



# Facing the standards gap

Focus on sterilization of medical  
supplies in developing world

**A sterilizer for the rest of us**



## **Sterildagarna 2022**

**Stockholm 26-10-2022**



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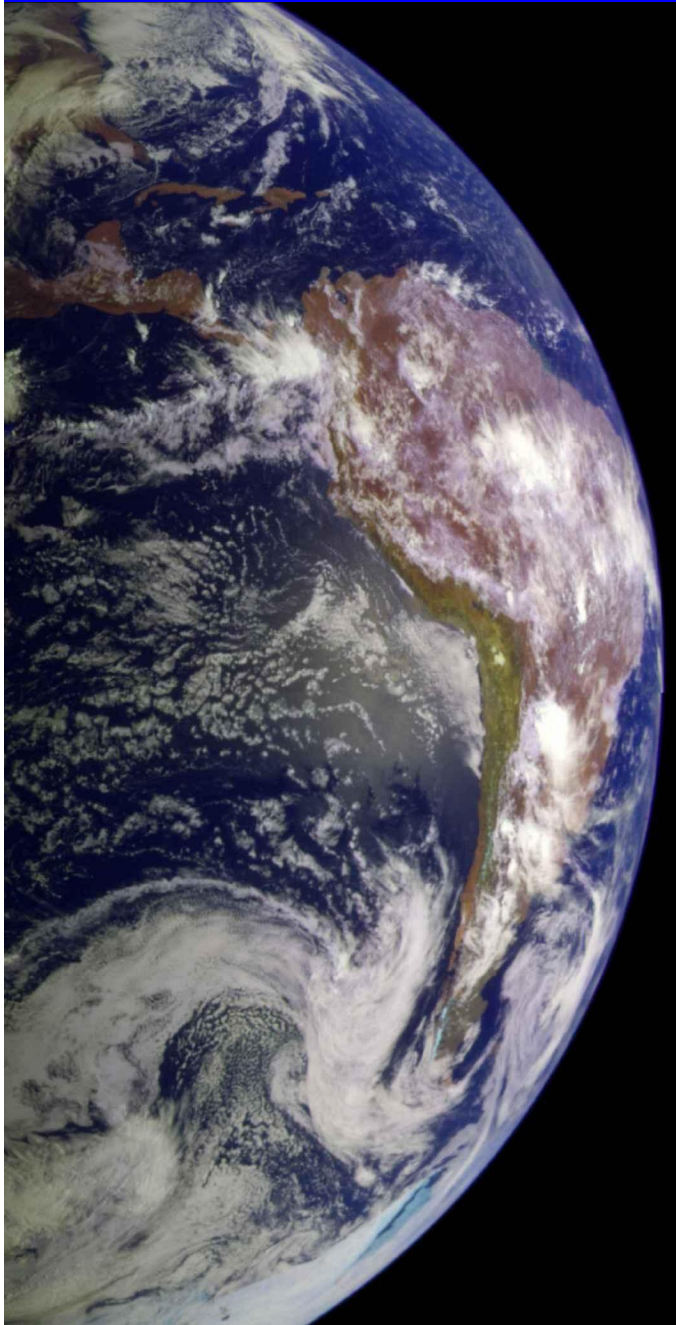
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# Facing the standards gap



- Technology in health care
- Focus on sterile supply
- Local reality/constraints
- Situation analysis: sample cases; sterilization and cleaning
- Objectives of standards
- Problems caused by standards
- Bridging the gap:  
Toward a solution
- Concept for sterile supply
- General design considerations for medical devices for LMIC's







# Modern healthcare has become dependent on advanced technology







# Advanced technology in the CSSD (Central Sterile Supply Department)

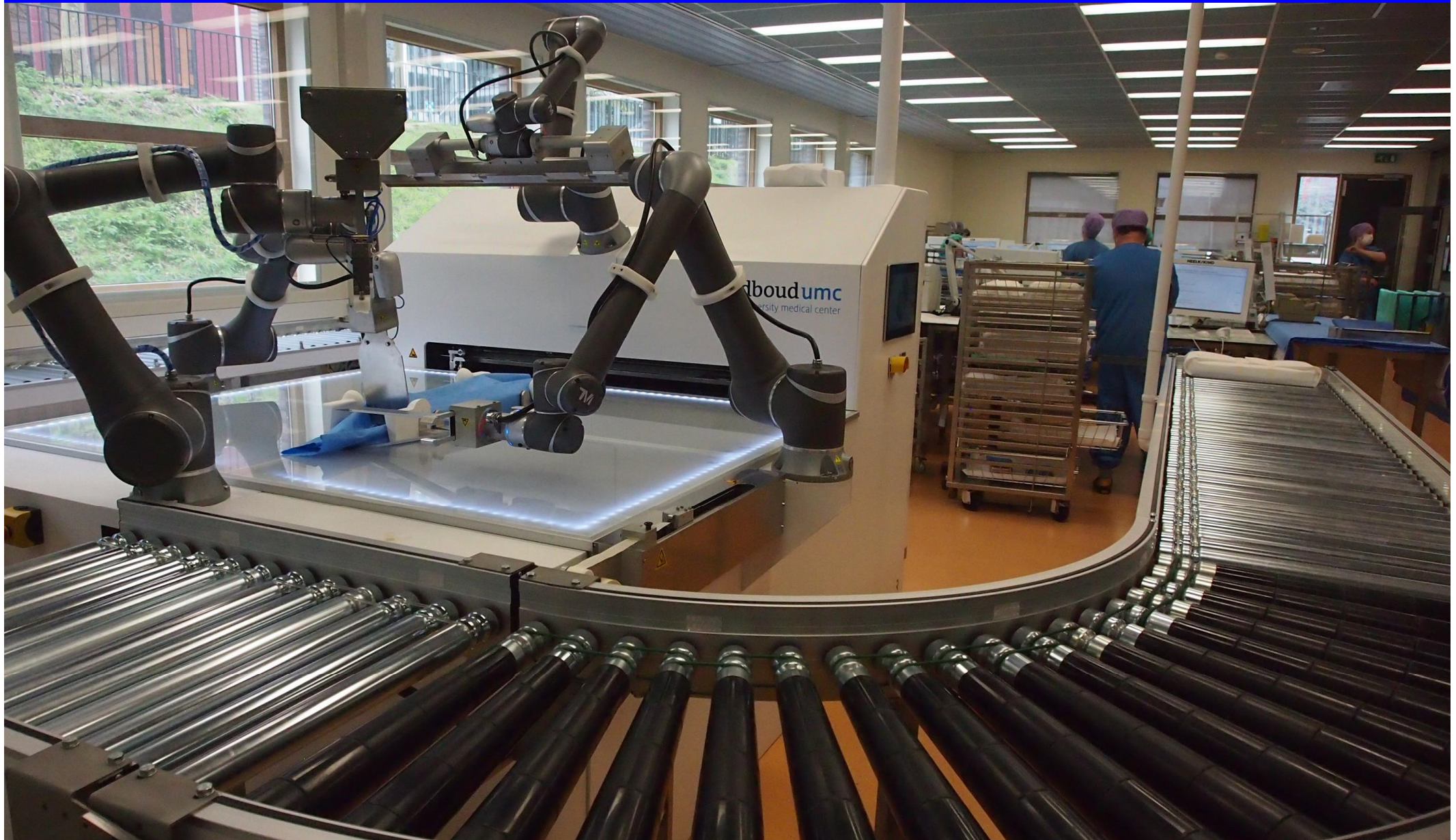






# Advanced technology in the CSSD (Central Sterile Supply Department)

## Introduction of Packaging robot: UMC Nijmegen NL







# Technological infrastructure







A few hours flying  
from here . . .







# Arrival







# Arrival







# Arrival







# Health post: first line of care





# Health facilities with limited resources

Typical District Hospital in Africa.  
Approx. 100 beds. Catchment population: 100.000  
With Out Patient Department, Maternity, Surgery, Laboratory, Radiology service and Wards.



***Reliable sterile supply is indispensable!***







# Local context: Constraints of Supplies/Infrastructure



Electricity supply

Water supply



Access roads







# Local context: Operational constraints

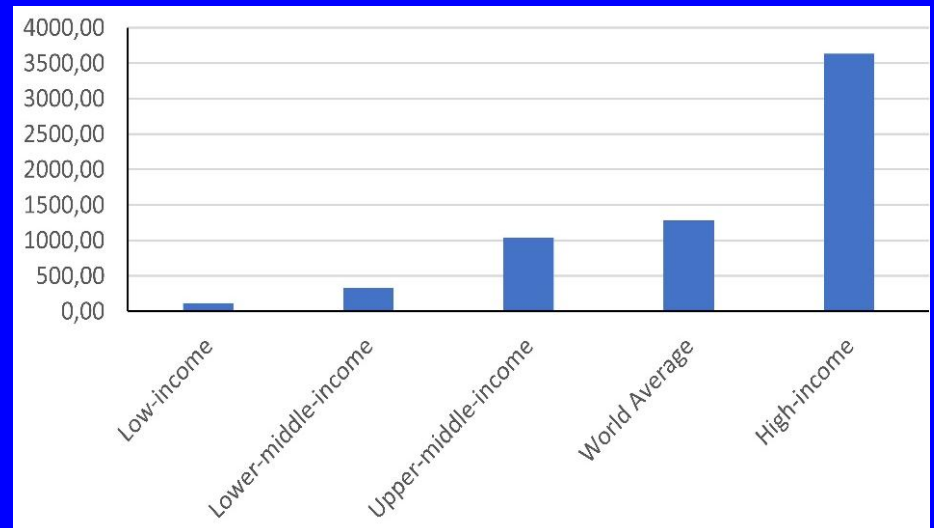
Operating Staff

Technical Support



*Well trained operating staff and technicians is essential, but scarce!*

Limited budgets



*Annual per capita expenditure on health care*

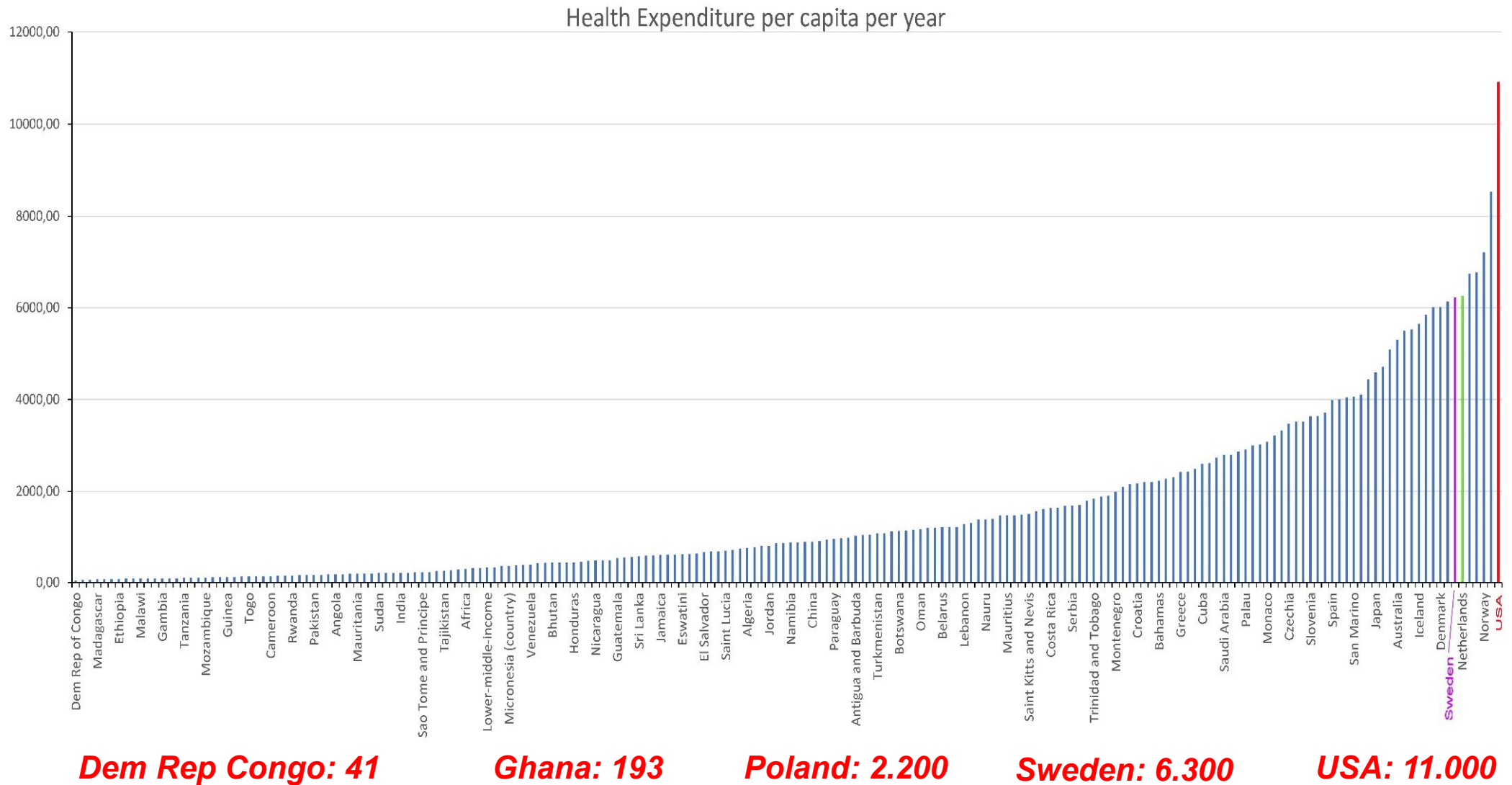
***Medical technology is embedded in industrialized societies***





# Local context: Limited budgets

## Per capita spending on health care per year



Figures: WHO 2019





# Case 1: CMA de Kossodo, Ouagadougou, Burkina Faso. (2005)







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# Case 2: Hopital Communautaire de Bangui, CAR (2009)







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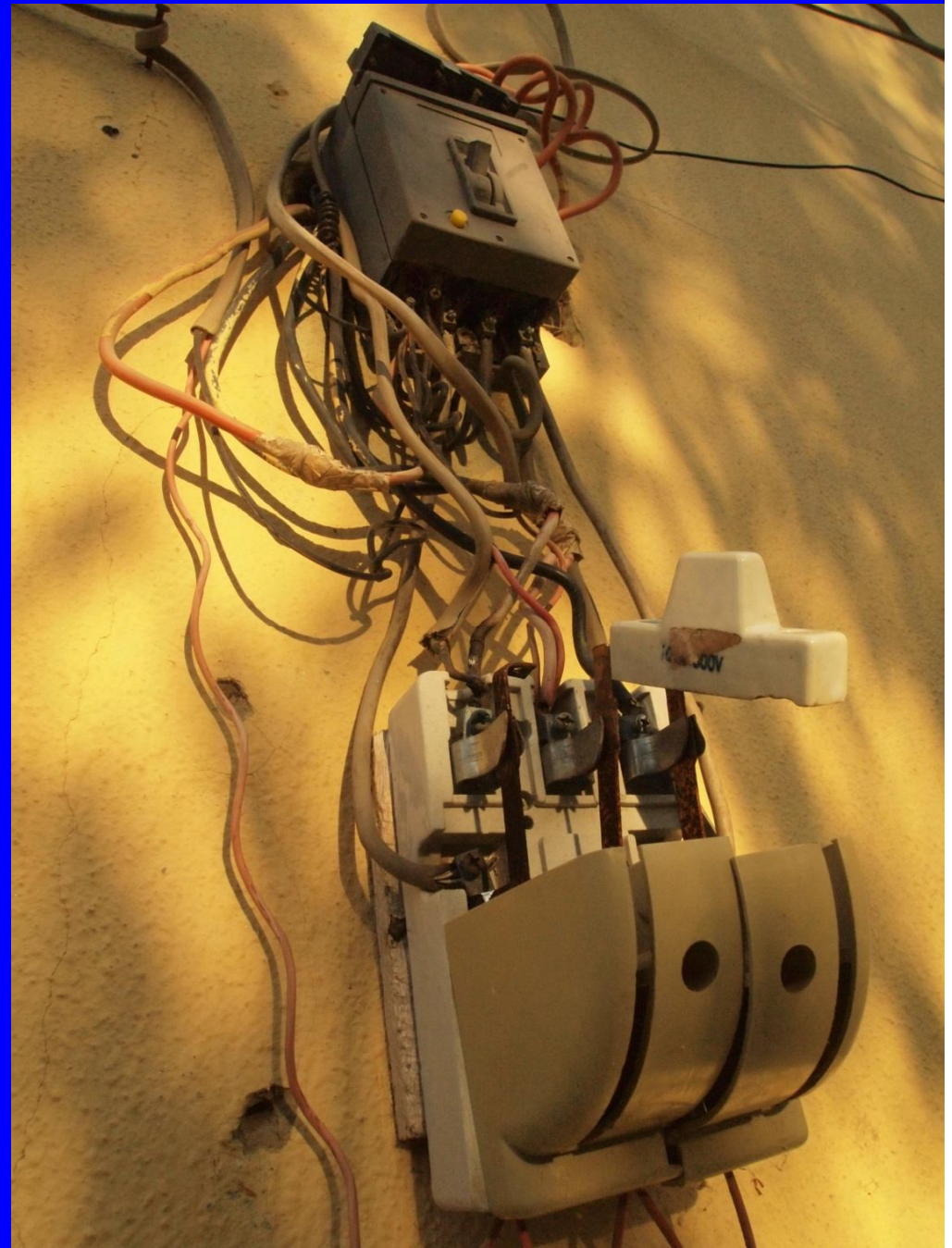
# Case 3: Bungudu General Hospital Zamfara state, Nigeria (2012)







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# Case 4: JF Kennedy Medical Centre, Monrovia, Liberia (2015)







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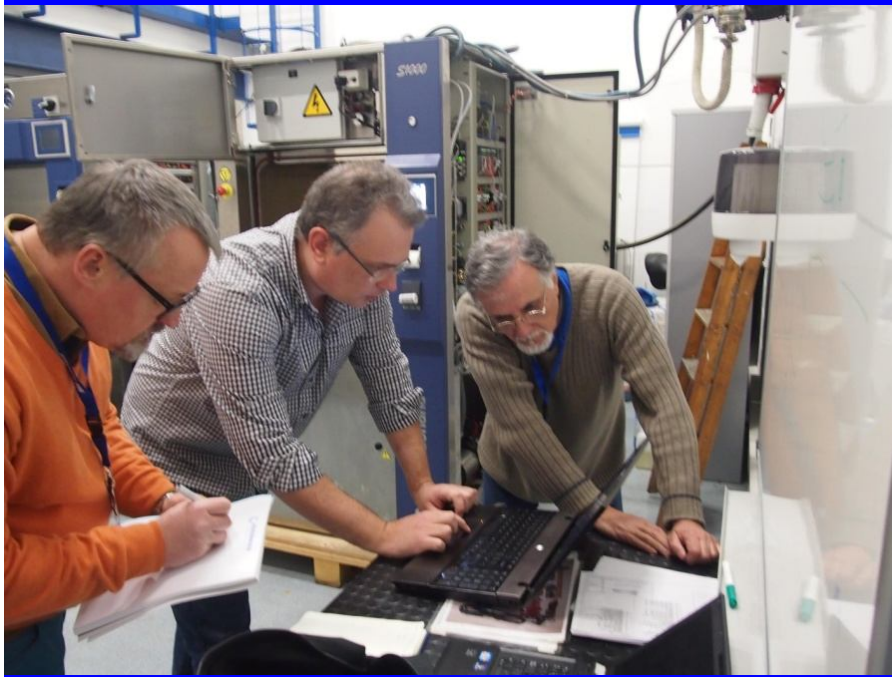
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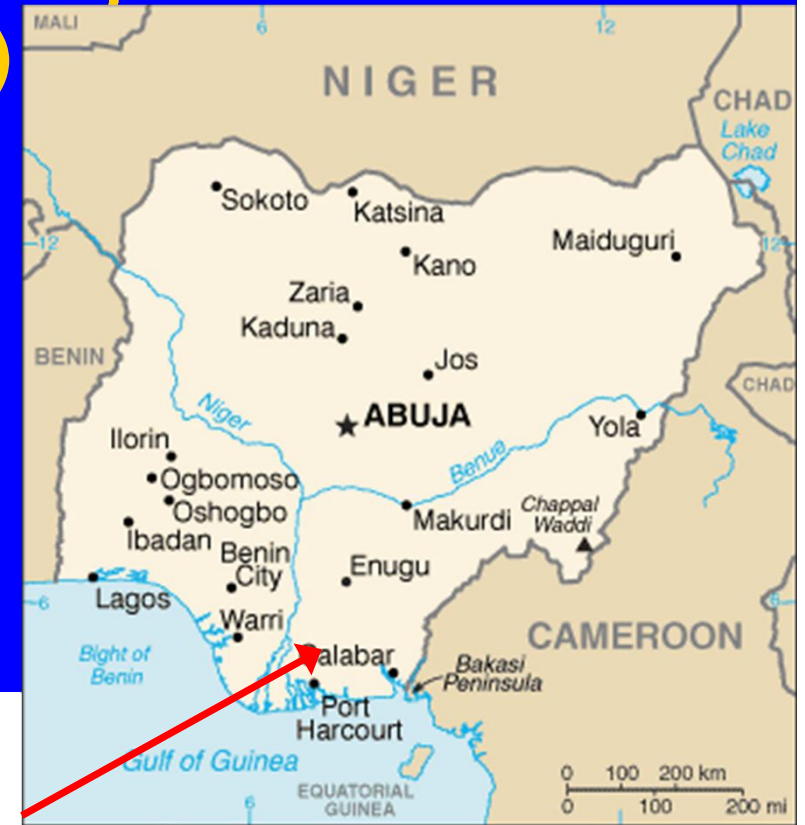
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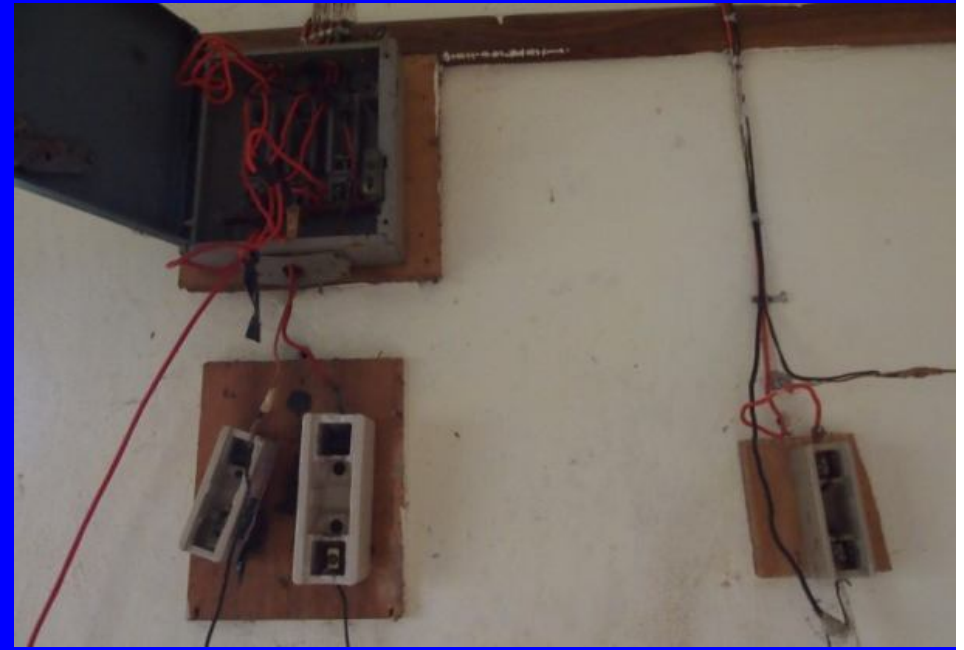
## Case 5: University Teaching Hospital Orlu, Imo State, Nigeria (2015)







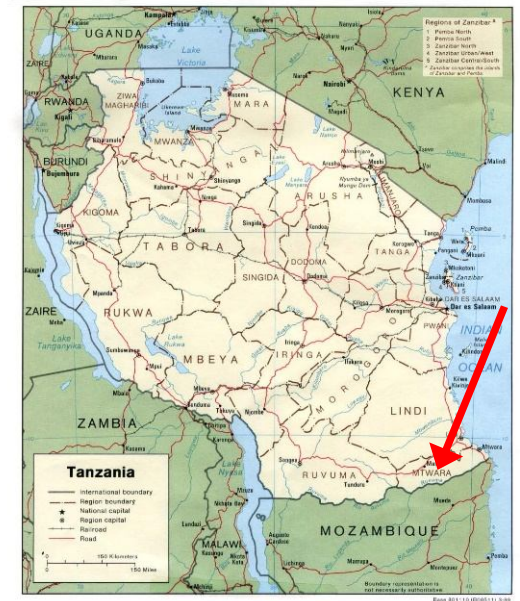
# Case 5: Orlu University Teaching Hospital Orlu, Imo State, Nigeria (2015)







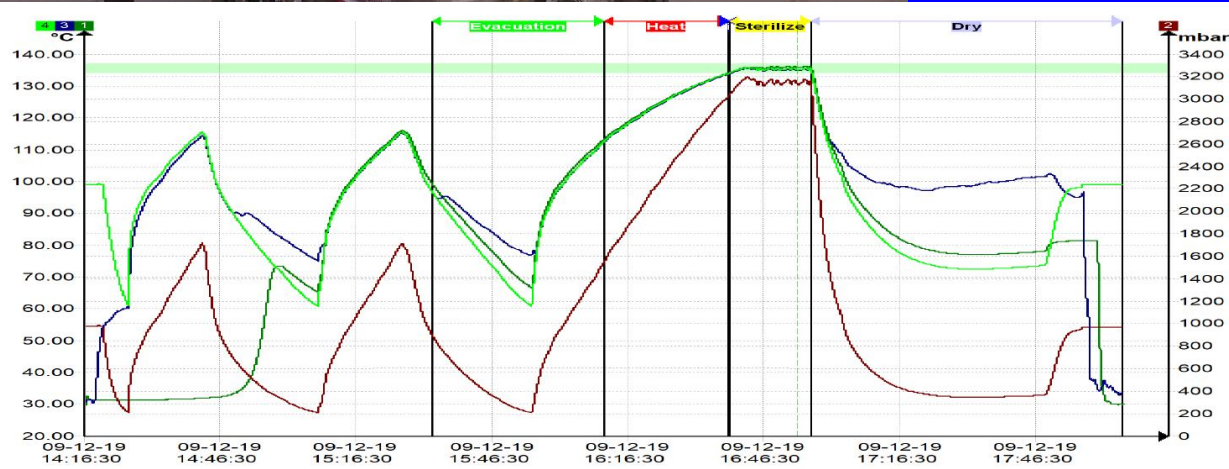
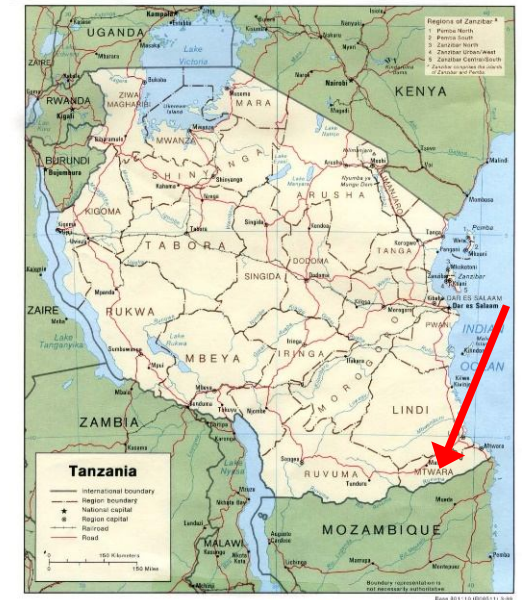
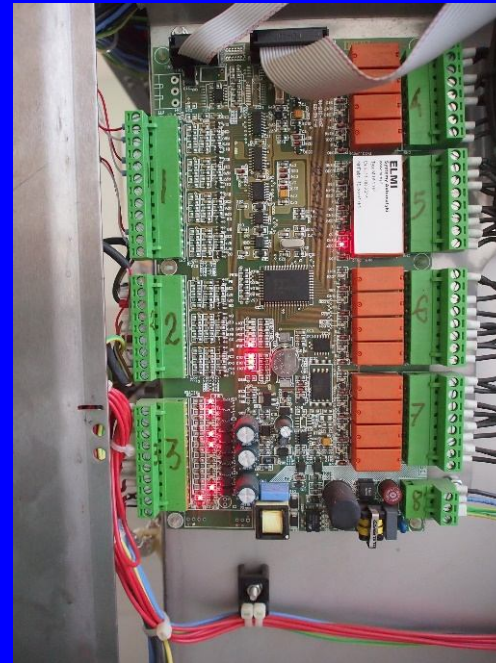
## Case 6: St Benedict Hospital, Ndanda, Tanzania. (2019)







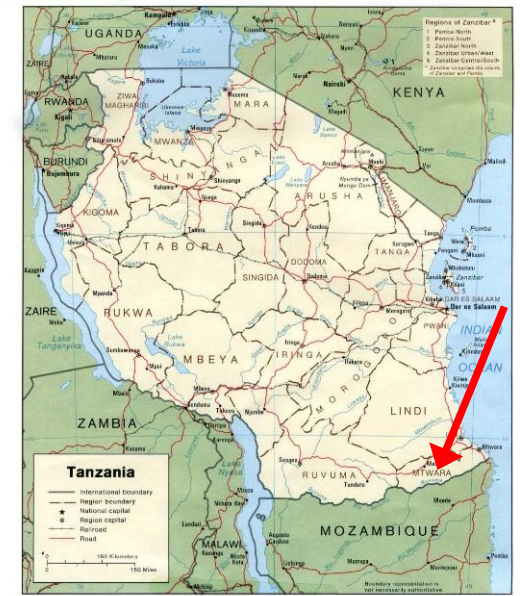
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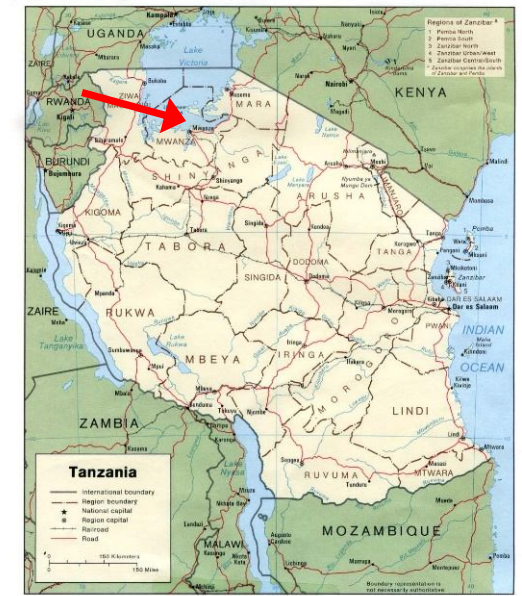
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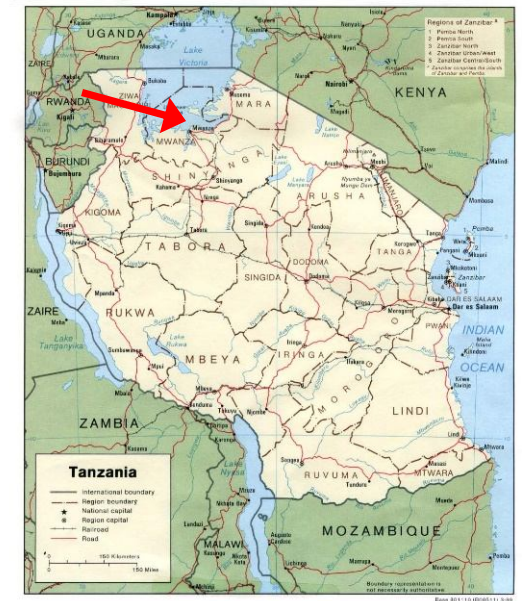
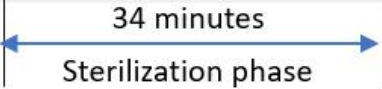
## Case 7: Bugando Medical Centre Mwanza, Tanzania. (2019)







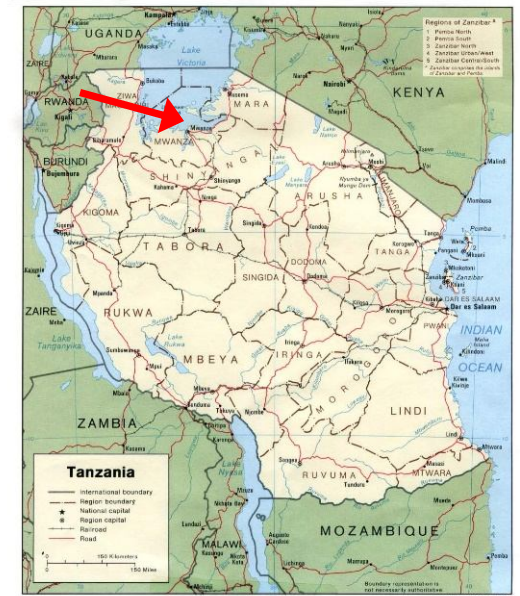
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# Case 8: Maiduguri University Teaching Hospital Maiduguri, Nigeria. (2022)







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# Local context: Sterilizer acquisition

❑ Driven by low cost: → procurement of cheap, substandard equipment

- Poor performance
- Poor safety



*Cheap, but poorly performing and poor quality sterilizers*





# Local context: Sterilizer acquisition

- ❑ Driven by (western) standards:
  - ➔ procurement of high-tech equipment.
  - High-tech is embedded in high-income economies with all required resources.
  - Transfer of high-tech to low-income economies without considering the context is bound to fail.
  - Donor/procurement community tends to supply equipment meeting the standards. Very limited know-how about actual conditions in the field
- ❑ **Standards thus may lead to non functioning equipment**



*Broken down high-tech sterilizers in regional hospitals.*





# International standards for sterilization Objectives



- Ensure safety and health of the users and patients
- Ensure minimum standards of quality



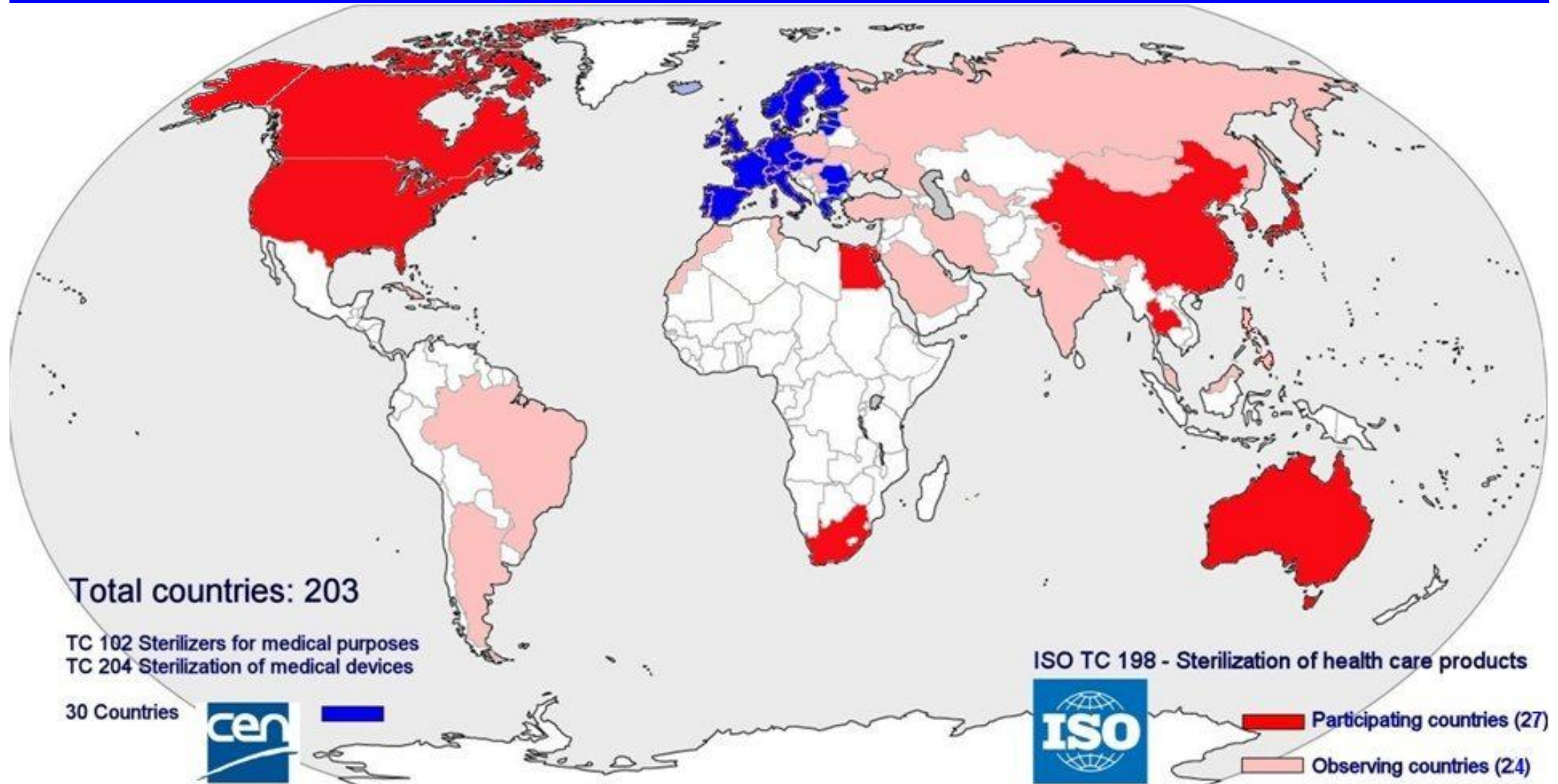
- Facilitate interchangeability of products and services between nations: reduce trade-barriers
- Legal requirements: responsibility: traceability







# Membership of CEN/ISO sterilization-related Technical Committees



Total countries: 203

TC 102 Sterilizers for medical purposes  
TC 204 Sterilization of medical devices

30 Countries



ISO TC 198 - Sterilization of health care products



Participating countries (27)

Observing countries (24)



# Membership of ISO TC 198 (2021)

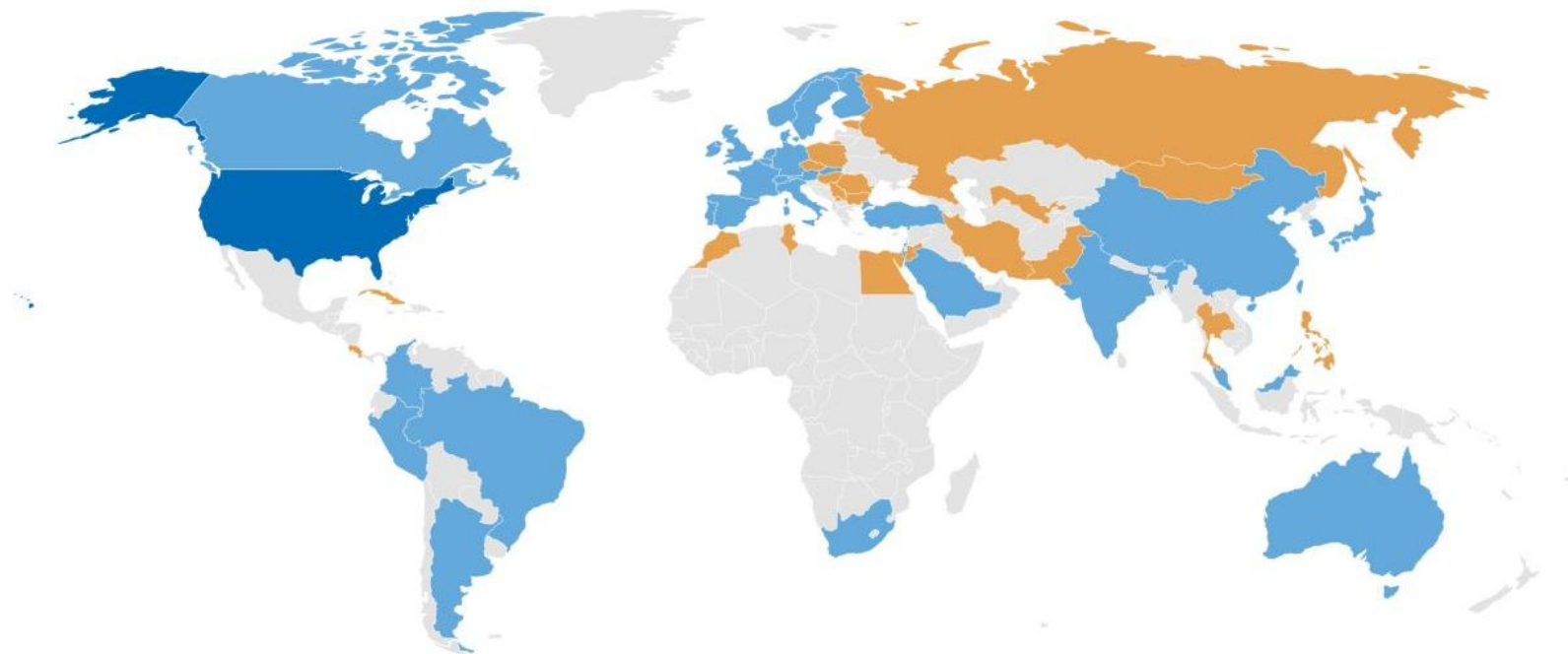
## Sterilization of healthcare products



Standards About us News **Taking part** Store   EN 

ISO/TC 198

## PARTICIPATION



This map is designed to visually demonstrate the geographic distribution of our Members. The boundaries shown do not imply an official endorsement or acceptance by ISO.

- Participating members (34)
- Observing members (21)





# Membership of WFHSS (2022)



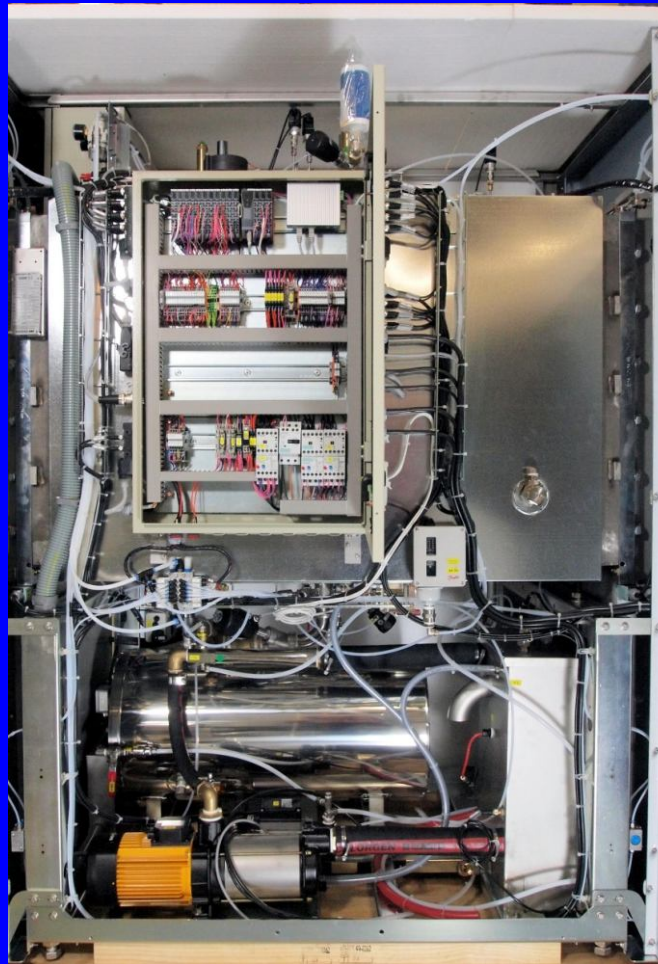
- Participating members (79)
- Countries (66)





# The current standards result in

- High performance automatic sterilizers; human intervention is virtually ruled out
- Require advanced technology
- Requires advanced infrastructure, support and thus: money.



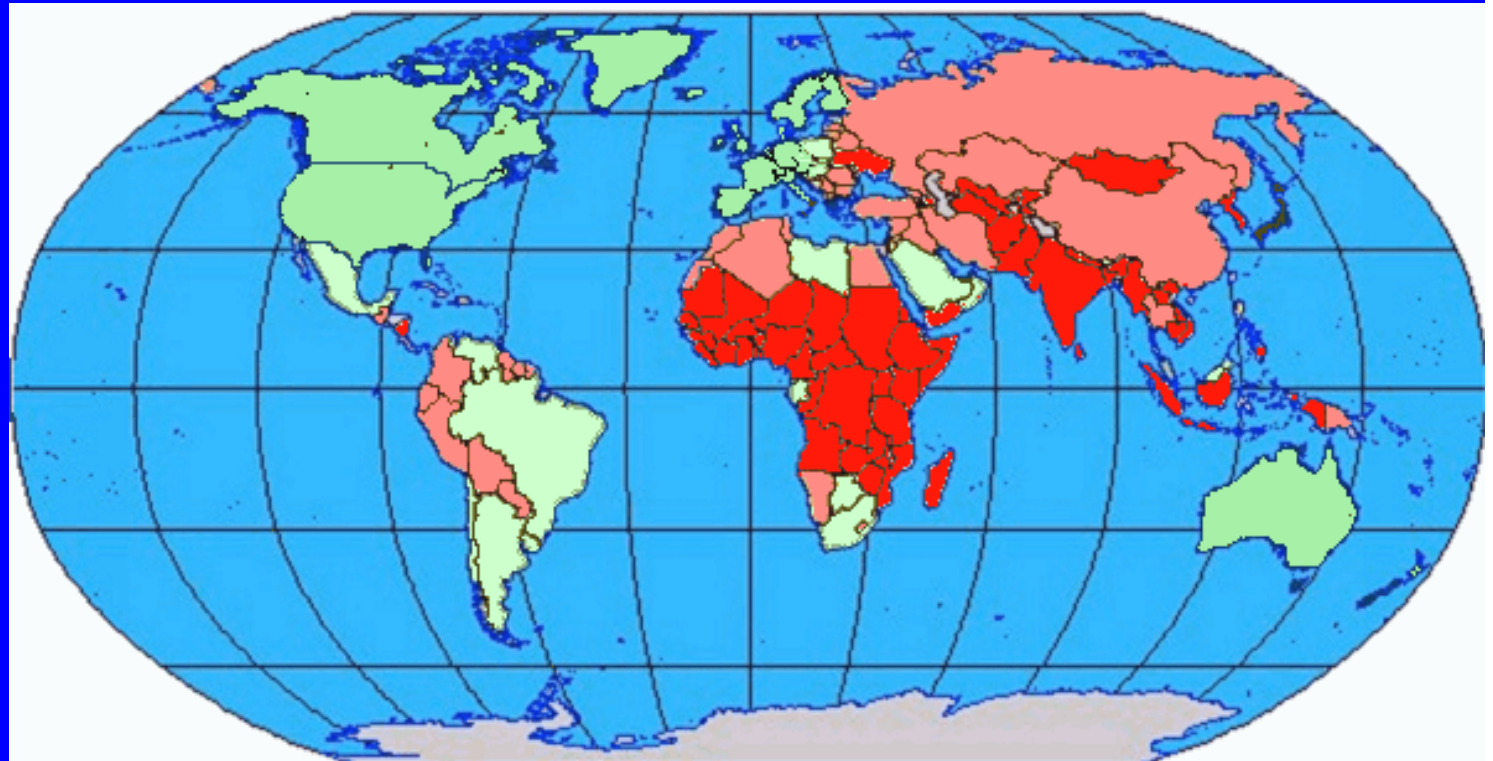
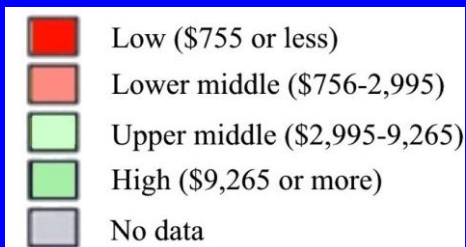




# Situation in developing countries

- Majority of world population (6.9 billion) lives in low/middle income countries (approx 4 billion)
- Health authorities seek to follow developments
- Eager to improve situation
- Want guidance to improve
- Want to use of international standards as reference

*Total: 6.9 billion*  
*Low/medium income:*  
*4 billion*





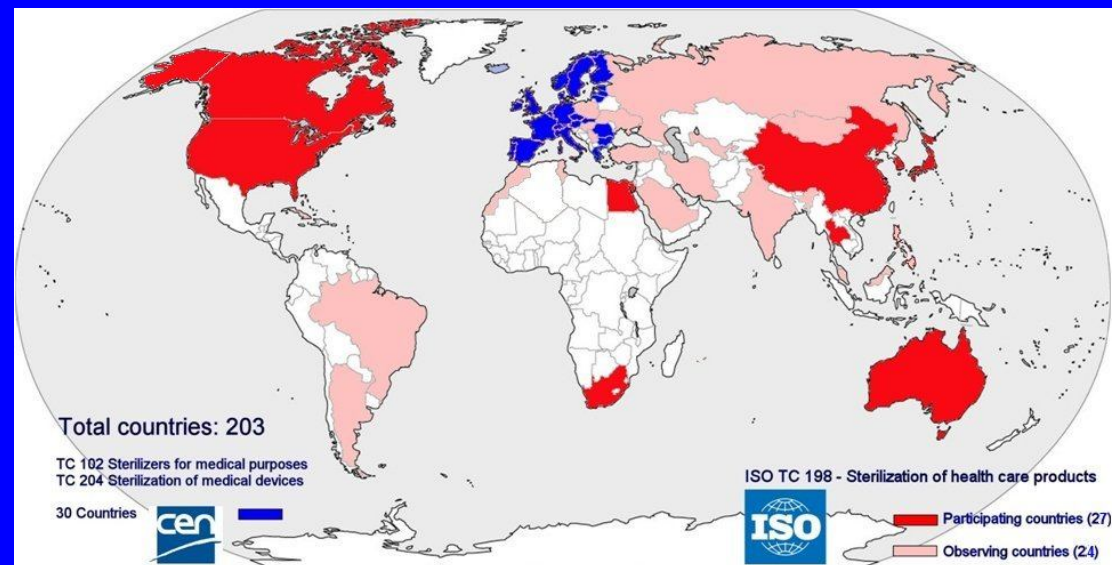


# Bridging the standards gap

## Case: sterilization of medical supplies



- Consider local economy:  
Compatible with socio-economic background
- Facilitate that developing countries become members of standards committees
- Identify relevant standards:  
e.g. No concessions to ISO/CEN standard for sterility of products (CEN/ISO 554)
- Interim solution: Provide binding guidelines for emerging markets through authoritative bodies such as WHO, Red Cross, MSF







# Bridging the standards gap

## Case: sterilization of medical supplies

- Validation of all steps of reprocessing cycle
- Introduce quality assurance
- Development of products appropriate for this (huge) market based on guidelines
- Education/Training at all levels



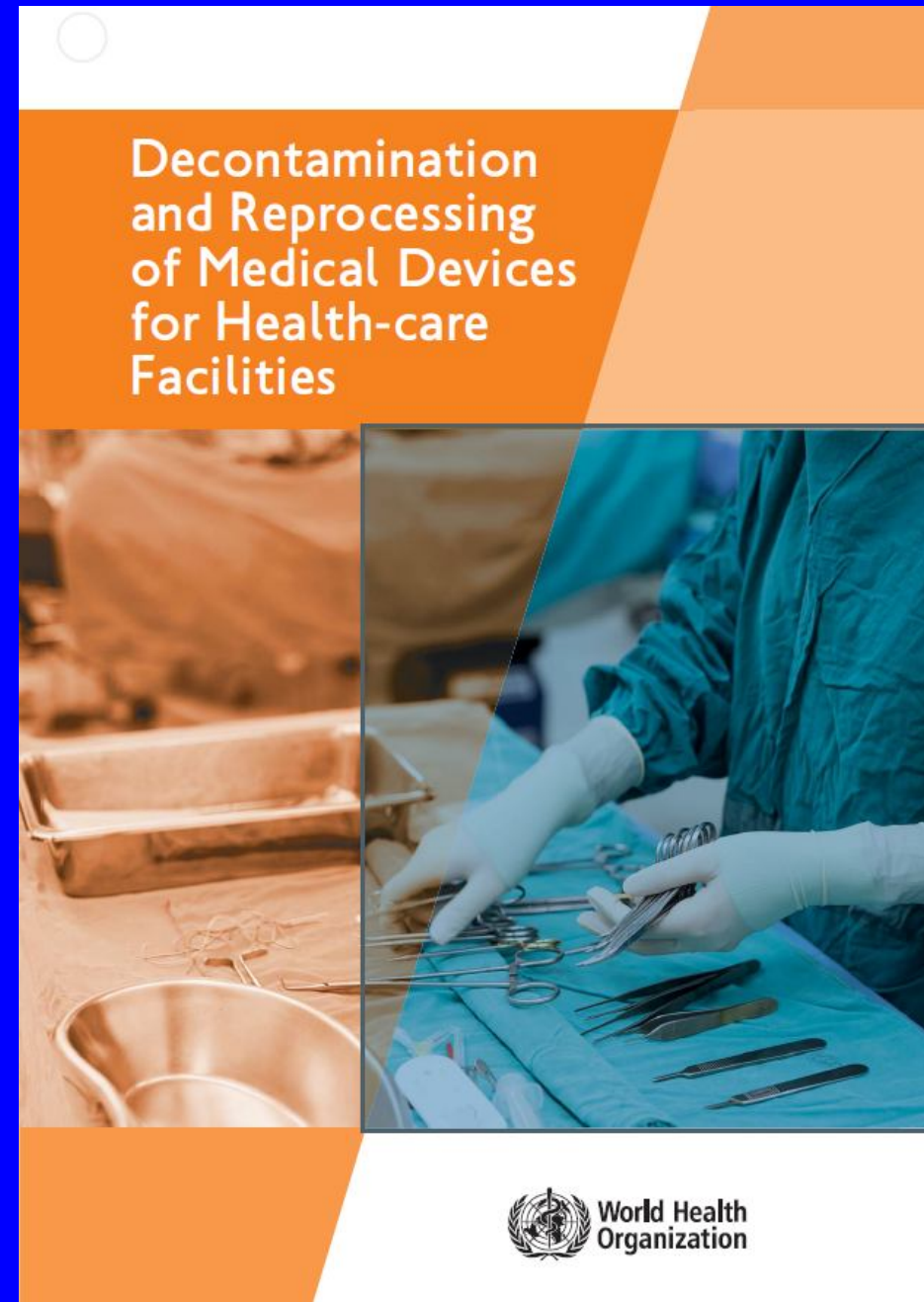




# Bridging the standards gap

## Case: sterilization of medical supplies

- Need for legal framework that considers the socio-economic reality in a respective country
- Need for standards that are compatible with the legal framework
- Industry can develop products within the criteria, and have a reasonable chance for a market
- Initiatives: WHO-guidelines for sterile supply. Note: issues related to equipment not addressed!








# Bridging the standards gap

## Case: sterilization of medical supplies


- Initiatives related to training :  
SPECT, Canada: Christina Fast



 Benin

 Cambodia

 Cameroon


 El Salvador

 Ethiopia


 Guatemala


 Guinea

 Honduras


 Madagascar

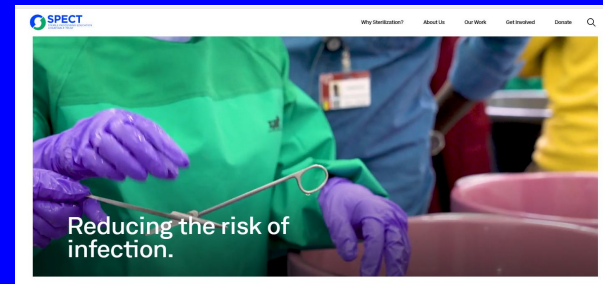
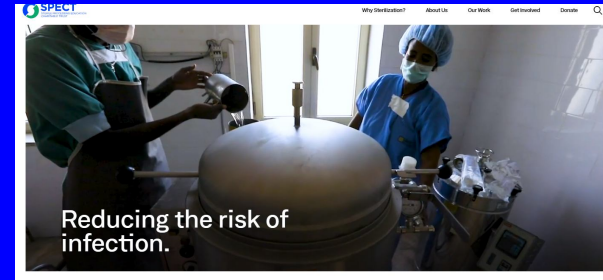
 Nicaragua

 Republic of Congo

 Senegal

 Sierra Leone

 Tanzania







# Bridging the standards gap

## Case: sterilization of medical supplies

- 2019: WFHSS Working group: sterilization in developing world







# Still great needs for support/training!

- Request from Cameroon for 3 Hospitals under the Evangelical Church of Cameroon
- Training sessions on sterile supply







# Conclusion

- ❑ World wide standards should be world wide!
- ❑ Developing countries want to develop!
- ❑ Need of appropriate equipment that meets essential functional requirements and local conditions
- ❑ Role for standards organizations ISO and CEN; WHO
- ❑ Instability in many regions increases demands for equipment that can function with very limited conditions and infrastructure

