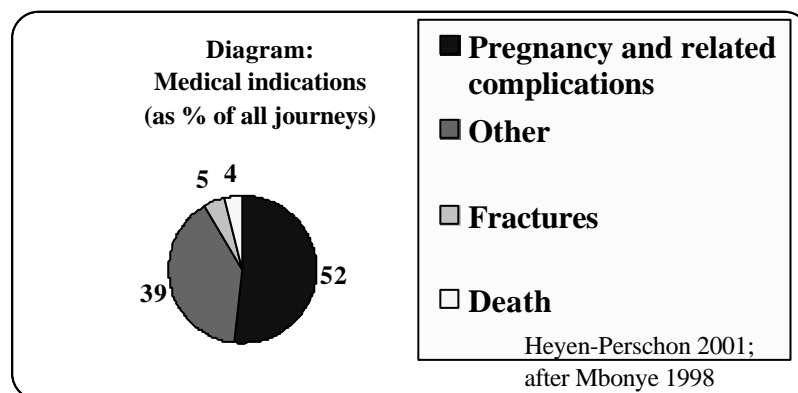


Summary on the FABIO/BSPW - Bicycle Ambulance Project (Uganda)

During the period between January and December 2001, 100 ambulance-trailers were assembled by the BSPW (Bicycle Sponsorship Project & Workshop) for the FABIO Bicycle Ambulance Project. The bicycles in combination with their specially built trailers, financed through donations were distributed in Kabale, Bugiri and Soroti District has recorded good results. Its only limitations is the high costs of production of the bicycle ambulances.

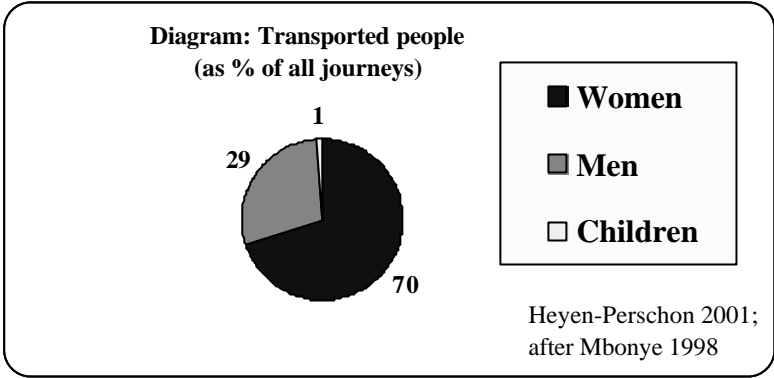
Though no statistical figures were raised, the bicycle ambulance project contributes to the reduction of infant and maternal mortality in periurban and rural Uganda. It provides the only affordable and appropriate transport – system for patients of low income households.

The results of some of the monitored ambulances show that the new transport facility was rapidly accepted and used, depending on the number and type of medical emergencies. During the period of the survey (one year), the frequency of use varied between 23 and 32 occasions. One typical use was the transport of pregnant women, which accounted for 52% of all medical indications for transport (see diagram below).

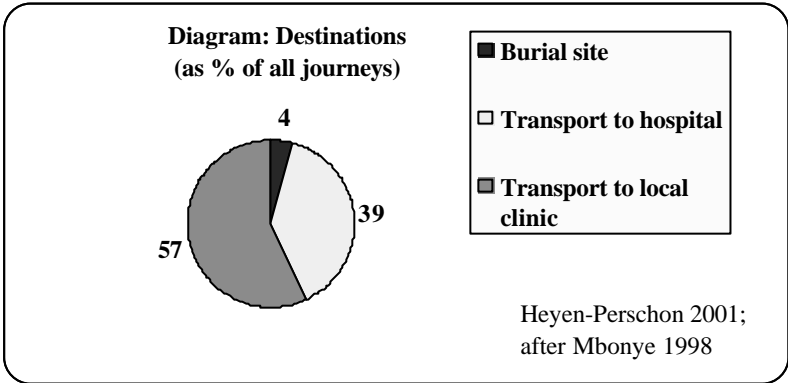


For this reason, women accounted for the largest proportion (70%) of peoples transported, followed by men at 29%. It was surprising how rarely children were

transported (1%). It is relatively straightforward, though, to transport the latter on a bicycle without a trailer (see diagram below).



The most frequent destination, at 57%, was the local clinic. As many as 4 in 100 journeys involved transport to a burial site (see diagram below).



After one year, the groups had incurred average costs of US\$. 14.200,-.¹ If an amount is added for depreciation over the course of five years (price new 250.000,-), the total monthly costs come to US\$. 4,400,-. Assuming a monthly payment of US\$. 300,- per group member, even as few as 15 members are sufficient to run a bicycle ambulance efficiently.

Discussions have been held with the Ministry of Health to have this project integrated in that of the ministry but it seems the government still has the traditional ideology that a bicycle is a sign of backwardness, therefore they seem to be so reluctant.

¹ New casings for US\$. 9.000,-, various spare parts for US\$. 2.900,-, welding work for US\$. 2.300,-; 1 US\$ = US\$.1800,- HEYEN-PERSCHON 2001