



ANNUAL REPORT **2020**





# EDITORIAL



Marie-Marthe ♥ Mission Yaoundé [CAMEROON]

**E**xceptional and difficult for the whole world, 2020 will remain in Fidesco's memory as an extraordinary year, but also as one more adventure. Unheard of in 40 years of existence! Every adventure is punctuated by overwhelming, confusing and sometimes trying events. 2020 fits that description well. While it was a trial in some aspects, we also saw it as a positive challenge!

**T**he COVID-19 pandemic was a powerful wave, several waves even, a real tidal wave on our economic, social, environmental and cultural operations. And yet, it is at the heart of the trials that deep hope spring up and where new solidarities are woven.

**T**he crisis has impacted and is still having a major impact on Fidesco's activity: recruitment, training, communication, team life, collaboration with our international partners, monitoring of our volunteers in the field, etc. A grain of sand got lodged in the globalized gear and immobilized it momentarily. Then the life of the world resumed its course in slow motion. Throughout this period, Fidesco's mission has not stopped. We have redoubled our efforts to keep afloat our actions of solidarity with our partners in developing countries.

**I**n this storm, we decided to welcome the annoyances and difficulties as so many opportunities to renew ourselves! This prompted us to show inventiveness, adaptation and perseverance. As "face-to-face" is no longer an option, recruitment, training and communication have taken parallel paths. To compensate for the physical remoteness, we have implemented a new form of remote team life. We have made digital solutions our own and developed "remote" meetings. Spreading the joy of the mission has proven to be a difficult task, but also and above all a necessary good in these troubled times. We also kept the link with our main contacts: our volunteers in the field, our partners, our donors and our pool of candidates for 2020. To ensure the follow-up of volunteers in the field and ensure their safety, a crisis management system has been set up, in order to assess on a case-by-case basis the needs, emergencies and potential repatriations. In 2020, and still now, we had to find a personalized solution adapted to the health conditions of each mission country.

**T**he efforts made have borne fruit: 74 volunteers who were formed in 2020 have been sent on mission and 5 others have postponed their departure to 2021! Departures took place over a long period between September 2020 and April 2021, depending on the health obligations in force in each country.

These long months of waiting required, much more intensely than usual, personalized human support for the volunteers: regular contacts and stocktaking with country coordinators and the follow-up staff, but also new training courses, developed and given between September 2020 and January 2021 in order to allow waiting volunteers to keep the call to mission fully alive. This unprecedented period also strengthened the fraternal bonds we have with the Fidesco family. The storm brought the team at large tightly together. Our relations with our partners in the field have been much stronger and more frequent: we have faced it together. This crisis has also given us the opportunity to take a giant step forward in the digitalization of our work, and to question ourselves, to readjust and transform our way of supporting and monitoring volunteers in the field, but also before their departure.

The year 2020 is not just about managing the crisis and its impact on our activities. It was also marked by a deepening of the missionary presence of our volunteers in the field, but also by the emergence of new projects. Perspectives which extend our international solidarity action to other horizons. In the vast majority of cases, the volunteers remained at their places of mission and continued their actions. Most of them explain it simply: They were sent where the Church needed them. Covid has changed many things, but the mission's purpose has remained intact, it has even grown stronger.

We had the joy of welcoming the first two volunteers of the South-North mission to France. Coming from Rwanda, Aimé and Laura put themselves at the service of the poorest in our partner associations, "Lazare" and "Simon de Cyrene". This experience was enriching for them as well as for us, because poverty knows no borders. We are convinced that the missionary process is a universal call that is not reserved only for Western populations.

By their simplicity and their great fraternity, our brothers and sisters from the South have a lot to teach and to bring to us by coming to serve the poorest in our country.

2020 is also the pioneering year of the «retirees» mission, as an experiment. The first missions to Rwanda and the Ivory Coast were an opportunity to explore this new model, to measure its benefits and areas for improvement for the future.

The summer in Paray-le-Monial has seen the first session "The poor, the treasure of the Church" co-hosted by Fidesco and Lazare to bring together the message that drives the actions of our two associations: The encounter with God takes place by meeting and serving the poor.

In 2020, our volunteers were able to benefit from a new continuing training in the field: specific teachings to accompany the realities of life in mission and to nourish the missionary fire.

We have also worked to better organize the network of former volunteers, with the establishment of regional correspondents, in charge of maintaining the links that unite the Fidesco family.

Clearly, Fidesco continued to support its own projects in 2020: the Saint Gabriel dispensary in Guinea Conakry; the Saint Joseph Artisan vocational school in Haiti; and all our structures that work for the poorest throughout the world.

We have all been affected, directly or indirectly, by this unique year. The storm, which started in 2020, is far from over. It has chipped our fraternal relations, but they are stronger than they seem. On our boat, however tossed by impossibilities, thanks to the loyalty of our supporters and our donors, to the collaboration with the public authorities and with our network of friendly associations, thanks to the perseverance and investment of our teams (volunteers, unsalaried and salaried workers...), Fidesco has held firm in order to continue its development actions, its missionary action, and its work of spreading joy, faith and fraternity.

With you, with our donors and our supporters, with our partners, our teams on the ground in France and in other countries, we want to pursue this mission with confidence, strength and enthusiasm: being present with the poorest and working hand in hand to face together the challenges of our world and to participate in integral development.

"The current pandemic has highlighted our interdependence: we are all connected to each other, for better or for worse. Therefore, to emerge from this crisis better than before, we have to do so together; together, not alone. Together. Not alone, because it cannot be done. Either it is done together, or it is not done. We must do it together, all of us, in solidarity." (Pope Francis, September 2, 2020).

The times in which we are living highlight a great need for fraternity. We perceive with a heart that is humble and quick to give all the importance of our mission in the world: to build bridges between peoples, to discover the other in all their difference, to weave solid links between people, to come to the aid of the smallest, the most fragile, wherever they are. We want to respond to the Church's call to go against the grain, to be revolutionaries of our time, builders of solidarity, servants and brothers.

Thank you for your support, your faithful presence by our side.



**Emeric Clair**  
Director of Fidesco







Thomas ♥ Mission Luena [ANGOLA]

## SUMMARY

■ THE PICTURES OF 2020	p. 5
■ RETROSPECTIVE: THE HIGHLIGHTS OF THE YEAR	p. 6
■ IN THE SPOTLIGHT: FLAGSHIP PROJECTS	p. 8
■ THE 2020 EVENT: 40 YEARS OF FIDESCO MISSION, IT ALL STARTED WITH A MEETING!	p. 11
■ THE COVID-19 SOLIDARITY FUND, EXCEPTIONAL AID FOR THE MOST VULNERABLE	p. 12
■ VOLUNTEERS IN NUMBERS	p. 13
■ WORLD TOUR OF FIDESCO MISSIONS	p. 14
■ ACCOUNTS	p. 16
■ RECOGNITION OF FIDESCO BY INSTITUTIONAL AUTHORITIES	p. 17
■ TEAM AND CONTACTS	p. 18



# THE PICTURES OF 2020



◊ [CHILE]



◊ [CAMEROON]



◊ [CAMBODIA]



◊ [MADAGASCAR]



◊ [PERU]



◊ [LESOTHO]

We are all connected to each other, « for better or for worse. Therefore, to emerge from this crisis better than before, we have to do so together; together, not alone. Together. Not alone, because it cannot be done. Either it is done together, or it is not done. We must do it together, all of us, in solidarity. »

Pope Francis, 2020 September 2



◊ [GUINEA]



◊ [CAMBODIA]



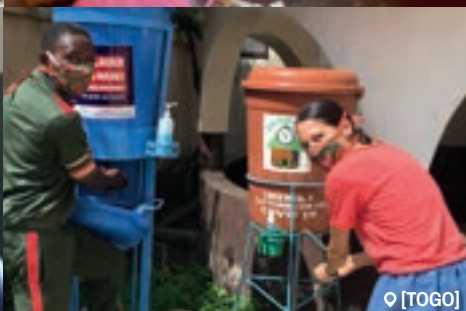
◊ [MADAGASCAR]



◊ [CUBA]



◊ [ANGOLA]



◊ [TOGO]



◊ [COLOMBIA]

# REVIEW

## HIGHLIGHTS OF THE YEAR

January



### WELCOMING OF VOLUNTEERS REPATRIATED FROM HAITI

«Due to the deterioration of global security and political instability in Haiti, we were led - at the formal request of the French authorities on site and the French Ministry for Europe and Foreign Affairs - to repatriate our volunteers present in the country. The 12 volunteers and their child-

ren were repatriated in December 2019. They were working with long-time partners. In January, we received each of the volunteers in Paris to take stock of the situation. They thus reread the mission and the events experienced locally. Some have decided not to continue the Fidesco adventure, others have expressed the desire to

go on a mission elsewhere. »

**Axelle Noyer**

Follow-up support



February



### IN PERSON DISCERNMENT SESSION



### STAFF TRAINING

March



### COVID-19

#### Establishment of a crisis unit for personalized monitoring of volunteers in the field

«On March 16, 2020, when the quarantine was announced, we followed the instructions of the French authorities. We immediately set up a crisis unit in order to closely monitor the situations experienced by our volunteers in the field. This resulted in daily meetings and precise monitoring of the virus progression curves in each of the mission countries as well as the information transmitted by the French authorities. We paid particular attention to each of our impacted volunteers. Their Country Coordinators and /

or follow-up staff regularly contacted them and gave us the pulse of the local situation. For our part, we regularly sent them information on the overall situation, as well as official information from the French authorities. Our medical assistance took care of the volunteers who got infected with COVID-19 and they were locally monitored. No critical health condition has been reported; no emergency medical repatriation. 30 volunteers were repatriated to their countries of origin for health and / or personal reasons, sometimes due to the closure of their

mission. Among these, we took the decision to repatriate the volunteers on mission in East Timor, an isolated country with little local support from the French authorities. »

**Pierre-Yves Frachon**

In charge of the mission's coordination and the volunteers' follow-up



April



#### In exceptional circumstances, exceptional measures :

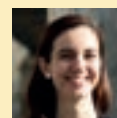
### DIGITIZATION OF TRAINING DURING THE COVID TIME !

«During the first quarantine, in person meetings were no longer possible. We had to use our imagination to adapt the training of our volunteers. We worked on a new digital and temporary format to conduct a discernment session: teachings and testimonies by video conferencing, augmented by the creation of specific training videos. In

addition, we have set up an individual follow-up of the candidates, by means of daily exchanges (by video conferencing) with two people of the team in order to improve our knowledge of the candidates. In this way, we were ready to send trained volunteers to our partners, depending on the improvement in the health situation in the different countries. »

**Olivia Balayn**

In charge of the volunteers' training



April / May



### START OF THE FIDESCO PODCASTS

«In the midst of the COVID-19 crisis, we wanted to both give the floor to volunteers to share their experience of the pandemic on the other side of the world with the poorest and at the same time allow the French during the quarantine to travel to the heart of the mission

abroad. A booming channel that is easy to use from a distance, podcasts have proven to be the ideal solution! »

**Marine Clerc**

In charge of digital communication



They are available on listening platforms like Spotify and Deezer !







## REPATRIATIONS

due to the COVID-19 crisis



## DIGITAL DEPARTURE

preparation weekend

## + ADDITIONAL IN PERSON

discernment session in Paray-le-Monial



## NEW: ANIMATION OF THE SESSION «THE POOR, TREASURE OF THE CHURCH»

with the association Lazare in Paray-le-Monial

«Previously, Lazare led a workshop on hope, which aimed at people in difficulty, people in the street and Fidesco led a workshop for people who were wondering about leaving, future volunteers. In 2020, the summer sessions in Paray-le-Monial became uncertain. While chatting with Fidesco, we revised our angle



to join them in a common session around the sense of service to others. Because after all, what is serving? It can be serving with Lazare or serving with Fidesco. This co-animated session was a great meeting. First Meeting of our teams in preparation for the session. It led to very rich exchanges and to a beautiful collaboration that is infrequent, I find, for associations. It stimulated us, invigorated each other. But also, a meeting of our two universes which seem far away at first glance, but actually very close. The form is certainly different, but the substance is profoundly similar. We came out of the teachings enriched by two voices in a fairly accurate balance around

the themes that bring us together. This session is ultimately an illustration of what nourishes our two associations: service to others and meeting the brother and sister. A meeting that can just as easily take place in the depths of Lesotho in a hospital, as in the districts of Marseille with people on the street.»

**Pierre Durieux**

General secretary Lazare



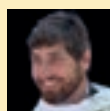
## FACE-TO-FACE SEND-OFF SESSION OF

92 VOLUNTEERS IN PARAY-LE-MONIAL

«The missionary leaves with the cross of Christ and the Lord invites us to love at the heart of the cross. The challenge in this pierced heart is to have a soft and humble heart like Jesus who will be able to make you say: Lord, here I am to do your will.»

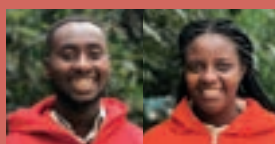
**Père Benoît Guédas**

Rector of the sanctuaries of Paray-le-Monial, former Fidesco volunteer and godfather of the volunteers in 2020



## ARRIVAL IN FRANCE OF AIMÉ AND LAURA

the first two volunteers of the South / North mission



## IN PERSON

WELCOME BACK WEEKEND IN VILLEBON



## CREATION OF AN ADAPTED WAY OF SUPPORT

for volunteers awaiting their departure

«Choosing to leave everything for a two-year mission, without knowing where you will be sent, is already a daring challenge! So, considering a departure in the heart of a global pandemic, that raises an even greater challenge ... In 2020, the volunteers showed a real letting go by saying «yes» to the mission in

an uncertain context, without precise visibility on the departure dates. Touched by this availability and this daring, the Fidesco team was keen to support and accompany volunteers faced with a long waiting time before departure. Three online training evenings were put in place, between October 2020 and January 2021, to experience

waiting as a time of maturation and hope, to keep the flame of the mission alive.»

**Clémence PONIATOWSKI**

Head of the recruitment and training department



## NEW TOOL : EMMA IT

for sponsorship management

«The result of several years of work carried out by the Emmanuel Community, the new Emma IT database responds to a double challenge of optimization. The many features offered by this tool facilitate the relationship with our donors

and the sending of mission reports»

**Guillemette Lindemann**

Sponsorship Officer



## YOU AND NO ONE ELSE :

A hymn to brotherhood for the «Where is Fidesco 2021»

«It was important today, especially in this context of a pandemic, to leave our personal gloom and come together. Working on this project allowed me to deepen the «We», the collective and all that the other one can give us. This song is about the mission, about meeting someone different who will take us out of our

comfort zone, get us out of what we know and ultimately make us grow»

**Pauline Betuel**

Composer and performer of

«Toi et nul autre»  
("You and no one else")



# IN DETAIL : FLAGSHIP PROJECTS

40 years of experience in the service of the mission and many more projects to make the missionary flame grow!

## The South-North mission: what if we reversed the missionary movement?

In 2019, we had the project outline. In 2020, after a year and a half of preparatory work, we made our intuition a reality: investing in reciprocal volunteering with new missions from the South to the North. This paradigm shift is revolutionizing the logic and habits in progress in the world of development and international solidarity. From Rwanda to France, Aimé and Laura are the first volunteers to venture down the path we have dug, cleared and built. Arriving in September 2020 for a year of mission at the service of the poorest, they both testify to the graces they have received.

"At first, I was afraid of stepping into the unknown and being confronted with this inner violence buried in the hearts of the homeless. I didn't dare, but mostly I didn't know how to help them. Quickly, I realized that **you don't have to be a fantastic person to do good: you just have to say yes, welcome others and respect them.** You should not be afraid, but **surrender to others**: it is by spending time with others that you form a relationship. To stop at appearances is to be mistaken: you have to try to **open up to the hidden beauty that is in each individual.**" Thus, Aimé shares with us in a mission report. He lives in a shared apartment of the "Association pour l'Amitié - APA" (Association for Friendship) and is involved in a day reception of people living in the street within the association "Aux captifs la libération" (Liberation to the captives). Vincent, his hub manager, knows he can count on him: "Aimé is a young person who brings a lot of help within our association; strong and serene, he is someone **naturally turned towards the other, with an open mind.** It is a real gift to have a **rich and different culture** among us. In addition, he is involved for **a whole year**, the time to be **totally immersed and devoted** to our cause!"

For her part, Laura will remain deeply marked by her year of volunteering in France because it brought her much more than anything she would have wished for: "This mission within



Laura ◊ Mission Simon de Cyrène, Paris [FRANCE]

the "Simon de Cyrene" association, dedicated to helping disabled people, brings me **great inner joy**. It is a gift to be able to know the person deeply in a privileged way (his tastes, his history, his weaknesses and his joys ...). This community life has made me grow in humanity and **increased my desire to help others**, vulnerable or not, and therefore to **find myself**. It made me realize that I needed to work later in the social sector and to **serve others** in order to thrive «. Ouarda, apartment manager at Simon de Cyrene, measures the great richness of the arrival of this Rwandan on her team: "These people from southern countries have anchored in them the aspect of living together, essential for life in association. They really want to be here, attentive and available. This is the case with Laura, whom we welcome for an entire year, the time to flourish and sow fruit at the heart of our association, unlike the other volunteers hired for 6 months. She says things in a sympathetic and diplomatic manner. Everything is simple with her. Laura is a driving force in the team; peaceful and smiling, she is a pearl that will be missed!"

Throughout their year of service, Aimé and Laura followed a continual formation, leading to diplomas, thanks to the partnership we have with the Catholic University of the West (UCO). The goal: to help them reread their mission experience, to value this experience, through obtaining a diploma, in order to facilitate their return home. This return is scheduled for

September 2021. To prepare for it, they also received specific support. They were able to take a step back to better take the post-mission step.

"In the history of Fidesco, there have already been volunteers sent from countries in the South. Laura's mother has been a Rwandan volunteer herself, but for the Ivory Coast. So, why launch the South-North mission? The mission abroad is the response to a call from the Church which concerns people of all origins. It is not a Western privilege. Like the others, the volunteers of the South leave their country and their habits to serve. They set out to meet another culture, to meet suffering brothers and sisters; because if the countries of the South have poverty, the countries of the North also have it. **The implementation of reciprocal volunteering is driven by the urgency of building a culture of encounter!** » Explains Emeric Clair, director of Fidesco.

This very positive experience will be repeated in 2021. A second group of volunteers is on the way. Trained in 2020, the volunteers will be welcomed in September 2021. The project is built over the long term and is consolidated, with the help and support of our partners in the countries, from which the young volunteers come, but also with our partner associations in France.



## Mission of retirees: a parallel path to adapt to the states of life

Leaving as an international solidarity volunteer (ISV) for two years is possible at any age. However, when we reach retirement age, if the children have mostly left the nest, it is a support of another form that is put in place for them, to which is added the role and the mission of the grandparents with grandchildren. Many reasons can create a tension between the availability for the mission, made possible by retirement, and the role and the support to be given to one's children and grandchildren ...

Giving two full years of your life in this context can be complicated. It can be tricky to leave loved ones behind and set off, even if it is to serve the poorest and to live the life-changing experience of mission. Still, it's often not the desire that is lacking. The missionary fire is there! So how can we respond to this desire for mission, commitment and sense that many young retirees carry in them? This is what guided us in developing the «retirees» mission: a journey that combines together long-term commitment, fidelity and perseverance in the mission, and a certain flexibility in terms of departure.

This new mission formula is intended for young retirees. They are sent on field mis-

sions for 4 to 6 months per year for at least four consecutive years in the service of the same partner, in the same country. This long-term commitment fits well with our vision, our desire to help developing countries over the long term.

The first volunteers to take this other path of mission were sent in 2020. Serge and Christine left as a couple to Rwanda as teachers. Marie-Caroline and François began to invest in supporting young women in Thailand. Armelle works on alphabetization in the Ivory Coast.

In her letter of departure, she answers a question that all volunteers ask themselves before leaving: «Why this departure? So that this new stage of my life bears fruit, thus putting my experience and my skills at the service of the most disadvantaged. So that it contributes, in the greatest humility, to the development of a country in the South. »

A few months later, in her mission report, she made the same observations as the volunteers on the classical way: «I remember that when I arrived, I very quickly wanted to 'do', to enter a performance logic ('4 months is not enough time to act...'). I had a feeling of wasting time, and this slowness of things to fall into place annoyed me. What a lack of patience! Today, I realize that this time was necessary for me to put on the habit of «useless servant.» My presence, more than my actions, what if that was the most important? »

Our mission volunteers who are retirees have had their first period in the field and are preparing to leave at the beginning of the new year.



The experience is conclusive and positive.

However, this new formula is not the rule. We see it rather as an alternative form to adjust to the different states of life of young retirees. The door to the regular «VSI missions» is still open. Our goal is not to replace it, but to allow a choice of the way that's the best adapted to each situation that enables to answer the calls for mission of retirees.



Armelle ◊ Mission Abidjan [IVORY COAST]

# FIDESCO PROJECTS IN 2020

## THE SAINT GABRIEL DISPENSARY IN GUINEA CONAKRY

Created by Fidesco in 1987, the maternity and dispensary have been strongly mobilized to deal with COVID-19. Despite the circumstances, volunteers and Guineans are working hand in hand to continue to offer quality care to the poorest. This mission takes on a special color with the current pandemic and therefore our support makes all the more sense. We owe it to ourselves to support medical aid in developing countries. It is in part thanks to our human and financial support that the dispensary has continued at all costs to provide Guineans with access to medical care.

## THE CYPRIEN AND DAPHROSE RUGAMBA CENTER (CECYDAR) IN RWANDA

It opened its doors at the end of the war and represents the fulfillment of Cyprien and Daphrose Rugamba's wish to help the growing number of street children in Kigali. In an integral logic, CECYDAR welcomes children; takes care of their schooling; offers them accommodation, physical and psychological care and reintegrates them into their families if possible. In 2020, the center also had to restructure its activity due to COVID-19 to focus on day care and going further on the potential rehabilitation of children in their families.

## THE FREE LEGAL AID OFFICE FOR DESTITUTE PRISONERS (BAJPD) IN THE DEMOCRATIC REPUBLIC OF THE CONGO

Since its creation in 2003, it has brought together volunteer lawyers who accompany, assist and defend the poorest prisoners incarcerated in Makala prison in Kinshasa. Their conditions of incarceration are difficult, since this prison accommodates nearly 8,000 prisoners while it has only 1,500 places. With our support, the volunteer team continued their work in 2020 to meet the needs of prisoners.

## THE SAINT JOSEPH ARTISAN VOCATIONAL SCHOOL (EPSJA) IN HAITI

Created by the Emmanuel Community after the 2010 earthquake, it trains skilled craftsmen in plumbing, air conditioning, electricity and computers, by combining technical and human training. However, a political crisis shook Haiti in 2019. Our volunteers had to be repatriated at the end of that same year. However, despite this serious crisis, we were keen to continue our partnership commitments with EPSJA. Our significant financial support is one of the factors that allows the school to maintain its activity in the troubled and complex context that Haiti is still in today.



## THE PROCAPAZ PROJECT IN SALVADOR DE BAHIA, BRAZIL

Its ambition is to provide vocational training to the women of the Favela to enable them to emancipate themselves from poverty and to access jobs in the kitchen, caregiving, etc. We support them in two ways: by sending Fidesco volunteers and through financial aid.

## THE LAUDATO SI PROJECT IN BANIGBÉ IN BENIN

This ecological farm has several objectives: to develop market gardening, to fight against malnutrition, to train and employ the local population, especially widows without income; support them in learning the practices of agroecology and permaculture; and finally, promoting the cultivation and sale of artemisia, a plant known for its anti-malarial properties. In parallel with this project, a school was constructed which educates children about working the land in the spirit of Laudato Si. Ultimately, it is a beautiful project encouraged by Fidesco, because it is fully in a logic of development, but also in a vision respectful of the environment, which is faithful to what Pope Francis teaches us.



Students of the Saint Joseph Artisan Vocational School ♥ Haiti



The 2020 event :



## 40 years of Fidesco mission

it all started with a meeting!

In September 1980, during the first synod organized in Rome on «the mission of the Christian family in the contemporary world», African bishops called out to young people from the Emmanuel Community and this is how the adventure began...

The first Fidesco volunteers were sent on mission the following year to India, the Democratic Republic of the Congo, Cameroon and Rwanda. 40 years later, they are more than 2000 who took the step to go abroad and to act and live with the poorest by becoming servants.

After all its years of mission, Fidesco's ambition has not got wrinkles. If it were to be otherwise, we would say that they are the many reflections of the smiles exchanged, the laughter heard, the overwhelming encounters and the confidences granted. 40 years that our volunteers live and act with the poorest with modesty and simplicity; their joy, their faith and their professional skills are their only luggage.

**In 2020, Fidesco gave thanks for these 40 years of existence: 40 years of service to the Church, 40 years of support for development, 40 years of fraternity with the poorest, 40 years of shared joy!**

This anniversary year was a great opportunity to dive into the heart of the mission with many initiatives:

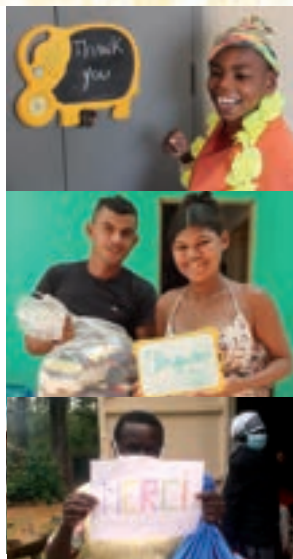
- ▶ A **website** dedicated to the anniversary: <https://40ans.fidesco.fr>, bringing together many written or filmed testimonies from former volunteers, each sharing a strong anecdote from their mission ;
- ▶ An engaging **video** which bears witness to the fruits of the mission and launches an appeal to join the Fidesco adventure [www.fidesco.fr/40ans](http://www.fidesco.fr/40ans);
- ▶ A **photo exhibition** inaugurated at the Saint Laurent church in Paris, then deployed in several cities in France: Nantes, Angers, Lille, Toulouse, Grenoble... Composed of boards combining images and testimonies of the missions, the latter still goes around today in parishes. Although designed for the 40 years, it also happens to be a great way to promote Fidesco. It is often accompanied by a mass of thanksgiving bringing together the various players in this radiance: former volunteers, permanent staff, volunteers, donors ...
- ▶ A meeting with the **Holy Father** was scheduled for 2020, but was postponed to 2021 due to the pandemic.



# THE COVID 19 SOLIDARITY FUND

exceptional aid for the most vulnerable

As the world struggled with the COVID-19 pandemic, vulnerable people have been at greater risk than ever. Our volunteers in the field have been spokespersons for the people they serve. In the face of this cry, we could not remain deaf: we had to act. This emergency situation has become a concrete illustration of our mission to the poorest: to help them, to serve them, to offer them our assistance. In short, reach out to our brothers.



## GOALS

- 1 Support 11 emergencies identified by our volunteers on site around the world ;
- 2 Equip local populations with sanitary equipment and basic food ;
- 3 Providing an exceptional financial assistance to help the structures and to provide for the additional expenses, incurred because of the crisis and to fit out several health structures (benches, isolation boxes, fitting out of the reception area).



## OUR ACTION

A donation campaign launched on May 27, 2020 and closed on June 26, 2020 in the form of an exceptional solidarity fund aimed at raising € 60,000 to meet, together, the needs of the most vulnerable with whom Fidesco volunteers are mobilized and involved.

## THE RESULT

€ 66,887 raised thanks to 354 donors

11 projects supported in Togo, Cameroon, Guinea Conakry, Angola, South Africa, Madagascar, Brazil, Thailand, etc.

33,500 pairs of gloves, gowns,

8,000 masks,

3,500 soaps, 600 hydroalcoholic gel distribution points, health equipment (oxygen, thermometers, etc.), disinfection equipment (sprayers, bleach, basins, etc.)

5,500 meals for entire families

7.2 tons of rice (the price of which is rising sharply ...)



# VOLUNTEERS IN NUMBERS

**222**  
volunteers  
at work in 2020

**205**  
FRENCH  
volunteers

**17 NATIONALITIES**  
among the  
volunteers \*

\* English, Italian, Austrian, Belgian,  
Luxembourgish, Dutch, Polish,  
Portuguese, Chilean, Rwandan.

**Average age**  
34 years

**Age of the  
oldest**  
67 years

**Age of  
the youngest**  
22 years

**25%** are  
singles

**19%** are  
couples

**56%** are  
families

**54%**  
are women

**46%**  
are men

**America**  
**23%** Latin  
of volunteers America

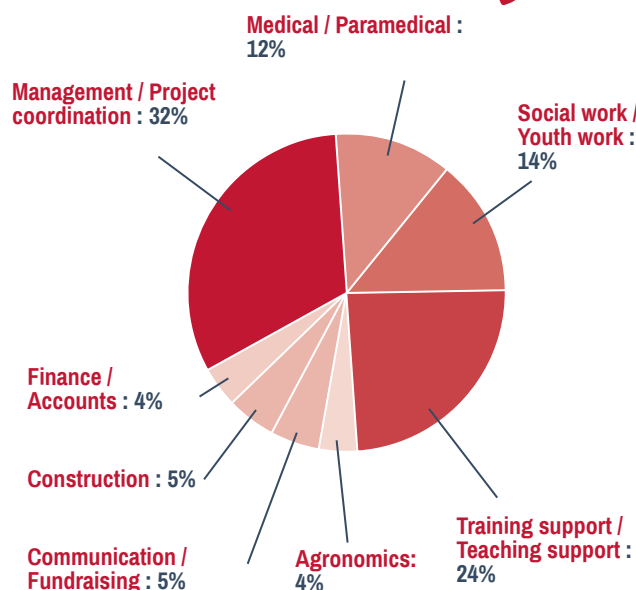
**Europe**  
**1%** of volunteers

**Africa**  
**60%** of volunteers

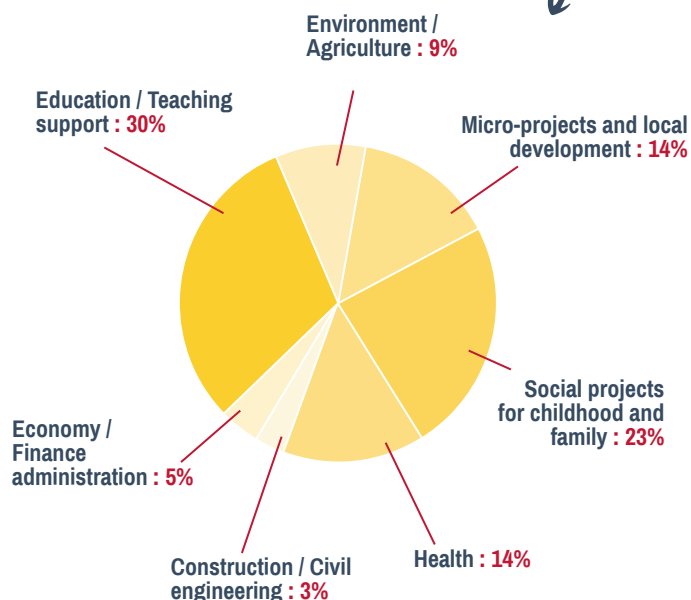
**Asia**  
**14%** of volunteers

**Middle**  
**2%** East  
of volunteers

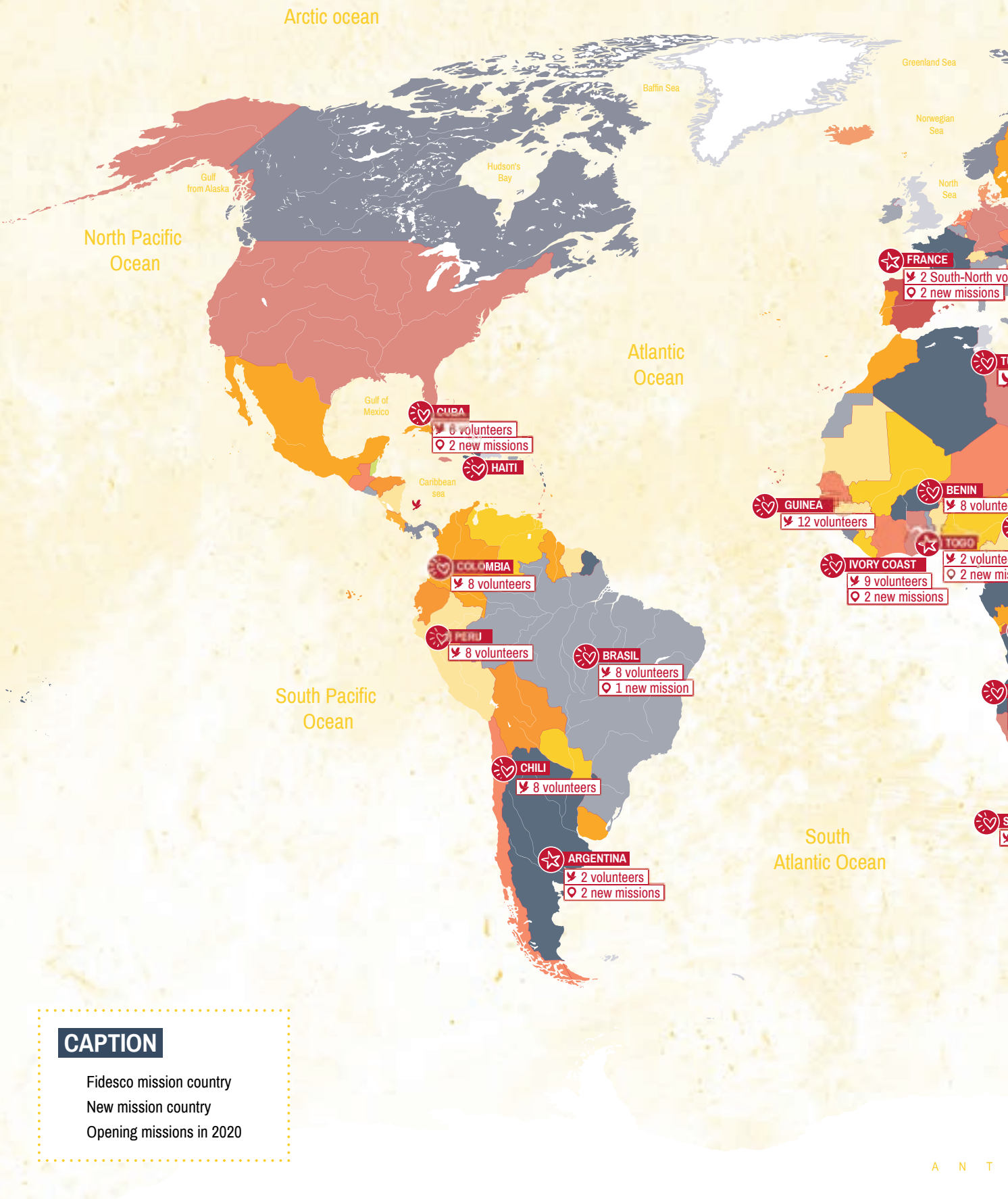
## Field of activity



## Project area



# WORLD TOUR FIDESCO MISSIONS

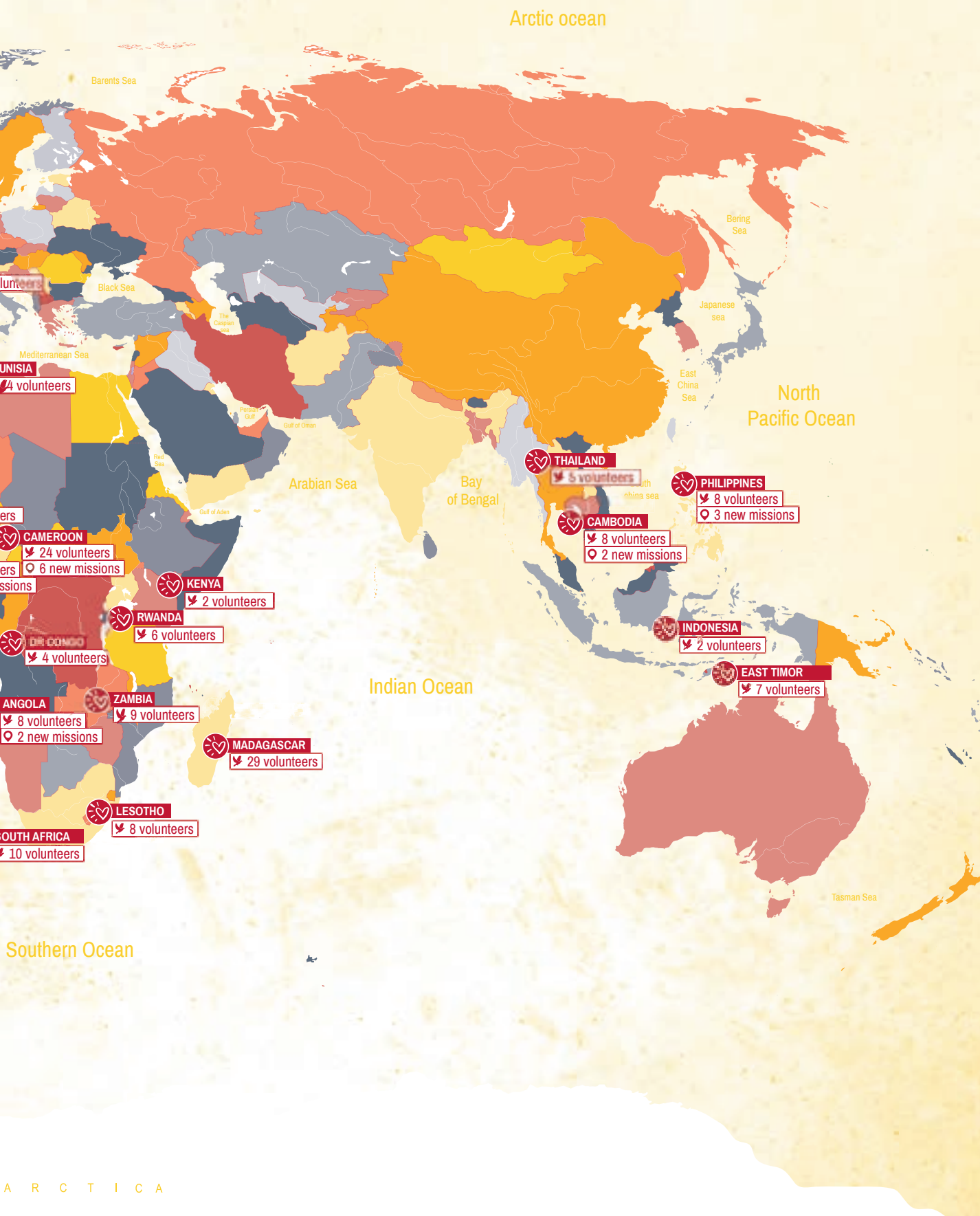


## CAPTION

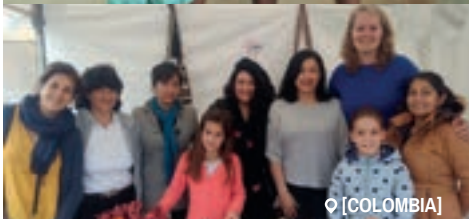
Fidesco mission country  
New mission country  
Opening missions in 2020



This year was marked by the launch of new projects: The new retirees' mission and the South-North mission, which enabled us to welcome volunteers from Rwanda in new missions in France.



# MORE PICTURES OF 2020









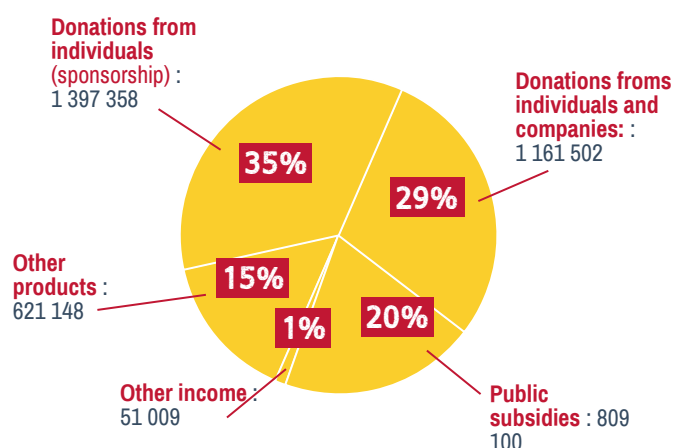
# ACCOUNTS 2020

RESOURCES (Euros)	2019	Distribution	2020	Distribution
<b>Income related to public donations</b>	<b>2 429 828</b>		<b>2 609 869</b>	65%
Donations from individuals	2 411 746	59%	2 532 717	63%
Donations from companies	0	0%	25 700	1%
Bequests	0	0%	443	0%
Grants from other associations (expense transfers to non-French FIDESCO)	18 082	0%	51 009	1%
<b>Public subsidies</b>	<b>905 844</b>		<b>809 100</b>	20%
French Ministry of Foreign Affairs	905 844	22%	808 100	20%
Others	0	0%	1 000	0%
<b>Other income</b>	<b>728 095</b>		<b>621 148</b>	15%
Financial income	6 332	0%	2 486	0%
Miscellaneous income	147 294	4%	146 164	4%
Reversal of provisions	100 833	2%	32	0%
Recovery of funds related to deferred liabilities	473 635	12%	472 466	12%
<b>TOTAL RESOURCES</b>	<b>4 063 767</b>		<b>4 040 117</b>	

EXPENSES	2019	Distribution	2020	Distribution
<b>Social missions</b>	<b>2 887 103</b>		<b>2 600 191</b>	64%
Africa	1 465 646	36%	1 560 973	39%
Latin America	910 045	22%	653 017	16%
Asia	336 957	8%	226 349	6%
Middle East	1 390	0%	0	0%
Communication to applicants and volunteers	173 065	4%	125 112	3%
<b>Donation collection and processing costs</b>	<b>356 318</b>	9%	<b>257 097</b>	6%
<b>Headquarters operating costs</b>	<b>351 115</b>	9%	<b>380 582</b>	9%
<b>Provisions</b>	<b>908</b>	0%	<b>445</b>	0%
<b>Future commitments</b>	<b>472 466</b>	12%	<b>799 136</b>	20%
<b>TOTAL EXPENSES</b>	<b>4 067 909</b>		<b>4 037 452</b>	

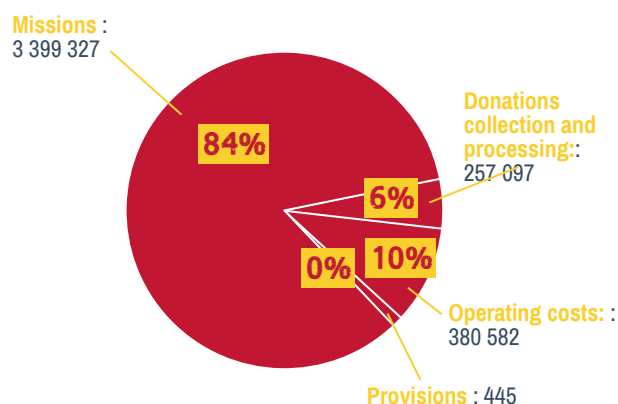
## Resources

Source of resources



## Expenses

Use of resources



Fidesco's 2020 financial statements have been validated by the auditors of the Cabinet Deloitte et Associés. Detailed information is available from Fidesco on request.



# RECOGNITION OF FIDESCO



## Institutional groupings

- **FIDESCO** is a NGO recognized as an association under the French law of 1901, created in 1980.
- **FIDESCO** has in France the statute of a charitable organization since 1991.
- Since 2006 **FIDESCO** is approved by the French Ministry of Foreign Affairs to send International Solidarity Volunteers.
- A **FIDESCO FOUNDATION** was created in 2012, under the auspices of the Caritas France Foundation. This structure allows the donors, subject to the tax on property, high incomes or fortunes, (IFI) to generously support the work of Fidesco serving the poorest in the world.
- **FIDESCO** is on the steering committee of France Volontaires (French Volunteers), contributing in France to the development of various forms of voluntary commitment at an international level.
- **FIDESCO** is a member of the Liaison Committee of NGO Volunteers (CLONG Volunteering). The committee brings together associations that send volunteers on cooperation missions in developing countries. As a place to share experiences and good practices, this group enables a dialogue and consultation with the public authorities.
- **FIDESCO** is also a member of Coordination SUD (National Coordination of French International Solidarity NGOs) Coordination Sud facilitates the professionalization of French NGOs and ensures their advocacy with public and private institutions in France, Europe and worldwide.
- **FIDESCO's** German Office obtained the "DZI-Siegel": a German certification necessary to obtain public funds.
- **FIDESCO** obtained the "Civic Service approval" from the Ministry of National Education, Youth and Sports.



## At the heart of the Church

- **FIDESCO** is part of the National Council of Solidarity created in 1989 at the General Assembly of the Bishops of France. The Council coordinates reflection and oversees the work of the main charitable bodies of the Church of France.
- **FIDESCO** was founded by the Emmanuel Community.



## FIDESCO

■ **PRESIDENT** : Philippe de BOISREDON

■ **DIRECTOR** : Emeric CLAIR

### ■ RECRUITMENT AND FORMATION HUB:

Director : Clémence PONIATOWSKI

Training director : Olivia BALAYN

General recruitment : Alix Dieudonné

Recruitment and training : Clémence ALLUT

### ■ MISSIONS COORDINATION

#### AND VOLUNTEERS FOLLOW-UP :

Director : Pierre-Yves FRACHON

Latin America and South Africa : Axelle NOYER

Africa : Angélica RAOBELINA and Jean-Baptiste LAREIGNE

Asia : Cécile KUTSCHRUITER

Fidesco Country Coordinators in charge of the volunteers follow-up : a 50 volunteers crew

### ■ SUPPORT HUB – MISSIONS

#### COMMUNICATION AND FUNDING :

Director : Bertrand CARRON

In charge of sponsorship : Marion DELAMARCHE

In charge of editorial and digital communication: Guillemette LINDEMANN

In charge of communication : Marine CLERC and Sophie SOLEIL

### ■ PROJECTS COORDINATOR :

Tasnim RASIWALA

### ■ VOLUNTEERS :

An 80 volunteers of former volunteers network make the link between local partners and Fidesco, visit our missions once a year, support the volunteers training, organize events and testimonies in different regions.

### ■ CONTINENT MANAGERS :

Montse HUIX (America)

Pierre-François and Christine GRAFFIN (Africa)

Philippe and Florence de BOISREDON (Asia)



## FIDESCO INTERNATIONAL

■ **PRESIDENT** : Andreas VON HABSBURG

■ **DIRECTOR** : Emeric CLAIR

■ **INTERNATIONAL COORDINATOR** : Karel DEKEMPE

There are local Fidesco offices in 7 countries around the world : Belgium, Austria, Germany, The Netherlands, Poland, USA and Portugal

## FIDESCO

91 bd Auguste Blanqui  
75013 Paris | France

+33 (0)1 58 10 74 80 | [contact@fidesco.fr](mailto:contact@fidesco.fr)

[www.fidesco.fr](http://www.fidesco.fr)

[www.fidesco-international.org](http://www.fidesco-international.org)

Follow us !

