deserve identical respect and enjoyment of human rights.

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Alma N.G.O was able to learn about during the first visit to Angola, the cases of 15 families without resources, formed at least by a disabled member.

We present below some of the most moving “Real Cases”.

## VALENTÍN

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A 14 year old boy who has never been to school because of his disability. His mother selling street without resources, lives with only € 0.30 a day. Single mother of 3 children, her condition does not allow her to give her child the attention that her disability requires. Valentín needs a wheelchair or disabled bike to be able to attend school and move easily in his daily life.

## JUANA RIBEIRO

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Woman 27 year old disabled, who needs a wheelchair or bicycle to start selling to the local market. Every day he travels in terrible conditions to the market, in order to make a living

## ANTONIO

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This man 65 year old receives absolutely no help to live. Survive alms on the street. If I could have a wheelchair to move, I would have a chance to make a living in a dignified way. Performing some activity such as commerce or street sales.

## DIAMANTINA

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She is a 19 year old disabled lady. Dream of being a seamstress by profession. His greatest hope in this life would be to be able to do a professional course of cutting and sewing to devote himself to it. She could go back to study and get her dream, if she had a wheelchair or bicycle so she could move around and attend classes.





## JOAN THE TEACHER

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He has none of the 2 legs, he has been crawling on the floor for 32 years to move.

He has a salary of less than € 25 a month that does not allow him to buy a wheelchair. He lives in extremely precarious conditions, moving every day to take public transport in his conditions is a sacrifice every day.

This teacher is a key person for his community, as he voluntarily teaches poor children in his neighborhood to read and write.

His illusion is to continue studying at the university. In order to continue helping people and children to have a free education. This would be possible if Juan had a wheelchair or disabled bike so he could move easily.

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## SANTO BAUTISTA

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He is a 26 year old disabled man.

His good aptitude to study led him to start his studies, but due to the difficulty of moving he had to leave.

Now unemployed and without a completed training he is in a situation of poverty. He asks for a wheelchair or bicycle to be able to move and thus resume his studies.



## JOSE ALFONSO

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He is a parent of 5 minor children. He was hit and the driver fled. Due to his economic situation I cannot go to the hospital to be treated after this accident. As a result, he has not received any medical treatment and has become invalid for his entire life. He is completely dependent, lives with his mother. Ask for a wheelchair or disabled bike so you can move when you need it, and have a little quality of life.

Thus we could cut infinite stories of families with disabled members, without resources and urgent needs.

If life in your country is already complex, because of the conflicts they endure and the lack of resources.

Imagine the daily life of a disabled person in this scenario.

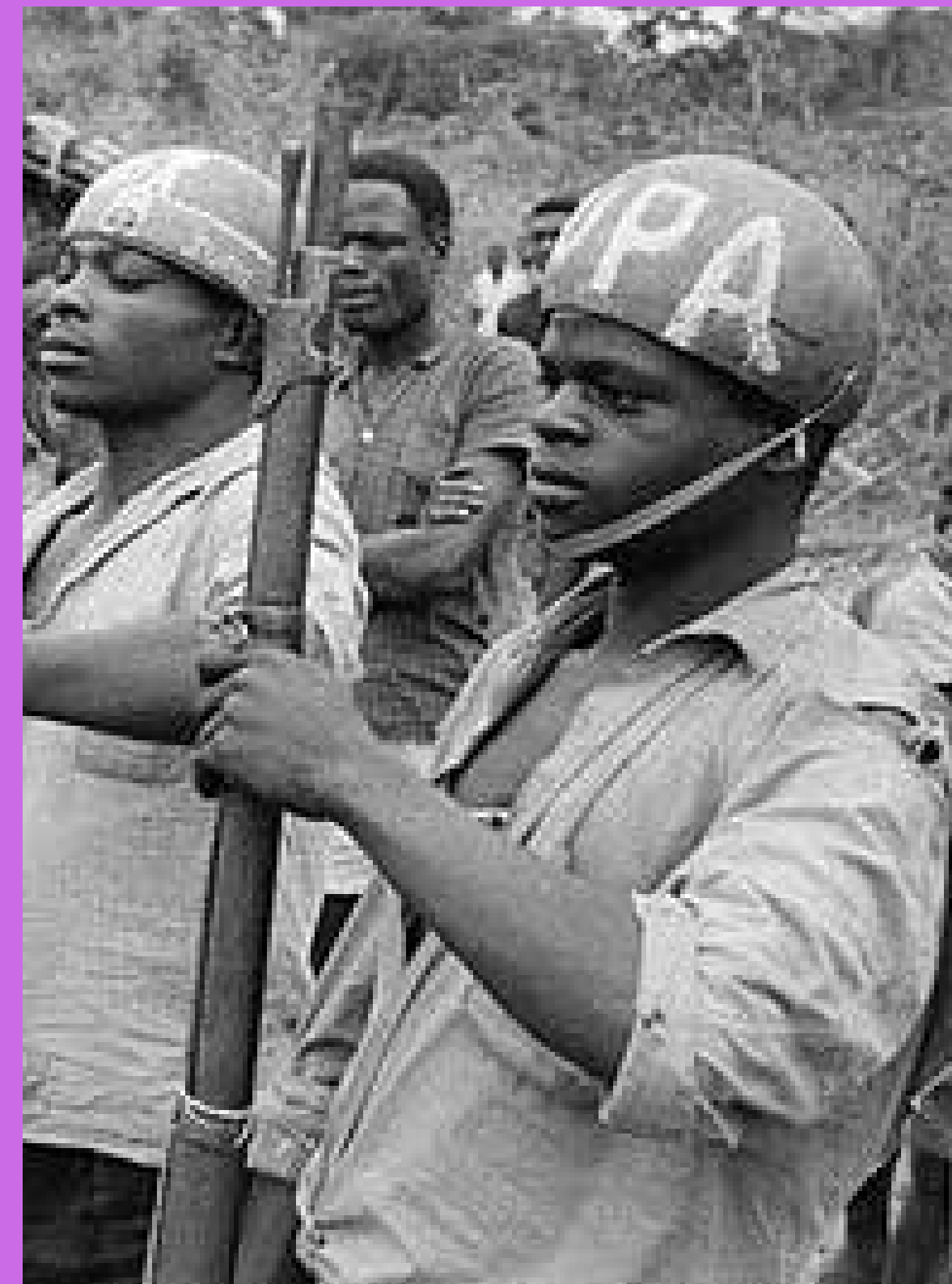



## PEOPLE WITH DISABILITIES AND THEIR FAMILIES EXPERIENCE NOTABLE ECONOMIC AND SOCIAL DISADVANTAGES.

A disability can cause the worsening of the social, economic and poverty of the person. Having a negative impact on their education, employment and earnings. In addition to generating an increase in expenses related to disability, which in most cases families cannot afford. Or investing the few resources they have, and consequently become even more impoverished.

The high number of citizens with disabilities in Angola is the result of more than four decades of armed conflicts that the country has been supporting. If this is done we add the scarce resources available to the health system. They inevitably generate a series of sequelae and congenital diseases, which are spreading throughout the population.

There are no prevention programs to educate citizens and to prevent the risk of infection and acquire healthy practices for their health. In recent years there has been an increase in families that do not school their children. Also as worrisome data, road accidents have increased.





Our goal is to help carry out actions aimed at supporting disabled people.

Information and awareness within the authorities and their communities so that they receive direct help.

Prevention campaigns, with the aim of avoiding the appearance, aggravation of disability or mitigate its consequences.





# Official Information and Statistics

## **"A forgotten country"**

Country characterization The Republic of Angola;

- It is a country that is situated on the west coast of Africa, limiting the North and East with the Republic of the Congo, also to the East with Zambia, to the South with Namibia and to the West with the Atlantic Ocean. To the North it also borders the Republic of the Congo. Angola was an old colony of Portugal, colonization began in the fifteenth century, and remained a Portuguese colony until independence in 1975.
  - The country divided between an arid coastal strip, which extends from Namibia to Luanda, a high humid interior plan, a dry savanna in the South and Southeast interior and the tropical forest in the North. Angola is the fifth largest country in sub-Saharan Africa, with a total area of 1,246,700 km<sup>2</sup>. Administratively it is divided by 18 (eighteen) provinces, 162 (one hundred and sixty-two municipalities) and 559 (five hundred and fifty-nine) villages.
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- The ethnic groups continue with their unaltered essence and the citizens that constitute them are understood to speak Portuguese as the official language, which results from colonization and is the fundamental factor of national unity, although the people of Angola come from several ethnolinguistic groups, presenting some differences in their cultural traditions.
  - During the second half of the twentieth century there was an intense displacement of inhabitants from rural areas to cities as a consequence, mainly, of the civil war that broke out after independence and that caused a true rural exodus, estimating that little more than half of Angola's total population emigrated to urban areas, where they live so far.
  - Of 25 789 024 people, being 12.4 million male (48% of the total population) and 13.2 million female (52% of the total population)
  - Data from the 2014 General Census indicate the existence of 656,258 residents in Angola who are people with disabilities.
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Angola y Área de Residencia	Población con alguna discapacidad	Tipo de discapacidad					
		Discapacidad mental	Ciego	Sordo	Mudo	Paralítico	Miembro(s) superior(es) amputado(s)
		Total	Total	Total	Total	Total	Total
Angola	656 258	89 186	58 921	35 664	30 436	85 465	52 808
Urbana	365 547	52 978	30 134	16 117	16 669	52 317	29 696
Rural	290 710	36 207	28 787	19 548	13 767	33 148	23 113



# Resident population with disabilities by age group, by sex

País y grupos de edad	Total		Hombres		Mujeres	
	Nº	%	Nº	%	Nº	%
			365			
Angola	656 258	100,0	858	100,0	290 400	100,0
0-4 años	50 786	7,7	26 449	7,2	24 338	8,4
5-14 años	113 325	17,3	59 789	16,3	53 536	18,4
15-24 años	108 778	16,6	57 551	15,7	51 227	17,6
			192			
25-64 años	326 390	49,7	665	52,7	133 724	46,0
65 o más años	56 980	8,7	29 404	8,0	27 575	9,5

# Disability and Development

**“Poverty is not a disease of the poor. It heals with the help of the rich ”**

Disability is a development issue, because it has a two-way link with poverty:

- Disability can increase the risk of poverty, and poverty can increase the risk of disability. They include food insecurity, poor housing, lack of access to drinking water and sanitation, and inadequate access to public health care.
- Poverty can increase the risk of disability. A study of 56 developing countries allowed us to conclude that poor people experienced worse health than those who had a more comfortable economic situation. Poverty can lead to the emergence of health conditions linked to disability, including: low birth weight, malnutrition, lack of adequate drinking water or sanitation, unsafe working or housing conditions, and injuries.
- Poverty can increase the chances that a person with a previous health problem will be disabled. For example; by living in an inaccessible environment or lacking access to adequate health and rehabilitation services.
- It is a matter of equal human rights value. Disabled people in poverty, have the same fundamental rights, benefiting from the values of human rights as any other person. If not, it should be considered social exclusion, and this needs to be addressed and rectified.



- People with disabilities need help, it is necessary to create more programs in the short and long term to improve their living situation. Destined especially to countries with less income and worse circumstances, such as Angola, to which this first project is intended. Collection of wheelchairs for people with disabilities or reduced mobility.



- But disability must be a higher priority, satisfactory initiatives must be intensified and a more coherent response needs to be achieved. Likewise, people with disabilities should be part of the initiatives aimed at development, both as beneficiaries and in the design, implementation and supervision of interventions.





# Other ALMA initiatives

## **NON GOVERNMENTAL ORGANIZATION (N.G.O)**

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The objective of this project is to make a massive appeal to all public and private organizations to collect second-hand wheelchairs and disabled bicycles or crutches that are no longer useful to their owners and be able to offer them to those who do need and do not have means.

Places Where to Call:

## IN NURSING HOMES



In these centers not only are wheelchairs constantly renewed, but with the death of older people in the centers, the chairs used by them are forgotten or left by their relatives in the centers.

## IN TANATORIOS



We call on these companies to offer the families of the deceased the beautiful action of leaving wheelchairs or crutches to our NGO. It can even be a solution for families who do not want to stick to the belongings of their loved one, after their loss.

## IN ASSOCIATIONS OF DISABLED



People and families that already have a social bond, in the collaboration of people with special needs. Surely they will have a predisposition to help causes related to their own family circumstances.



## THE ORGANIZATION



These foundations dedicated to humanitarian aid have a close relationship with the families and people they deal with in their local nucleus. Being able to be of great help when it comes to detecting people who have needed wheelchairs and no longer need them.

## THROUGH OUR WEBSITE AND SOCIAL CHANNELS



There will be a direct appeal from people to people, who have wheelchairs in their homes without the need for use and want them to be taken advantage of by those who do.

# ESTIMATED COSTS

These are the estimated expenses for moving the collected wheelchairs to Angola.

- To send the wheelchairs from Ibiza to Valencia you have to rent a container and load it. With an approximate cost of € 2,000
- Ship this container to Angola (Africa) from Valencia, it has an approximate amount of € 3,000.
- Withdraw it in Luanda capital, has an approximate amount of € 10,000

**TOTAL ESTIMATED SPENDING 15.000€**

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COMPANIES AND INSTITUTIONS THAT WISH TO  
CONTRIBUTE TO THIS PROJECT.  
IN ANY MODE.  
IT IS PROPOSED THAT THE WHEELCHAIRS BE SEALED  
WITH THEIR CORPORATE BRAND OR LOGO. KEEPING  
PROOF OF YOUR SUPPORT FOR THIS CAUSE, AND THE  
PEOPLE WHO RECEIVE THESE CHAIRS HAVE A MEMORY  
OF THOSE WHO HAVE MADE THEIR NEW LIFE POSSIBLE.



Note: After this first action to help people with  
disabilities in Angola. Children, women and men.  
Alma NGO will closely monitor each case that has  
received help. With the intention that your life  
continues to improve progressively, giving them the  
necessary support in their personal and vital  
development. Being the second step of which we  
speak, the help to the labor reintegration in the case  
of the women and men, and the schooling in the case  
of the children.



“My dreams have wings.  
My heart can walk.  
Other than the absence of my legs.  
What prevents me from LOVING LIFE  
I deserve TO WALK ”.

**(Filipe Daniel Paulo).**

