

FIDESCO

CATHOLIC ORGANIZATION FOR INTERNATIONAL SOLIDARITY



ANNUAL REPORT 2021





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www.fidesco.fr ou www.fidesco-international.org

Picture above ◊ Mission VOHIPENO [Madagascar] / Cover picture ◊ Mission BAFIA [Cameroon]



EDITORIAL

Continuing and yet so different from 2020, 2021 was marked by

the continuation of the Covid-19 pandemic and all the consequences that flow from it. While since the start of the health crisis, our bases have been disrupted, our habits upset, our emotions amplified... our activities – they – have continued in the private sphere as well as in the professional sphere..

The observation is the same at Fidesco: in 2021, we took up the challenge of adapting to the health context while continuing the mission, anchoring it ever more in Hope!

Difficult but fruitful, this is how we could describe this year 2021.

Difficult because some mission countries have continued with a quarantine or their borders have remained closed. Difficult because some volunteers have seen their departure postponed or their country of mission changed. It is also difficult because the development projects with which Fidesco is faithfully committed have been slowed down; new, more complex partnerships have been established; support and training have been subject to numerous adaptations.

Yet, at the heart of these difficulties, we have had so many opportunities to marvel during this year! Among the 87 volunteers who were formed in 2021, 82 were able to take off for their mission countries, 5 others were sent at the beginning of 2022. Our missionary presence has also expanded with new countries or missions: in Mexico, a country which hosts for the first time volunteers, in Tunisia, in South Africa with the Salesians, in the Ivory Coast... a sign of the ever stronger anchoring of Fidesco to serve development.

2021 will remain an extraordinary year!

A year marked by the meeting with Pope Francis. While Rome was still in quarantine and emptied of its inhabitants, what joy for Fidesco and about forty staff members, unsalaried workers and former volunteers to meet Pope Francis in a private audience on the occasion of the 40th anniversary of the association. The Pope reminded us how much the search for the good of others should guide our action, our mission.

"To receive God's love and to love him in return with the very love which is his gift, brings forth in our lives and actions a primary and fundamental response: to desire, seek and protect the good of others." (Evangelii gaudium, n. 178). It is this good of others that you are looking for, driven by the breath of the Spirit, when you decide to leave for a few years with the organization FIDESCO to serve your most distant, less fortunate, less lucky brothers and sisters, less endowed than you, but just as much loved by God and clothed with dignity." (Excerpt from the speech of Pope Francis to Fidesco on March 20, 2021).

A year that allowed us to affirm our convictions and deploy new faces of the mission. The mission abroad is a response to a need of the Church at the service of development; a universal call that concerns everyone. This is how 2021 was marked by the deployment of the multidirectional and multifaceted mission. The «retirees' mission» was embodied by the sending

of 9 volunteers who joined missions in Africa and Europe for 4 to 6 months. The opportunity to measure the strengths and areas for improvement of a formula over 4 consecutive years. New South-North volunteers have also made themselves available for a mission to serve the poorest within new associations or already partners: "Aux captives la liberation" (Liberation to the captives), "Lazare" (Lazarus) and "Simon de Cyrène" (Simon of Cyrene). These new faces of the mission confirm our conviction that the mission is universal: whatever their age or their origin, all are called to leave their country and their habits to go to meet another culture and put themselves at the service of local populations and their poverty.

2021 is also the year that saw the creation of the association "Mission Naïm Espérance" in collaboration with Fidesco. At the heart of post-emergency areas and in refugee camps, the association's volunteers have the mission of listening, exchanging and being with the people they meet in an attitude of free presence, prayer and compassion.

A year of consolidation of our organization and our way of working. Better support for our volunteers in the field had become a priority, new tools were able to emerge to facilitate the work of the staff members and unsalaried workers following-up the volunteers. The valuable investment of former volunteers resulted this year in the formation of a network of regional correspondents as well as the launching of a website dedicated to them.

Finally, a year in which Fidesco chose Hope again. Faced with the conflicts, violence, uncertainties and despair of our world, we are more than ever invited to cast a look of hope on the world at the heart of which we act. Through our missions at the service of development and international solidarity, we are called to anchor ourselves deeply in this hope which is at the source of our action. What a beautiful sign of hope, all these volunteers who rise up from all walks of life with a strong desire to put themselves at the service of the poorest and to build a more fraternal world!

Thank you for your presence which encourages us to pursue our mission, to serve the little ones with simplicity, to participate in development with humility, to go and meet in the four corners of the world with an open heart and ready to be disturbed!

Thanks to your faithful support alongside Fidesco, thanks to you, our donors, our supporters, our partners, our volunteers, our teams in France and elsewhere, our hope is renewed!

Emeric CLAIR
Director of Fidesco



“

When I arrived in the Sonho de Mãe project, I wondered about my usefulness. Finally, what does it mean to leave one's country to serve the humblest? To serve, is this permanent dialogue between giving freely and receiving humbly. After two years at the service of Brazilian women, I feel very poor for what I have given and very rich for everything I have received. To serve requires lowering oneself to go beyond charity and seek friendship. It is only by placing oneself at the level of little mothers, of these adolescent girls who are singled out because of their pregnancy, their youth or their poverty, by agreeing to lower oneself to humbly receive their friendship and their confidences, that we enter a dimension of consolation. While maintaining the thirst for action, I am entering more than ever into a time of fruitfulness: planting small seeds, knowing that I will probably not have time to see them hatch, and praying for them to grow.»

Mathilde

◊ volunteer sent in 2019 to REDENÇÃO [Brazil]



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FIDESCO, CATHOLIC INTERNATIONAL SOLIDARITY NGO

For more than 40 years, Fidesco has been involved in development projects carried out by partners of the local Church in the countries of the South. To meet the needs of these developing countries, volunteers put their professional skills and their faith at the service of these projects and of the poorest populations.

Our beliefs

Getting involved with Fidesco means sharing three essential values:

■ SERVING THE DEVELOPMENT

Based on the preferential option for the poor, our action is guided by concern for the common good – respecting the principle of subsidiarity – and oriented towards the integral development of the person, which considers the totality of being human (material needs, intellectual, cultural, affective and spiritual growth).

■ THE STEP OF FAITH

To commit oneself with Fidesco is to put oneself at the service of other people without distinction of race, culture or religion. It is living the humanitarian mission as an opportunity to grow humanly and spiritually, in contact with others.

■ VOLUNTEERING AS A SCHOOL OF LIFE

Committing to Fidesco means giving priority to the mission and organizing one's life in the direction of the greatest possible availability at the service of the poorest. By entering into an attitude of listening and patience, the volunteers experience an authentic encounter with another culture. For the sake of transmission, they act in a spirit of service and gratuity.

Our mission

In Africa, Asia or Latin America, many partners call on Fidesco to strengthen and sustain local projects. Our partners – dioceses, parishes, congregations, Catholic foundations – need skills that they cannot find locally. Fidesco works alongside them by developing missions to serve the poorest and the development of the countries to which the volunteers are sent. Nearly 2,000 volunteers have already experienced service, a founding experience from a human, spiritual and professional point of view.

Our vision

Building bridges between people, going to meet the other in all their difference, weaving solid links between people, helping the smallest and the most fragile... this is what we have been pursuing for 40 years. We want to respond to the Church's call to go against the tide, to be revolutionaries of our time, builders of solidarity, servants and brothers.

The new challenges of Fidesco are to deepen our missionary presence, to extend our action of international solidarity to other horizons, to revolutionize the logics in the field of development, to reconcile the desire to serve far away and constraints depending of the ages of life...

On the strength of our 40 years of mission, we continue to build a culture of fraternity by adopting a multidirectional missionary approach adapted to each situation.



218
volunteers
at work in 2021



27
countries



90
partners

RECOGNITION OF FIDESCO

AT THE HEART OF INSTITUTIONAL GROUPINGS

FIDESCO is an NGO recognized as an association under the French law of 1901. Since its creation in 1980, Fidesco has been recognized by institutional authorities and is a member of several organizations that act in the field of development and international solidarity.

- 1991: FIDESCO gets in France the statute of a **charitable organization**.
- 2006: FIDESCO is approved by the **French Ministry of Foreign Affairs** to send **International Solidarity Volunteers**.
- 2012: The **Fidesco Foundation** was created, 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.
- 2013, FIDESCO's German Office gets the **"DZI-Siegel"**: a German certification necessary to obtain public funds.
- 2020: FIDESCO obtained the **"Civic Service approval"** from the **Ministry of National Education, Youth and Sports**.
- 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.



AT THE HEART OF THE CHURCH

- FIDESCO was founded by the **Emmanuel Community**.
- FIDESCO is part of the **National Council for Solidarity and Diaconia**, 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.

ACT AND LIVE WITH THE POOREST AT THE SCHOOL OF POPE FRANCIS

MEETING WITH THE HOLY FATHER.



In September 1980, during the synod for the family organized in Rome, young people from the Emmanuel Community were called by African bishops who were thirsty for aid workers who were competent and who also had a living faith. This is how the adventure began... On March 20, 2021, around forty Fidesco staff members, unsalaried workers and former volunteers had the joy of meeting Pope Francis on the occasion of the association's 40th anniversary. A milestone event that renews the flame of the early days!



“The pope’s speech was incredible. I particularly remember this passage: *“Whoever commits him or herself in your missions finds not only the opportunity to open up to the world and to the cultures, but also the means of responding to the mercy that God has given him”*. It made me realize that our work at Fidesco is also a work of mercy through which the Father passes to love the world. It is big and completely beyond me, but it reminds me that at my measure, the Lord calls me to collaborate in his mercy so that it continues to spread in the world.”

Angélica RAOBELINA

♥ Mission coordinator for Asia and Africa

This meeting was a great moment of joy and rejuvenation for the whole team: staff members and unsalaried workers who are very involved in the follow-up of the missions and the radiation of Fidesco. Pope Francis praised the action of the volunteers in the field, who are working “to build a more beautiful, more fraternal, more evangelical world” by listening to the cry of the poorest.



Photo © Vatican Media, Fidesco, 2021



Photo © Vatican Media, Fidesco, 2021

A SPEECH OF HOPE AND ENCOURAGEMENT



Pope Francis expressed his gratitude to us for sending volunteers ready to touch the wounds of the most vulnerable people, which are the wounds of Christ.

“to desire, seek and protect the good of others. It is this «good of others» that you are looking for, driven by the breath of the Spirit, when you decide to leave for a few years with the organization FIDESCO to serve your most distant, less fortunate, less lucky brothers and sisters, less endowed than you, but just as much loved by God and clothed with dignity.”

The volunteers indeed set out to meet the poor with a thousand and one faces. They act and live with vulnerable people, street children, prisoners, single mothers... They serve agroecological, educational, construction or health missions. They are sent to the effervescence of large metropolises as well as to the heart of the bush.

This act of compassion – touching the wounds of Christ through encounters with the poorest, having the good of others at heart – is experienced under simple conditions in order to be as close as possible to the people whom the volunteers set out to serve.

The pope also underlined the beneficial action that the mission can have, especially on young people who come back from it *“grown in faith and in humanity”*. They open up to another culture that questions them, jostles them and nourishes them. They serve people who are as happy to give as to receive and they are transformed. The volunteers bear witness to this: the mission is not a parenthesis in their life, but rather the beginning of a renewed life oriented towards service, listening, meeting, sharing.

Pope Francis addressed to us words filled with hope and encouragement. He invited us to anchor our action in the relationship with Christ and to pursue our missions to meet our poorest brothers.

In his touching simplicity, he then took the time to greet us individually and exchange a few words with each of us. What an immense gift to have been welcomed in this way by the pope and by his availability in a period still troubled by the health crisis and a Rome in quarantine.

This meeting truly rekindled the flame lit 40 years ago. Called to «keep intact the wonder, the fascination, the enthusiasm of living the Gospel of fraternity», the team returned to France full of energy and joy to work for the next 40 years at the service of the little ones!



“The beauty of the culture of encounter is experienced on both sides. The experience of Fidesco volunteers is to put themselves at the service, but also to immerse themselves in a school of humility and learning from the people we come to serve. In this, the words of the pope today resonate particularly. We like to say at Fidesco that, if we have joy to give, allowing the other to give to us is also the fruitfulness of the culture of encounter. It's overwhelming to experience the one who doesn't know, to be the stranger. Over a lifetime, it's something that will change our perspective in the different encounters we will have later. We consider that the other is a revealer for us, that the other has something to tell us about God.”

Bertrand CARRON

◇ Communication and fundraising manager

THE SPEECH BY POPE FRANCIS

Dear brothers and sisters!

I am happy to welcome you, staff members and unsalaried workers of the organization FIDESCO during your pilgrimage to Rome on the occasion of the 40th anniversary of your foundation at the service of the Church and of the development. I thank the director for his words of greeting and introduction. Your steps to the tomb of the Apostles allows you to further root the actions you carry out, on a daily basis, through your faith in Christ, dead and risen, and at the heart of the Church's mission. I hope that this spiritual renewal that you are experiencing, imprinted with a penitential connotation in this time of Lent, will send you back to your brothers and sisters who are even more enthusiastic and more joyful.

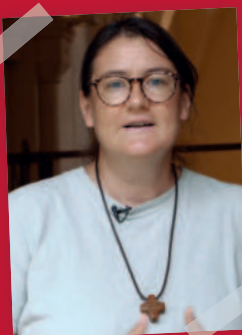
"To receive God's love and to love him in return with the very love which is his gift, brings forth in our lives and actions a primary and fundamental response: to desire, seek and protect the good of others." (Evangelii gaudium, n. 178).

It is this "good of others" that you are looking for, driven by the breath of the Spirit, when you decide to leave for a few years with the organization FIDESCO to serve your most distant, less fortunate, less lucky brothers and sisters, less endowed than you, but just as much loved by God and clothed with dignity. The Church is entering into the great meditation of the Passion of the Lord these days. The suffering Christ is present in the poor, excluded, sick and hungry person who carries with Him the mystery of the cross. It will be of great benefit to you to fully live this time of the Passion to draw from the source of your mission. *"To believe that Jesus shed his blood for us removes any doubt about the boundless love which ennobles each human being."* (ibid.). Every human being is worthy. Every human being is a brother or sister to me. I invite you, when you are at the heart of your mission, through your personal relationship with the Lord and through your life of faith, to keep intact the wonder, the fascination, the enthusiasm of living the Gospel of fraternity (cf. ibid. n. 179), which are necessary for you in the most difficult moments of loneliness, discouragement, disappointment...

I would like to thank FIDESCO, its staff members and unsalaried workers and give thanks to the Lord for the work accomplished in these 40 years of missionary service as well as for the witness given to Christ who came to save the whole man and all men. Your action of solidarity is in fact oriented towards the integral development of people, taking care not only of their material needs, but also of their social integration, of their intellectual, cultural and spiritual growth, giving each one his dignity. I encourage you to persevere on this path, remaining rooted in the social doctrine of the Church. It is more important than ever nowadays that the faithful of Christ bear witness of tenderness and compassion. Listening to the cry of the poor resonate in oneself, being overwhelmed by the suffering of others, and deciding to go away in order to touch their wounds - which are the wounds of Christ -, not only participates in the building of a more beautiful, more fraternal, and evangelical world, but strengthens the Church in its mission of hastening the establishment of the Kingdom of God (cf. Evangelii gaudium, n. 180).

Finally, I would like to underline the personal growth that such a temporary commitment in your association can bring, on the human level as well as on the level of faith. Whoever commits himself or herself in your missions finds not only the opportunity to open up to the world and to cultures, but also the means of responding to the mercy that God showed to him: *"Show yourselves compassionate as your Father is compassionate"* (Lk. 6:36). He also finds a spiritual path in response to God's free gift. Again, be thanked for the opportunity you are providing, especially for the younger ones, to grow in faith and humanity.

I wish you a good pilgrimage, and entrust you all, as well as all the members of FIDESCO to the protection of the Virgin Mary. I bless you with all my heart and ask you to pray for me. Thank you!



“I asked him for a word to say to the refugees that I will join with the Naïm Espérance Mission. The pope replied in Spanish: ‘Tell them that I am really very close to them, with all my heart.’ I leave in a fraternal spirit, and renewed in the mission, no longer running but flying!”

Carine NEVEU

◊ Former volunteer in 1998 and co-founder with Fidesco of the association Mission Naïm Espérance



The pope's words in music and images

WHERE IS FIDESCO 2022 **POPE FRANCIS FT. AMARIA:** **"THE CRY OF THE POOR"**

The "Where is" is a project that brings together every year all the volunteers on mission in the field and the beneficiaries to share the joy that is experienced in service and meeting beyond the difficulties.

In 2021, we wanted to spread more widely the message that Pope Francis had sent to us. Putting the words of Pope Francis on current music to touch hearts and go to the peripheries, that was our goal!

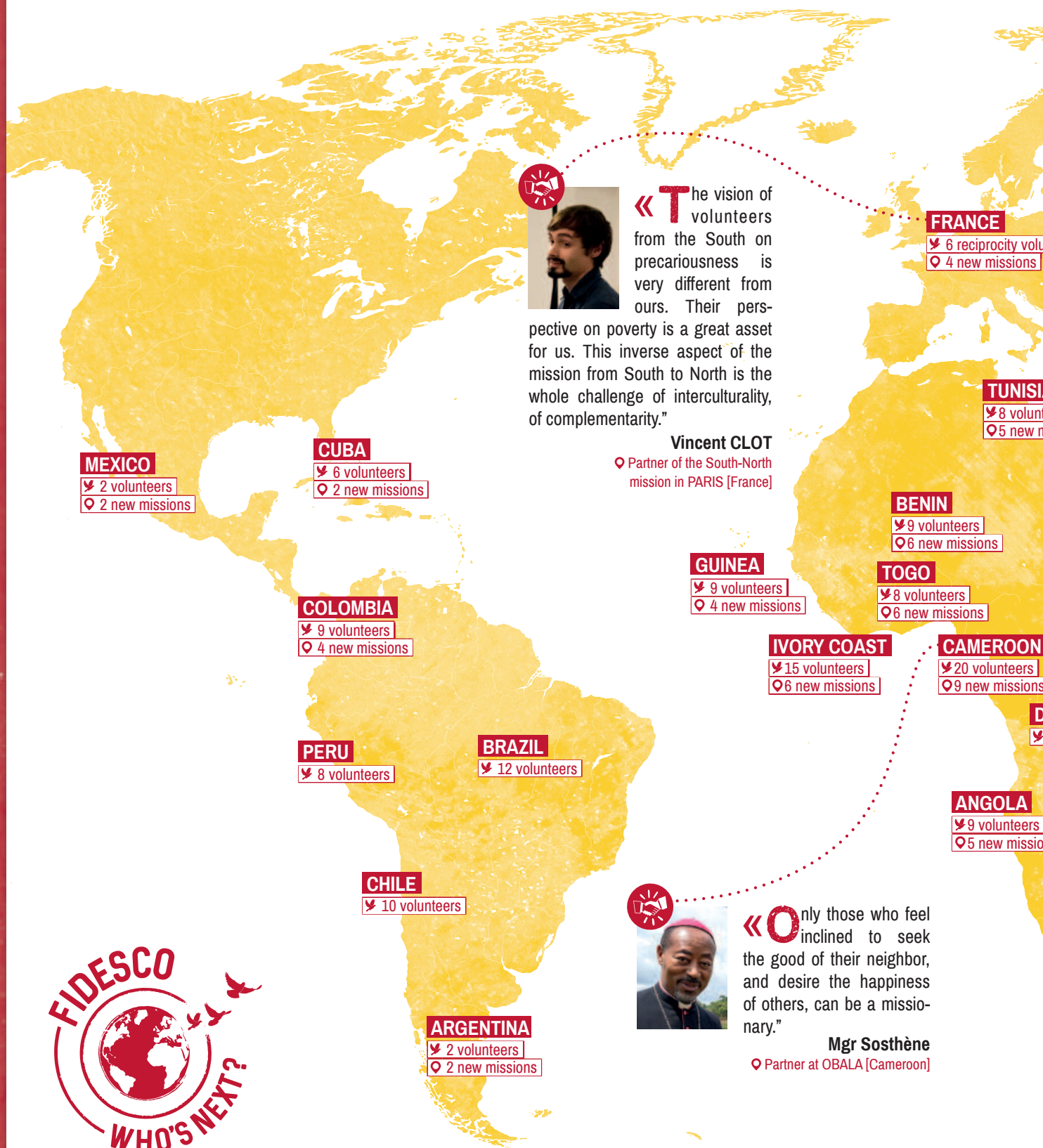
A new musical style was chosen, in the vein of "Bon Entendeur", a French electro musical collective, in order to energize this annual action! It was Amaria, a 23-year-old musicology student, who created an electro-spiritual soundtrack for Fidesco.

Released on January 3, 2022, Where Is Fidesco 2022 surprises, disconcerts, questions! Our volunteers are proud to have participated in this project, to have illustrated through their dances and their images of mission in the field the edifying message of Pope Francis.

"Strong, moving words that recall the universality of Christ's message. If the message has been known and tirelessly repeated for centuries, the musical style chosen for this new clip is resolutely modern. And refreshing." - Aletea

WORKING FOR DEVELOPMENT PROJECTS

THROUGH OUR PARTNERS



«The vision of volunteers from the South on precariousness is very different from ours. Their perspective on poverty is a great asset for us. This inverse aspect of the mission from South to North is the whole challenge of interculturality, of complementarity.»

Vincent CLOT

📍 Partner of the South-North mission in PARIS [France]



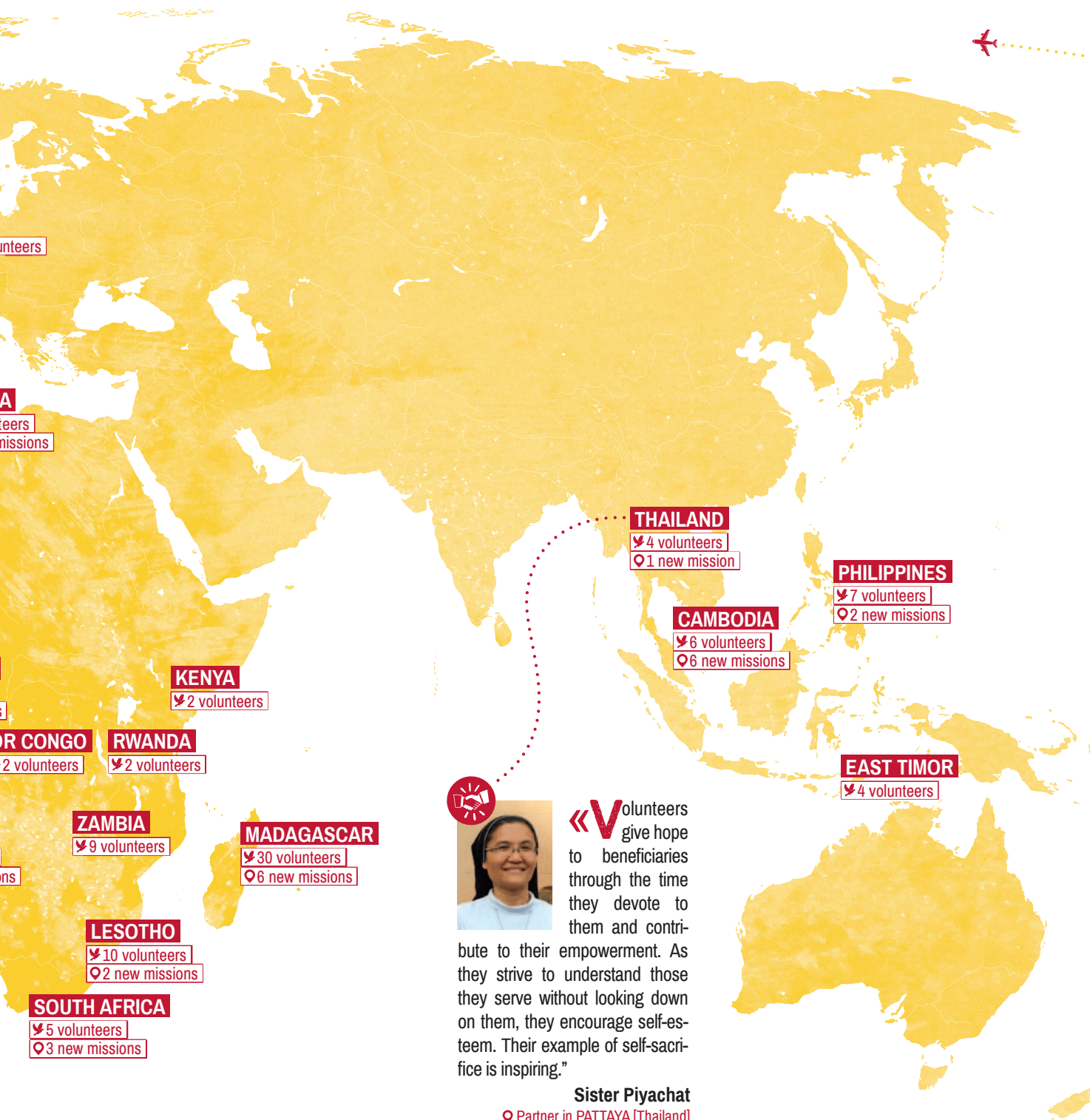
«Only those who feel inclined to seek the good of their neighbor, and desire the happiness of others, can be a missionary.»

Mgr Sosthène

📍 Partner at OBALA [Cameroon]



In 2021, Fidesco continued its action at the service of development and international solidarity. In close collaboration with local partners, we have worked on many projects around the world in Asia, Africa and Latin America. This year was marked by the reopening of missions in East Timor, which were closed due to Covid in 2020, and by the opening of a new mission in Mexico. Other missions have also opened in France to specifically welcome reciprocity volunteers from Africa..



THROUGH THE COMMITMENT OF VOLUNTEERS IN THE FIELD

In 2021, 218 volunteers got involved in the various mission countries at the service of the poorest. They were 87 to be sent in July 2021 during the send-off mass held in Paray-le-Monial.



218
volunteers
at work in 2021


201
french
volunteers


9 different
nationalities among
the volunteers*

* German, American,
Austrian, Belgian,
Beninese, Dutch, Ivorian,
Rwandan

PROFILE OF THE VOLUNTEERS



50%
are
families



24%
are
couples



26%
are
singles

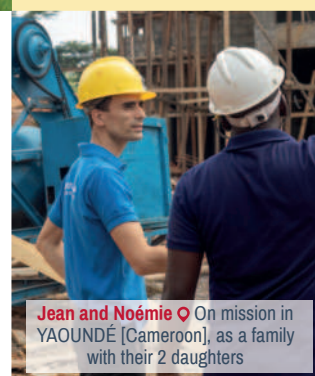
56% are women

44% are men

Age of the
oldest
65 years

Average
age
31 years

Age of
youngest
20 years



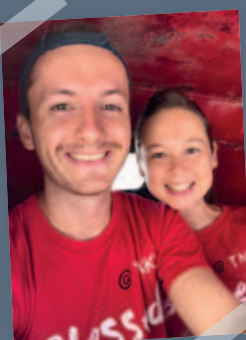
Jean and Noémie ♡ On mission in
YAOUNDE [Cameroon], as a family
with their 2 daughters



Sarah
♡ Sent to the health service in
TALIM [Philippines]



Luce ♡ South-North volunteer on
mission in a "Simon de Cyrène"
house in ANGERS [France]



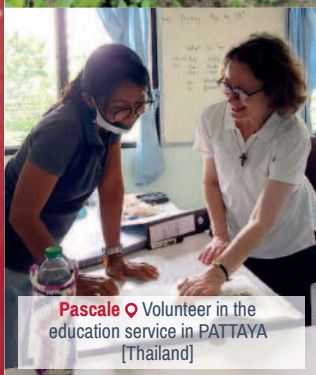
“At the foundation, we are faced with children who have wounded hearts, who have experienced the worst misery and above all the worst injury: the indifference of their parents. The role of the foundation is to offer them a loving and secure environment in order to make them understand that they are worthy of loving and being loved. There are both wonderful moments but also deeply sad ones seeing these so visible wounds. We, the volunteers, we cannot do much on our level except giving them a framework, a little love and attention.”

Timothée and Tiphaine

♡ Sent as a couple in 2020 to Manila [PHILIPPINES]



Louis Sent-off with Sophie and their 5 children to a medical center and a farm in SOKODÉ [TOGO]



Pascale Volunteer in the education service in PATTAYA [Thailand]



Nolwenn Occupational therapist in BOGOTÁ [Colombia]

MISSION COUNTRIES

Africa
60%
of the volunteers

Latin America
23%
of the volunteers

Asia
11%
of the volunteers

Middle East
3%
of the volunteers

Europe
3%
of the volunteers



“My main mission is to maintain and develop agricultural land of 17 hectares, which is located about ten kilometers from the medical center on the road to Bas-sar. The income that this operation will eventually generate should allow the community to

depend less on donations and to acquire a certain financial autonomy. To supervise me, there is Father Bertrand, the founder of the “Puits de Jacob” (Jacob’s Well) community, as well as Joël, a community member who is developing a beekeeping activity. Today, in Kparioh, there is a 4-hectare plantation of cashew trees, teaks, but also a natural regeneration area with species specific to the region and also some citrus fruits. Recent plantations require a lot of maintenance, especially in the rainy season when the vegetation develops at the speed of a galloping zebu.”

Anne

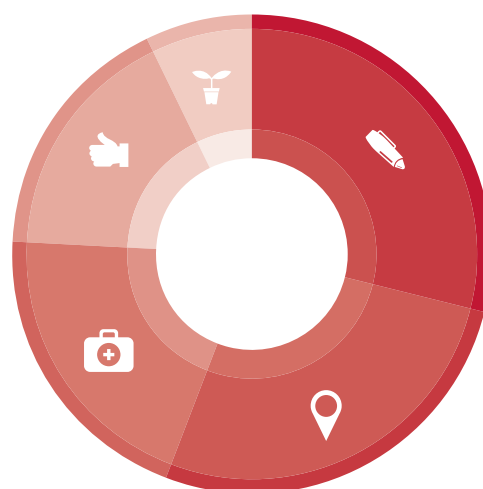
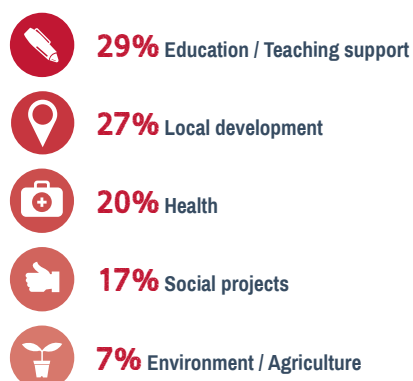
Sent with her husband Léopold in 2021 to Sokodé [TOGO]

PROJECTS AND AREAS OF ACTIVITY

Areas of skills exercised by the volunteers on mission



Types of projects served and developed



THROUGH A TEAM OF STAFF MEMBERS AND UNSALARIED WORKERS

Staff members and unsalaried workers work hand in hand at the service of the mission and rely on professional experts.

FIDESCO



Emeric CLAIR
Director



Père Benoît ROZE
Chaplain

RECRUITMENT AND TRAINING



Tasnim BOUCAUD
Director



Marie LAFITTE
Training

Meet the candidates and support them in their reflection, this is the first mission of the Recruitment and Training team. It then leads the **training of volunteers before, during and after the mission**, relying on the entire Fidesco team and on **external professionals** (psychologists, international solidarity experts, etc.).



Clémence ALLUT
Recruitment



Diana HUCHON
COLUMBA
General recruitment / Former volunteers network

16 Regional Correspondents are involved on a voluntary basis alongside the hub to **bring life in the after-mission**, animate the network of former volunteers, testify and create interest in the mission as a volunteer.

COMMUNICATION AND FUNDRAISING



Anne-Claire DOUSSON
Director



Naditza PAVLOVITCH
Sponsorship

In charge of spreading the experience, message and values of Fidesco through communication adapted to the various stakeholders (volunteers in the field, former volunteers, friends, donors, NGOs, etc.), the team participates in **developing the notoriety of Fidesco and to call new candidates for the mission**.



Camille LE CAMPION
Communication



Marine CLERC
Communication

Relying on communication tools, the team also works to **find the necessary resources for Fidesco's activities** through sponsorships and the development of other fundraising activities.

PROJECTS AND ADVOCACY



Francesco MARTIALIS
Projects Coordinator

The mission is threefold: **to develop and support new forms of mission** (Courses for retirees, South>North Mission, Naim Espérance Mission); **deploy advocacy activities to make heard the voice, vision and values of Fidesco** among leaders and networks with influence; and **supporting Fidesco's own international solidarity and development projects** around the world.

COORDINATION OF MISSIONS AND FOLLOW-UP



Pierre-Yves FRACHON
Director



Axelle NOYER
Follow-up Latin America

+ CONTINENT MANAGERS:

Montse HUIX
(Latin America)

Pierre-François and Christine GRAFFIN
(Africa)

Philippe and Florence de BOISREDON
(Asia)



Angélica RAOBELINA
Follow-up Africa



Jean-Baptiste LAREIGNE
Follow-up Africa

"All-terrain" staff members and unsalaried workers, who closely accompany the volunteers on mission in the field. Alongside the Follow-Up Staff, **50 Fidesco Country Coordinators** serve unsalaried the mission. Thanks to their in-depth knowledge of the field, they jointly lead the volunteers in the field. They ensure the link with local partners and visit the mission locations once a year.

FIDESCO INTERNATIONAL



Karel DEKEMPE
International Coordinator

Within **6 international offices** (Belgium, Germany, the Netherlands, Poland, Portugal and the United States), a network of unsalaried workers and staff members is involved in sending international volunteers on mission, who benefit from the same training course as the French volunteers.



Do you want to go on a mission or support a project or a volunteer? Contact us

contact@fidesco.fr

THEY WORK WITH US...

“

I am amazed by these people who want to give themselves for two years. It's very beautiful and I'm happy to be a link in the chain that allows them to make this choice. My job is to be at their service so that they can afterwards put themselves at the service. That's why I've been here for over 5 years.

During the discernment session, our role is twofold. We bring to the Fidesco team another look at the candidates, a measured professional look, which is important. Our presence is also a tool for the candidates: to deepen their questions, to allow them to be as free as possible in the choice they will make.

At a given moment, the question that arises is that of the mission, regardless of its form, whether it is with Fidesco or elsewhere!"

Mayalène BESSON

♥ Psychologist in discernment session

“

In Cameroon, they often say, "*C'est comment?*" (How is it?)

We do the same with the volunteers we accompany. We have them regularly on the phone, every 5 to 6 weeks or so, and each of our conversations begins with this question. If they left with their family, we hear from their children. When we sense difficulties, we dig a little deeper.

Our work as a team with the follow-up support is rewarding, because we have complementary perspectives. When a difficulty arises, we discuss together to find the solution best suited to the realities in the field and to each volunteer on mission.

Once a year, we go to visit them in the field, we do not miss this appointment! It is important to maintain the link with them, but also with the Cameroonian partners."

Marie-Caroline MUDRY

♥ Country manager for Cameroon since 2014



“

On March 20, Pope Francis received Fidesco on the occasion of its 40th anniversary. He urged volunteers *“to keep intact the wonder, fascination and excitement of living the gospel of brotherhood.”*

That's what we try to do here every day! Every morning, in the field, we begin with the Our Father and the prayer of St. Francis before discussing the priorities of the day. Through my limits, and our communication difficulties, I discover that my brothers, rooted in their culture, have beautiful gifts to offer me and that I can also offer them something authentic. I thus discover the virtue of patience and hope. Moreover, we perceive together how the acceptance of one's poverties, dialogue and forgiveness are the only paths to true human fraternity."

Grégoire

📍 Sent in 2020 with Jessica and their 3 children to BANIGBE [Benin]



INTENSIFY AND DEPLOY THE MISSION



CALL LOUDER AND WIDER TO MISSION THROUGH COMMUNICATION

In 2021, we wanted to increase our efforts to promote our actions at the service of development and continue to call singles, couples and families for the professional and human opportunity that international solidarity volunteering represents.

A “NEW GENERATION” COMMUNICATION CAMPAIGN

How do we go beyond our usual circles and reach more young people? How to reach people who do not know our action, but who are thirsty for adventure, action and meaning in their daily lives? How to generate a click among young people who spend a lot of time on their mobiles and zap quickly? These issues have led us in 2021 to invest in new modes of communication and to produce quality content adapted to current communication codes.

Promote immersion in the field

Today, images are taking an increasingly important place in communication campaigns. In addition to illustrating the experience of volunteers in the field - their professional investment in service, intercultural encounters and solidarity - mission images challenge our targets and immerse them in the heart of our action in the four corners of the world.

To enrich our various communication channels and feed our recruitment campaign, we called on professionals, including an unsalaried photographer who went to Guinea and a Chilean photographer. We have also produced thematic videos on our missions in Cameroon to arouse interest and curiosity..



Touch and challenge an ultra-connected target

In 2021, we sent an invitation to young people to embark on a volunteering mission... now!

In an entirely new style, a video resembling a short film was designed featuring a young Parisian in the simplicity of his daily life. This video is for those who, in their professional and personal lives, receive a multitude of signals that present them with the challenges and the opportunity of a volunteering experience on the other

side of the world without really being aware of it, or still those who think about it internally without taking the plunge.

To extend our visibility on social networks, we also deployed a digital campaign from September 2021 to March 2022.





DEVELOP A MULTIFORM AND MULTIDIRECTIONAL MISSION

Going far away in a missionary approach at the service of the poorest is a universal call. In 2021, our projects have grown and strengthened to adapt to specific realities.

THE "RETIRES" FORMULA IN RESPONSE TO A STRONG DESIRE FOR MISSION

Giving the possibility to everyone, whatever their age, to go on a mission, is one of our objectives for the years to come. Until now, retirees could leave for 2 years under the status of VSI (Volunteering for International Solidarity). From now on, they are also offered the

possibility of leaving between 4 and 6 months per year, over a minimum period of 4 years, at the service of a development project with the same partner. With this new formula of mission, they can thus experience service and encounter, while remaining faithful to their commitments to their children and grandchildren.

Launched in 2020, this formula adapted to the needs of retirees and those of the partners, welcomed its first volunteers in the field in 2021. Today there are 4 couples and a woman who invest a few months a year at the service of the poorest in Africa and Europe.

The advantages
of the "Retired"
formula

- **Welcoming volunteers with solid professional experience** and great human maturity: a source of wealth for the development projects they come to serve, and for the teams in which they join.
- **A mission over 4 consecutive years**, which allows: stability in the partner-volunteer link; building relationships of trust; follow-up and progressive transmission of skills, experienced over time; more flexible material terms for partners.
- **The provision of both regular and ad hoc expertise and support.**

THE SOUTH-NORTH MISSION IS BOOMING

The mission far away intensifies from south to north: launched in 2020, this new form of mission first welcomed 2 volunteers in 2021, 4 volunteers from Cameroon, Ivory Coast, Rwanda and Benin were trained and sent on mission. The project is growing and continues to be built, hand in hand with our partners in Africa and France.

A multi-voice discernment and recruitment process

In the same way as the candidates of the classic course, the candidates of the South-North mission were invited to a session of discernment and formation. It took place in March 2021 in Porto Novo in Benin. For this particular session, we welcomed multiple speakers, all fully-fledged actors in the project: some from different countries, young people, representatives of French partner associations and a part of the Fidesco staff from France. This diversity has allowed us different views and an intercultural dimension.

The topics covered are close to those of the sessions in France: the spirit and the Fidesco charter, the faces of poverty in France, interculturality, meeting the poorest, discernment... Other content is of course adapted to realities of the mission in France.



“What is very striking is that there is real cooperation between the team in France and the members of the project, who are in Africa. This session in Benin illustrated the fact that there is a real and deep collaboration between the different actors, a real brotherhood. We see that the missionary desire is the same! No matter where the candidates come from, we find the same desire to give themselves to others, a thirst for adventure, the same expectation to grow spiritually and humanly. Being sent to France is something unexpected for them.”

Tasnim BOUCAUD
Project Coordinator

In 2021, the South-North volunteer sending session could not take place as initially planned. Gathered at the end of September in Montmartre, the 4 volunteers received some keys through teachings for their mission. They also met their «uncles» and «aunties», persons from their country of origin and living in France for several years. Their vocation is to accompany young people in their experience of interculturality which they live during their mission, to introduce them to the culture which they encounter. In a word, to be bridges between the culture of origin and the culture of the mission country.

A training course leading to certification during the mission in France

As a result of a formal partnership with the Catholic University of the West in Angers, the training provided to the South-North volunteers takes place over six days. In September 2021, the volunteers of the second class started their university studies. On the agenda: practical and theoretical modules to review and gain perspective on their mission in France. At the end of the year, they will write and defend a portfolio, which will allow them to obtain a university certificate validating the professional and human skills they have acquired during their year of mission. Thus, this training constitutes a concrete tool for volunteers to prepare for their return to their country of origin and to consider the implementation of a professional and human project at the end of their mission.



“It was in one of the “Captifs” branches that I was sent on a mission, mainly to the Space for Integration in Solidarity “Chez M. Vincent”, which is a place of unconditional reception, listening and expression in a convivial setting

for all those whose difficulties of existence have led to a state of great precariousness and exclusion. I am truly touched by the suffering of all these people but also by the strength and hope with which they move forward. Each day spent is different and particular, each story heard is enriching. Over time, the ice melts, trust is slowly but surely built. I realize that beyond their appearances and the consequences that life may have had on these people, there is a heart, there is live experience, there is strength and above all hope into a better future.”

Laetitia BOLI

Volunteer from Ivory Coast, on mission in Paris within the association *Aux Captifs La Libération*



“Since 2020, we have been implementing a training that leads to a certification that values the skills acquired by the South-North volunteers. This training is a source of joy because we have a small class, it is modest, but there is a real fruitfulness.

This university training allows us to contribute and address all the dimensions of the human person: the intellect, the moral commitment to the service of the world and the deepening of faith.”

Pierre USCLAT

Teacher-researcher at the UCO (Catholic University of the West) of Angers, Director of training for South-North volunteers.

2021: a year of consolidation and construction

The year 2021 has made it possible to consolidate relations with our partners in France, in particular during a day with all the French actors of the South-North mission. We have included Togo, Burundi and Benin, bringing the number of countries involved in the development of the project to six.

Whether it be with the countries that help us build the South-North mission; the partner associations for which the volunteers are on mission (Simon de Cyrène, Aux Captifs la Libération, Lazare, Le Rocher, the Association for Friendship); the unsalaried French workers involved in their follow-up or the members of the UCO of Angers involved in their training, a deep and fruitful collaboration has been established between all. A common reflection is carried out for the future of this project and we are currently developing links with other partner associations.

“The conception of welcoming is not the same in Africa. Whoever we welcome, we welcome physically, but not only. Whatever his questions, I will be there to listen to him and answer him. In Africa, people do not have much relationship with people with disabilities, whether physical or mental. We don’t approach them. It is something that is not very clear, that is not understood. Negative cultural representations are attached to it. This is therefore a great first for Didier-Marie! Evolving with people with disabilities, forging fraternal ties with them, it changes his outlook.

Young Africans on mission come out of themselves, surpass themselves personally and professionally. They learn to build projects, gain autonomy and then return to serve in their country. This is real wealth!”

Jean-Polycarpe ANGUIBI

Fidesco “uncle” of Didier-Marie, volunteer from Benin



ADAPTING THE TOOLS OF DISCERNMENT AND TRAINING TO ALL STATES OF LIFE

A NEW BOOKLET FOR SINGLES

A first booklet for families was created in 2020. In 2021, we have designed a booklet for singles. It is based in particular on the testimonies and experience of former volunteers and presents a variety of subjects: the challenge of life with a teammate, emotional balance, the duration of the mission, etc.



Mériadec ♡ Volunteer sent to the Tanjomoha Center [Madagascar]



“What could be more beautiful than both being at the service of the other, working together for the same cause and being linked by this common impulse of service and generosity. This is what drives us and pushes us to persevere in times of doubt. Each passing day always nourishes our marriage a little

more. We learn to surpass ourselves together, to strengthen our mutual support, to strengthen our patience and our benevolence, to work on our humility and to perform real acts of abandonment. We are truly living an intense human and spiritual experience.”

Loïc & Marguerite-Marie

♡ Sent as a couple in 2020 to serve in Bafia [Cameroon]



“The simplicity of the children and their joy of living even in the most difficult times is a real treasure for our family. We are sure that these two years in Peru, sharing our mission, will forge

their character and their openness to others. We are proud of what they have accomplished, learned in conditions that are not always ideal. They will be happy to share their experience with you when we return.”

Geoffroy & Lorraine

♡ Sent as a family to MANCHAY [Peru]

DEVELOP FIDESCO'S EXPERTISE & REACH



MODERNIZE AND IMPROVE OUR SUPPORT FOR MISSIONS

The follow-up of the missions is a team effort carried out by the Follow-up Supports, four in number based in Paris, and around fifty Country Coordinators who are involved on a voluntary basis. We are committed to constantly improving the quality of mission and volunteer follow-up.

For several years now, the importance of creating a tool to facilitate and modernize our mission follow-up processes has emerged. The reflection began in September 2020 and resulted in the creation of a shared digital space in January 2021.

Remembering the volunteer's training course, preparing ones field visit, opening or closing a mission, measuring the political stability of the country, presenting Fidesco to partners: all these subjects are at the heart of the unsalaried investment of Country Coordinators.

Much more than a database, it is an essential device for following-up the volunteers and projects in the field. The tool has been designed "all terrain" and can be consulted on computer and mobile.



“It's nice to have a place that centralizes all the documentation and interesting to have a common interface. We no longer have to go looking for information from right to left. This helped us a lot to prepare our field visit and we are able to upload our reports there. I am happy to find the processes there, the *“who does what?”*. This makes it possible to have well-defined roles, which will make exchanges more fluid and simplify our work together with the Follow-up Support.”

Mélanie ROMBAUT ♦ Former volunteer in Guinea with her husband Damien and their children, Philippines Country Coordinators 2016-2021, Guinea Country Coordinators since 2021



CONSOLIDATE TRAINING AND REINFORCE KNOWLEDGE OF THE FIELD

New initiatives were put in place in 2021 to consolidate training and unite the team, staff members and unsalaried workers, in charge of following-up the missions.

We have built a training course for Country Coordinators, with regular modules that go deeper into various themes of the key function of the Country Coordinators (the working relationship among teammates, the relationship with the partner, the field visit, etc.). This course is part of a logic of continuous improvement, which aligns processes to find the most appropriate solutions to the realities and challenges of our projects in the field.



“These evenings are an opportunity to form a community. We see that our questions can come together and we share around common issues. We all have different ways of working, so it's a chance to confront other ways of doing things. Everyone rereads their practice and learns from others: a kind of self-assessment to go further and improve our mission. For example, we have particularly learned from those who extend follow-up after the volunteer's return. The training is technical, we have taken up subjects on the steering and support of volunteers.

These are things we already know, but it is important to remember them. These times confirm us today in our mission as Country Coordinators!”

Gabrielle & Thibaut DE LA BIGNE
♦ Former volunteers in Zambia 2001-2003, Zambia country managers since 2016



RELYING ON THE NETWORK OF FORMER VOLUNTEERS, TO TURN THEM INTO AMBASSADORS

THE DEVELOPMENT OF THE NETWORK AFTER THE MISSION

Today, more than 2 000 of them have put their skills at the service of development projects in the countries where Fidesco works. Whether they left as a pair of single teammates, as a couple or as a family, former volunteers return with solid professional and human experience. During their two years of mission, they also experienced the richness of the intercultural encounter and their bases were shaken.

They return with a desire to transmit and share what they have experienced, given and received, to those around them and to those who are considering volunteering. A new link in the Fidesco chain opens up for them: becoming ambassadors for those who follow them. Hence the need in 2021 to expand our network of former volunteers to forge strong ties within the family of returning volunteers.



“The mission is not an end, it is the beginning of something. Our mission in Chile has transformed us! Being a regional correspondent ultimately means maintaining the flame that drives

us and sharing this dynamic with other volunteers in the region. We centralize requests and the former volunteers are happy to answer them.

When we returned in 2016, the former volunteer's network was not very active. Being welcomed after the mission by former volunteers would have been great. We would like to develop that as regional correspondents.”

Guillaume & Marie-Charlotte ANGONIN
 Lyon Regional Correspondents since 2019

REGIONAL CORRESPONDENTS, THE BACKBONE OF THE FORMER VOLUNTEER'S NETWORK

For the past two years, a new form of unsalaried commitment has emerged at Fidesco: that of regional correspondent. This team, made up of former volunteers who have returned from a mission for at least a year, makes themselves available to support the network of former volunteers in the regions of France.

On a mission, a volunteer never leaves alone. In the same logic, we form pairs of regional correspondents, a way of achieving a fair balance between their essential role and their voluntary investment.

Today, the team already has 15 former volunteers present throughout France.

Created in 2019, the post of regional correspondent was structured in 2021; a roadmap has been defined aimed at re-drawing the contours of the regional correspondent's mission and determining its objectives and challenges.

THEIR ROLE: TO BRING TOGETHER AND MAKE KNOWN

The role of the regional correspondents is twofold:

- **Create links between former volunteers in their region:** they are called to keep the Fidesco family spirit alive. The objective is to federate and facilitate the return of the former volunteers after the mission.
- **Make known the action of Fidesco:** they become ambassadors in their region and respond to the requests of the various interlocutors and structures geographically close to them (radio, press, parishes, high schools, etc.).

Mission Congress from October 1 to 3, 2021:

A NOTICED AND APPRECIATED PRESENCE!

"The mission can be everywhere and it is everyone's responsibility, it must guide our daily life as Christians and help us to unite and to fraternize". The first six editions welcomed more than 11,000 Christians in Paris, including 30 bishops and 600 priests. In 2021, the project was renewed and deployed in a regional version in the heart of 9 cities in France. The event brought together 17,000 registered participants against 5,000 in 2019. Thanks to our team of regional correspondents and the involvement of former volunteers (24 in total), Fidesco has reached 5 cities: Lille, Lyon, La Rochelle, Rennes and Toulouse. This event was an opportunity to strengthen ties between former volunteers and to feel like a family; but also to testify! Their presence received a very positive reception.



lamissioncontinue.fidesco.fr



A DEDICATED SITE FOR FORMER VOLUNTEERS

Volunteering at the service of the poorest is not a parenthesis in life, it is obviously lived during the mission but also afterwards. The Fidesco family is growing and it has become essential to find the right tool to unite the former volunteers, to allow the transmission of information and to measure the impact of the mobilization of the former volunteers and their testimonies.

From this reflection initiated in 2016 and work carried out in 2020, a website dedicated to former volunteers was created in July 2021: **Fidesco, the mission continues.**

On their return from mission, volunteers are invited to get involved in this Alumni, which aims to become a real platform for exchange between former volunteers and with the permanent team of Fidesco: news, research and job offers, events, meetings...



Vianney [o volunteer from the year 2019 - Angola], **Gwenaël** [volunteer from the year 2019 - Madagascar], **Blandine** [o volunteer from the year 2018 - South Africa & current Regional Correspondent for the Region Paris] and **Laure** [o from the year 2018 – South Africa & Correspondent for the Region Toulouse] held a Fidesco stand at the Winter Forum organized by the Emmanuel Community in Paray-le-Monial, in February 2022. They also co-hosted the “*Desire of Adventure? Come, follow me*” course with other missionary organizations of the Emmanuel Community.

PROMOTING COMMUNION AND PARTNERSHIPS



CREATION OF THE NAÏM ESPÉRANCE MISSION ASSOCIATION

Created in 2007 by Carine Neveu, former Fidesco volunteer and lay consecrated member of the Community of the Lamb, the Naim Espérance (Nain Hope) mission has been supported by Fidesco since 2015.

The objective is to provide human, psychological and spiritual support to populations living in post-emergency areas or refugee camps in order to supplement the traditional humanitarian response.

Several young people have been struck by her last missions in Iraq, Sudan and South Sudan, Venezuela and in the refugee camps on the island of Lesbos in Greece. A dynamic was created with, on the one hand, the desire of these young people to follow Carine in her missions in the field and, on the other hand, the commitment of a team of volunteers ready to support the development of the project.

The need to create an independent legal entity appeared, to give a lasting structure to the mission deployed by Carine Neveu and

to provide a framework for considering the regular sending of volunteers. Thus, in September 2021, the Mission Naïm Espérance association was created, Carine Neveu and Fidesco being co-founders.

This new structure is one of the projects supported humanly and materially by Fidesco.

Our staff makes its varied expertise available, particularly in terms of recruitment, training, monitoring and communication in order to strengthen the capacities of the association's volunteers and contribute to its institutional development.

THEY WITNESS



Pierre and Elisabeth de Montessus, respectively treasurer of the association "Mission Naïm Espérance" and non-salaried follow-up support of the volunteers, met Carine during the 40th anniversary celebration of Fidesco in Rome:

“

Carine told us about what she experienced on mission in the refugee camps. We were touched to see the Holy Spirit working through her. What she does in the field may seem so simple, yet it bears much fruit. Carine and the other volunteers who were sent bring the presence of Christ to suffering people. Obviously, He was only waiting for this, because He responds and offers graces of compassion and hope."

A young non-believer, Joseph discovered Carine's testimony through an article in the Christian press. Challenged by her call, he decided to volunteer. His law degree finished, he was sent to Lebanon in October 2021 with Carine and another volunteer:

“

I was curious, I was asking myself questions and Carine's testimony caught my eye. She is an incredible person, she has a momentum that takes you on board, an energy to spare and an unfailing determination. She also has a great and wonderful ability to listen to people and to the Word of God. She never forces things, she surrenders to the will of God.

Naïm Espérance is a very spiritual and fraternal mission. It is not in "doing", but in "being". I perceived during my short mission the importance, the usefulness – I would even say the indispensable nature – of such a mission with these people who are living through terrible crises. This mission changed my life, it moved me deeply!"

PORTRAIT — Carine NEVEU



Having grown up in an atheist family environment, Carine experienced a moving journey of conversion, which led her to ask for baptism at the age of 25 during her Fidesco mission in Ivory Coast.

TROPICAL AGRONOMY AT THE SERVICE OF OTHERS

Her studies in agronomy led her in 1998 to push the door of international solidarity NGOs, including Fidesco. After the shock of the Catholic Christian culture, she feels shaken, challenged... She decides to commit to a two-year mission with the aim of specializing in tropical agronomy.

During a pilgrimage to the Holy Land near Pope John Paul II, she was baptized in the waters of the Jordan. Her life changed radically! Inwardly, she felt a deep desire to put herself at the service of others, especially in refugee camps.

THE TRIGGER

After her Fidesco mission in 1998-2000 and a Masters of Coordination in International Solidarity - Food Security, she continued her humanitarian missions in the professional field. Having become a consecrated laywoman of the Community of the Lamb, Carine wonders about the meaning of her profession.

She then made an observation: humanitarian NGOs contribute to many actions to meet the primary needs of the populations present in these emergency areas and provide them with the necessary material assistance. Essential to the integral development of the person, human support is still underdeveloped. Carine sees this as an opportunity to give meaning to her humanitarian involvement by allowing people to rebuild themselves humanely.

ANOTHER MISSION: TO PROVIDE HUMAN SUPPORT TO REFUGEES

Sent by the diocese of Avignon, Carine embarked in 2015 on an adventure different from that which she experienced with Fidesco. Each year, she invests between 3 to 9 months in an action, complementary to the material aid supported by NGOs: offering human, psychological and spiritual support to the populations she reaches during her missions.

Did you know ?

CARINE IS THE SIRTUAL SPONSOR OF THE FIDESCO VOLUNTEERS OF 2021



“Dear godchildren,
dear missionaries at heart,

You are going to serve the Church and to serve the poorest to offer them your skills, but above all yourself.

Remember: always dare! Dare charity in the total gift, dare to let yourself be stripped of yourself, that means, espousing the will of God for you and for your brothers in the present moment and the humble daily life.

Do not forget: do not come down from the cross, there is the communion that places us at the heart of the Trinitarian Love for a purified fruitfulness at the service of the Kingdom. [...]

Do not be afraid: dare, dare, dare! Dare to be what you are deeply there where you will be on mission!"



DEPLOY MISSIONS ALL OVER THE WORLD WHERE THE CHURCH CALLS US



MEXICO: A NEW MISSION AT THE HEART OF POVERTY

Originally a small fishing village, Playa del Carmen is now a very touristic seaside resort, known for its white sand beaches, palm trees and its exciting Mayan culture and a widely developed nightlife. Located on the coast of the Caribbean Sea in the Yucatán Peninsula, 70 km south of Cancún, this postcard landscape illustrates a reality that hides another. In Playa del Carmen, great poverty rubs shoulders with great wealth.

Guillaume and Emilie are the first volunteers sent to Mexico. In the field, they accompany our partner: Father Hubert Reiner, German Legionary of Christ and current vicar of the parish church of Playa del Carmen. Our volunteers serve especially young people and people who are less educated or left behind by public assistance. Opened in 2021, the mission is being built gradually to energize the parish, provide a social framework to poor neighborhoods, think about a project to create a school...

This mission opening is also an opportunity to deploy our actions at the service of Church partners in Latin America, today there are 7 mission countries and 26 volunteers in the field in this region of the world.



MADAGASCAR: WORKING ON CHILDREN'S ALPHABETIZATION WITH VOZAMA

Vozama was founded 25 years ago to fight against illiteracy among children between 5 and 8 years old in the isolated rural areas of Fionarantsoa and Ambositra. This project now has nearly 800 schools in the bush for about 10,000 children.

Beyond its primary mission, Vozama also acts on other complementary axes in a logic of integral, autonomous and responsible development: access to drinking water, prevention of health risks, improvement of agricultural techniques, etc.

For 20 years, Fidesco has been sending volunteers to Fionarantsoa to serve with Brother Claude, partner of Fidesco, founder and director of Vozama. In 2021, a second similar mission opened to support Vozama's action around Ambositra.

The heartfelt alliance that exists between Vozama and Fidesco forges a solid partnership. The result is a fair balance between the needs of the local association and the contribution of volunteers. Etienne, Aurélie, Thibault and Pauline put their skills at the service of the deployment and influence of Vozama's action with Malagasy children.



“The relationship with our local partner, Msgr Sosthène, is excellent. It is not only enriching professionally, it is humanly and spiritually. I fully enjoy these meetings where, once the diocesan financial subjects have been evacuated, we come to talk about life, his trials, his difficulties and his joys as bishop, of my paternity and of so many other things. I am grateful to work for such a superior and partner.”

Etienne

📍 Sent in 2020 with Michaëlle to OBALA [Cameroon]



“The Paray Mission Hospital was built over 80 years ago by the Sisters of Charity of Ottawa. It is the only hospital in the region. Many patients are also redirected there from other structures, dispensaries that have no medical presence. Sister Clara, our local partner, is the administrative director and the sisters all work with us in the hospital or nursing school. We are still in the discovery phase. In order to be able to care for patients in the best possible way, we need to learn and understand how care is organized here and what the epidemiological realities of this country are. We often seek the advice of doctors or nurses who have been on site for several years. Local particularity: we pray with the patient and the operating room team just before each intervention. This is an opportunity to experience the universality of the Church since everyone prays in his or her mother tongue: Sesotho, French, English...!”

Capucine & Hugues

📍 Sent in 2021 to THABA-TSEKA [Lesotho]



EAST TIMOR: REOPENING OF THE COUNTRY FOR EDUCATION AND TRAINING MISSIONS

Located between Indonesia and Australia, this former Portuguese colony was later invaded by Indonesia. East Timor finally gained its independence in 2002. Although it had an Indonesian Muslim presence in its history, the country remains marked by its Portuguese and Christian heritage. Under the protection of the UN until 2005, this young state is now in full political, economic and social construction.

"Education is the biggest challenge for this young country", testified Monsignor Basilio do Nascimento, Bishop of Baucau and partner of Fidesco in Timor.

Education is a real lever of development for the country and its inhabitants. Fidesco was one of the pioneers in sending international solidarity volunteers to Timor.



IVORY COAST: A STRONGER PRESENCE TO SERVE EDUCATION AND HEALTH

The development aid provided by Fidesco in Ivory Coast continues to expand, with more missions and volunteers, from both the classic formula of International Solidarity Volunteering and also from the *"Retirees formula"*.

In 2021, 4 volunteers were sent to Abidjan. Thomas and Marine work at the *"Petit Baobab School"*, a partner of Fidesco for six years where our volunteers are involved in providing quality education to the children of the school. Pascale and Philippe are committed to serving four months a year for four consecutive years, as allowed by the *"Retirees formula"*. Pascale has taken over from Armelle, also a retired volunteer, and is involved in the training and education of young Ivorian women. Philippe, meanwhile, is in charge of developing inter-university partnerships between the Catholic University of West Africa and the Catholic University of the West in Angers.

FINANCES: ACTIVITIES 2021



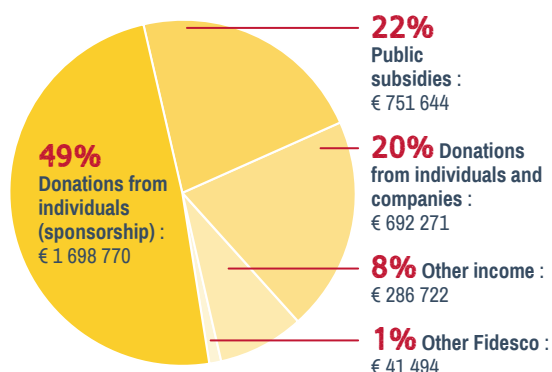
ACCOUNTS

RESOURCES (Euros)	2020	Distribution	2021	Distribution
Income related to public donations	2 609 869	65%	2 432 535	70%
Donations from individuals	2 532 717	63%	2 356 101	68%
Donations from companies	25 700	1%	34 941	1%
Grants from other associations (expense transfers to non-French FIDESCO)	51 009	1%	41 494	1%
Bequests	443	0%	-	0%
Public subsidies	809 100	20%	751 644	22%
French Ministry of Foreign Affairs	808 100	20%	739 437	21%
Others	1 000	0%	12 207	0%
Other income	621 148	15%	286 722	8%
Financial income	2 486	0%	2 673	0%
Miscellaneous income	146 164	4%	96 727	3%
Reversal of provisions	32	0%	2 055	0%
Recovery of funds related to deferred liabilities	472 466	12%	185 267	5%
TOTAL RESOURCES	4 040 117		3 470 901	

EXPENSES	2020	Distribution	2021	Distribution
International and Solidarity and Development Mission	2 600 191	64%	2 567 859	74%
Africa	1 560 973	39%	1 537 382	44%
Latin America	653 017	16%	567 738	16%
Asia	226 349	6%	224 987	6%
Europe	33 576	1%	109 744	3%
Middle East	1 164	0%	17	0%
Communication to applicants and volunteers	125 112	3%	127 991	4%
Donation collection and processing costs	257 097	6%	260 444	7%
Headquarters operating costs	380 582	10%	405 497	12%
Provisions	445	0%	2 163	0%
Futur commitments	799 136	20%	225 762	7%
TOTAL EXPENSES	4 037 452		3 461 724	

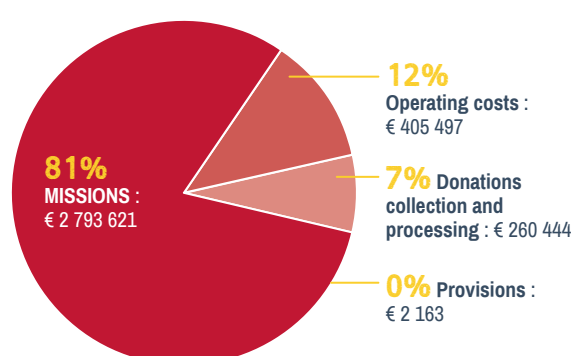
RESOURCES

Source of resources



EXPENSES

Use of resources





DONATIONS

Thank you for your valuable support throughout 2021! During the year, we received **2 433 k€**.

DISTRIBUTION OF DONATIONS



Your donations allow Fidesco **to send volunteers to live and serve daily** in a simple way in the heart of the populations.

By responding to **needs identified** by local partners, volunteers **work for development projects** serving the poorest and **participate in the construction** of peace based on encounter.

Thanks to you, Fidesco continues its mission to be **a major player in the field of development and international solidarity**. Your donation has concrete repercussions on the populations that the volunteers serve in the countries of the South.


€17 000
Cost of a volunteer


€375
Minimum amount
to sponsor a volunteer for
2 years of mission (€ 200
for a 1 year mission)


€15
Minimum monthly
amount to sponsor a
volunteer for the duration
of his/her mission

Spiritual Sponsors

“

The mission report is very lively and complete. This is an important element for the motivation to financially support a mission. A donation is always free, but knowing that it does not fall into a more or less opaque system makes real joy by giving.”



REND LES AUTRES
VA, HEUREUX,
ET TU CONNAITRAS LA **JOIE!**
FIDESCO

* Go, make others happy, and you will know joy!

“

It is often said that joy is the fruit of the mission: at the end of these two years at the service of the Ivorian Church, we can testify that a real joy lives in us! An inner joy that must certainly make us look blissful in the street, but that no one sees under our masks! We have adopted the beautiful motto of Fidesco:

**"Go, make others happy,
and you will know joy!"**

Arthur & Clotilde

📍 Sent to ABIDJAN [Ivory Coast]