Annual Report FIDESCO 2013

FIDESCO



Founded in 1981, Fidesco is an international Catholic NGO that recruits, trains and sends volunteers to developing countries. These volunteers offer their skills to develop projects helping local people and implemented by the local Catholic Church. Here in Indonesia, Thibaut ensures the development of an agricultural training centre dedicated to the farmers of the Diocese of Manado.

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BACK ON FIDESCO IN 2013

- January 7 : Haiti, back to school for 50 students at the vocational school St Joseph Artisan in Port-en-Prince.
- February 20-24 : United States, session of discernment and formation of 8 candidates.
- February 25-March 2 : training of 15 volunteers in Paray-le-Monial.
- March 2 : send off on mission for 15 volunteers (including 3 non-francophone).



- March 1-4s : Germany, session of discernment and formation of 6 candidates.

- April 26-30 : session of discernment and formation of 65 French candidatess.

- June 15-16 : preparation for the departure of 80 candidates.
- **August 8-14 : training** of 78 volunteers in Paray-le-Monial.
- August 14 : send off on mission for 78 volunteers (including 14 non-francophone).



- September 13 : the John Paul II Center, in Lubumbashi in the Democratic Republic of Congo, completed its construction and 15 girls were able to make their return to classes.
- October 24-27 : Portugal, discernment session
- October 24-28 : discernment and formation of 28 French candidates.
- November 1-4 : United States, session of discernment and formation of 4 candidates.

EDITORIAL

2013...

What memories will we keep from 2013? A year during which Western populations have attempted to overcome the economic crisis? Or a year during which, in some poorer countries, people have struggled, once again, to face their endemic poverty and the usual lot of more or less violent natural disasters? In short, just another year!? Perhaps! At Fidesco, no year is like any other, and for us, 2013 is not just a simple typical year among many others. Indeed, in 2013, we remember many faces, loving and friendly ones. First, we ponder on the faces of those we try to help: we were able to open 20 missions in the fields of health, engineering, handicrafts, management, agronomy, construction and education. This is our pride and our joy! Then, we remember the faces of our volunteers: 76 French and 17 young people from other nationalities who, in 2013, joined the projects of some fifty local partners. The number of volunteers sent the last three years remains substantially the same. The «mind-boggling» step of these volunteers, in a world beset by gloom, continues to amaze us. They are always there, ready to give their very best. We also remember the faces of our supporters, partners and friends, finally, all of you whose generosity accompanies us without faltering, and without which there would be no mission at all. 2013 was therefore a year clad with the joy of having been able, together, to go on several missions and offer our service to others.

Consolidation of pre-departure training

Service for the poorest is quite demanding and volunteers benefit from the 33 years of experience Fidesco has acquired in the field. They leave after several months of mature reflection, with a solid training which is recognized by public authorities and local partners. Fidesco continues to involve experts in the field of solidarity, reactivate «scenarios» and presentations on safety, fostered by the sharing of testimonies and experiences of former volunteers. The country correspondents, in turn, provide an accurate and valuable knowledge of the country where they are active. This is vital to volunteers who need help to overcome the challenges of enculturation over the first months of their mission.

Missions in remote locations

From the beginning, the volunteers leave with a spirit of service and giving to others, of bringing punctually, through who they are and their skills, valuable help, and some also do so on a long term basis. When Fidesco supports initiatives that seem to interest no one and where no one else is involved, we need to leave them and we try to do it in a way that's good for all involved parties. We have the example of Lodja in the Democratic Republic of Congo: a large village of 300,000 people without electricity and with few passable paths ... The two wars have greatly depleted the region. We sent Quentin and Sabine there to develop critical Caritas projects. They brought their expertise to foster the creation of new infrastructures, so as to enable access to health, education and commerce. This is one example among many others in Asia, Africa and South America.

Outlook for 2014

2014 will be the year in which Fidesco will be defining the 2015/2020 prospects. Discussions are underway with various stakeholders and support functions in order to determine the directions to follow, so that we may remain at the heart of this mission that we all live alongside our volunteers. This is so because the assessment of volunteers by Fidesco is thorough. They enter the humble reality of their mission as described by Mother Teresa: «We know that what we are doing is just a drop in the ocean. But if that drop were not there, it would be missing.» We thank everyone for the drop they bring. It irrigates -more or less directly- the populations we serve on several levels: be it academic, professional, financial or spiritual.

Pierre-François Graffin Director of Fidesco



RECRUITING VOLUNTEERS FOR 2013





A team of 10 employees at Fidesco headquarters in Paris coordinates all international activities related to volunteer recruitment, training, monitoring, communication, mission funding, fundraising and project management.

TRAINING FOR 2013



Of these, 17 were recruited by Fidesco International from their own country of origin. They then took part in the training session and send off on mission which took place in France, at Paray-le-Monial.



Lucia, who left for two years to serve the association Life Project 4 Youth (LP4Y) is responsible for the management and coordination of programs for disadvantaged young people (often from the streets or from the violence in prisons, sometimes sexually abused...)



Jessica left to spend two years in the heart of the favela in Salvador as Director of a project supported by the local Emmanuel Community « Being a child in Alagados » (a tutoring project).

PILLARS OF FIDESCO

Development



- -The volunteers leave to offer their skills selflessly, so as to serve a population that expressed its need for this.
- Fidesco does not work on programs defined in France but supports projects of general interest that are implemented by the local people themselves.
- The projects to which volunteers are sent meet the needs identified in a population. The volunteer is sent if the knowhow does not exist locally.

Fidesco is not a substitute for local people.

Faith



- The volunteers go in an act of faith to serve other persons, irrespective of race, culture or religion. In the performance of their mission, they bring aid and assistance by enacting the Christian specificity for development, that is, they:
- Take into account the good of the people in their entirety,
- Apply the Social Doctrine of the Church,
- Show the person all his/her dignity.

A school of life



« Being a Fidesco volunteer means to enter the history of other persons, of other cultures, in all their components, and so, with humility and patience, may it be on the social, economic, political, cultural, ethnic and religious component ».

Article 5 of the Charter of the Fidesco volunteer.

THE PATRON OF THE PROMOTION

The patron of each trained class encourages the volunteers throughout their mission, with their own charism. This year, we have **Sister Rosaria** for our patron.

As a nun of the Congregation of the Holy Family of Spoleti for over 46 years, Sister Rosaria spent 38 years on missions. She has seen dozens of Fidesco volunteers in the lvory Coast. Here are some of the good words she shared with the present class: «The volunteers derive courage, strength and love when they live their mission because they are not alone, because there are friends and family who pray for them every day. This spiritual care confers a genuine and deep support upon them. Constant prayer, made perseveringly, makes them grow in confidence, helps them to work with more love, to seek what is good for others.» Faith of the Missionary.



FIDESCO VOLUNTEERS AND MISSIONS IN 2013



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DEVELOPMENT PROJECTS

For over 25 years, concern for the poor has led Fidesco to implement educational projects, construction or medical assistance and to provide support to the poorest populations in many parts of the world. Here are the four outstanding projects of 2013 :

RWANDA Kigali

The Cyprien and Daphrose Rugamba Centre for street children in Kigali.

Education and rehabilitation project for children

The year 2013 saw the consolidation of the psycho-social unit created in late 2012. This new activity provides a better psychological and social rehabilitation of children, more focused on the joint education of the body and mind, through psychodrama, active listening,



creative workshops, dance, gymnastics and sports. Monitoring of aid to the families of children has also been developed (micro credit operations and investment for the creation of small businesses or income generating activities, etc.). Fundraising was strengthened and professionalized locally while preparing applications for potential donors in French and English and through budgets in multiple currencies (Rwandan francs, dollars and euros).

GUINEE Conakry

Saint Gabriel health center and maternity in Matoto



PENSAIRE ET MATERNITI

Medical Assistance Project

The year 2013 was marked by a relatively tense political, economic and social context with the holding of legislative elections, source of much unrest. Clinic attendance was voluntarily reduced by 10%, its maximum capacity having been reached (more than 100 000 patients were treated, including 55 000 children). Emphasis was placed on the care of pregnant women, especially on prenatal visits in the first months. The Maternity Unit practiced 1 550 deliveries. In December, after three years of discussions with UNICEF and

the health services of Guinea, a partnership has helped to integrate the support of the DREAM program against the Mother-child HIV/ AIDS transmission at Saint Gabriel. Each year, 240 HIV-positive women will thus be able to give birth to healthy children.

BRAZIL Salvador



A comprehensive project

Educational, training and professionalism projects

These three programs contribute to the peace of the Uruguai neighborhood, proposing development projects supported by residents and parishioners who are assisted by Fidesco volunteers.

- The academic support program "To be a child in Alagados" hosted over sixty children aged 7 to 11 years and offered sports, recreational and cultural activities, and also, help with homework as well as two hot meals a day. - The Procapaz training centre in addition to teaching sewing, cosmetology and cooking, inaugurated a computer training class open to men this year. The centre provides training to 80 adults, validated by a recognized Brazilian state diploma. - The program "Mom's Dream" has expanded and has hosted twenty young and expectant mothers from the age of 12 years, providing them with training and sharing sessions as well as moral support.



The work completed in 2012 has allowed 50 students to resume studies on January 7th 2013. This school trains young people between 17 and 25 years in the construction

trades (electrical, plumbing) and computer science. They also receive ethics training and job preparation courses (presentation, resume, etc.). In 2013, the school continued to grow,

HAITI Port-au-Prince

The Saint Joseph Artisan vocational school

Training and reconstruction project

particularly with the partnership agreement signed with ACTEC, a NGO specializing in vocational training projects, with a deep Haitian experience.

KEEPING TRACK WITH THE OTHER FIDESCO PROJECTS IN THE WORLD



Bernard Michat, Director of Fidesco development projects

« We have four other projects, three in Africa and one in Romania. In Bucharest, the Casa Valentina centre continues its campaign to educate a hundred children; management has been transferred to a Romanian lady. It's always a victory when we can hand over responsibility to a local person. In Africa (Democratic Republic of Congo), we opened the doors of the John Paul II Centre in Lubumbashi whose construction was completed thanks to generous donors. In 2013, it hosted 15 young female students; our goal in 2014 is to reach an enrollment of 25 girls. In Lodja we open a new grade level class as the children grow: this year is the fourth grade that be open. Finally, with the last project for destitute prisoners of Lubumbashi and Kinshasa, we have developed prospects with the help of new lawyers to provide tailored legal assistance.

FIDESCO, A STAKEHOLDER IN SOCIETY

As an approved association, Fidesco is a member of several groups of NGOs. Fidesco participates in dialogues with institutional authorities and governments.

Institutional groups









- Fidesco has the status of a Charitable Association in France, similar to a public utility association, since 1991.
- Fidesco is approved for sending International Solidarity Volunteers by the French Ministry of Foreign Affairs (MAE) since 2006.
- Fidesco is a member of the volunteer and international solidarity commission.
- **Fidesco** is on the steering committee of France Volontaires (French Volunteers), contributing in France to the development of various forms of voluntary commitment and solidarity internationally.
- Fidesco is a member of the Liaison Committee of NGO Volunteers(CLONG Volunteering). The committee consists of 14 associations that send volunteers on cooperation missions in developing countries. An opportunity for exchange of experiences and practices, it enables a collective dialogue and cooperation with the public authorities.
- Fidesco, as a CLONG member, is also a member of Coordination SUD (National Coordination of French international solidarity NGOs) that develops the professionalization of French NGOs and ensures their advocacy with public and private institutions in France, Europe and worldwide.
- Creation of the **Fidesco Foundation** in 2012, under the auspices of Caritas France Foundation. This structure allows the donators subject to the tax of Solidarity on high incomes or fortunes (ISF) to generously support the work of Fidesco serving the poorest in the world.
- Fidesco Germany obtained the « DZI-Siegel » on 3 May 2013: a German certification necessary to obtain public funds.

Within the Church



- Fidesco is represented by its International President, Jean-Luc Moens, in the Cor Unum, the pontifical council in charge of Charity.
- **Fidesco** is part of the National Council of Solidarity created in 1989 at the General Assembly of the Bishops of France. The Council coordinates thinking and oversees the work of the main charitable bodies of the Church of France.
- As an Association by the 1901 law, **Fidesco** was founded in 1981 by the Emmanuel Community whose values continue to inspire its efforts.



Olivier and Matilda left together for two years in Madagascar. Olivier assists in the management and administration of the Diocesan Health Centre (a private health facility). And Mathilde is a professor of French at the minor seminary of « Our Lady of Kianjasoa ».



For two years, Baptiste has been the food buyer for TNK Foundation (Tulay ng Kabataan Foundation), «a bridge for children ».

ACCOUNTS OF FIDESCO FOR 2013

RESOURCES	(Euros)	2012	Distribution	2013	Distribution
Income related to	public donations				
	Donations from individuals	2 347 450	63%	2 281 998	61%
	Donations from companies	123 604	3%	17 120	1%
	Bequests	8 184	0%	116 831	3%
	Grants from other associations (expense transfers to non French Fidesco)	38 777	1%	337 015	9%
Public subsidies					
	French Ministry of Foreign Affairs	739 980	20%	672 466	18%
	Other (Conseil Général 92, Brittany Region)	2 340	0%	4 927	0%
Other income					
	Financial income	100 342	3%	9 1 1 3	0%
	Miscellaneous income	125 517	3%	193 196	5%
	Reversal of provisions	75 800	2%	119 336	3%
	Recovery of funds related to deferred liabilities	193 000	5%	0	0%
	TOTAL RESOURCES	3 754 994		3 752 002	

EXPENSES	2012	Distribution	2013	Distribution
Social missions				
Africa	1 172 837	31%	1 190 004	32%
Latin America	868 081	23%	766 166	21%
Asia	401 582	11%	386 134	10%
Europe	44 991	1%	16 708	0%
North America	204 565	5%	224 311	6%
Middle East	29 905	1%	24 306	1%
Communication to applicants and volunteers	108 547	3%	140 837	4%
Donation collection and processing costs	428 527	11%	354 037	9%
Headquarters operating costs		9%	331 187	9%
Provisions	152 231	4%	102 618	3%
Future commitments	0	0%	201 100	5%
TOTAL EXPENS	ES 3 747 639		3 737 409	
SURPLUS			14 593	





Missions2 949 567Donations collection and processing354 037Operating costs331 187Provision102 618

Missions _

Fidesco's 2013 financial statements have been validated by the auditors (Cabinet Deloitte). Detailed information is available from Fidesco on request.

FIDESCO France

PRESIDENT : Chantal LATRON - DIRECTOR : Pierre-François GRAFFIN

RECRUITMENT AND TRAINING : Marielle de NORAY (*Head of recruitment and training*), Clémence PONIATOWSKI (responsible for recruitment and training) **FOLLOW-UP OF VOLUNTEERS :** Myriam MODERNE (*Head of the follow-up of volunteers*), Florence de LAVIGNÈRE (responsible for the follow-up of volunteers), Gilles TEXIER (responsible for the follow-up of volunteers)

PROJECTS, FUNDING OF MISSIONS AND COMMUNICATION: Bernard MICHAT (*Project Director*), Sébastien DROULERS (*responsible for mission funding*), Maud RICHARD (*head of Communication*).

FIDESCO International

INTERNATIONAL COORDINATOR : Karel DEKEMPE

There are local Fidesco associations in nine countries around the world: Germany (1987), Austria (1993), Australia (2008), Belgium (1987), USA (2007), The Netherlands (1991), Poland (2004), Portugal (2007) and Rwanda (1994).

VOLUNTEER TEAMS work with employees to ensure the proper functioning of Fidesco.

There are 50 country correspondents. Each plays an important role between different Fidesco actors (partners, volunteers, FIDESCO family and team).

THREE CONTINENT MANAGERS :

Jean-Luc MOENS > America Pierre-François et Christine GRAFFIN > Africa Philippe et Florence de BOISREDON > Asia

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FIDESCO

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