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Hess Medic Anne Eskildsen at work in the South Arne platform sickbay.

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Hess Denmark Donates Medical Equipment to Help War-torn Countries

By: **Jeff Gaydos**

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**SOUTH ARNE PLATFORM, DANISH NORTH SEA, JANUARY 25, 2016**

Through the kindness and charity of the Hess South Arne offshore medical team, a Kurdish cardiologist working in war-torn Syria recently received a much-needed defibrillator that is being used to save lives in

Kobani. And in Ukraine, medics were thrilled to get a fresh shipment of first aid supplies.



"I am so very pleased that these things are doing good," said Hess Medic Anne Eskildsen, who works offshore on the South Arne platform in Denmark.

The supplies — valued at approximately 100,000 Danish Krone (nearly \$15,000 USD) — were donated to Global Medical Aid, a Danish organization that collects usable medicine and hospital equipment for the benefit of developing countries.

In Denmark, as in many countries with sophisticated health care systems, "outdated" medical instruments and supplies are replaced with newer and more effective equipment as new technologies are implemented in the field.

"There is nothing wrong with them," said Eskildsen. "It's just that the first aid supplies were more than we needed in our South Arne sickbay and some of the equipment was older and we had gotten newer models."

Eskildsen said the supplies came from a sickbay that was established for a well head platform that is north of South Arne. When the sickbay was closed, all the supplies were boxed and sent to Esbjerg, South Arne's base on the Danish mainland where they were to be warehoused.

"I realized the supplies were just going to be kept in boxes, so I asked if I could donate them to a charity that could use them," she said.

When she got the go-ahead, Eskildsen and her colleague, Lene Lykke Madsen, a Supply Chain Analyst, went through the boxed supplies, as well as the medical supplies in South Arne's sickbay to determine what was needed, what was duplicated and what could be donated.

The surplus supplies were then delivered to the Global Medical Aid (GMA) offices where they were dispersed soon after.

Hans Frederik Dydensborg, President of GMA, said the Hess donations were deemed valuable and welcomed, not only by his organization, but also by the recipients in the field. "It was high quality and practically new. When the cardiologist saw the defibrillator in our warehouse she got excited and asked if she could have it. Of course I said 'yes' and she nearly cried. She said it will save a lot of lives in Kobani (a Syrian city near the Turkish border that has been under siege for months)."

In addition there were eight boxes of first aid gear and backpacks. According to Dydensborg, in the small country of Denmark, with about five million inhabitants, more than three tons of good medicine is destroyed every day because it is not sold before it expires. Meanwhile, in poor countries, people die every day because they lack the medicine they need — particularly antibiotics, for example.

"I had visited Ukraine and found that the soldiers fighting in Eastern Ukraine had absolutely no first aid kits and knew that the backpacks could be used by the doctors and paramedics at the front." All was shipped through to the Ukrainian Ministry of Defense Medical Department with an additional 8,000 antibiotic treatments and 10,000 hospital uniforms.

Dydensborg said he is grateful for the donations and Eskildsen said she is also happy.

"I am pleased that these supplies and equipment are being put to good use in the world instead of sitting in boxes in a warehouse," she said.

GMA relies on contributions that pay to warehouse and ship the donated equipment. For more information about the organization and the work it is doing, [CLICK HERE](#).