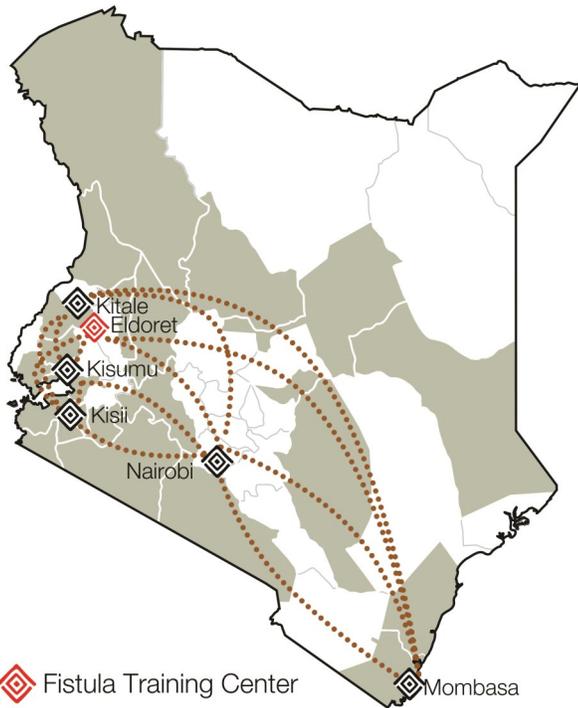


Ending Fistula Within a Generation in Kenya



An Integrated Network



Fistula Foundation's Action on Fistula program is a transformative, countrywide model that applies a systemic approach to address every element in the battle against fistula. Building capacity with a collaborative network of hospitals across Kenya and a rigorous surgeon training program, we have created a strong and sustainable community of practice. Innovative community outreach is a hallmark of our strategy, and after surgery, women receive holistic post-operative care that includes medical rehabilitation through psychological counseling and physiotherapy, and social reintegration through skills training and support groups. They return to their communities with their health restored and as empowered advocates for the cause.

Our 3-year pilot delivered excellent results: more than doubling the goals set at the start of the initiative. With dedicated staff on the ground in Kenya, we consistently track and measure our efficacy to incorporate learnings and propel the program to further success.

The type and scale of this project is a first for Fistula Foundation, and it is also a global first: **No other organization in the world has delivered a comparable nationwide infrastructure for fistula care.**

3-Year Pilot: Success in Numbers

- ◆ 2,735 women transformed through fistula repair surgery
- ◆ 6 Kenyan surgeons trained to FIGO's globally recognized standard
- ◆ 243 Community Health Workers trained and conducting outreach
- ◆ 8,500 outreach activities conducted, reaching over 514,115 people nationwide
- ◆ 1 flagship hospital built—Gynocare Women's and Fistula Hospital

A Surgeon's Perspective: Dr. John Omboga



"The problem of fistula in this country is enormous... We need a lot of staff, a lot of doctors trained on fistula repair. So, Action on Fistula is already doing a very good job helping us to better overcome this enormous challenge."

- John Omboga
founder, Gynocare Kisii

Yet, despite the tremendous success of this initiative, it is at risk.

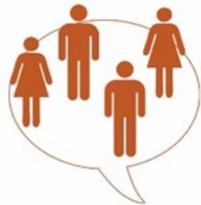
We know this program works. We believe it has the power to end fistula within a generation in Kenya— **but only if we can find funds to sustain the infrastructure we have already built.**

You can make a difference today:
fistulafoundation.org/actionforkenya

Putting the Pieces Together – Esther's Story



Esther lives in a rural part of Kenya. She is suffering from fistula and shunned by her community. Action on Fistula (AoF) exists to end Esther's misery. Here's how it happens:



1. Community Awareness

Awareness about fistula in Esther's community is low. AoF starts with innovative steps to spread the word – including skits and comedies at community rallies, radio ads, flyers, and enlisting male advocates.



2. Outreach Volunteer

After attending a rally, Esther's neighbor connects Esther with an AoF-trained Community Health Volunteer who explains that help is within reach.



3. Hospital Network

Thanks to AoF's Fistula Treatment Network of hospitals, the Community Health Volunteer helps Esther get screened by phone and referred to the facility best equipped to support her surgical needs.



4. Transport

AoF pays for Esther's bus fare to Gynocare Fistula Center in Eldoret. A representative even meets her at the bus station.



5. Pre-Surgery Care

Gynocare's warm and fully-trained staff make sure Esther is prepared for surgery, both physically and emotionally.



6. Fistula Repair Surgery

Esther undergoes repair surgery by a certified fistula surgeon, equipped with all the tools he needs. Esther's surgeon was trained through AoF's fully FIGO accredited fistula program.



7. Medical Rehabilitation

Esther is finally dry! She begins a physical therapy regimen and receives care from a psychological counselor.



8. Community Reintegration

AoF offers Esther tools to re-enter society—from skills training to financial loans to support groups. She is empowered through a community of fistula survivors.



From Patient to Advocate

Esther returns to her community dry, hopeful, and restored. Now that she has been healed, she serves as an advocate in her community for other women who are suffering from fistula—and the cycle begins again, even stronger than before.