

VOLONTARIATO INTERNAZIONALE
PER LO SVILUPPO



Insieme, per un mondo possibile



Activities Summary Report 2018

English Ed.

2018 KEY HIGHLIGHTS

- Signature of ECHO *Framework Partnership Agreement (FPA)*
- Update of the organization, management and control system with the renewal of the members of the supervisory body
- Establishment of 3 more VIS territorial Presidia
- Opening of a VIS Office in Venice at Apertura della sede VIS a Venezia presso lo IUSVE
- Continuation of “Stop Human Trafficking! – They’re Human Beings” campaign in partnership with Missioni Don Bosco. See www.stoptratta.org

MAIN OFFICES	3 (ROME HQ AND OPERATIONAL OFFICES IN BRESCIA AND VENICE)
MEMBERS	3
PARTICIPANT VOLUNTEERS	73
VIS TERRITORIAL PRESIDIA	7
ACTIVE DONORS	2.148
DISTANCE SUPPORT DONORS	269
DEVELOPMENT OPERATORS	49
INTERNATIONAL VOLUNTEERS	14
CIVIL SERVICE VOLUNTEERS	7
PEACE CORPS VOLUNTEERS	2
PERMANENT EMPLOYEES	22 (total in the year)
DEVELOPMENT PROJECTS ¹	59
EMERGENCY PROJECTS ¹	15
COUNTRIES WITH DEVELOPMENT PROJECTS ²	19
COUNTRIES WITH EMERGENCY PROJECTS	5
COUNTRIES INVOLVED IN THE STRENGTHENING OF THE PLANNING AND DEVELOPMENT SALESIAN OFFICES (PDO)	36
COUNTRIES INVOLVED IN SAD ACTIONS	9
COUNTRIES INVOLVED IN SAM ACTIONS	31

¹ The figure also includes the completed projects whose activities continued with residual funds and which, therefore, produced operating effects in 2018 as well. The projects are highlighted in the country sections.

² The figure also includes as 1 unit the PDO project involving 34 Sub-Saharan Africa countries, 2 Caribbean and Italy.

ECG PROJECTS / ITALY	7
ONLINE COURSE PARTICIPANTS	601
ADVANCED TRAINING COURSES PARTICIPANTS	86
SCHOOLS INVOLVED IN SOLIDARITY TWINNINGS	14
TOTAL INCOME	9.803.405 euro

VIS OVERVIEW

VIS – Volontariato Internazionale per lo Sviluppo [*International Volunteer Service for Development*] is a non-governmental organization dealing with **international development cooperation and solidarity**. VIS is also an **educational agency that promotes and organizes awareness-raising, education, development training and global citizenship activities**.

From a juridical point of view, VIS is a recognized association, founded in 1986 under the auspices of the Centro Nazionale Opere Salesiane (CNOS), which has grown in the world thanks to the commitment and passion of international volunteers and development workers, who decide to leave to put their skill and dedication to the service of the institutional aims of the NGO.

“Insieme, per un mondo possibile” indica l'intenzione di fare rete in Italia, in Europa e nel resto del mondo per migliorare le condizioni di vita dei bambini, delle bambine, dei giovani in condizioni di vulnerabilità e delle loro comunità, nella convinzione che attraverso l'educazione e la formazione si possono combattere alla radice le cause della povertà estrema.

VIS operates and **plans its interventions inspired by San Giovanni Bosco**, capable to anticipate the times with its vision and its preventive, modern and effective educational system, key to promoting human rights and overcoming injustices and inequalities of the time, approach still today extraordinarily alive in Italy and in the world.

VIS is an NGO registered in the Civil Society Organisations (CSOs) register of the Italian Agency for Cooperation and Development (AICS), as well in the register of non-profit organizations of the Direzione Regionale del Lazio of the Revenue Agency.

VIS has been granted special consultative status by the Economic and Social Council (ECOSOC) of the United Nations and is member of the Fundamental Rights Platform (FRP) of the European Fundamental Rights Agency (FRA) and of the EU Civil Society Platform against trafficking in human beings and accredited by ECHO - Directorate-General for European Civil Protection and Humanitarian Aid Operations of the European Commission.

VIS WORLDWIDE – Overview

AFRICA

In Africa, VIS placement in 2018 was characterized by the operation of two regional Coordination Offices and one partner Country, Angola, which remains directly managed by Headquarters.

From the geographical point of view, when in September 2016 the Coordination Offices were started, East Africa included 4 countries: **Ethiopia, DR of Congo, Burundi and Madagascar**. Following, at the end of 2017, it was decided not to include Madagascar as it was no longer strategic or a priority for VIS. In fact, in 2018 there were no longer any cooperation or civil service operators in the country. In 2018 the East Africa Coordination has been also extended to **Eritrea**, although for the moment the presence of VIS with its staff has not been foreseen, as the political and security conditions prevent this possibility.

From the strategic point of view, among the countries that are part of the East Africa Coordination, **Ethiopia** is currently one of the first aid beneficiaries, a priority for donors especially in relation to VIS key sectors: migration & development, linked to vocational training and work, but also for WASH and resilience increase. Therefore, it represents an important lab for our NGO, so much so that it can become our *flagship country*, in terms of financial and planning commitment, as well as innovation with respect to the methodology and topics covered.

At the same time, **DR of Congo** and **Burundi** increasingly appear in the coordination as a "region" in its own right: very different from Ethiopia in terms of donors' attention, as well as areas of intervention. Both are in fact still in a post-emergency situation or, in any case, of structural insecurity: therefore, resilience interventions are more necessary than those of development (especially for Burundi). For both countries, VIS has begun to study a different strategy both in terms of interventions to be implemented and management of the coordination.

The model of regional coordination offices, in fact, is intended as a flexible pattern, i.e. tailored according to the local level needs and balances and developments. Therefore, as far as this Coordination is concerned, it appears clear how the DR of Congo C and Burundi can be considered as a separate per se Coordination (Great Lakes), while Ethiopia alone can become a region, with Eritrea managed in this first start-up phase and expansion directly from Headquarters in liaison with Addis Ababa.

In 2018 the **West Africa Coordination Office** included the following countries: **Senegal**, with coordination based in Dakar, **Mali, Nigeria, Ghana, Liberia and Gambia**. In 2018 the need verified in the region was to consolidate VIS placement in a relatively new area for the organization, both in terms of local insertion and strengthening of established partnerships, and in operational terms, completing the Coordination Office workplace and improving mechanisms and workflows.

In 2019 the need will be to further strengthen the operational capabilities of the organization, particularly in the more peripheral areas of the Coordination Office, and to complete the mapping and development of the relations with potential donors and strategic partners in order to identify and formulate new project proposals.

VIS priority sectors also in 2019 will remain those related to migration, education and vocational training and socio-labour integration, with particular attention to environmental issues, in particular with regard to the ongoing actions in Ghana.

Finally, horizontally as far as VIS action is concerned, the entire African continent has been characterized by two main and interconnected operational areas: strengthening of the Planning and Development Offices (PDOs) and vocational training with the development of the **Don. Bosco Tech Africa (DBTA)**.

This trend will be confirmed also in 2019 with a follow-up action planning regarding the support of the PDOs and with the participation in the implementation of the DBTA strategic development plan. Both processes will be planned and implemented in collaboration with the competent general superiors of the Salesian Congregation and Don Bosco Network NGOs.

Charges incurred in 2018 by the in loco Coordination Offices totalled:

East Africa: 10.613 euro

West Africa: 23.322 euro

African Great Lakes: 19 euro (Coordination in its establishment phase)

ANGOLA

Capital: Luanda

Population: 29.800.000 inhabitants

Poverty rate: 55,3%

Human Development Index (HDI): 0.581(ranking 147th out of 189 Countries)

Income per capita: 5.790 \$

Start of activities in the Country: 1991

Year of official recognition: 2001

IN 2018

Expat operators: 4

Italian civil service volunteers abroad: 0

Development projects funded by public entities: 2

Development projects funded by private entities: 1

Distance Support Projects: 1

Expenses incurred: € 332.938

VIS PROJECT AREAS IN THE COUNTRY

Child and Youth Protection

Strengthening of CSOs and other development actors

	Expenses incurred (in €)	Donors
Development projects funded by public entities		
Vamos Juntos	245.701	European Commission
A Estrada para a Vida: de Cidadaos de Rua a Cidadaos Responsaveis	6.259	European Commission
Development projects funded by private entities		
Social rehabilitation and launching of programmes for ensuring the independence of youths at risk	79.108	CEI 8x1000
SAD Projects		
Shelter for street children "Casa Magone" and families "Casa Mama Margarida"	1.870	Private donors
Other management expenses incurred in the Country	0	

In 2018, the third phase of the "La Strada per la Vita" program, launched in 2009 with the aim of recovery, support and social and family reintegration of children in street situation and/or most vulnerable in Luanda, was started. Thanks to the "Vamos Juntos" project, written and approved in 2017 and funded by the European Commission, capacity building actions have been launched for **local institutions and civil society organizations (CSOs)**, promoting dialogue, participation and

inclusion of Angolan CSOs and rights holders in national policies and programs for the protection of children in street situation.

The project carried out in partnership with the Salesians of Don Bosco, ICRA (Institute of Religious Studies in Angola) and SSI (SamuSocial International, French NGO), foresees the involvement of **28 realities including LA, CSOs, local and international NGOs**. After a complex initial negotiation, SSI started the project partnership, developing actions to coordinate the street team. The **collaboration with an international partner NGO** has been an innovation in **VIS and the Salesians in Angola *modus operandi***. This has generated an improvement at the methodological level and in data collection, obtaining a praise from the Angolan LAs as well as on-site operators who, included in a more specialized and structured team, they have been stimulated in their professional growth.

Particular attention is foreseen for **girls in street situation, a highly innovative action for VIS and for the Salesian counterpart**. During 2018, in addition to organizing a specific workshop, 51 girls in street situation were identified in 20 different gathering places and 25 of them benefited from promotion and protection mechanisms.

In order to improve the methodology for family reintegration of former children in street situation and show public institutions a shared and participatory work methodology, the **CGFAF - Family Aid Fund Management Committee** was created, consisting of 7 members including VIS, project partner and the LA. During the first year the **CGFAF has defined its own regulations, documents and methodologies for assessing the vulnerability of households**, in order to bestow scholarships, vocational training grants and support grants to redevelop the dwellings as envisaged by the project and funded by the European Commission.

The project also envisages the creation of an online platform accessible by the institutions and CSOs involved in the issue for the exchange of materials, documents and useful reports.

In 2018, technical assistance to Angolan institutions, peer-to-peer learning and job training, as well as the publication of manuals and project baseline surveys, in the phase of language and graphics revision have suffered some delay.

From 2014, Angola has also been one of the countries involved in the **development program of the Salesian PDOs** and it has benefited in 2018 from the latest support and reinforcement actions envisaged therein.

Since the end of 2018 a joint analysis and reflection with the PDOs and the Salesians is in progress to evaluate VIS contribution to the UNICEF project to **support children in conflict with the law and/or awaiting trial** in the country, project approved and entrusted directly to the Salesians.

Due to its past commitment to returning refugees, VIS also participates in the refugee protection network; this commitment can result in new project opportunities.

Positive characteristics have been: lifelong learning, high number of internships and trainees from universities and colleges and active collaboration with the local police. Weaknesses are linked to the widespread small crime that requires a necessary attention to movements, frequent rotation of expatriate staff and some difficulties for local operators regarding the capability to manage complex needs and phenomena.

Fundamental goal for the future will be to strengthen the work of the Salesians, of the CSOs and local authorities for their full "taking charge" of the actions in favour of children in street situation,

supporting the correct application of laws and protocols, increasing networking actions as well as the number of organizations involved, helping Salesians to understand the importance of networking outside their networks. As per CGFAF innovative activities, in 2019 a constant follow-up will be necessary with a possible revision of the operating manual and of the application forms.

In 2019 the possibility of developing technical and vocational training actions geared to the emerging needs of the labour market in collaboration with the SDBs will be monitored, as well as the possibility of developing specific actions in the next projects for girls/women targeted at gender equality and equal opportunities.

BURUNDI

Capital: Bujumbura

Population: 10.900.000 inhabitants

Poverty rate: 54,3 %

Human Development Index (HDI): 0.417 (185th out of 189 countries)

Income per capita: 702 \$

Start of activities in the Country: 2004

Year of official recognition: 2004

IN 2018

Expat operators: 2

Development projects funded by public entities: 2

Development projects funded by private entities: 1

Distance Support Projects: 1

Mission Support Projects: 2

Expenses incurred: € 517.221

VIS PROJECT AREAS IN THE COUNTRY

Education, vocational training and socio-professional integration

	Expenses incurred (in €)	Donors
Development projects funded by public entities		
Success laboratories – building the capacity to generate income and technical and entrepreneurial skills by young people including those who have dropped out of school in Burundi	289.182	AFD
Bâtir l'avenir: strengthening the role of the civil society organizations in the TVET sector, through the establishment of a system of partnerships between public and private sectors	17.373	European Commission
Development projects funded by private entities		
<i>Bâtir l'avenir</i> – strengthening the role of the civil society organizations in the TVET sector, through the establishment of a system of partnerships between public and private sectors	12.275	Museke Foundation
SaD Projects		
Project for the rehabilitation of street children -	440	Private donors

	Expenses incurred (in €)	Donors
Cité des Jeunes Don Bosco, Buterere, family shelter "Maison Béthanie"		
Mission Support Projects		
Works for the construction of the Marian Educational Centre	221.451	
		Private donors
Support to the activities of the Marian Educational Centre	197.950	

After a period in which the activities of all international NGOs were suspended - from October to December 2018 - determined by a decision of the local institutions following the enactment of new rules governing the operation and structure of NGOs operating in the country, the situation has normalized. Currently VIS in Burundi is trying to strengthen relations with different donors and collaboration with other agencies and NGOs involved in the field of vocational training and in other sectors related to it. The political, social and security conditions are still quite precarious and uncertain, waiting for the new elections to be held in 2020. It has been possible, however, despite the difficulties, to implement activities on a regular basis.

Strength of VIS mission in Burundi is the experience capitalized and consolidated in the domain of **vocational training and job placement** especially in the informal sector. In 2018, efforts continued in the project "Costuire l'avvenire (Building the future)", co-financed by the European Commission and carried out in partnership with the Ministry of Education, the CHASAA (Chamber of Commerce for Art and Craft) and the AEB (Association of Burundi Entrepreneurs). The action aims at training in the construction field and integrating in the labour market 1,700 vulnerable young people, currently outside the formal school cycle. During the year, 600 young people were trained in 6 different professions. Among these, 294 are included in the labour market thanks to the support and support of the project operators. Particular attention is paid to **collaborating with local enterprises** in order to facilitate the meeting between supply and demand, thus increasing employment opportunities; at the same time the intervention will focus on the start-up and support of micro-enterprises, to encourage vulnerable young people self-employment. The project is implemented in three provinces, Gitega, Kayanza and Bujumbura, encompassing the participation and involvement of the Museke Foundation of Brescia, an Italian non-profit organization historically very active in the country.

With this project, VIS is completing the path, begun several years ago, of introducing and developing in Burundi two types of innovative trainings: the **duality in alternation** (classroom and workplace) and the **validation of skills and experience** (VAE) which are giving good results especially in terms of job placement and are an alternative to classical training. VIS has continued to consolidate the collaboration with private sector associations **to develop a public-private partnership in the field of vocational training** for tailoring the training to the needs of the labour market and to **define procedures for certifying the skills of vocational centers and craft enterprises**, especially in the construction sector, which is a priority for the country.

In 2018 VIS also continued to support both the **Maison Béthanie family home for vulnerable girls**, managed by the Sorelle della Carità di San Vincenzo de' Paoli, as part of a collaboration

started in 2011, and also the realization of the **Marian Educational Centre of Buterere** thanks to contributions for the SaM.

Thanks to the activities carried out, VIS continues to be a key player in the country with regard to the local economic development, promoted through the support to vocational training, job placement and the fight against the social and economic marginalization of the most vulnerable young people. This commitment will be maintained in the future while adapting it to the fragility and instability of local conditions.

DEMOCRATIC REPUBLIC OF CONGO

Capital: Kinshasa

Population: 81.300.000 inhabitants

Poverty rate: 52,2%

Human Development Index (HDI): 0.457 (176th out of 188 Countries)

Income per capita: 796 \$

Start of activities in the Country: 2002

Year of official recognition: 2010

IN 2018

Expat operators: 2

Development projects funded by public entities: 3

Development projects funded by private entities: 2

Distance Support Projects: 3

Mission Support Projects: 5

Expenses incurred: € 498.354

VIS PROJECT AREAS IN THE COUNTRY

Environment

Child and Youth Protection

Vocational training and integration

Education, vocational training and socio-professional integration

Capacity building and strengthening local development actors

	Expenses incurred (in €)	Donors
Development projects funded by public entities		
Active and responsible participation of the Civil Society Organizations in the sustainable growth and development of the Province of North Kivu	168.701	European Commission
Upgrading of the quality of education and increasing the possibility of socio-economic inclusion of vulnerable young people of North Kivu	71.895	AICS/MAECI
Favorire la sicurezza alimentare attraverso lo sviluppo dell'agricoltura nella regione del Nord Kivu	22.250	Consiglio dei Ministri 8x1000
Development projects funded by private entities		
Training and employment for a possible tomorrow! Fostering the social and economic development of vulnerable young people in the provinces of North Kivu and East Kasai	84.598	CEI 8x1000

	Expenses incurred (in €)	Donors
Support to protection activities and socio-economic inclusion for vulnerable women and girls of Goma city, in North Kivu province	27.796	Private donors (Borse Vita)
SaD Projects		
Support for children of the Centre des Jeunes Don Bosco Ngangi in Goma		
Support for children of the Don Bosco Muetu Centre in Mbuji Mayi	47.997	Private donors
Support for children of the Don Bosco in Bukavu		
SaM projects		
Support to don Piero Gavioli		
missionary activities		
Support to don J. M. Rubakare		
Mission activities		
Support to interventions to the Lubumbashi Mission for children and young people in street situation road	74.300	Private donors
Support to the Kasumbalesa Centro polivalente (Mons. Gaston)		
Supporto to Masina Kinshasa Mission activities		
Other management expenses incurred in the Country	817	Private donors

In the Democratic Republic of the Congo since 2002, VIS in 2018 has operated in Goma and Shasha in North Kivu, in Nyangoma in South Kivu and in Mbuji Mayi in Eastern Kasai; zones of decennial wars with disastrous effects. From safety to education, from health to food, no right is guaranteed. The year 2018 has faced the **escalation of violence in Eastern areas, an Ebola outbreak approaching Goma and great instability due to presidential elections held in December 2018.**

To cope with the countless challenges and needs of these communities, VIS in Goma has always collaborated with the local Salesian partner Center des Jeunes Don Bosco Ngangi. Together, they play a leading role in responding to the needs of the most vulnerable groups in the fields of education, reception/protection of vulnerable children and young people, support to vulnerable families and socio-economic reintegration. In 2018 the relationship between VIS and the Centro

has changed. The technical support, which VIS has guaranteed over the years, has given way to a **simple support and monitoring service** to the activities of the local partner, offering greater autonomy.

Thanks to funding from private and public entities, the work of VIS operators and international volunteers could reach:

- Minors in situations of extreme vulnerability through awareness-raising campaigns on the right to protect children and access to schools for girls thanks also to the **production of a documentary** *Tournons leur notre regard* produced by a local film production company thanks to the EU-funded project. The film was shown and distributed among those involved in child protection in the city of Goma and screenings were also made in Goma streets through a mobile cinema in June 2018.
- Farmers and breeders through training on new agricultural products, new farming and cultivation techniques and on food processing. Trainings which have offered opportunities for discussion and reflection on the improvements to be made to the sector.
- CSO actors dealing with child protection of children, agriculture and vocational training who have seen their capabilities of management and services for the beneficiaries improved.
- Young people who have had the opportunity to access vocational training through four new curricula tailored to their needs/skills and to the labour market, who will be capable to enjoy the services of COMIDAFE (Comité Mixte d'Adéquation Formation Emploi - Joint Committee for work adaptation); supply and demand meeting point of the city of Goma. Vocational Training Centers representatives, local companies and competent public institutions participate in this labour and confrontation table.

In 2018 the beneficiaries that VIS could reach through the partnership with the Don Bosco Ngangi Center, the Don Bosco Muetu Center and through direct management projects were: 5,015 primary and secondary school pupils, 332 pupils in recovery classes , 150 young microcredit beneficiaries, 29 young girls residing with their 15 children, 60 children in street situation, aged over 5 years abused or abandoned, 90 children (abandoned, orphans or temporarily entrusted to the Centers) from 0 to 5 years, 127 girls and women in training, 72 CSOs. Awareness actions were addressed to 581 adults and 8,410 children.

In addition to continuing in line with the past years in short and dual training, using the competency approach, in 2018 action was renewed precisely through the creation of the COMIDAFE which allowed the establishment of a table on the development of the labour market.

In 2019 VIS will continue to support the activities of the Ngangi center in its new foreseen arrangement and the PDO of the Democratic Republic of Congo. Through the capitalization of what has been achieved so far in the areas of vocational training, child protection and the agricultural sector, the objectives for 2019 are, through the accompaniment and training of the local staff, strengthening of visibility, opening to new partnerships and therefore expansion of project planning towards these sectors.

ERITREA

Capital: Asmara

Population: 5.100.000 inhabitants

Poverty rate: 75,2%

Human Development Index (HDI): 0,440 (179th out of 189 Countries)

Income per capita: 1.750 \$

Start of activities in the Country: 2000

Year of official recognition: not available

IN 2018

Expat operators: 0

Development projects funded by public entities: 2

Mission Support Projects: 1

Expenses incurred: € 339.295

VIS PROJECT AREAS IN THE COUNTRY

Education, vocational training and socio-professional integration

	Expenses incurred (in €)	Donors
Development projects funded by public entities		
Vocational training in Eritrea	200.926	Swiss Agency for Development and Cooperation
Training in carpentry and mechanics for dropouts	135.553	GIZ
Development projects funded by private entities		
Support to the mission in Eritrea	1.599	Private donors
SaM projects		
Support to the mission in Eritrea	1.156	Private donors
Other management expenses incurred in the Country		
	61	Private donors

After a long period of operation limited to SaM only due to the restrictions imposed by the local authorities in the relations with foreign countries and in particular with international NGOs, in 2018 VIS was able to return to a more structured commitment in Eritrea thanks to the approval and launching of two projects, both implemented by the local Salesian Don Bosco partners. Despite the fact that it is not yet possible to register as an NGO in the country and to send expatriate staff freely, VIS has nevertheless managed to start activities in the form of technical assistance and remote monitoring.

The first project, "**Training on professional skills in Eritrea**" (officially approved in October 2017, started in early 2018 and lasting 18 months), is funded by the Swiss Agency for Development and Cooperation. The aim of the intervention is to improve living conditions of young Eritreans by increasing educational and work opportunities and it involves the Don Bosco Technical School of Dekmhare School. The planned activities are:

- a) definition of study curricula, in line with market needs;
- b) teacher training both as continuous training (lifelong learning) and in new technologies, and in specific subjects such as car mechanics, construction, general mechanics, electricity and solar energy;
- c) improving the quality of education through the supply of materials and equipment, in line with the most advanced technology;
- d) organization of training for students in auto mechanics, construction, general mechanics, electricity and solar energy;
- e) renovation of female dormitories to increase school access for vulnerable girls.

The second initiative "**Training for skills in carpentry and mechanics for vulnerable young people**", funded by the German Cooperation (GIZ), began in May 2018 with a duration of 15 months. The aim of the project is to start the courses in the Salesian school in Barentu, a border region with Sudan, where the local partner established its presence in 2018 in response to the request of the Diocese of the Gash-Barka Region. Thanks to the project, courses in carpentry and mechanics will be launched for 120 young people who are out of school and vulnerable. Through these vocational training courses based on the market needs, young people will be capable to increase job opportunities, thus improving living conditions.

VIS strength in Eritrea is the operational partnership with the Salesians that allows to realize precise interventions that are highly relevant to the real needs of the local population, i.e. training and job opportunities, to improve the conditions in which most young people, belonging to the age group in which the beneficiaries of our interventions fall (15-29 years), find themselves.

The 2019 priority objective is to expand the presence in the country through the effective implementation of ongoing interventions and through the study of new project opportunities, whose identification will take place through ad hoc missions, always in partnership with the Salesians of Don Bosco,

ETHIOPIA

Capital: Addis Ababa

Population: 105.000.000 inhabitants

Poverty rate: 58,5%

Human Development Index (HDI): 0.463 (173rd out of 189 Countries)

Income per capita: 1,719 \$

Start of activities in the Country: 1998

Year of official recognition: 2005

IN 2018

Expat operators: 6

Development projects funded by public entities: 4

Development projects funded by private entities: 7

Emergency projects funded by public entities: 5

Emergency projects funded by private entities: 3

Distance Support Projects: 3

Mission Support Projects: 4

Expenses incurred: € 1.711.617

VIS PROJECT AREAS IN THE COUNTRY

Environment

Child education and protection

Education, vocational training and socio-professional integration

Migration and development

Capacity building and strengthening local development players

Emergency

	Expenses incurred (in €)	Donors
Development projects funded by public entities		
Development and support: prevention intervention for undocumented migration in Ethiopia	219.433	Ministry of Interior
DEAL: Development of innovative schemes labour oriented and marketing measures to offer job opportunities to vulnerable young people and women at risk of undocumented migration in Tigray	651.264	European Commission
Print your future! Development of the graphic and printing sector and other emerging sectors in Ethiopia	8.064	AICS/MAECI
Poverty reduction and food uncertainty in the Somali Region	9.148	Ministry of Interior
Development projects funded by private entities		
Print your future! Development of the	1.042	CEI

	Expenses incurred (in €)	Donors
graphic and printing sector and other emerging sectors in Ethiopia		
Melkam Sera, good work: training and work inclusion of young people in Tigray and Addis Abeba	46.620	Private donors
Provision of rehabilitation and reintegration services for children in conflict with the law	8.367	Private donors
Water for life in Jijiga, Somali Region	34.732	Private donors
Job opportunities creation for potential migrants in ad Addis Abeba	140.584	Private donors
S.M.A.R.T. – Integrated intervention in Sanitation, Marketing Agriculture, Rural Development and Transformation, in Gambella region	40.894	Private donors
Fighting the diffusion of diseases upgrading access to health infrastructures for the rural communities of the village of Dawronaji in the woreda of Harawa	155.447	Private donors
Emergency projects funded by public entities		
Emergency intervention of favour of refugee minors in the Nguenyiel camp and the hosting communities of Pugnido and Gambella	215.063	AICS/MAECI
Resilience Over Drought - Integrated mechanisms for building resilience in the Somali Region	79.086	AICS/MAECI
Resilience Over Drought II - Strengthening the resilience systems in Somali Region	15.263	AICS/MAECI
Resilience and integration in favours of refugees from Eritrea and of the hosting communities of the Shire area	2.383	AICS/MAECI
Mitigation of primary causes of undocumented migration in Tigray and Amhara regions, Ethiopia	789	AICS/MAECI
Emergency projects funded by private entities		
Intervention to counteract the water emergency in Afar	8.997	Private donors

	Expenses incurred (in €)	Donors
Emergency Somali Region	22.345	Private donors
Emergency food distribution in Somali Region of Ethiopia	8.339	Private donors
SaD projects		
Support to 2 university students in Jijiga		
Support for vulnerable children in Don Bosco Centers in Mekanissa	6.865	Private donors
Support for education and training activities for children and youth sheltered in various Salesian centers in the Visitatoria Africa Ethiopia-Eritrea		
SaM projects		
Support to missionary activities of the Visitatoria Africa Etiopia-Eritrea		
Support to missionary activities of the Diocese of Gambella	28.150	Private donors
Support to missionary activities in Addis Abeba – Centro don Bosco Children		
Support to missionary activities in Addis Abeba – Cesare Bullo		
Other management expenses incurred in the Country	8.742	Private donors

The year 2018 was a special one for Ethiopia. From the **political crisis of 2017 and the beginning of 2018, a new phase of greater dialogue and hope for the economic and social development of the country was born.** Although the state of instability and tension that characterized 2017 and part of 2018 is no longer present, the situation still presents elements of uncertainty. The changes taking place in the country have not, however, hindered VIS expansion process which has already begun in the last two years, a growth that has involved a **reorganization that has become necessary to face the new positioning in the country.**

In 2018 the emergency projects in Gambella and Somali Region were concluded. The first, aimed at South Sudanese refugees, saw the establishment in collaboration with the Don Bosco technical school of Gambella in the Nguenyiel refugee camp of **technical/vocational courses in order to provide practical skills to refugees.** This is an innovative approach in the emergency context that has received support and encouragement from local institutions. In fact, small services such

as tailoring are particularly requested by the refugee community, and within the camp there is a great demand for a workforce skilled in the construction and carpentry sector.

The second intervention, in collaboration with the local NGO Don Gianmaria Memorial Development Association, saw VIS engaged in **water and food security for the communities victims of the El Niño climate phenomenon**. Following the good results obtained, a second phase named Resilience Over Drought II - Strengthening of resilience systems in Somali Region was financed by the Italian Development Cooperation Agency -.

To these the project in Tigray "Resilience and integration in favour of Eritrean refugees and the host communities of the Shire area" must be added, in collaboration with the Salesian technical school in Adua, through an integrated intervention in three refugee camps and in the host communities of the area. This action presents a methodology in line with the new refugee reception policies recently approved by the Ethiopian government.

The projects part of the SINCE program (Stemming Irregular Migration in Northern and Central Ethiopia) have continued. The projects are aimed at vocational training and job placement for potential migrants and Eritrean refugees through an innovative approach for the country, based on the organization of courses in line with the market, the promotion of self-employment and inclusion in the company through the support to public-private partnerships.

Remaining in the field of migration, the year 2018 saw the implementation of two more projects aimed at combating irregular migration in Tigray through the inclusion of young potential migrants and women head of family in professional paths and agricultural resources management.

Through the support of private donors, committed in guaranteeing access to clean and safe water, **11 wells were built in the Gambella, Tigray and Somali regions**.

The year 2018 also saw a change in the collaboration at the local level with the partners, in the attempt of consolidating VIS direct involvement. This is a gradual but important route that will engage VIS also in 2019.

VIS strength in Ethiopia is the fact that it is a **recognized and reference actor in the field of training and labour, especially for the weaker segments of the population, which are subject to internal migration** (from rural areas of the country often affected by climate shocks to urban areas) and **external**, towards irregular migration routes.

The 2019 priority objective will be to strengthen and consolidate actions focused on young people vocational training and job placement, also as a measure to combat irregular migration: the paradigm between the increase in job opportunities and the reduction of irregular immigration is central to VIS strategy as explained in the sectoral document ("Skills Development and Youth Employability in Ethiopia" - July 2017).

Therefore, the 2019 planning is based on strengthening vocational training actions (intended as short courses in line with market needs, immediately expendable in the company or as a self-employment) linked to job placement. This basic principle is declined in different ways according to the specific local characteristics: for example, it can favour self-employment in rural contexts rather than employment in an enterprise (through public-private partnerships) in urban contexts. Furthermore, PPP (Public Private Partnership) innovative methods will be tested, with the full involvement of the private sector and the introduction of new means for the Ethiopian context.

In its interventions VIS can be considered at the forefront of institutional capacity processes such as the implementation of active employment measures or MoU capable of implementing a more in-depth institutional framework for pioneering measures such as innovation in the apprenticeship contract.

About the educational inclusion in TVET, in 2019 the objective is to study a strategy to intervene in the field of educational inclusion in the field of vocational training, with solid international partners and local NGOs.

VIS, MIGRATION AND DEVELOPMENT: A STORY FROM ETHIOPIA

Tut Jog is a **young South Sudanese refugee who lives in the Nguenyyiel refugee camp in Gambella, Western region of Ethiopia bordering South Sudan.**

Tut is the second son of seven children and before the civil conflict that tore apart the youngest country in the world, **he attended high school** and at the same time helped his family in cattle breeding and small business. In 2013 he was forced to flee due to the escalation of the civil war. The father and older brother, on the other hand, remained to safeguard the family's assets and properties.

During the escape, Tut was forced to part from his family and relatives. After arriving in the camp, he spent most of his time searching for them. Thanks to Red Cross *family tracing* program, he was able to trace some of them who were staying in other refugee camps in Ethiopia, including his mother. The father and the brother had died instead, the properties were looted, and the goods plundered.

For him, as for many other refugees, life in the camp is very hard. It is difficult to satisfy basic needs. There are no opportunities for employment and education. There are no spaces where time can be spent, which in the camp seems to pass very slowly and the supply of food provided by humanitarian organizations is not always sufficient for a camp that officially hosts 74,095 refugees.

Tut immediately worked to try to help his family through the incentives for small jobs provided by the humanitarian organizations present in the camp. **Last year he participated in one of the training courses offered in the camp by VIS in collaboration with the Salesians of Gambella.** He attended the three-month course in tailoring that may not maybe change his life, but surely allowed him to improve his situation. With the skills acquired and the materials provided after the course, **he opened a tailor shop inside the camp.** There is indeed a great demand for small tailoring interventions and thanks to this activity now he can contribute supporting family members by earning up to 1500 Birr per month (less than 50 euros).

Tut, of course, **dreams peace and restarting his life from scratch.** He would like to resume his studies from where he was forced to abandon them but does not exclude continuing in the field of tailoring even when he returns home. "*This short course - he says - has unexpectedly revived in me and in other young people of the camp a faint hope and has awakened an internal energy that I thought I no longer had*".

The story of people like Tut and the project VIS implements in the Nguenyyiel camp in Gambella have been illustrated by the newspaper *Repubblica.it* in an article published on 6th June 2018 entitled: "*Etiopia, il rammendo sociale nel campo profughi dei sud sudanesi in fuga dalla guerra*"(Ethiopia, the social mending in the refugee camp of the South Sudanese escaping war).



GHANA

Capital: Accra

Population: 28.800.000 inhabitants

Poverty rate: 45,5%

Human Development Index (HDI): 0. 592 (140th out of 189 countries)

Income per capita: 4.096 \$

Start of activities in the Country: 2015

Year of official recognition: 2016

IN 2018

Expat operators: 1

Italian civil service volunteers abroad: 2

Development projects funded by private entities: 1

Mission Support Projects: 1

Expenses incurred: € 59.337

VIS PROJECT AREAS IN THE COUNTRY

Environment

Education, vocational training and socio-professional integration

Migration and development

Strengthening local CSOs and of other development actors

Development projects funded by private entities	Expenses incurred (in €)	Donors
Sustainable Living	25.000	Private donors
Ghana! Support program for the local development to fights undocumented migration from Western Africa	33.971	CEI 8x1000
Other management expenses incurred in the Country	365	Private donors

In Ghana problems related to irregular emigration, as well as the strong Salesian presence that allows rooting in the territory and the sustainability of the interventions, have prompted VIS to intervene through the "Stop Tratta (Stop Trafficking)" campaign. Furthermore, the need to strengthen Civil Society Organizations has encouraged VIS to commit itself to the development of Salesian establishments dealing with the promotion and development of new projects aimed at supporting the most vulnerable segments of society.

In 2018 the *Co-partners in Development* project, funded by the European Commission, faced a further expansion of activities. The structural and programmatic revolution was merged into a new administrative structure that allowed the PDO to redefine itself as the provincial development organization, the *Provincial Development Organism*. The progress achieved has allowed VIS and the PDO to continue working together with the "Stop Tratta" campaign, developing projects that aim at **reducing irregular migration flows by creating development and work opportunities, and through strong awareness campaigns, above all in the Brong Ahafo Region**, the area

most affected by the migration phenomenon. Among the various activities, **a role-playing game has been developed to show children how migration would be**, allowing them to understand the risks associated with irregular migration.

Our commitment to the fight against irregular migration and trafficking in human beings has also been pursued through the *Sustainable Living* project funded by Missioni Don Bosco. The project identified 130 return migrants and vulnerable young people of the Brong Ahafo Region, who were then included in a vocational training route in organic farming and support for access to the labour market through a microcredit fund. After the identification of three areas heavily affected by irregular migration (Sunyani, Berekum and Kranka), in 2017 the first course was launched which in 2018 was concluded with 130 beneficiaries. The courses lasted six months and ended positively with all boys and girls being promoted, having learned how to grow crops organically in an open field, but above all in greenhouses. This innovative agricultural tool allows the farmer to be able to grow, in a protected environment, non-native plants, such as tomatoes or chilli peppers, which would require a strong use of pesticides and fertilizers if grown in open fields, with an investment price too high. In addition, the greenhouse is also a tool for combating climate change since, cultivating only internally, it is no longer necessary to carry out slash and burn cultivation, which impoverishes the virgin forest and its biodiversity, contributing to the loss of oxygen and therefore raising global temperature. The start-up with the support of a **microcredit**, in June 2018, allowed the best projects presented by the students to benefit from funding for their business plan.

In 2019 VIS will increase the **support for the Sustainable Living approach**, thanks to the contribution of two projects funded respectively by CEI and the European Commission. The CEI project will propose a long awareness-raising campaign on migration issues and together with the EU will strengthen the development actors created in past years, such as the stakeholders committee, to repeat a series of vocational trainings for vulnerable young people of the Brong Ahafo Region. The heart of the training will always be organic agriculture and the promotion of access to credit and land for the most vulnerable segments of the population, or potential migrants.

VIS AND ENVIRONMENT: A STORY FROM GHANA

When you look at **Tecky George** you understand his love he for his land, Ghana. His gaze oozes out his emotion when he observes his farm, supported by VIS a and Missioni don Bosco project. **After attending the course for trainers in organic agriculture, he became a teacher at the Department of Agriculture of the Don Bosco Institute of Sunyani.** Over the past two years he has accompanied around 120 young Ghanaians on the way to become environmentally friendly farmers. Moreover, thanks to the development fund set up by VIS, through the presentation of a business plan to improve his farm, **he obtained a greenhouse where he is growing huge and fragrant tomatoes.** This innovative agricultural means increases the annual harvest, thus increasing income without depleting the virgin forest; in fact, large spaces are not needed to install it and **the practice of "cut and burn" cultivation which consists of uncontrolled deforestation is diminished.** Tecky George is happy to see that his efforts and commitments have been rewarded and that they are bearing fruit, but all this would not have been realized without his will and dedication to a working sector that too often in Ghana does not interest young people because it is not remunerative and not even innovative. Tecky George's farm undermines these clichés because it produces income and has innovative tools, such as the **greenhouse, which is the symbol of the hope of achieving and to achieve even in a place like the Brong Ahafo Region, where there is the highest rate of migration.** Tecky George is planning other activities,

soon his farm will also be a center of first level agricultural training linked to the Department of Agriculture of the Don Bosco Institute of Sunyani. The aim is to teach other young Ghanaian that the land, their land, can still give so much in terms of fruits, work, hopes and dreams.

The story of Tecky George and the greenhouse created as part of VIS project in Ghana was illustrated by the newspaper *Corriere della Sera* in the article published on 28th August 2018 entitled "*George, the farmer who will stop the desert*".

LIBERIA

Capital: Monrovia

Population: 4.700.000 inhabitants

Poverty rate: 50,9%

Human Development Index (HDI): 0,435 (181st out of 189 Countries)

Income per capita: 667 \$

Start of activities in the Country: 2018

Year of official recognition: not available

IN 2018

Expat operators: 1

Development projects funded by private entities: 1 (start-up phase)

Mission Support Projects: 1

Expenses incurred: €9.410

VIS PROJECT AREAS IN THE COUNTRY

Education, vocational training and socio-professional integration

	Expenses incurred (in €)	Donors
Altre spese per gestione Paese	9.410	Private donors

Civil war in Liberia, which lasted more than 10 years, had a very negative impact on the development of the country and therefore also on the educational system, which is not capable to offer quality education and technical vocational training. Many vulnerable children and young people, often war orphans, do not have access to school and the literacy rate remains low, as well as the certification for technical and professional skills. Children often work in the informal sector and live in precarious conditions.

Don Bosco Salesians manage the *Don Bosco Technical High School in Monrovia - 8th Street*, one of the most renowned schools in the country for the quality of the teaching. VIS, starting from 2018, supports this school in the implementation of a pilot project: introduction of **a vocational technical training laboratory in electrical installation**, which can be accessible for the most vulnerable students and illiterate young people, informal workers, in the afternoon after school so that they can **certify their skills by following market demand** and promoting their integration into the formal working world. In 2018 VIS supported the Salesians in Liberia in creating a professional standard for electrical installations and in developing the entire training curriculum for this job, all based on the competence approach. The quality of the new courses is thus ensured, as the training alignment with the local labour market demand. VIS has also provided the equipment suitable for the new laboratory, so that young people can take advantage of appropriate training materials.

The project is particularly innovative, given that **the new technical and vocational training policy has only recently been approved in Liberia** and only few schools have yet conformed with it. Furthermore, access to the courses for young informal workers with no education is an aspect that underlines the objective of VIS to support the most vulnerable segments of society.

A weakness is the fact that it is difficult for VIS to be considered as a positively engaged entity in the development of the country, given that in Liberia the NGOs do not enjoy good consideration.

In 2019 is foreseen a ToT who will manage the laboratory; the technical vocational courses will be officially launched, divided into two different types: one course for school students and one for young informal workers - often illiterate and therefore in need of different learning tools. Finally, the creation of an employment services office at the Salesians premises will be supported, which will help participants in vocational training courses to enter the formal labour market. VIS plans to continue also beyond the year 2019, being it a pilot project, introducing new curricula and supporting, also through new partnerships and access to funds from institutional donors, the development of the professional technical system in other schools in the country.

MALI

Capital: Bamako

Population: 18.500.000 inhabitants

Poverty rate: 58,5

Human Development Index (HDI): 0,427 (182nd out of 189 Countries)

Income per capita: 1.953 \$

Start of activities in the Country: 2018

Year of official recognition: recognition in progress

IN 2018

Expat operators: 1

Development projects funded by private entities: 1

Mission Support Projects: 1

Expenses incurred: € 469.715

VIS PROJECT AREAS IN THE COUNTRY

Education, vocational training and socio-professional integration

Migration and development

	Expenses incurred (in €)	Donors
Development projects funded by private entities		
Liberi di partire, liberi di restare	451.577	CEI 8x1000
SaM projects		
Support to the Mission in Tominian – kitchen building	18.000	Private donors
Other management expenses incurred in the Country	138	Private donors

Mali is one of the poorest countries in the world and almost 40% of the population lives below the poverty line. The armed conflict, which began in the North of the country in January 2012, also caused a migration crisis of significant size and scope, both inside and outside the country. Furthermore, the country is on the migration route to the Mediterranean for migrants from all over West Africa.

VIS is present in Mali since January 2018 with the project funded by CEI "*Liberi di partire, liberi di restare* (Free to leave, free to stay)", implemented as part of the "*Stop Tratta*" campaign. The project is implemented in partnership with the Don Bosco Salesians in the **fight against irregular migration and trafficking in human beings that cause thousands of victims and numerous human rights violations**. The project promotes the improvement of the socio-economic conditions of particularly vulnerable communities both at urban and rural level, as well as a system of quality vocational training and integration into the labour market. The Salesian Centers of Bamako, Sikasso, Touba and Caritas in Kayes are VIS partners. The training offer in the technical-vocational sector of the Centers is strengthened and tailored through the introduction of new courses based on the competence approach, ToT to improve their teaching skills and the purchase of educational material and new equipment. The beneficiaries of the courses are supported in

accessing the labour market and credit and in the start-up of income-generating activities. Work service offices are introduced to support young people in finding a job both in the application phase and in the interview and internship placement. Following the spirit of the CEI campaign, as well as of "Stop Tratta", **leaving must not therefore be the only possible choice, but a conscious and safe alternative.**

In 2018 **493 vulnerable students benefited from the extended training offer** in the Bamako Center and 20 ToT for all partner Centers were trained in the competence approach, thus offering a range of high-quality courses. In Kayes, a rural area of intense migration, **135 rural producers have been trained** in the innovation of natural resource management and family land practices. In addition, **198 young people** from Kayes and Touba **were included in the labour market**, discouraging their drive to migrate.

Strength of the project is the presence of the activities on a very vast territory and in an area of great migration and, therefore, the possibility of acting for different communities, adapting the educational offer to the context. Furthermore, the **employment service offices are particularly innovative, especially in rural contexts.**

Weak point is the great distances and the situation of strong insecurity that often does not allow VIS staff to go out to Bamako for the supervision of activities. Moreover, the Malian state is in a time of crisis, which makes the relationship with the institutions not always easy.

The current project will end in 2020 and therefore a continuation of activities and an increase in beneficiaries is expected: at least another 900 young people will be included in the labour market. VIS foresee for the development of new project proposals always within the "Stop Tratta" campaign with a strong focus on TVET and work placement, also counting on the rooting of the Salesians. Furthermore, it is hoped that new relationships will be established with international NGOs and donors to expand operations, both geographically and temporally, in the area of vocational training and migration issues.



Federal Republic of Nigeria

Capital: Abuja

Population: 190.900.000 inhabitants

Poverty rate: 56,7%

Human Development Index (HDI): 0,532 (157th out of 189 Countries)

Income per capita: 5.231 \$

Start of activities in the Country: 2018

Year of official recognition:

IN 2018

Expat operators: 1

Development projects funded by private entities: 1

Mission Support Projects: 1

Expenses incurred: € 196.034

VIS PROJECT AREAS IN THE COUNTRY

Education, vocational training and socio-professional integration

Migration and development

	Expenses incurred (in €)	Donors
Development projects funded by private entities		
Liberi di partire, liberi di restare	174.609	CEI 8x1000
SaM projects		
Completion of the Elementary School in Ijebu	21.400	Private donors
Other management expenses incurred in the Country	24	Private donors

VIS in Nigeria is present since January 2018 with the project funded by CEI 8x1000 "*Liberi di partire, liberi di restare* (Free to leave, free to stay)", implemented as part of VIS "*Stop Tratta*" campaign. Nigeria is indeed a **country with very high rates of migration and trafficking in human beings**. The conditions in which young Nigerians live, combined with very few opportunities for socio-professional development, push more and more individuals to leave Nigeria, their families and loved ones, seeking fortune in other continents. The lack of information on migratory routes and the dangers associated with irregular journeys, together with the difficulty of obtaining regular visas, push many young Nigerians into the hands of traffickers, who violate their fundamental rights by leveraging their expectations and hopes, deceiving them, exploiting them and causing thousands of deaths and victims of trafficking. VIS, through the current project, promotes the improvement of the socio-economic conditions of the target communities, as well as a system of vocational training and integration into quality labour market. In fact, following the spirit of the CEI campaign and "*Stop Tratta*", **leaving must not be the only possible choice, but a conscious and safe alternative**. VIS action is therefore divided into 3 main pillars:

1. **information and awareness-raising of Nigerian young people**, potential migrants and the most vulnerable population on risk related to irregular migration;
2. **offer of concrete opportunities for professional and social development** through access to vocational technical education in the Salesian Centers of Ijebu Ode (State of Ogun), Ondo (State of Ondo), Onitsha (State of Anambra) for the most vulnerable population (marginalized young people, potential migrants, victims of human trafficking, returning migrants). VIS works closely with these Centers, through the renewal and purchase of new machinery, strengthening of existing courses (aluminum, welding, auto mechanics, electronics and IT) and creation of new courses;
3. **local labour market access**, thanks to the support to effective work service offices that accompany the students of the Salesian and non-Salesian schools along the entire training course and act as a network to introduce them later into the Nigerian socio-economic context.

In the year 2018, in the schools of Ondo and Onitsha, **490 young students among the most vulnerable in the area**, returning migrants and potential migrants, benefited from VIS actions.

One of VIS strengths in Nigeria to be highlighted is the possibility avail itself of the Salesian network present in various areas, which is solid and well known by local actors, and facilitates dialogue with the relevant Nigerian institutions.

Main weaknesses are the geographical distances between the various centers in which the project is articulated and the dense Nigerian bureaucracy which often cause delays in the development of the planned activities.

In 2019 an increase in the number of young students, among the most vulnerable in the area, who will benefit from VIS actions (estimated 750) is hoped thanks to the construction of the new vocational technical center in Ijebu Ode, State of Ogun. The current project will last until 2020 and VIS foresees the development of new project proposals always within the "Stop Tratta" campaign with a strong focus on TVET and work placement, also counting on the strong presence of companies in the territory and the rooting of the Salesians. Furthermore, it is hoped that new relations will be established with international NGOs and donors to expand operations in the country in the area of vocational training and migration issues, both in geographic and temporal terms, in collaboration with the local antenna of the PDO (where possible, taking into consideration different projects).



CONFERENZA
EPISCOPALE
ITALIANA



CEI SPECIAL CAMPAIGN “LIBERI DI PARTIRE, LIBERI DI RESTARE” (Free to leave, free to stay)

The campaign “**Liberi di partire, liberi di restare**” is a sign of the Italian Church based on the invitation made by Pope Francis (welcoming, protecting, promoting and integrating), to raise awareness about migrants' stories and experience a process of welcoming, protecting, promoting and integrating migrants who arrive among us , not forgetting the right of every person to live in

their own land. It is a campaign to denounce the dead people, the violence and trafficking of defenceless people whom a different method of support can prevent from becoming victims.

It is a campaign that aims to promote the integral human development, for "all men and the entire man", at family and community level, which intends to consider the richness and potential of intercultural exchange, in relation to the demographic, social and economic dynamics in place, also in our country. It is a campaign that constitutes a "sign of the times", a place for witnessing freedom, solidarity, justice and democracy.

The privileged recipients are minor migrants and their families, but special attention is also paid to the victims of trafficking and to the most vulnerable, on three levels:

1. Projects implemented primarily in the 10 main countries of origin of the minors, with a priority attention to Africa, according to efficiency and effectiveness criteria, their social impact, practical feasibility, operational capabilities of the implementing actors and their widespread presence on the territory;
2. Considering the migration routes, a second level concerns the countries of Northern Africa, the transit and continuous suffering for migrants in general and children in particular;
3. A project third level foresees the active church structure involved in the reception and care of migrant children in Italy starting from those closest to their ports of landing.

Priority intervention areas are:

1. Education and training (also vocational)
2. In loco information (about what migration involves)
3. Social and health targeted projects in favour of the most vulnerable segments of the migration population (children and victims of trafficking in particular)
4. Socio-economic projects for the promotion of working opportunities accompanying the return of those who voluntarily want to proceed accordingly.

A cross-cutting and particular attention is given to reconciliation processes and routes, taken care of through specialized in this field operators.

At two years from the launch of the extraordinary CEI initiative, there are 77 projects started in Italy, in the countries of origin and in the transit countries.

For further information and to view the current projects <http://liberidipartireliberidirestare.it/>

SENEGAL

Capital: Dakar

Population: 15.900.000 inhabitants

Poverty rate: 53,9%

Human Development Index (HDI): 0,505 (164th out of 189 countries)

Income per capita: 2.384 \$

Start of activities in the Country: 2016

Year of official recognition: 2017

IN 2018

Expat operators: 2

Development projects funded by public entities: 1

Distance Support Projects: 1

Expenses incurred: € 135.930

VIS PROJECT AREAS IN THE COUNTRY

Education, vocational training and socio-professional integration

Migration and development

	Expenses incurred (in €)	Donors
Development projects funded by public entities		
Vivre et réussir chez moi – Local development and territorialization of migration policies in Senegal	128.752	AICS/MAECI
SaD projects		
Support to Talibè children and their social rehabilitation	1.624	Private donors
Other management expenses incurred in the Country	5.553	Private donors

Senegal is strongly affected by the problem consisting in undocumented migration, especially in rural areas, where agriculture is less and less profitable due to climatic and economic factors and where job opportunities, especially for young people, are scarce. **Tambacounda Region is a transit area for migrants from all over West Africa** who travel to Mali and Niger to reach the Mediterranean coasts. To contribute to fight against irregular migration, trafficking and therefore the violation of human rights, the *Vivre et réussir chez moi!* project was launched in June 2018, funded by AICS and implemented in partnership with the NGO COOPI. The project aims at favouring the development of local migration policies supporting regular and circular migration. This is attained through the development of quality technical vocational training courses and support for the socio-professional integration of the most vulnerable, potential migrants and

returning migrants, and their psycho-social support, in the Regions of Tambacounda and Kaolack. Finally, the project also includes the implementation of awareness raising campaigns on the phenomenon of undocumented migration within the most affected communities, based on the objectives of the "Stop Tratta" campaign, in partnership with the Salesians of Don Bosco who run a vocational training center in Tambacounda. Ultimately, the current project **promotes new dynamics between the diaspora and Senegal to support the socio-economic development of the country**. The project is particularly innovative, given the direct support provided to the Ministry of Vocational Training for the improvement of the quality of training in the public centers through the support of trainers in the competences approach and to the Ministry of Foreign Affairs for the creation of tools favouring an appropriate management of migration. Another element of innovation is the enhancement of the acquired experience: those who already work but do not have a diploma will be able to access formal courses enhancing skills and that will allow access to a recognized diploma. Lastly, three researches on migration issues will provide useful data for the correct implementation of ongoing projects and drafting of new proposals.

Weakness of the project is the difficulty in collaborating with the Senegalese institutions responsible for migration policies, given that they are themselves in the process of a reform and are struggling to respect the times and agreements envisaged. Furthermore, the Senegalese bureaucracy is particularly cumbersome and slows down all processes.

Strength of the project is VIS presence in the two key Senegal Regions for issues connected with migration, in which the quality of vocational training offered is particularly low. Furthermore, the partnership with the Salesians of Tambacounda allows to work in a sustainable way over the time. 2018 was dedicated to preparing the project, sign the agreements with the Senegalese and the Salesian institutions, as well as the development of guidelines for action and the recruitment of qualified staff.

Through the project "Support to Talibè children and their social reintegration", VIS also supports the Salesians of Dakar in sheltering children who are victims of begging and in street situation.

2019 will be dedicated to developing the key activities of the AICS project, together with those envisaged by the project funded by CEI 8x1000. **At least 400 potential migrants and returning migrants will benefit from quality vocational training courses and 33,000 people will be made aware of the issue of irregular migration**. At least 100 craftsmen will see their competencies certified at partner centers and 2 regional migration committees will be created. Finally, in partnership with Don Bosco 2000 Association, 3 vegetable social gardens will be set up for young vulnerable people in Tambacounda, supported by returning migrants who will provide the skills acquired in Italy. Furthermore, we intend to **further develop protection activities for the most vulnerable children**.

FOCUS Co-partners in Development

Development tools and processes to support the Planning and Development Offices of the Salesian Provinces

In April 2018 the final meeting of the Co-partners in Development project co-financed by the European Union and aimed at strengthening the PDOs (Planning Development Offices), the Salesian offices for planning and managing programs and developing projects of the Provinces was held in Nairobi. The project saw VIS and the Salesian NGOs of DBN engaged for 5 years in the development of actions and processes aimed at offering a concrete contribution to strengthening these structures, an opportunity to realize together a further step of the 2015 Road

Map, which represents the path for the development of the PDOs set up by the Salesians in 2011, based on the meeting held in Hyderabad.

Four days, organized within the international meeting of PDOs, which brought the heads of the planning and development offices representing the 36 ACP (Africa, Caribbean and Pacific) countries involved in the project to Nairobi, to share with the PDOs of the entire world (80 participants present, Provincial representatives representing more than 100 countries around the world) the results and tools of a process that, in line with the 2015 Road Map, intended to develop its capacity and awareness in reference to the role of the actors and development agents that are called to play within the new international scenario. Four days to draw together the main strategic and operational guidelines that will characterize the future path of Salesian PDOs (*Road Map 2020*).



FOCUS *Co-partners in Development*:

VIS strategy in strengthening the Salesian Planning and Development Offices



Through the project, VIS intended to concretely implement its strategy of strengthening the capacities of the CSOs and in particular of their expressions within the Salesian Family, to facilitate, promote and participate pro-actively in platforms for dialogue and multi-actor development processes at local, regional and international levels.

In this sense, the *Co-partners in Development* project represented a pilot action developed according to four fundamental pillars that have characterized this growth path for PDOs:

1. **Strategic planning and definition of a process of continuous development of skills:** starting from an analysis of one's own optimal profile in terms of skills and tasks, each PDO was capable to define priorities, needs, objectives and strategic activities, to structure, implement and monitor individualized action plans based on their level of development and context of intervention.



2. **Individualized, modular and competence-based training path:** through frontal, on-line trainings and exchange processes and peer learning structured by skill levels, the PDOs have acquired the strategic, technical and organizational skills necessary to act and be recognized as an accountable partner within local development processes.
3. Networking for developing strategic advocacy synergies: *networking* has represented the fundamental pillar through which VIS has backstopped and helped the PDOs in the establishment of “multi-actor development partnerships”, facilitating their participation and increasing the cooperation space with CSOs, *policy makers* and other *duty bearers* within platforms and technical tables existing at national and international levels.

4. The toolkit for the development of Salesian PDOs in the world: the project *Co-partners in Development* has represented in these last 5 years an incredible arena for encountering, exchanging and sharing among NGOs, Salesian organizations and key development actors. Through the development and sharing of the toolkit, a means bringing together experiences, tools, materials and guidelines for the training of the Salesian planning and development offices, the partners. The PDOs themselves have intended to make these resources available to any CSO wanting to undertake the same growth path and establish itself as a development actor.



Co-partners in Development: definition of a new cooperation paradigm

Cooperation is rapidly changing under the pressure of various factors obliging to become aware of the need to implement new "South-South" or triangular partnership paradigms capable of overcoming (or expanding) the uniqueness of the scheme " North-South "or" Donors-Recipients ". VIS has for years directed its strategy in responding effectively to the change taking place in the local, regional and international development processes and to the role played by these European NGOs in these processes: from single actors of development, to partner of one or more local counterparts in the '90s, to "co-applicant" and facilitators for the construction of partnerships activated by actors of the civil society of the South of the world, composed of empowered and accountable partners who are asked to interface directly with key institutional actors and other expressions and to be the bearers of international civil society instances within local, regional and global development processes.

The equation NGO = management only of projects is obsolete in nowadays development cooperation. VIS action in this sense, since many years, has been directed towards the **development of strategic sectorial and thematic placements**, in the participation in tenders and requests for technical assistance and for support and advice from CSOs, institutional and international key actors, with the double objective of contributing in strengthening the competences of diverse actors and in enhancing and monitoring the political coherence for a sustainable development (SDG 17, *target 14*).



Based on the results obtained within the project, VIS will continue to strengthen its action in support of the Salesian PDOs in the three existing models: follow-up and strengthening of the existing central offices, support for the creation of "antennas", development and support of offices that are poorly structured in other geographical areas (e.g. Latin America and Middle East).

The experience of the *Co-partners in Development* project has in this sense represented a clear example of how the action of VIS and of the European NGOs must be and will be increasingly oriented to facilitate development processes and to strengthen and support civil society actors with the ultimate goal of fulfilling the task entrusted to them by the European Union and specifically requested by the OECD to CSOs: to play a key role in allowing its beneficiaries to claim their rights, building consensus on the main development challenges and, above all, be carriers of the

requests of the most marginalized and vulnerable segments of the population, normally excluded from the enjoyment of services and from the processes of defining cooperation policies, increasing hence their direct participation in multi-actor development platforms for dialogue.

	Expenses incurred (in €)	Donors
Co-partners in Development	581.056	European Commission
Co-partners in Development	792	Private donors

LATIN AMERICA AND CARIBBEAN

Currently **VIS Latin American and Caribbean Coordination** includes Bolivia, Peru and - in the Caribbean - Haiti. In Bolivia and Haiti, the interventions are mainly related to the theme of "promotion and protection of the rights of children and adolescents", with reference to children of /in street situation. Bolivia is also characterized by having developed a strategic planning approach at the Salesian provincial level in synergy with the local planning and development office. In Peru, VIS intervention is targeted to the indigenous populations of the Amazon forest through strengthening an agro-forestry cooperative.

In 2018, VIS saw its presence in these countries strengthened in the various sectors, with the sole exception of Peru, where an exit strategy has already been launched with a gradual handover and transfer of ownership to local counterparts. At the same time the planning of a new strategy at regional level has been initiated, which will gradually lead the organization to have a perspective of regional and sectoral action. In 2019 it intends to strengthen its approach at continental level, aimed at strengthening the planning and development offices (PDOs), at the same time enhancing the issue linked to the promotion and protection of children rights at regional level. This will guarantee not only the capitalization of VIS recent and positive experiences in terms of strengthening the development actors, but will also allow the expansion of its range of action to a large part of the continent, making use of a lighter and more flexible local structure and, for this, better suited to the current needs identified on the ground.

Expenditures incurred by the Latin American and Caribbean Coordination totals 11.573 euros.

BOLIVIA

Capital: La Paz

Population: 11.100.000 habitants

Poverty rate: 46%

Human Development Index (HDI): 0.693 (118th out of 189 Countries)

Income per capita: 6.714 \$

Start of activities in the Country: 2003

Year of official recognition: 2013

IN 2018

Expat operators: 3

Italian civil service volunteers abroad: 3

Peace corps volunteers: 2

Development projects funded by private entities: 2

Distance Support Projects: 1

Mission Support Projects: 3

Expenses incurred: € 137.508

VIS PROJECT AREAS IN THE COUNTRY

Child and Youth Protection

Education, vocational training and socio-professional integration

Strengthening of CSOs and other development actors

Development projects funded by private entities	Expenses incurred (in €)	Donors
Inclusion strategies in socio-health and school services. Operational models to accompany the child with disabilities in Bolivia (SI-AD)	10.880	Private donors
D.A.I. Bolivia – Child rights in Bolivia	3.610	CEI 8x1000
SaD projects Support to the project of don Bosco Santa Cruz de la Sierra	3.029	Private donors
SaM projects Legacy of the missionary action of don Pasquale Cerchi a Cochabamba Support to the Mission of don Pasquale Cerchi in Cochabamba Support to the Mission of Padre Serafino Chiesa	81.334	Private donors
Other management expenses incurred in the Country	38.656	Private donors

VIS first intervention sector is *Child and Youth Protection*, and this could not be different as: **31% of the population is less than 16 years old and half of the Bolivian youth is victim of violence**. In the country the only form of protection is the automatic and prolonged shelter in reception centers. As per the Bolivian Ministry of Justice the children in institutions are 8.369 who in the majority of cases once 18 years old are obliged to leave the protection system to “to get by on their own”.

The project *Ogni famiglia una scuola di vita (Each family a school of life)* is the answer given by VIS to this issue. This intervention is an integral part of the **UNICEF promoted program**, co-funded by AICS/MAECI which aims at **restore the right of the child to live in the family**. The project has been implemented together with the Università Salesiana and the Oficina de Proyectos para Bolivia (OFPROBOL) with the purpose of strengthening the intervention capacity of the child protection system in the Regions of Cochabamba and La Paz. Thanks to the project:

- 391 educators have been trained; 96 operators have completed a Masters' in this field;
- 12 children have been reunited to one member of their family of origin, 9 have been adopted by Bolivian couples, 45 have seen their legal situation defined thanks to actions that have induced the juvenile judge to cut down the parental authority of the negligent parent or to assign to the abandoned child a conventional surname;
- 158 adolescents have been supported into an independent life.

In 2018 the intervention continued in support of the Don Bosco Santa Cruz Project, a network of reception centers for children in street situation, victims of violence or abandoned, thanks to a strong presence of VIS expatriates: an educator, three young civil service volunteers and the intervention of civilian peace corps, ending with a publication: *Teorie, giochi e dinamiche di gruppo per la promozione di una cultura di pace, della non-violenza e la gestione positiva dei conflitti*. (Theories, games and group dynamics for the promotion of a culture of peace, non-violence and positive conflict management).

The second area of intervention is "educational and training". VIS, with the Fondazione Don Gnocchi and an extensive alliance, has set out to promote the school inclusion of children with disability through a three-year project co-financed by AICS/MAECI that intervenes in three areas: health, education and strengthening of society civil. Together with the Salesian University, the *Escuelas Populares Don Bosco* and the educational community of the local Church, restructuring interventions aimed at eliminating architectural barriers, training courses for teachers, educational programs for children, awareness-raising meetings for parents in 5 Elementary Schools of Cochabamba have been carried out.

The third sector can be translated into the accompaniment carried out by VIS and OFPROBOL in favour of the Salesian Congregation. Today the Salesians in Bolivia have strategic plans on the basis of which to orient and evaluate their government decisions, access new Donors and start networking with social services; moreover, the project interventions of OFPROBOL are increasingly based the HRBA. In this context, VIS and Salesian Youth Pastoral are promoting youth volunteering thanks to funding from Missioni Don Bosco.

The most outstanding intervention from its innovativeness point of view is the online platform for management of the **Masters' Degree the Child Right to the Family** through which each person enrolled was able to participate in forums, exams, download study material and attend video-recorded classes, thus integrating classes with mandatory assistance.

VIS in Bolivia is recognized as an actor expert in child rights promotion and protection especially regarding children in street situation, deprived of their own family environment or with disability. In 2018, VIS has broadened the type and increased the impact of its interventions, also establishing new partnerships to be able to provide more effective answers. At the same time, the difficulty in raising funds and supporting its presence in the country is the main weakness

In 2019 VIS aims at strengthening its presence in these three intervention areas and to increase its fund raising capacity.

VIA AND CHILD PROTECTION: A STORY FROM BOLIVIA

*Isabel is a **girl living in Cochabamba**, since some months she is living with her grandmother. Before she **lived for 4 years in a reception center for children orphans, abandoned or victims of violence**. She was one of the 150 children from 0 to 6 years old without a family in the center. She has a faint remembrance of her mother and little brothers. She never met her father.*

*“Thinking about that period – tells Isabel – **I remember the visits of my grandmother to the reception center. Each time she came to see me I was very happy, I felt loved and for a while I forgot the reality within which I lived**. Some days seemed endless. Sometimes, I was so grieved by solitude. Sometimes I imagined I was surrounded by my family and to live in a house with a garden where I would play with my dog. **During my grandmother’s visits I had lots of fun and felt loved**. The atmosphere changed dramatically when her visit ended: I would grab with force at her skirt, dragging myself to the way out and for no reason whatsoever I would have left my grip. With agony I would scream telling her: don’t leave me, please take me with you”.*

*One day Isabel was approached by Mirian, an operator. She listened to her and they spoke about her and her family. Then she spoke various times to her grandmother Rosa, **who felt supported: accepted the counselling of this social worker**, the problem with her birth certificate was solved, and Isabel found a place in the Elementary school close home. And **so, the day that Isabel strongly dreamt of, arrived**: the day in which the grandmother came to take her home!*

It is calculated that in Cochabamba there are 2.000 children living in reception centers which represent the child protection system. 78% of them has at least one living relative. Nevertheless, efforts made to restore their right to live in a family are still a too little and insufficient. **Once entered in an institution, the probability of leaving the protection system only after being major is very high**. Isabel has been one of the beneficiaries of the project *Ogni famiglia una scuola di vita* implemented by VIS and a Salesian alliance that, among the activities realized, has dedicated a strong effort in trying to reintegrate children in institutions in their families of origin. **Many other children have the same dream of Isabel: to live in a home surrounded by the love of a family.**

HAITI

Capital: Port au Prince

Population: 11.000.000 inhabitants

Poverty rate: 48,6%

Human Development Index (HDI): 0,498 (168th out of 189 Countries)

Income per capita: 1,665 \$

Start of activities in the Country: 2010

Year of official recognition: not available

IN 2018

Expat operators: 1

Development projects funded by private entities: 2

Emergency projects funded by private entities:4

Mission Support Projects: 1

Expenses incurred: € 405.977

VIS PROJECT AREAS IN THE COUNTRY

Child and Youth Protection

Education, vocational training and socio-professional integration

	Expenses incurred (in €)	Donors
Emergency projects funded by private entities		
Supporting the socio-professional re-inclusion for youngsters in street situation in Port au Prince	262.302	CEI 8x1000
Supporting the socio-professional re-inclusion for youngsters in street situation in Port au Prince	58.491	Fondazione San Zeno
Stand Up! Port au Prince	15.610	Caritas Italiana
DWA POU YOUN DEMEN MIYO!	2.315	Caritas Italiana
Development projects funded by private entities		
Project for reconstruction of the atelier Lakou	1.428	Caritas Italiana
Micro – in memory of M. B.	20.896	Private donors
SaV projects		
Support to volunteers/cooperation operators	9.934	Private donors
SaM projects		
Support to agricultural project Port Au Prince	35.000	Private donors

2018 was a **difficult year from the socio-political point of view**: there were security problems and violent demonstrations through the entire year. The impact on the projects consisted in delays in the implementation of the activities and the decrease in pupils attending the vocation schools where VIS operates.

VIS in Haiti works together with the Fondazione Rinaldi, a structure devoted to strengthening the Salesian interventions for poor children and youth in the country. Priority recipients of the activities are vulnerable, marginalized and/or at risk of deviance children, adolescents and young people. VIS approach considers the child, the adolescent and the young person as a member of a family and of a community: therefore, actions are directed also towards the families and the communities of origin. Interventions are concentrated on two twin actions named “Lakay-Lakou”, meaning in Creole “home and courtyard”: one in the capital Port au Prince and the other in the Nord of the country, in Cap-Haïtien. Both are focused on **children in street situation**, offering them shelter, food and medical care, education vocational training and accompaniment into an independent life. In 2018 the collaboration with the Faculty of Human Sciences of the State University and the Institute for Social Welfare and Research continued: this was possible thanks to the **presence of VIS within the “ Working Group on Child Protection”** and the participation in the evaluation commission of the “maison d’enfants”. Finally, the “Coordination of organizations working in favour of children in street situation” was promoted.

Actions implemented in 2018 focused on:

Child and Youth Protection: thanks to the project co-financed by CEI 8x1000, 173 young people have been trained in peace conflict resolution and promotion of a culture of peace. In addition, the collaboration with psychologists, educators of the reception centers and University interns on working with the recipients was strengthened.

Education, training and socio-professional inclusion: through the CEI 8x1000 the building of new spaces for the vocational training center of the Salesian establishment Lakay of Port au Prince are being completed; 156 young people have received a kit of professional tools after having concluded their vocational training; 129 young people participated in an introductory course on entrepreneurship, of which 53 were selected to attend a course on start-up and management of an enterprise. Thanks to the Fondazione San Zeno and to the United Nations Mission in Haiti 36 young people were selected whom, in groups of 9, received a technical-financial support to start an income generating activity; 2 young people were accompanied during the transition process towards an independent life guaranteeing them shelter and work; 156 young people carried out an internship with 80 companies; lastly in Cap-Haitien the trainings for start-up and management of an enterprise were replicated and 4 income generating initiatives were started.

Through these projects VIS could develop innovative procedures for accompanying socially vulnerable young people in their socio-labour inclusion.

Strength of VIS presence in Haiti: an effective training and accompaniment in the labour market inclusion program for socially vulnerable young people, the capability of connecting the vocational training centers of the Lakay-Lakou establishment with the local companies, an internship program interconnected with the start-up of income generating activities.

Weaknesses: a small structure, present only in the capital and not formally accredited with the local authorities which limits the VIS capability to manage projects in the provinces and to interact directly with the public institutions of the country.

For the year 2019 it is foreseen to complete the construction of the vocational center of Lakou, strengthen the strategy presently applied for the social-labour inclusion of disadvantaged youth and development of self-employment. In addition, an effort will be given in strengthening and positioning the “Coordination of organizations active in favour of children in street situation, widening partnerships to answer better to the needs of girls beneficiaries under 14 years and identify new donors.

PERÙ

Capital: Lima

Population: 32.200.000 inhabitants

Poverty rate: 41,5%

Human Development Index (HDI): 0.750 (89th out of 189 Countries)

Income per capita: 11.789 \$

Start of activities in the Country: 2006

Year of official recognition: 2012

IN 2018

Expat operators: 1

Development projects funded by private entities: 1

Mission support projects: 1

Expenses incurred: € 152.222

VIS PROJECT AREAS IN THE COUNTRY

Environment

	Expenses incurred (in €)	Donors
Development projects funded by private entities		
Indigenous communities and Amazonian natural resources: strengthening of the producers organized in the Shakaim Achuar cooperative as an example of human and sustainable development for the marginalized peoples of the Peruvian forest	109.650	CEI 8x1000
SaM projects		
Support to the music project	33.210	Private donors
Other management expenses incurred in the Country	9.362	Private donors

VIS sector of intervention in Peru is environmental protection through a rural development program in support of an indigenous population of the Peruvian Amazon. In 2018 the intervention - started in 2010 with the contribution of various donors - continued to benefit the families of Achuar indigenous producers - united in the Shakaim cooperative - by promoting production chains based on the enhancement of local natural resources.

Specifically, it is a three-year project co-financed by CEI 8x1000, aimed at consolidating the Shakaim cooperative at an associative, productive and commercial level. This project has allowed to strengthen the production chain of the sacha inchi, to start the production of chocolate thanks to the expanding supply chain of cocoa (agricultural production) and to resume production of ungurahui oil (forest production).

In 2018 interventions were implemented among 20 Achuar communities, involving **157 producers** of sacha inchi, cocoa and ungurahui, with the aim of increasing and upgrading the quality of the productions thanks to:

- Technical assistance missions of project experts for producers far from the base (to reach S. Lorenzo village, situated in the Amazonian Province of Datem of the Marañón, a 7 days navigation trip on the river towards the Equator border is needed)
- Trainings in topics connected with cooperativism, grafting and pruning the cocoa plant, ingurahui oil production, phases of the transformation of the cocoa into chocolate
- delivery of guardians and supports for sacha inchi plants, as well as equipment for the member producers
- improvements in collection, drying and storage techniques
- restauration of the street reaching the collection and processing center of the cooperative and remake of the electrical system
- renewal of the documentation needed to obtain the biological certification
- diversification of cooperative clients.

Among the innovative aspects adopted by the project there is the enhancement of traditional practices in the management of cultivated land. During 2018 the practice of "minga" was encouraged, which foresees free collaboration of several families belonging to the same community and is aimed at the realization of the heavy works. This mechanism allows activities to be carried out within acceptable times and is well suited to the main cultivation operations on cocoa and sacha inchi such as: cleaning and preparation of new surfaces, sowing in the field and in the nursery, preparation of the guardians and supports for the sacha inchi, pruning, grafting, harvesting, first processing, drying and transportation of the product. The adoption of this practice favours the exchange of good practices and strengthens the sense of belonging to the cooperative.

Strength of the project is on one side VIS presence in the territory where the activities are implemented thanks to a development agronomist expert in tropical agricultural sciences and on the other the alliance VIS has succeeded in establishing with the Fondazione Don Bosco and the Pastorale della Terra of Yurimaguas aimed at strengthening the sustainability of a 10 years intervention.

Weakness instead is represented by the geographical dispersion of the producing communities, amplified by the enormous difficulty in being able to reach or communicate with each other. In these areas there are no roads, telephone lines, nor electricity: they can be reached only through the rivers or radio. In addition to this, the Achuar people only recently have started a difficult and gradual conversion of a system of self-reliance guided only by hunting and gathering, today integrated with agriculture. Lastly many member producers have an elementary school level, and some are illiterate.

In 2019 VIS intends to complete the project co-funded by CEI 8x1000 and intensify efforts so that local partners acquire the *leadership* and can continue supporting the Shakaim cooperative in its self-development process.

MIDDLE EAST

Presently VIS has not yet established a Decentralized Regional Coordination for the Middle East whose countries are followed by the Head Office in collaboration with the PDO of the Salesian Province MOR. The organization has been engaged during 2018 with projects in **Palestine** and **Egypt** but has always kept a careful attention (implementing missions for identification and evaluation) also in **Syria** and Lebanon, as these two countries are included among the challenges for future engagement. In particular, the cessation of hostilities and the re-establishment of the normal security conditions in Syria are two fundamental conditions for starting a gradual intervention of VIS to support the educational Salesian structure present in Aleppo, Damascus and Kafroun.

In 2018 in Palestine VIS is engaged in those intervention areas which mostly characterize its action in the countries in the last years, i.e. **development of the technical-vocational competences in innovative sectors such as the renewable energies** and in partnership with the Salesians and the local institutions as well as the **higher education through the University of Bethlem on topics and subjects afferent international development cooperation** and the public administration. At the same time, after a broad work for identification and preparation, VIS started last year a program for the protection of the most vulnerable children and adolescents in the new areas of the country (area C), through **psyco-social support actions and backing emergency educational processes**. Important also the start-up and deepening of the first *social-business* and economic development activities. This strategy will be pursued and developed in 2019.

In Egypt VIS has been providing support and has contributed to the development of the local antenna of the PDO of the MOR Province, but also has coordinated various activities for developing the vocational training in the Salesian center of Cairo and Alexandria. Also, in this case, the engagement will continue throughout the next year.

Lastly it can be noted, that even if it is not included in VIS engagement for the Middle East region, during 2018 the support to the Salesian establishment in Manouba, **Tunisia**, continued. This country does not represent a priority in VIS programming but it has always been in a special position with regard to its focus as it pertains to the Salesian Province of Sicily and it is at the center of the migration flows in the Mediterranean.

EGYPT

Capital: Cairo

Population: 97.600.000 inhabitants

Poverty rate: 37,6%

Human Development Index (HDI): 0,696 (115th out of 189 Countries)

Income per capita: 10.355 \$

Start of activities in the Country: 2009

Year of official recognition: not available

IN 2018

Expat operators: 2

Development projects funded by private entities: 1

Expenses incurred: € 129.900

VIS PROJECT AREAS IN THE COUNTRY

Education, vocational training and socio-professional integration

Strengthening of CSOs and other development actors

	Expenses incurred (in €)	Donors
Development projects funded by private entities		
Youth and labour in Egypt: for new opportunities in training and professional inclusion	117.760	Private donors
Other management expenses incurred in the Country	12.140	Private donors

On January 1, 2018 VIS has re-started working in Egypt, after having interrupted its activities for 6-7 due to the political situation which made it impossible to guarantee working in safe conditions. Thanks to the start-up of an initiative funded by the Fondo di beneficenza of the Istituto bancario Intesa San Paolo, VIS now supports the activities of two Salesian schools in the country. The intervention has the following objectives: contribute in increasing the youth employment rate in the technical professional sector in the urban areas of Cairo and Alessandria, more specifically, **strengthen competences and employability of students of the Don Bosco Institutes of Cairo and Alessandria in response to the needs of the local labour market.**

During the year in the cities different activities were implemented to be concluded by the month of June 2019. The implementation started from the maintenance activities and the rehabilitations of the premises of the school in Alessandria which have allowed to guarantee adequate security conditions, accessibility and healthiness for the students. Then teaching equipment was purchased for both the schools, in particular:

- the equipment for 30 workstations for the physics lab of the school of Alessandria were renovated;
- student workstations were renovated installing new PCs within the autocad and multimedia labs always in Alessandria;
- 3 interactive projectors were purchased for the school of Cairo, which were prepared and made available for teaching activities to the teachers.

To upgrade the skills of the students a new computer technology curriculum with the relevant teaching lab was introduced in the school in Cairo and, thanks to the contribution of the Salesians,

62 new workstations were created divided into two labs: this will guarantee a more effective teaching corresponding to the changes that are taking place in the Egyptian labour market.

With the aim of upgrading the qualitative level of the staff in terms of languages, techniques and from the pedagogical point of view and to enrich the training offer of both the institutes, refresher and training courses for staff, teachers and personnel operating in the social assistance area, responsible for internal offices and/or departments. With reference to languages area, at the institute of Alessandra the teachers underwent two courses, in Italian and in English. In the technical area, a training route has been designed for teachers in Cairo which foresees the strengthening of competences in planning and digital teaching, while the route followed for the teachers in Alessandria foresaw the organization of a course in the field of industrial electronics. In addition to all this, courses in project planning and management have been organized for the persons in charge of some of the internal departments of the institute in Cairo to strengthen their capability to understand project planning and management methodologies. In the pedagogical area, in Alessandria, with the aim of a competences consolidation process of school psychologists and social workers, the project action has allowed to better, through setting up an intensive course on social support integrated with a set of workshops, students, with learning difficulties and attention deficit, psychological backup. The project initiatives included the **support to a labour orientation office in Cairo** answering to the concrete needs of the office and guaranteeing its appropriate functioning. In addition, this support allowed to strengthen the activities of the office through the organization of two *Job Fairs* for the students graduated in the two institutes, finalized at boosting the link with the labour market through a widening of the opportunities for job placement. At the same time, these events have represented a very effective initiative to promote the image of the Don Bosco institutes and to create linkages and strengthen relationships already existing between these and the companies.

Nevertheless, the labour orientation offices in Cairo and Alexandria institutes need management innovation, a further strengthening of skills and a structuring of the methods to be used for starting new synergies with companies. Furthermore, in 2018 obstacles were found to the regular functioning of support services for young graduates in entering the professional world and in providing training through internships. Another significant negative aspect refers to the difficulties of starting a sustainable path within the school whose main source of income is still linked to students' fees. Furthermore, critical issues have been identified in terms of management of the internal human resources and the low level of affiliation that characterizes human resources.

On the other side, the intervention has been characterized since the initial phase by its capability to make a careful and accurate analysis of the needs of the communities and for its capability to respond to the needs and priorities dictated by the national and local institutions in terms of development, thanks to the strong roots of the structures in the territory, with decades of experience in the field of technical and vocational training.

For 2019 VIS intends to **start its registration process in the country**, thanks to which it will be possible to operate more actively. At the same time an effort will be made in intervening in support to the two schools to continue in strengthening and upgrading of the training quality.

PALESTINE

Capital: East Jerusalem and Ramallah

Population: 4,900,000 inhabitants

Poverty rate: 37,6%

Human Development Index (HDI): 0.686 (119th out of 189 Countries)

Income per capita: 5.055 \$

Start of activities in the Country: 1987

Year of official recognition: 2010 in Palestine, 2009 in Israel

IN 2018

Expat operators: 4

Italian civil service volunteers abroad: 2

Development projects funded by public entities: 3

Development projects funded by private entities: 2

Distance Support Projects: 2

Expenses incurred: € 662.281

VIS PROJECT AREAS IN THE COUNTRY

Environment

Child and Youth Protection

Education, vocational training and socio-professional integration

Strengthening of CSOs and other development actors

	Expenses incurred (in €)	Donors
Development projects funded by public entities		
N.O.I. Giovani in Palestina - Nuove Opportunità di Integrazione e di Impiego per giovani vulnerabili palestinesi	401.383	AICS/MAECI
NUR (New Urban Resources). Renewable energy for Bethlehem	21.768	Municipality of Torino
Management and urban growth development control system for the development of the heritage and the upgrading of life in the city of Bethlehem	6.188	Municipality of Pavia
Development projects funded by private entities		
Organization and start-up of the Masters' in <i>Governance and management of the public sector</i> (MGAPS) at the University of Bethlehem	35.385	CEI 8x1000
N.O.I. Giovani in Palestina - Nuove Opportunità di Integrazione e di Impiego per	171.663	Private donors

	Expenses incurred (in €)	Donors
giovani vulnerabili palestinesi		
Emergency projects funded by public entities		
Schools in child dimension: integrated intervention to increase the resilience of the students of the schools of Mantiqat Shi'b al Butum, Khirbet al Fakheit, Khirbet al Majaz, Jinba in the Masafer Yatta area (area C)	13.775	AICS Jerusalem
SaD projects		
Support project to the Salesian Technical School of Bethlehem	3.719	Private donors
Together for the schools of Masafer Yatta		
Other management expenses incurred in the Country	8.400	Private donors

During 2018 VIS has consolidated its presence in Palestine thanks to the implementation of the third and last year of the multisectoral initiative *N.O.I. Giovani in Palestina - Nuove Opportunità di Integrazione e di Impiego per giovani vulnerabili palestinesi* – which has seen the entire in loco staff and part of the staff of the Headquarters engaged.

The intervention has the following objectives:

- improve the practices of psycho-social support for children suffering from post-traumatic stress, caused by the socio-political situation;
- make the Palestinian public and private vocational training system more efficient and extend it to new disciplines that are conscious about environmental protection;
- improve income and quality of life of the target communities

During the third year of the project, working with the local partner Guidance and Training Center (GTC) on training courses for the staff of 11 government schools and the Salesian Technical School in Bethlehem (STS) continued. During 2018, 60 teachers and 11 social workers were trained. At the same time, psycho-social support therapy continued for 125 minors through individual treatment plans (ITPs) and group therapies. 42 meetings were held with school leaders to monitor and evaluate the progress achieved by children undergoing PTI; 47 scholarships were awarded to young people undergoing treatment to attend courses in mechanics, electronics, mechatronics, carpentry within the STS. Finally, 3 photovoltaic plants were successfully installed at the 3 Palestinian public technical schools of Nablus (11.7 KW), Jenin (11.7 KW) and Tulkarem (5 KW).

In February 2018 two new projects were started, financed under the tender for the territorial bodies of AICS, led by the municipalities of Turin and Pavia, both in favour of the municipality of Bethlehem, in which VIS is partner. During the first year of the initiative, led by the Municipality of Turin, professional refresher courses were held on renewable energy for the professors of the

Salesian Technical School in Bethlehem. As regards the project coordinated by the Municipality of Pavia, the mapping activities (with 3D laser) of the historic center of Bethlehem were supported in order to realize the digital archive of the city.

In August 2018 a new collaboration with Piacent S.p.A., an Italian company leader in the field of restoration (already engaged in the restoration of the Nativity Basilica in Bethlehem) was started. They are chef-de-file of a project for profit organizations funded by AICS. In this initiative Piacenti will take care of the restoration of the mosaics of the Saint Nicholas Crypt in Beit Jala and VIS will organize a vocational training course on the art of restoration and will deal with the tourism promotion of the recovered site. In the first implementation months activities focused on the elaboration of the specifications for the restoration and a feasibility study was implemented to determine vocational training activities.

In October 2018, an initiative was launched, funded under an emergency call for tenders of AICS Jerusalem Office, entitled "Child-friendly schools: integrated intervention to increase the resilience of Mantiqat Shi'b al Butum, Khirbet al Fakheit, Khirbet al Majaz, Jinba school students in Masafer Yatta area (area C) ". During the first months of the project VIS, together with the partner GTC, began to prepare the psycho-social support activities in favour of 4 schools located in the military zone or in the so-called area C. In the aforementioned schools, in collaboration with the partner Action Against Hunger, an in-depth technical-engineering feasibility study was conducted which will be essential to renovate the spaces, repair bathrooms, roof and surrounding walls and improve them by setting up green and play-recreational areas. Schools will become child-friendly, i.e. they will be a safe place to study and find protection through a psycho-social support program.

As per the **higher education interventions coordinated by VIS at the University of Bethlehem**, 21 students have completed the Masters' degree in International Cooperation and Development (MICAD) while 24 new students have started it. In addition, VIS presence at the Bethlehem University has been strengthened thanks to the beginning of the second edition of the Specialized Program in Governance and Administration of the Public Sector in collaboration with the Palestine Public Finance Institute of Ramallah. The first four (Gender budgeting and planning, Stock flow Consistent Models, Cultural and Development, Social Economy) of the fifteen intensive courses included 58 students.

In December 2018 VIS, the University of Bethlehem and the Yunus Social Business Center of the University of Florence realized the **first Yunus Social Business Day in Palestine** at the presence of the newly established scientific committee of the Yunus Social Business Center of the University of Bethlehem which can avail itself of the support of Palestinian and Italian professors.

In 2019 action will be concentrated on the implementation of the activities envisaged by the 4 projects funded by AICS, with an emphasis on the **development of renewable energies, psycho-social support and emergency education, vocational training and local economic development**. New projects could develop in the context of social business and local economic development, as well as in the Child and Youth Protection and inclusive education sector.

To be highlighted the presentation of a project to AICS entitled "Start your Business! Creation of start-ups, development of technical skills and socio-economic promotion of young and vulnerable women in Palestine ": the results of the call will be known only in 2019.

VIS AND VOCATIONAL TRAINING: A STORY FROM PALESTINE

My name is Mustafa, I am 19 years old and I come from Doha, a small municipality between Bethlehem, Beit Jala and the refugee camp of Deisheh. I have four elder sister and a younger brother. One year back I had finished High School and I graduated after passing the *tawjihi*, the Palestinian state exam, in science subjects.

Even before finishing the last year I had clear ideas about what I wanted to do: follow my passion for electricity and enrol in a course on single-phase energy and then study three-phase energy. Luckily my family supported me by helping me enrol in a course at the Beit Jala vocational center. This was a further motivation to try to do as much as possible both to further invest in studying and to try to contribute financially to support my family and allow also my sisters and my brother to have my own opportunities. About a month after starting the course, which occupies me only on Friday and Saturday, I started to work as an apprentice for a Beit Jala electrician and a short time later I was also hired as a waiter at "Nirvana", a restaurant in Bethlehem where I took the shift from 16 to 23, from Monday to Saturday. In January I learned about the renewable energy course at the Salesian Technical School in Bethlehem in collaboration with VIS, promoted by the NUR (New Urban Resources) project, "light" in Arabic. The project aims at **reducing the energy dependence of Palestine on Israel through the production of solar energy**. I therefore immediately enrolled in the course. The first days were not easy: in fact Claudio, the Italian professor, started to explain to us complex things in English but when he took us to the roof of the Salesian Technical School to work with solar panels, inverters and multimeters everything seemed to me simpler and even more interesting. I liked the course so much that after a week, on my birthday, I got a red multimeter from my family to measure the electricity produced by solar panels; naturally I took it to the lessons every day. Despite my engagements I managed to finish the course and now I don't want to stop. In fact I have already decided that I will also participate in the other activities of the NUR project: I will enrol in the course at the University of Bethlehem on writing business plans and I will present an idea to the competition for the launch of 5 start-ups on renewable energy. In fact, my goal is to create my own company specialized in design and installation of photovoltaic systems both to crown my dream of being an entrepreneur/electrician and to help my family and my community.

The project VIS implements in Palestine in the domain of renewable energy has been illustrated in the newspaper *La Stampa.it* on 25 October 2018 in an article entitled: “*La Palestina cerca l’indipendenza energetica nelle rinnovabili*”.



FOCUS: Green VIS and the environmental analysis of the Palestine project

The health of the environment is linked in a two-fold manner to poverty and human development (in the technical meaning of UNDP), because environmental degradation and overexploitation generate poverty but also vice versa, poverty generates or favors degradation and over-exploitation. Environmental integration can be adopted with different degrees of intensity, ranging from a mere attention to individual environmental aspects to the adoption of environmental protection as a mission. For this reason, VIS has entrusted Green VIS - a group of professionals in the environmental sector - with the task of conducting an environmental analysis with the view of mainstreaming the project ***N.O.I. Giovani in Palestina - Nuove Opportunità di Integrazione e di Impiego per i giovani vulnerabili palestinesi***. (Youth in Palestine – New Opportunities for integration and employment of young vulnerable Palestinians).

The analysis was carried out with a view to providing adequate recommendations for the implementation of further, future projects in similar areas and sectors, with identification of possible environmental integrations, as well as analysing capacity building potential on environmental issues in the territory observed.

With this aim, the Presidium has identified a working group and has divided the activities into three phases:

- 1) First activity: background preparation and study;
- 2) Second activity: mission in loco;

3) Third activity: elaboration of collected information and preparation of an environmental analysis report.

During the **preparation and planning** phase the project was studied together with the territorial referral and legal framework. The method then developed, was based on three assumptions:

- a) the environmental components present in the project logframe are weak, this is why the analysis is carried out using a method developed by the Presidium itself and not with reference to the project indicators;
- b) the analysis takes place through the dialogue with precise actors on site, not only those put in place by the project, but also identifying other referents for the issues of waste and water resources, to obtain a complete picture;
- c) the analysis needs to be done also taking into consideration future valorisation interventions of all environment management aspects.

The second phase was implemented through a 5-day field mission that allowed not only the collection of technical data, but also on-site verification of the environmental issues highlighted during the preparatory phase. It was also explored the possibility of identifying on the territory the potential of capacity building through partnerships with entrepreneurial realities and training institutions.

The third phase represents the final stage of the analysis of the project. The results are reported in two separate documents, the first called *Diario di missione* (Mission Diary), summarizing the activities carried out in the field, and the second, more technical, called *Analisi ambientale* (Environmental Analysis), in which the critical issues emerged are evidenced and identified the main suggested recommendations.

In particular, **the environmental analysis on the three main areas (energy, water and waste)** has permitted to identify the strengths to be exploited and the weaknesses to be taken into consideration for the follow-up phase.

- a) In the **energy** field, the choice to build photovoltaic panels for power supply of the two schools involved in the project was appreciated and an increase in installed power coming from renewable sources to replace fossil fuels is expected. It should also be remembered that energy efficiency does not only concern the production of energy from renewable sources but also sustainable consumption, a component to be developed.

Several potential improvement points have also been identified:

- in the design phase, some proposals concern, for example, the implementation, in the selection tenders of suppliers and assets, of aspects linked to social and environmental sustainability and the timely evaluation of commercial agreements with the electricity company useful for the correct sizing of the photovoltaic systems;
- in the operational phase proposals refer to the management and maintenance of the plants.

Some interventions have also been proposed to increase energy efficiency (e.g. through insulation of schools, exploiting where possible also building courses in one of the schools visited) and in general to improve and make more efficient the use of photovoltaic panels (e.g. through purchase of storage batteries).

- b) Regarding **waste management**, there is currently a collection of only exploitable materials (metal, copper, aluminium) in the schools involved, while paper, plastic and other fractions are not differentiated, as are electrical and electronic waste and waste oils. Therefore, the

possibility of collaborating with local partners in the design of targeted interventions in this sector, aimed at raising awareness and environmental education, has been identified. Furthermore, it has been suggested to evaluate the involvement of possible private actors in the area who may be interested in using part of the non-recycled waste (e.g. plastics) as raw materials in order to start thinking in a circular economy perspective.

- c) Regarding the **management of water resources and wastewater**, some possible interventions for reducing consumption (flow reducers, sink timers, etc.) that could be installed both in schools and in the other structures involved in the project were recommended.
- d) Finally, the mission allowed to identify proposals for collaboration between Green VIS and the local VIS staff, such as the planning of joint training courses on site (e.g. summer schools and internships for professionals).

Finally, a list of initiatives aimed at expanding the network of relevant stakeholders (e.g. Don Bosco Green Alliance, OPEC calls, etc.) was analysed together.

EUROPE

VIS operates in Europe with **development cooperation projects in Albania**, where it has led for ten years - in the North, on the border with Montenegro - an extensive program of integrated rural development, which has also found specific and more detailed applications in other parts of the country and operational trans-border implications. The development program will also continue over the next two years, a period in which innovative activities will be tested and new prospects for VIS commitment in the country will be sought.

Unlike the past, characterized by intense operations that also extended to Bosnia-Herzegovina and Kosovo, today VIS has concentrated its commitment in Albania, while maintaining contacts and relations with the historical partners of the other countries that could prove to be useful in valorising above all international youth volunteering experiences, possible job opportunities on migration flows of the Balkan route and to keep the attention on the social and political evolutions of the Balkans, which remain strategically important for our country and for Europe.

In the old continent, **VIS first of all leads various and important activities in Italy**, as widely presented in the chapters of this social report dedicated to campaigning, ECG, training, communication and fundraising.

The commitment then embraces advocacy and networking, actions that - starting from Italy - see VIS not only enter into relations with numerous European civil society partners (see the chapter on networks and platforms), but also participate actively in important international events and meetings, at UN-ECOSOC, Cedefop, FRA and European Commission.

These activities will characterize VIS commitment also for the coming year

ALBANIA

Capital: Tirana

Population: 2,900,000 inhabitants

Poverty rate: 37,8%

Human Development Index (HDI): 0,785 (78th out of 189 Countries)

Income per capita: 11.886 \$

Start of activities in the Country: 1994

Year of official recognition: 2002

IN 2018

Expat operators: 2

Development projects funded by public entities: 6

Development projects funded by private entities: 2

Distance Support Projects: 2

Expenses incurred: €642.597

VIS PROJECT AREAS IN THE COUNTRY

Environment

Education, socio-vocational training and integration

Strengthening of CSOs and other development actors

	Expenses incurred (in €)	Donors
Development projects funded by public entities		
Zana and Maleve – Youth and territory: roots of a community on the way towards the European integration	344.681	AICS/MAECI
Bukë, Kripë and Zemër – Food, Tradition and Culture: co-development processes in marginal areas of North and South Albania	58.910	AICS/MAECI
FoRuM: Focussing on Rural Mobilisation in Malesi e Madhe	20.696	European Commission
Green Lands – Terre verdi	11.078	OO.II
SERM – Sustainable rural development	62.951	OO.II
Involve me and I learn - Coinvolgimi e io imparo	16.165	OO.II
Development projects funded by private entities		
Connecting Rural Youth across Borders – Collegando i giovani delle aree rurali attraverso le frontiere	7.751	Private donors
Sing with me	6.654	Private donors

	Expenses incurred (in €)	Donors
SaD projects		Private donors
Support to the nursery school of Breglumasi	9.547	
Other management expenses incurred in the Country	4.162	Private donors

2018 has been a year in which VIS consolidated itself at geographical level (for the region of Malesi and Madhe), and at action level (rural development). During the year a project was concluded and starting from April 2018 4 more were started. Many collaborations were confirmed together with the participation in national and international *networks*. In particular, VIS appears to be an actor of significant reference per the Coordination table of the Italian CSO in the Tirana Office of AICS. All this confirmed by the main action here below indicated.

Project SERM – A Sustainable Rural Development Model

The project ended with the establishment of the farmers' association of Cerrik (about 20 participants) and a public-private collaboration contract with the local municipality.

11 study visits were then carried out for farmers and students of the Cerrik Agricultural High School, 6 theoretical and practical training sessions for farmers and students as well as the project closure event.

Involve me and I learn - Coinvolgimi e io imparo

In 2018 the reconstruction of the High School of Koplík was completed and the necessary information for the implementation of the teaching activities foreseen for January 2019 were collected.

Zana and Maleve – Giovani e territorio: radici di una comunità in cammino verso l'integrazione europea (Youth and territory: roots of a community on the way towards the European integration)

Il progetto è stato avviato ad aprile in continuità con il progetto Bukë, Kripë e Zemër. Ad avvio progetto sono state realizzate le prime missioni conoscitive da parte di tutti i partner progettuali (CISP – ONG partner, GAL Madonie, GAL Leader ULIXES, Borghi più Belli d'Italia, Slow Food e IUSVE), oltre che l'ampliamento e il rafforzamento del gruppo di agenti di sviluppo locale (A.S.L.) con 10 giovani del posto. Nel corso dell'anno sono state realizzate una serie di attività tra cui:

The project was started in April in continuation of the project Bukë, Kripë and Zemër. Starting the project the first fact-finding missions were carried out by all the project partners (CISP – NGO partner, GAL Madonie, GAL Leader ULIXES, Borghi più Belli d'Italia, Slow Food and IUSVE), as well as enlargement and reinforcement of the group of local development agents (ASL) with 10 local young people. During the year a series of activities implemented including:

- microcredit supply: 66 credits in Northern Albania;
- support for community activities: a project for a community incubator the processing of the chestnuts of Reç in the area of Malesi and Madhe was realized. In addition to this, youth animation and territorial valorisation initiatives were carried out;
- participation and/or organization of 50 local fairs and events;
- participation in 4 international events;
- technical assistance to tour operators and farmers;

- realization of community meetings;
- realization of a market study for the component of work grants for young people.

A difficulty encountered during the year concerns the change in counterpart for this project, with the dissolution of the Regional Development Agency by a government decree and the flowing slowdown of the normal planning procedures. The normal recovery of the procedures is expected from February 2019 with the new counterpart being defined.

FoRuM: Focussing on Rural Mobilisation in Malesi and Madhe

The first semester of the project saw the realization of a series of activities including mapping of local associations present in the territory, support for youth volunteering activities, the creation of the Slow Food Youth Network group and the youth sports tournament.

Green Lands

The project on environmental issues, a cross-border Albania-Montenegro launched in the first half of the year, saw the realization of a series of activities including training for institutions on urban waste management, setting up the awareness raising campaign for Malesi and Madhe, the realization of ecological days with some young volunteers.

Connecting Rural Youth across Borders

2018 saw VIS involved in another cross-border project between Albania and Kosovo, focusing on youth issues. During the year, among other actions, a workshop and a thematic trekking were realized in Albania and a rural summer camp for girls between Albania and Kosovo.

Elements of weakness: the still reduced involvement in VIS activities in Albania of the Salesian Family, for now only linked to the partnership with IUSVE (Istituto Universitario Salesiano di Venezia) and the management of the relationship with local institutions, often lacking experience in development projects management.

In 2019 the engagement in **carrying on the innovation elements already started**, with special emphasis on the certified training program for **local development agents**, the offer **Slow Food Travel**, the support to regularize **land ownership** and start a **GAL in Malesi and Madhe** are confirmed.

VIS AND CAPACITY BUILDING: A STORY FROM ALBANIA

Since 2009, VIS has been working in Northern Albania, pursuing an integrated approach, in which the communities themselves, led by the NGO and supported by the local government, identify priorities and plan support interventions to improve the quality of life at 360 degrees, considering the person at the center of the territory and the importance of developing economic and social well-being together and in harmony.

Malesi and Madhe ("The land of the great mountain") is a territory rich in potential from the human, tourism, cultural and Eno gastronomic point of view.

In order to enhance these resources and strengthen civil society to become an active player in the development of its territory, VIS support was achieved by involving the inhabitants in activities related to supporting small producers and enhancing local products linked to the fascinating history of the territory. This led to the creation of **the Slow Food Presidium of Mishavine**. Mishavine is a mountain cheese that can only be found in Kelmend, in the villages of Lepushe and Vermosh. Over the years it had seen a sharp decline in production, but lately, thanks to the training of its 12

producers, it has experienced a new renaissance, so much so that it has become one of the flagships of the local tradition and one of the most sought after products by cooks and visitors.

Among the producers there is the family of **Tom and Lucie Dragu**, in the village of Lopushe. Most of Tom's family members now live in the United States, but he, his wife Lucie, his son and his bride decided to stay in Kelmend, the most Northern valley in all of Albania, on the border with Montenegro. They decided to improve the services of their home, maintaining its traditional style but renovating rooms and bathrooms and installing a heating system to expand the potential for hospitality even in the field of winter tourism. Lucie's skill in producing Mishavine and other typical products of the area, is added, favoured by clean pastures and a large flock of sheep and goats. Tom also offers a further service to the inhabitants of the village: he has partially renovated the water mill owned by the family, providing the opportunity of producing flour on the spot and using traditional methods. With VIS support, he would like to make the mill a real experience to offer tourists who could also try themselves, helped by Lucie's advice and expert hands, to prepare bread, experiencing the true spirit of sharing, typical of the mountains and the their inhabitants.

The territorial and enogastronomic valorisation projects implemented by VIS in Albania have been illustrated in the broadcast *Radio Tre Mondo* on RAI Radio 3 on 5 July 2018 entitled: “*Storie di cibo per un mondo possibile*”.

ECONOMIC DIMENSION

In this section of the Activities Summary Report the main elements of VIS income statement with reference to the 2018 financial year are provided, compared with those of the previous year.

Data have been taken from the final 2018 financial statements reviewed by the BDO Italia auditing company, as well as by the Board of Auditors during the activity envisaged in the articles of association.

For further information on the financial statement document, accompanied by the related supplementary note, it is possible to consult the institutional website at <http://www.volint.it/vis/bilancio>.

During the financial year 2017, a different accounting system was adopted for expenditures and income referable to the "Typical activities" and to the "Promotional and fundraising activities", highlighting in the balance sheet section, liabilities, provisions for projects and donations. As a result of this system of recording the aforementioned items, the income statement shows two new items for each section of activity, relating to the funds for projects and donations: the "provision" cost item through which the revenue realized is sent to the relevant fund for accounting purposes, and the item "use of funds", revenue item with which the sum necessary to cover the costs incurred is taken from the fund. Because this system is already in use since 2017, the data is comparable with the results of the previous year. This change, of an exclusively accounting nature, was made in derogation of the provisions of art. 2423 bis of the Civil Code and OIC principle n. 11; it will make it possible to obtain a better readability of the financial statement document, in addition to allowing a better management control during the year and in any case has not affected the economic-financial situation of the organization.

OVERALL FRAMEWORK

During the financial year 2018 the income achieved totalled € 9,803,405, while in 2017 the income realized was € 9,204,034, with an increase of € 599,371; charges amounted to € 9,801,234, while the figure for the previous year showed charges for € 9,204,034, with an increase of € 597,200. While in 2017 the management showed a balanced budget, in 2018, the management ended with a small operating surplus of € 2,170.

Below is a summary of the economic data broken down by management area.

BUDGET	YEAR 2018	YEAR 2017
CORE MANAGEMENT		
INCOME CORE ACTIVITIES	8.514.395	8.048.401
EXPENDITURES CORE ACTIVITIES	-8.615.635	-8.145.929
Balance Core Activities	-101.240	-97.529
INCOME PROMOTIONAL & FUNDRAISING ACTIVITIES	893.742	802.533
EXPENDITURES PROMOTIONAL & FUNDRAISING ACTIVITIES	-285.588	-198.302
Balance Promotional & Fundraising Activities	608.153	604.231
BALANCE CORE MANAGEMENT	506.913	506.702

MANAGEMENT ANCILLARY ACTIVITIES		
INCOME ANCILLARY ACTIVITIES	327.531	251.661
EXPENDITURES ANCILLARY ACTIVITIES	-391.234	-330.740
Balance Ancillary Activities	-63.703	-79.079
FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES		
INCOME FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES	5.635	5.990
EXPENDITURES FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES	-9.999	-16.730
Balance Financial Activities	-4.364	-10.741
EXTRAORDINARY MANAGEMENT		
EXTRAORDINARY INCOME	62.102	95.449
EXTRAORDINARY EXPENDITURES	-26.727	-19.844
Balance Extraordinary Management	35.375	75.605
GENERAL SUPPORT EXPENDITURES	-431.982	-459.437
OPERATING TAXES	-40.070	-33.051
Operating result	2.170	0

In **Core Management** are highlighted both income and expenditures of institutional activities, promotional and fundraising activities. While the former ones are directly related to the pursuit of the organization mission, as enshrined in the Bylaws, the latter are carried out for collecting the necessary resources to perform the core activities. These include development projects, emergency interventions, development education activities, etc. Among the promotional and fundraising activities, besides those of a specific nature (e.g., campaigns), also income deriving from Long-Distance Sponsorships (SaD) and Support for Missions (SaM) has been included. This because, while income from public and private institutions is recorded among the “core activities”, based on their source and management procedures, income from SaD and SaM comes exclusively from individuals and is given for a specific purpose. Overall, the **core management highlights a positive result of €506.913**, substantially in line with the previous year.

As per the **Ancillary activities**, the key income/expense figures are related to the volunteers' management, based on the agreement entered with Caritas Italiana. Other consistent expenditures to be ascribed are € 24.372 for membership fees paid in relation to the various networks in which VIS participates, mainly AGIRE, and CINI.

The balance of the **Financial activities** this year shows a negative balance of € 4.374, with a decrease of € 6.377 compared to the previous year, primarily because of the currency exchange difference resulting from the transfers of funds abroad and the relevant bank charges.

The **Extraordinary Activities** show on the contrary a positive balance of € 35.375 with a decrease compared to 2017 of € 40.230. Income from extraordinary activities totals € 62.102, primarily comprising the waiver of the allowance by several members of the Executive Committee, totalling € 49.000, while the difference can be ascribed to the accounting of a new income linked to the civil service management.

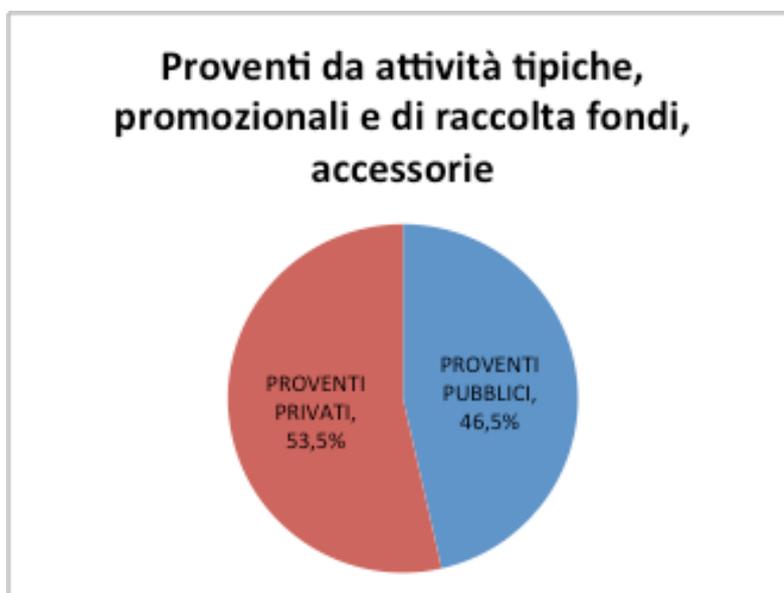
Regarding extraordinary expenditures, which total € 26.727, the amount of € 25.771 is due mainly to the closure of a debit balance for unrecognized costs in projects in Myanmar and DR of Congo. The remaining part relates to bank charges, payment of taxes referable to previous years which were requested during the 2018 financial year.

General support expenditures totalling € 431.982 have slightly decreased. They include mainly the figures related to the costs of the services (fees, consultancies and telephone) per € 123.042, the functioning of the political bodies per € 124.477, counterbalanced by the waiver of the charge indemnity on behalf of some members of the Comitato Esecutivo, and the headquarters management including the administrative staff per € 174.106; depreciation of tangible and intangible assets amounted to € 15,674.

Finally, there is the cost incurred for the IRAP tax on the labour cost, totalling € 36.259; while the cost of IRES, to be applied to properties held as at 31/12, to be soon cancelled, was € 3,811.

INCOME SOURCES

As can be seen through the graphic below, **income from private sources remains prevailing if compared with public funding** also in 2018.



The *trend* in main institutional donors, in 2018, indicates it has been a year during which many new projects have been started which have been shown in economic terms only partially in this year, but will continue in the following years. In particular:

- ~ Proceeds from the Italian Development Cooperation Agency (AICS) have slightly decreased, because of the conclusion of the three large-scale projects (Albania, and Ethiopia) and emergency interventions financed through local funds. During 2018 new interventions have been approved and/or started in Albania, Ethiopia, Senegal and Palestine, funded through AICS headquarters and the in loco offices, for which the economic impact will be evident also in the following years.
- ~ Proceeds from the European Commission in 2018 have strongly increased because of the implementation of the projects in Burundi, Democratic Republic of Congo, Angola and Albania, in addition to the conclusion of the program for the backstopping of the PDOs in the ACP countries. In 2018 a new project has been approved and funded in Ghana.
- ~ Diminished the flow of proceeds from other public entities (in particular the decentralized cooperation) due to the strong cuts for international solidarity registered by the local administrations, while an increase has appeared of the 8x1000 of tax payers with regard to the start-up of the two projects in DR of Congo and Ethiopia.
- ~ The contribution from international organizations and other development agencies has increased in response to the implementation of new interventions in Eritrea.

Regarding proceeds from the private sector, in 2018 an absolute value can be generally confirmed on the total funds compared to the previous year. In particular:

- ~ Increase in funds received and utilized of the 8x1000 of the Conference of Italian Bishops deriving from the new programs started in Western Africa within the campaign "Liberi di partire, liberi di restare".
- ~ A net increase in income from private foundations, contracts and agreements with partners and others, realized thanks to the start-up of various new interventions in Ethiopia, Bolivia and Albania in partnership with other Italian (CISP and Fondazione Don Gnocchi in particular) and local NGOs. In 2018 there has been instead a decrease in the funding on behalf of Caritas Italiana because of the closure of the projects in Haiti and Nepal.
- ~ Donations from fundraising operations, received from corporations, individuals and social groups have decreased for the depletion of funds ascribable to the "channel" established by VIS-Lombardia, and the reduction of resources managed through the partnership with Missioni Don Bosco for supporting the Salesian Missions. Funds collected directly by Rome Office have been generally characterized by a generalized stability.
- ~ In 2018 proceeds from ancillary operations have remained essentially stable without specific problems.

INCOME CORE ACTIVITIES, PROMOTIONAL AND FUNDRAISING ACTIVITIES, AND ANCILLARY ACTIVITIES: SOURCES			
PUBLIC SOURCES (from core activities)	31.12.2018	31.12.2017	Variazioni
AICS – Agenzia Italiana per la Cooperazione allo Sviluppo	1.658.861	2.469.533	-810.672
European Commission	2.034.349	965.658	1.068.691
Presidenza del Consiglio dei Ministri – 8x1000	256.357	157.436	98.921
Different public entities (decentred cooperation)	32.059	125.294	-93.235
Cooperation Agencies of other States and international organizations	457.900	191.481	266.420
Ministero del Lavoro e delle Politiche sociali - 5x1000	115.391	133.912	-18.521
A) Balance public sources	4.554.916	4.043.312	511.604
PRIVATE SOURCES (from core activities, promotional and fundraising activities)	31.12.2018	31.12.2017	Variazioni
Conferenza Episcopale Italiana	1.251.422	730.287	521.135
Caritas Italiana	110.353	392.090	-281.737
Different private entities (foundations, networks, etc.)	764.213	169.187	595.026
Long distance support (SaD) - VIS Roma	129.294	161.190	-31.896
Long distance support (SaD) - VIS Lombardia	-	61.015	-61.015
Emergency, rehabilitation and reconstruction projects	535	815	-280
Development projects and micro-realizations	672.615	589.457	83.158
Other institutional activities in Italy and in developing countries	730.125	716.167	13.958
Support to missionary activities in developing countries - VIS Roma	463.871	446.630	17.241
Support to missionary activities in developing countries - VIS Lombardia	215	141.415	-141.200
Support to missionary activities in developing countries - VIS Missioni Don Bosco	380.486	1.064.422	-683.936
Support to volunteers and cooperation operators in developing countries for VIS activities	175.706	186.810	-11.104
Solidarity twinnings	1.173	-	1.173
Scholarships	-	12.036	-12.036
Fundraising specific campaigns	8.435	31.685	-23.250
Charitable contributions	-	1.320	-1.320
Contributions for educational, vocational and project activities in Italy	60.366	78.182	-17.817

Corporate Project	101.413	3.915	97.498
Membership fees	3.000	21.000	-18.000
B) Balance private sources	4.853.220	4.807.621	45.599
PRIVATE SOURCES (from ancillary, financial and extraordinary income)	31.12.2018	31.12.2017	Variazioni
Support to volunteers and cooperation operators in developing countries for other organizations activities	288.669	242.436	46.233
Reimbursements of insurances	943	525	418
Contributions for detachment	34.800	8.700	26.100
Rents	3.120	-	3.120
INCOME FROM FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES	5.635	5.990	-354
EXTRAORDINARY INCOME	62.102	95.449	-33.348
C) Balance other private sources	395.268	353.100	42.168
TOTAL BALANCE	9.803.405	9.204.034	599.371

RESOURCE ALLOCATION

Regarding the expenditures from core activities, the following tables provide an overview of the costs incurred both by geographical distribution and by type of action.

EXPENDITURES FROM CORE ACTIVITIES PER GEOGRAPHICAL AREA

AREA	Incurred expenditures 2018	% on total 2018	% variation compared to 2017	No, countries 2018
AFRICA	- 5.406.873	62,8%	20,3%	24
LATIN AMERICA	- 797.740	9,3%	-31,7%	8
ASIA & OCEANIA	- 148.860	1,7%	-41,1%	7
MIDDLE EAST	- 808.344	9,4%	-5,9%	4
EUROPE + ACTIVITIES IN ITALY	- 1.453.818	16,9%	6,1%	2
Total balance	- 8.615.635	100,00%	5,8%	45

EXPENDITURES FROM CORE ACTIVITIES PER TYPE OF ACTION

TYPE OF ACTION	Incurred expenditures 2018	2018 % on total year	Expenditures incurred in 2017	2017 % on total year
PROGRAMS IN DEVELOPING COUNTRIES	- 7.874.426	91,40%	- 7.374.150	90,5%
Expenditures for institutional activities in developing countries deriving from 5x1000	- 53.980	0,63%	- 54.122	0,7%
Development projects co-funded by public and private institutional entities	- 5.359.765	62,21%	- 3.989.807	49,0%
Development projects and other interventions funded by fundraising funds	- 672.615	7,81%	- 635.172	7,8%
Emergency projects, rehabilitation and reconstruction from public and private donors	- 868.187	10,08%	- 871.561	10,7%
Long distance support	- 76.003	0,88%	- 241.817	3,0%
Support to missionary activities in developing countries	- 843.876	9,79%	- 1.581.672	19,4%
OTHER INSTITUTIONAL PROGRAMS	- 741.209	8,60%	- 771.780	9,5%
Total balance	- 8.615.635	100,00%	- 8.145.929	100,00%

In the 2018 financial year, VIS received financial resources from the revenue of 5x1000 (included in the item "Projects co-financed with institutional bodies" because of public origin) for a total amount of € 115,391, referred to the fiscal year 2016.

The following is a summary table relating on the use of the funds deriving from 5x1000 received by VIS and used during the 2018 financial year:

DESCRIPTION	AMOUNT 2018
Expenditure related to the functioning of the operational structure in Ethiopia used in programs for the prevention of irregular migration and strengthening of socio-professional integration, <i>protection, livelihoods, WASH (water, sanitation & hygiene)</i>	23.360
Support for an expatriate operator in Liberia for the management of a technical-professional training development project at the Don Bosco Technical High School in Monrovia	2.065
Sostegno di un operatore espatriato agronomo in Perù per la gestione di un progetto di tutela e promozione delle minoranze indigene e di valorizzazione della biodiversità nella foresta amazzonica peruviana	19.193
Support for two expatriate operators employed in the operational and administrative coordination of Latin America and the Caribbean and in project management in Cochabamba, La Paz and Santa Cruz de la Sierra	11.141
Support for an expatriate operator for the management of the regional administrative coordination of the West Africa area	5.652
Costs incurred at Headquarters for internet, IT technical assistance, rental fees for IT equipment, photocopiers, switchboard and telephone system, payroll processing, safety requirements, cleaning services, telephone	38.147
Charges for advocacy and representation at policy-making tables of national and international networks	14.416
Charges for selection, training and supervision of the teams included in the projects in the partner countries and for the evaluation of psycho-social actions oriented towards vulnerable groups	1.417
Total expenditures	115.391

CONTACTS

VIS - Volontariato Internazionale per lo Sviluppo

Via Appia Antica 126, 00179 Roma

Tel. +39 06.51.629.1

Fax +39 06.51.629.299

www.volint.it – vis@volint.it

DONATIONS

www.volint.it/vis/donazioni

Banca Popolare Etica

VIS - Volontariato Internazionale per
lo Sviluppo

IBAN

IT59Z0501803200000015588551

Allianz Bank

VIS - Volontariato Internazionale per
lo Sviluppo

IBAN

IT38A0358901600010570752375

Conto Corrente Postale

VIS - Volontariato Internazionale per
lo Sviluppo

Nr. 88182001

IBAN

IT16Z0760103200000088182001

