# Annual Report FIDESCO 2014



RIDES CO
ORGANISATION CATHOLIQUE DE SOLIDARITÉ INTERNATIONALE



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

### Fidesco's identity

Fidesco's vocation is to serve in the full development of the person, not only the country's economic development, but to help to put people at the very centre of all decisions, instead of using them as a simple link in a process to which they would be subjected. This means, from the volunteer, a deep and genuine integration in the culture and the everyday life of local populations where they are sent. This cannot be without receiving a specific formation, without taking into consideration the volunteers' living conditions - particularly the families - but also with a 2-year minimal commitment of time. This long-term commitment might seem drastic but the very precious and fruitful former volunteers' experience shows it takes time to make this gift of self- stronger and firmly turned towards people. This also implies a better follow-up of the projects where Fidesco is sending volunteers. The partially-new team has been working on these new challenges with enthusiasm.

### New local partners

18 new missions have started. These new partnerships are in Cameroon, Madagascar, Guinea, India, Thailand, Rwanda and Oriental Timor. Fidesco has been closely working with 88 partners (congregations, dioceses, Fidesco projects, Foundations). Here's a good example: Zambi Combonian brothers in Chikowa. They have been working for more than 30 years on the country development in very diversified fields (construction of birthing clinics, well drilling, solar panels, creation of schools, etc.). 6 Fidesco volunteers - 4 new in 2014 - joined them in "Chikowa Youth Development Centre" to practice teaching and school managing. This amazing project allowed about 180 children from the villages nearby to start learning from their earliest childhood.

#### The Ebola crisis in the center of our concerns

Despite the Ebola threat, we kept the Saint Gabriel health center open in Guinea Conakry (a project supported by Fidesco). From the first haemorrhagic fever cases in this country, we ran an extensive study and reflection on the future of the centre, which doesn't directly treat Ebola but allows about 300 Guineans a day to have access to primary care (including malaria, AIDS and under nutrition). The issue was big for, as Ebola was still evolving, malaria kept killing so many people. A watch unit started in Fidesco to insure the permanent follow-up of the centre situation and the volunteers' security there. Many local contacts (MSF - "Doctors without Borders", military mission, etc.), a multidisciplinary team in Paris (tropical and virology specialised doctors, area correspondents) are part of this mission and enable to notice the daily situation evolution.

### The results of many efforts

This year's financial results are particularly good due to the loyalty of our donators, and this, despite a tough economic context. We are extremely pleased and thankful to them. Besides, the number of volunteers sent in mission has slightly decreased compared to 2013, incuring a less expensive cost. This surplus makes it possible for us to support 2014 development projects (such as the construction of a school in Burundi - as requested by the bishop of Bujumbura) and also to deploy new communication campaigns to recruit these much talked about volunteers ready to give themselves for 2 years...

> Pierre-François Graffin Director of Fidesco



### Focus on 2014





## SOUTH AMERICA FRENCH GUYANA CAYENNE



### **88 FIDESCO VOLUNTEERS** S E N T E N 2 0 1 4



### HIS GRACE EMMANUEL LAFONT, THE PATRON OF THE PROMOTION 2014

His Grace Emmanuel Lafont was ordained a priest in 1970 in the Archdiocese of Tours. In 1983, he went on a mission in South Africa, in the diocese of Johannesburg, where he will be the pastor in Soweto. In 2004, they named him bishop of Cayenne, French Guyana: "I can still see the 88 volunteers' faces of the 2014 promotion, but also their children's and parents' faces who also give a part of themselves by letting their children and grandchildren go. My pray is always with them."





### ASIA | PHILIPPINES



### 88 WORLDWIDE LOCAL PARTNERS

(28% in Asia, 28% in Latin America and 44% in Africa)



# POPE FRANCOIS SURPRISE VISIT TO A FIDESCO PARTNER

During his trip to Philippines, the pope went and met Manilian street children in the Foundation Anak-TNK. He came to them with a message: "Never forget that each of you matters to Jesus".





AFRICA I RWANDA KIGAL I



#### 11 VOLUNTEERS IN THE FIELD FOR

### AGRICULTURAL MISSIONS

(5% of the missions)



### A MARSH IN THE COUNTRY OF THE THOUSANDS HILLS

A new agricultural land was farmed near CECYDAR, a centre of rehabilitation for street children in Kigali. This marsh not only provides the income to make the centre viable (supported by Fidesco) but is also a learning place for entire families. They can learn agronomics and farming bases so they'll become more independent to provide for their needs.





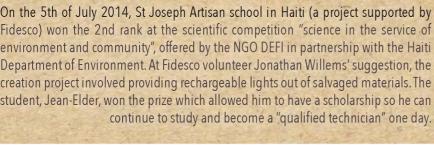






#### A PRIZE FOR SAINT JOSEPH ARTISAN SCHOOL

On the 5th of July 2014, St Joseph Artisan school in Haiti (a project supported by Fidesco) won the 2nd rank at the scientific competition "science in the service of environment and community", offered by the NGO DEFI in partnership with the Haiti Department of Environment. At Fidesco volunteer Jonathan Willems' suggestion, the creation project involved providing rechargeable lights out of salvaged materials. The student, Jean-Elder, won the prize which allowed him to have a scholarship so he can continue to study and become a "qualified technician" one day.



### 232 FIDESCO VOLUNTEERS IN THE FIELD IN 2014









In July 2014, the website changed. It developed German, Portuguese, Dutch, Belgian and Polish versions. Profiles of the volunteers in the field are now available within a few click (with information such as country, first report of mission, testimonies, photos,...)















#### SEPT 2014 A RADIO AND A PRINTING SHOP IN BAFOUSSAM

The Church of Cameroon plays a key role in the development of the country, regarding education, teaching, awareness and accountability. At the request of the Church, a radio and a printing shop were built: two communication supports destined to make information accessible to everyone. Olivia manages radio's programs and her husband runs the printing shop.













#### NOV 2014 FRENCH HEAD OF STATE PAYING A VISIT IN GUINEA

Faced with Ebola, St Gabriel health centre in Matoto, supported by Fidesco, is now running the application of preventive measures. The president, François Hollande, met volunteers at the embassy of Conakry, during a short visit dedicated to the struggle against the Ebola virus.

