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Mercy Ships announces world's largest NGO hospital ship

October 6, 2020 | News

The Global Mercy will deliver a safe and clean environment to various African nations



US-based Mercy Ships that uses hospital ships to deliver free, world-class healthcare services, capacity building, and sustainable development to those with little access in the developing world has recently announced a first look at the construction of the world's largest NGO hospital ship which plans to sail to Africa in late 2021 under the name of Global Mercy.

Mercy Ships, a faith-based global organization powered by charitable donors and volunteers, has been providing world-class surgical care to those in need for more than 40 years, free of charge.

According to the Lancet Global Surgery 2030 Report, an estimated number of 16.9 million people die yearly due to lack of access to surgical care. The *Global Mercy* will deliver a safe and clean environment to various African nations, providing help and resources from some of the most well-trained physicians in the world. Over the vessel's 50 year expected lifespan, it is estimated that more than 150,000 lives will be changed onboard through surgery alone.

In addition to providing surgeries, the *Global Mercy* will be outfitted with state-of-the-art training spaces including a simulation lab with virtual and augmented reality, mannequins and other training tools and simulated post-op care space, which allow trainers to simulate local conditions and limitations in order to teach best practices in low-resource environments.

The 174-meter, 37,000-ton ship will have six operating rooms and house over 600 volunteers from around the globe representing many disciplines including surgeons, maritime crew, cooks, teachers, electricians, the host staff and more.