



Together we can make the world  
a better place.

# Annual Report 2018

A YEAR OF SOLIDARITY

## COOPI is a Participatory

**Foundation**, listed in the Registry of Legal Entities of the Prefecture of Milan.

**It is an NGO** registered in the List of the Civil Society Organisations according to Article 26 of the Italian law 11.08.2014 n. 125.

**It is an ONLUS**, according to the Italian Law D. Lgs. 4.12.1997 n. 460.

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### Publishing project and methodological support:

Studio Sherpa di Satia Marchese Daelli

### Coordination:

COOPI Institutional communication

**Graphic design:** Gruppo Egeo Srl

**Cover photo:** Massimo Zecchini, Chad

**Photos:** Fati Abubakar, Olivia Acland, Martina Azzalea, Francesco Bellina, Simone Durante, Rose Ibraheem, Firaol Lemechaharena, Coralie Maneri, Marco Palombi, Federico Ponti, Silvano Pupella, Nicolas Réminé, Nestor Quiñones Izquierdo, Luis Sisto, Eduardo Soteras Jalil Giacomo Zandonini, COOPI Archive

**Printed by:** Brain Print & Solutions Srl

**Translation by:** The Tree of Languages

COOPI can receive funds for projects, donations from firms and individuals as well as legacies. Info: **coopi@coopi.org - www.coopi.org**

### HOW TO DONATE :

- Post office current account 990200 "COOPI Cooperazione Internazionale ONG Onlus"
- Current account Banca Popolare Etica IBAN IT89A0501801600000011023694 "COOPI Cooperazione Internazionale ONG Onlus"
- Online: [www.coopi.org](http://www.coopi.org)



## Vision

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COOPI dreams of a world without poverty, able to mirror the ideals of equality and justice, sustainable development and social cohesion thanks to the coming together and cooperation between all people.

## Mission

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With the engagement, motivation, determination and professionalism of its staff, COOPI aims at fighting poverty and developing the communities it works with all over the world by intervening in emergency situations, reconstruction and development in order to achieve a better balance between the North and the South of the world, between developed and underdeveloped or developing areas.

## Values

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**Solidarity - Transparency - Neutrality**  
**Participation - Sustainability of the Intervention**  
**Responsibility - Transfer of Knowledge**  
**Innovation - Respect for Diversity and**  
**Fighting against Discrimination**  
**Empowerment of Human Resources**



PHOTO: SILVANO PUPELLA

# Editorial

NGO, a term that today raises controversy and political opposition.

COOPI has been an NGO since the term was introduced in 1979 (Italian Law 38 on Cooperation), to indicate those organizations that would work alongside the Government, but independent of it, in order to achieve the global development goals that Italy, together with the other European countries and the organizations of the United Nations, aimed to realize.

Together with you, I would like to reflect today on what it means for COOPI to be an NGO.

COOPI has always felt a strong need to support local communities; the ultimate goal of our work is not to build wells or start agricultural activities or to provide social services, but to help the community itself get to a place where it is able to manage wells, produce agriculturally and run its own social services long after our departure.

In order to do this, the transmission of technical knowledge is not sufficient. A cultural growth of the whole community is essential, which is transformed from aggregation of individuals into Civil Society.

For us, being an NGO means being an expression of the Northern Civil Society that puts itself in contact with some Civil Societies in the South with the aim of cooperation, working together to solve problems that are not of this or that country, but that are common to the whole world.

In this spirit we have witnessed over the years the civil growth of many associations in Latin America, which today are mature and able to autonomously manage their development processes, and we are following the many African communities that today have not reached the same level of maturity, but that year after year grow and learn.

We are well aware that this growth often leads to conflicts with the political establishment, especially where authoritarian regimes govern, but we are also convinced that these conflicts are inevitable and in the long run, they are positive: the political power itself must recognize that its legitimacy derives from Civil Society, and taking note of this triggers virtuous paths to improve public governance.

In this Annual Report we try to explain the meaning of our work: a path of growth together with the communities where we work. This is the essence of our being an NGO.



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**Claudio Ceravolo**  
President of COOPI

# Letter of the Director

2018 was a year of strong development for COOPI: the number of our projects and the total volume of our activities has never been so high. This growth must be highlighted above all because it means that we can reach an ever increasing number of beneficiaries, but not only.

This growth is not linked to episodic situations. For the second consecutive year, the total value of our projects has grown by more than 40% compared to the previous year: an outcome that is above all the result of strategic choices such as the adoption of a regional approach to humanitarian crises and the decision to take action in new countries. Regionalization has allowed us to have a more comprehensive view of the various crises as well as plan and implement more incisive and far-reaching interventions by simultaneously activating and facilitating collaborations with and between local authorities in different neighboring countries. This is the case in the Lake Chad Basin crisis, the Syrian crisis, the crisis people are facing in Central Africa and, more recently, the Venezuelan crisis.

The obtained results, therefore, do not only mean an increase in the number of beneficiaries, but also greater efficacy and quality that produces a significant and lasting impact on people's lives.

From an organizational point of view, we are at a turning point: after some years of confrontation and experimentation we have decided to consolidate into a decentralized organizational structure. Five Regional Coordinations (West Africa, Central Africa, Eastern and Southern Africa, the Middle East, Latin America and the Caribbean), will have ample autonomy and decision-making power in the planning and implementation of field activities, in collaboration with local actors. The Milan office will be increasingly focused on addressing, general coordination, support and monitoring of Regional Coordinations.

This evolution will allow us to further increase our effectiveness by aligning with the major international organizations, reducing the distance between decision-making and field operations as much as possible, and encouraging a greater participation of local partners in the areas where we operate.

The contribution of all the people who have collaborated and still collaborate with COOPI has been essential in obtaining these recent results and they will be very important for the evolution of COOPI in the near future. I therefore thank all those who supported COOPI, in Italy and abroad, and those who will continue to do so by helping to shape the ongoing transformation of our organization.



2018 was a year of strong development for COOPI: the number of our projects and the total volume of our activities has never been so high. [...] An outcome that is above all the result of strategic choices such as the adoption of a regional approach to humanitarian crises and the decision to take action in new countries.

**Ennio Miccoli**  
Director of COOPI



# Who is COOPI?



PHOTO: SIMONE DURANTE

**COOPI - Cooperazione Internazionale is a nonprofit Italian organization, founded by Father Vincenzo Barbieri, on April 15th, 1965 in Milan.**

For over 50 years COOPI has been committed to breaking the cycle of poverty, supporting the populations affected by wars, socio-economic crises or natural disasters towards recovery and sustainable development, making use of the professionalism of local and international aid workers and building partnerships with public institutions, private actors and civil society.

COOPI is a participatory foundation. In 2018 it worked in **30 countries in Africa, the Middle East, Latin America and the Caribbean, carrying out 241 humanitarian projects and reaching 4,739,543 people.** In 2018, it expanded its presence to 2 new countries, The Republic of The Gambia and Mauritania.

Committed to some of the most serious humanitarian crises on the planet and increasingly active in supporting migrants and refugees in Africa and the Middle East, COOPI also stands out internationally for its aid in maternal and child malnutrition and the promotion of food security, for its protection of conflict victims and the promotion of indigenous populations' rights, for its introduction of renewable energy in difficult contexts and its work in disaster risk reduction.

In a growing number of cases COOPI plans its interventions with a multi-country regional approach in order to enhance the effectiveness of its interventions beyond national borders. This is the case for some of the areas most affected by natural disasters and socio-political crises, such as the Lake Chad region and Syria.

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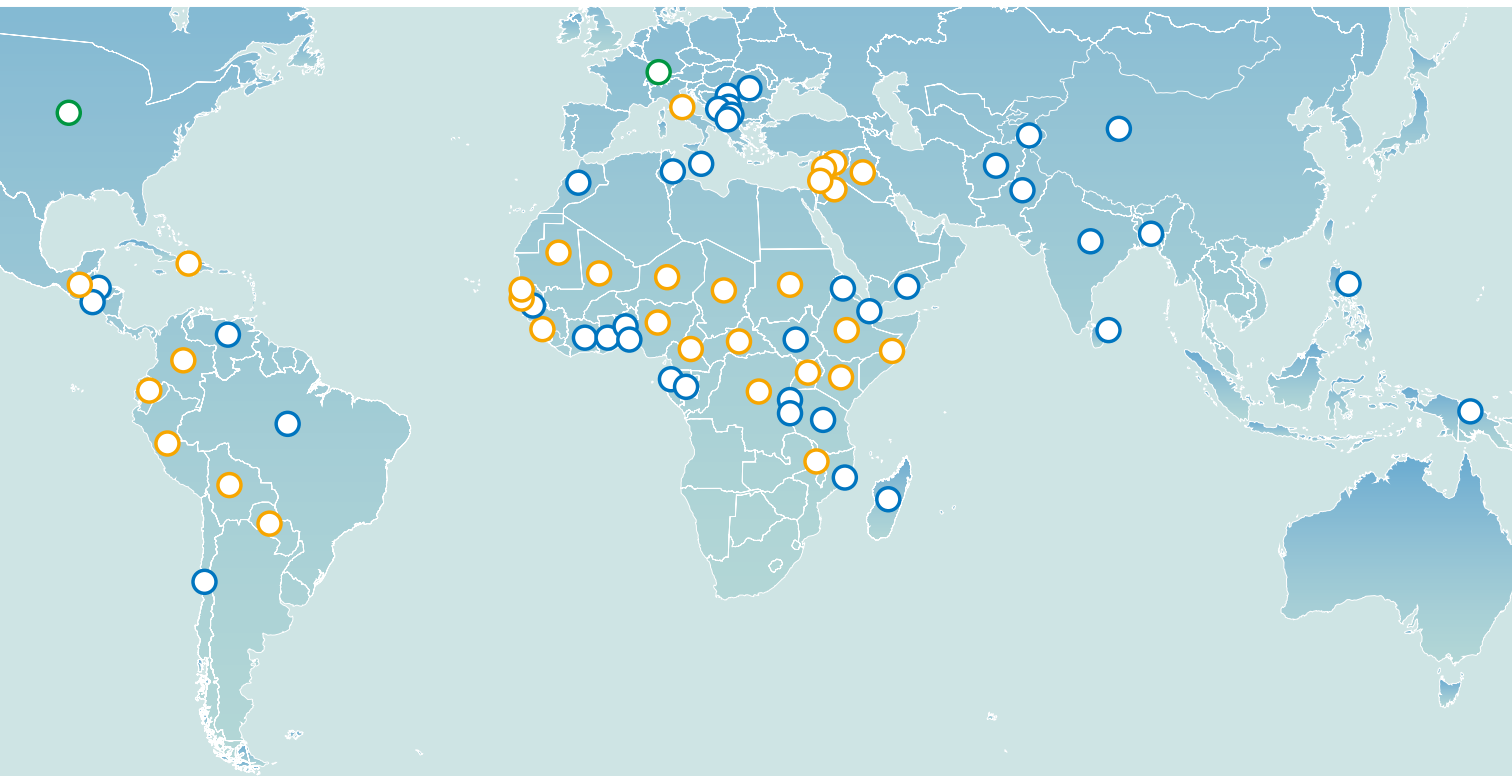
Since 1965, COOPI - Cooperazione Internazionale has helped more than **100 million people**, with **2,200 projects in 69 countries**, employing about **4,700 expatriate aid workers** and **60,000 local professionals and aid workers.**

## Who is COOPI?

○ Countries where COOPI works currently

○ Countries where COOPI worked in the past

○ In addition to Italy, COOPI is active with advocacy and fundraising campaigns in the USA, through the American Friends of COOPI and in Switzerland, thanks to the COOPI Suisse association.



THE NUMBERS OF COOPI	2018	2017	2016
<b>Countries</b>	<b>30</b>	<b>28</b>	<b>24</b>
<b>Projects</b>	<b>241</b>	<b>238</b>	<b>199</b>
• International Projects and Italy	222	212	173
• Child Sponsorship Projects	19	26	26
<b>Beneficiaries</b>	<b>4,739,543</b>	<b>2,957,914</b>	<b>2,601,165</b>
• Beneficiaries of International Projects and in Italy	4,737,603	2,956,000	2,599,017
• Beneficiaries of the Child Sponsorship projects	1,940	1,914	2,148
<b>N. of international aid workers (expats)</b>	<b>119</b>	<b>121</b>	<b>111</b>
<b>N. of local professionals and aid workers</b>	<b>2,500</b>	<b>2,500</b>	<b>2,800</b>
<b>N. Staff in Italy</b>	<b>57</b>	<b>63</b>	<b>66</b>
<b>N. of volunteers in Italy</b>	<b>330</b>	<b>400</b>	<b>356</b>
<b>N. regional headquarters and local groups</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>4</b>

# COOPI and the Italian International Cooperation

**On April 15, 1965, Father Barbieri founded COOPI.** However, the history of COOPI begins earlier, as early as 1961, when the young Jesuit, Vincenzo Barbieri, was sent by his superiors to study in Lyon at the Theology department, in view of a future departure to Chad as a missionary. In France, Barbieri found a cultural environment much livelier and more open than the one that permeated Italy in the years preceding the Second Vatican Council and came into contact with laity movements that had been engaged for years with volunteer efforts in developing countries. In 1962 Barbieri decided not to go away as a



## Sixties and Seventies

### From volunteering to projects

Shortly after its foundation, Father Barbieri trains and sends lay people abroad for missions that last at least two years and contributes to the drafting of the Pedini Law, which establishes the International Civil Service in Italy.

A few years later COOPI runs the first project financed by the Italian Government in Malta: the use of public funds leads the association to develop a more comprehensive planning.



## The Eighties and Nineties

### From emergency interventions to collaboration with the main International Institutions

The Ogaden crisis in Somalia pushes COOPI to implement the first emergency project in 1980.

In 1993 COOPI is one of the first European NGOs to sign a partnership agreement with ECHO. During the ongoing genocide in Rwanda, it brings

home 15,000 unaccompanied and separated minors. In the following years, COOPI begins to assist children associated to armed groups in Sierra Leone and participates in the "Missione Arcobaleno (Rainbow Mission)" in Former-Yugoslavia.





## Who is COOPI?

missionary, but rather return to Milan with the intention of training volunteers who were ready to head South. He was the one who introduced lay people into the mission field and founded “Cooperazione Internazionale”. The term is used for the first time to identify the laity component in the work of the missions. **This was the starting point for a long 50-year journey during which COOPI and the Italian international cooperation with its multiple voices has grown and transformed together.**



## The early 2000s



## From 2010 to today

### “The COOPI approach” leaves its mark

In different parts of the world, the name COOPI is increasingly associated with competence also on specific issues. The “community therapeutic care” approach is tested in 2002 in the Democratic Republic of the Congo to save children from malnutrition and becomes adopted as protocol by the government. In 2004, COOPI

inaugurates the first “disaster risk reduction” project in Ecuador. In 2007 COOPI inaugurates the intercultural approach that will be adopted by Bolivia to promote indigenous health and justice, thanks to the success of the first hospital that integrates conventional and traditional indigenous medicine.



### Innovation and integration to increase impact

**In 2010**, COOPI contributes to the ratification of the ILO 169 Convention on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples by the Central African Republic: a success for COOPI, which has been working in the country for years to protect and promote Aka pygmies's rights.

**In 2011 and 2012** COOPI makes innovation a distinctive element of its interventions. To reduce disaster risk in Malawi it maps the territory using mobile and satellite technologies and actively involving local communities. The Ethiopian Government awards the COOPI project for access to renewable energy due to the high benefits it provides to local communities.

**In 2015** COOPI turns 50 years

old. To celebrate this important anniversary, COOPI presents its 2015-2020 strategy and publishes its first Annual Report focused on Social Accountability.

**Since 2016**, COOPI has faced humanitarian crises with an integrated regional approach and has been increasingly active for refugees and migrants protection and for education in emergency.



To learn more about the history of COOPI, visit the website [www.coopi.org](http://www.coopi.org).

# Governance and organization



PHOTO: FRANCESCO BELLINA

COOPI has more than 50 years of history behind it, during which the organization has grown steadily and built a structure to face the challenges of an ever-evolving international cooperation.

However, these transformations have not affected its identity and its founding values, established within the organization's Charter of Values and shared by the people who adhere to it and collaborate with it.

In 2010 COOPI was transformed from an association into a participatory foundation; that choice, not only demonstrated its high level of maturity, but also gave the organization greater stability and strengthened its reliability with donors. In addition, it allowed for greater participation from stakeholders in the South, both in terms of the decision-making process and in field activities.

**Today COOPI is a foundation that has 72 founding members,** whose purpose is "contributing to a harmonious and integrated development of the communities with which it cooperates in

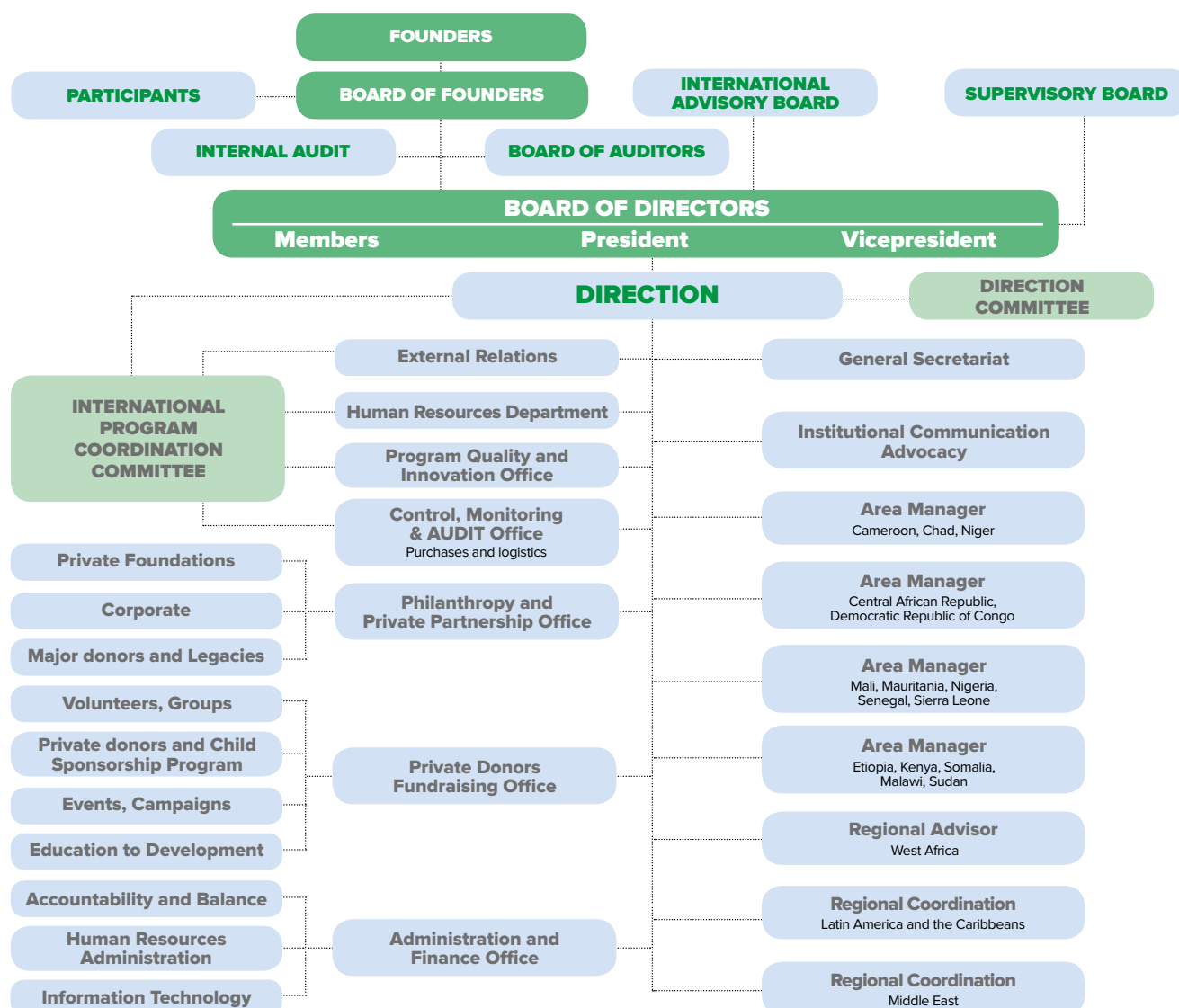
the knowledge that through contact and cooperation between peoples it is possible to achieve the ideals of equality and justice for a better global balance". (Statute, art. 2.01).

**Reliability and reputation are invaluable to COOPI.** COOPI therefore considers it essential to clearly express the values, principles and responsibilities that guide its conduct in relations with donors, beneficiaries, project partners, people who work with COOPI and with any other party interested in the activities of the organization. Through the **Code of Ethics**, approved in 2012, COOPI demonstrates its accountability to stakeholders in its mission and values, in its effectiveness of the activities undertaken, in its efficiency of organization, in its legitimacy as an NGO and in its structures to protect legality.

## Who is COOPI?

In the last ten years COOPI has made significant efforts to change, also at the management level. An organizational model which follows the indications provided in this regard by Italian Legislative Decree 231, has been defined and adopted. A clear organizational structure has been laid out. It includes, among other things: an organizational chart, the functional areas and the roles of the operating structure; processes and activities; eighteen internal procedures. COOPI also has an independent supervisory body aimed to check the efficacy

of organizational procedures, which met together 8 times during 2018. The COOPI organizational chart has also been revised several times in recent years. New departments have been created and part of the existing structures and working methods have been modified, both at the central level, as well as in the countries of intervention. These changes have contributed to a gradual decentralization of management and operational activities and have shifted the role of the central office to areas of guidance, support and oversight.



In 2018 the Board of Founders met once, the Board of Directors gathered 9 times and the Board of Auditors 3 times. No member of the governing bodies of the Foundation receives any compensation for the office held or the activities carried out in relation to its office.



The **Statute** and the **Code of Ethics** of COOPI can be downloaded by visiting the “Documents” section of the website [www.coopi.org](http://www.coopi.org)



# Human Resources



PHOTO: GIACOMO ZANDONINI

COOPI is a non-governmental organization that has 57 employees and collaborators, 119 expatriate aid workers and about 2,500 local aid workers. In addition 154 people occasionally collaborate for specific fundraising campaigns together with 330 volunteers.

COOPI works with highly experienced professionals in development cooperation. The attention to recruitment, punctual and targeted training interventions, the interest in creating continuous and mutually profitable relationships and the enhancement of human resources over time, guarantee the presence of competent and motivated people.

Every year, COOPI receives tens of thousands of curricula and selects hundreds of operators and technical consultants through a process guided by transparency and meritocracy, allowing for collaboration in order to carry out COOPI's global projects in the most effective way.

The work of the staff, both within the central office and outside is periodically evaluated through an articulated process involving the worker, its closest reference, other colleagues with whom he or she works closely and the head of Human Resources.

Every year COOPI prepares a Training Plan that takes into consideration the training needs of all the staff, both at headquarters and in the countries in which it operates and promotes targeted initiatives, such as the course for Project Administrators. COOPI increasingly invests in an efficient, engaging and innovative training system capable of spreading the culture of continuous learning and accompanying the processes of change.

COOPI follows good practices in the area of health and safety at work to protect all collaborators at headquarters. It also requires departing personnel to follow the instructions provided in the "expatriate guide" and the indications of the Health Guide drafted by COOPI and adopted by all the organizations that refer to SISCOS (an organization that provides assistance services to NGOs operating in the international cooperation).

## THE TEAM IN NUMBERS

### 48 employees

(31 women and 17 men), 10 of which are part-time

### 9 collaborators (7 women, 2 men)

### 119 aid workers expats

About **2,500 local professionals** and **aid workers**.

## TRAINING: KEY NUMBERS

Training at headquarters for expats about to depart (Induction Training)

**71 participants; 385 man/days**

Continuous training - webinar, for aid workers abroad

**17 participants; 8.5 man/days**

Continuous training - face to face, for aid workers at headquarters

**23 participants; 11.5 man/days**

Updating training for aid workers at headquarters

**59 participants; 185.5 man/days**



PHOTO: MARTINA AZZALEA

## COOPI meeting

The COOPI meeting is a yearly event that takes place in Milan and reunites managers working in Africa, the Middle East, Caribbeans and Latin America: this is a special time of unification within an organization whose presence spreads out over many different countries and where workers come together from great distances, from diverse social and environmental contexts and from varied organizational structures.

For each meeting a theme of crucial importance is chosen for the NGO, which then acts as a common thread and helps to strengthen a sense of belonging and identity unity. Stemming out of this, participants share reflections on work completed, outline lines of development for the upcoming year and exchange information and good practices while defining a common vision and direction.



85 people attended the COOPI Meeting in 2018, including expatriate staff (26 people) and headquarters' office staff, members of the Board of Directors and technical consultants.



# A networking organization



PHOTO: MARCO PALOMBI

It is in the nature of NGOs like COOPI to operate in a network by collaborating, supporting and obtaining support from a plurality of subjects belonging to realities that are often very distinct from one another: geographically, culturally, economically.

This characteristic increasingly makes COOPI a facilitator that helps to bring together social needs - often extreme - and useful resources; promotes the local economy and the empowerment of populations in the South of the world; strengthens the impacts of interventions in the field; feeds a virtuous circle of trust with institutional and private donors; promotes cultural change also in the North of the world.

Some independent organizations established to support COOPI activities and systematically collaborate with the organization are also part of the COOPI network: American Friends of COOPI and COOPI Suisse.

**COOPI considers it essential to operate in a network with international and local partners to provide adequate responses to humanitarian crises and to guarantee the**

**construction of sustainable development paths**, thanks to the integration of different expertise, the strengthening of advocacy capacities, the exchange of experiences and integration between research and action.

Furthermore, COOPI leads several training initiatives to promote knowledge of the international cooperation professions. In terms of post-graduate education programs, COOPI participates in the Cooperation & Development Network which includes the Masters of Pavia, Cartagena de Indias, Bethlehem, Kathmandu and Nairobi.



To learn more about American Friends of COOPI visit the website [www.cooopi.us](http://www.cooopi.us). To learn more about COOPI Suisse visit the website [www.suisse.cooopi.org](http://www.suisse.cooopi.org).

*In the photo, the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees Filippo Grandi visits COOPI projects in Niger.*



# Network

## Universities and Research Centers



## International Involvement



**CSO-Net**  
ECOSOC Civil Society Network



A GLOBAL NGO NETWORK  
FOR PRINCIPLED AND EFFECTIVE  
HUMANITARIAN ACTION



**INEE** | An international network for  
education in emergencies



## Organisations



COOPI is also a member of the Piattaforma Italiana Multisetoriale sull'Energia (Italian Multisectoral Energy Platform).

Furthermore, COOPI participates as a member of Global Compact, at the Global Partnership for Effective Development Co-operation. It is represented through the Network italiano Salute Globale (Global Health Italian Network) at: Global Fund Advocates Network • G7 Civil Society Task Force • GCAP (Global Coalition against Poverty - Italy) • ZeroZeroCinque Campaign.

As a member of Link 2007, COOPI is a member of: ASviS (Italian Alliance for Sustainable Development) • IAP (Institute for Self-Regulation Advertising) • Forum Permanente del Terzo Settore (Permanent Forum of the Third Sector). As an associate of CoLombia, it participates in the AOI (Italian NGO Association).

# Policy and guidelines

COOPI writes policies on key issues for its workers based on consolidated experience that has been developing for over 50 years.

The policy documents illustrate the organization's position on the topics dealt with starting from the definition of the international theoretical framework within which the work approach has matured and on which it is based.

The policies have a twofold objective: they help the organization discuss central issues for its programs, share and agree on the work approach and at the same time explain and make aware of the institutional position with respect to the various topics dealt with. The policies complete the values, the vision and the mission articulating in a more detailed way

the work methods and strategies used in COOPI programs. Furthermore, in conjunction with each policy, a document of Standard Operational Procedures is developed which translates the theoretical level into the practical aspects of program management, allowing operators to concretize what has been expressed and render the interventions sustainable and effective.

In 2018, COOPI published the Education in Emergency Policy and began drafting the guidelines on the Energy Access sector.

## COOPI's policy and guidelines

**Education in Emergency**  
(2018)

**Nutrition Security**  
(2017)

**Protection**  
(2016)

**Gender**  
(2015)

**Food Security**  
(2014)

**Environment and Disaster  
Risk Reduction** (2013)

**Childhood**  
(2011)

**Corporate Social  
Responsibility** (2011)



The COOPI policies can be downloaded by visiting the "Policy" section of the website [www.cooi.org](http://www.cooi.org)

# Regional approach, innovation, effectiveness: the COOPI Strategy

Among the **current priority sectors of intervention for COOPI** are the **protection of refugees** and **Education in Emergency** that in recent years have come on the international scene, often in the form of dramatic emergencies, demanding immediate interventions and catalyzing huge efforts on the part of professionals and operators within the International Cooperation.

The **most consolidated operating sectors** of COOPI, referred to in the “2015-2020 Strategy - Together we can make the world a better place” remain at the center of programming, especially with regard to development projects: **Food Security, Nutrition Security, Protection, Water and Sanitation, Environment and Disaster Risk Reduction** constitute the backbone of more than fifty years of COOPI activity in the world.

**Access to sustainable energy** represents a **new challenge**: energy has now become a **specific sector and one of vital importance** for the international cooperation, so much so that the topic has been included in the **Sustainable Development Goals**. Furthermore, by its nature the subject of energy and climate change is strongly connected to important and **consolidated sectors of development cooperation**, from food and nutrition security to water management, from health to education, from environmental protection to the prevention of disaster risks.

In addition to international projects, COOPI is also developing some interventions **to combat poverty** in Italy, in collaboration with other Third Sector operators in the area.



PHOTO: SIMONE DURANTE



PHOTO: NESTOR QUINONES ZQUIERDO



In the planning and implementation of interventions, COOPI increasingly adopts a **regional approach** across its many countries, considering this essential for facing challenges posed in recent years by the global humanitarian scenario. The “2015-2020 Strategy - Together we can make the world a better place” defines 5 priority intervention regions for COOPI: **West Africa, Central Africa, Eastern and Southern Africa, The Middle East, Latin America and the Caribbean**.

**Effectiveness and quality** of the response to humanitarian crises, **promotion of innovation** in the field, **active involvement** of all interlocutors characterize COOPI field interventions: a **value** also

recognized by the **most authoritative international institutional donors**.

In close correlation with the increase of field activities, COOPI has also pursued challenging functional objectives. Among these, a constant adaptation of the **organizational structure** that includes a process of **gradual decentralization of operational and management activities** (see “Governance and organization”). Other lines of “internal” development are the strengthening of **partnerships**, the capitalization and internal sharing of know-how, the growth of **fundraising and accountability** to all stakeholders.



## Support for refugees and migration management



In 2018 the number of **refugees, displaced persons and asylum seekers** in the world exceeded 70 million people, the highest number ever registered by UNHCR. Of these, approximately 41.3 million are internally displaced and 25.9 million are refugees.

**The poorest countries** also take in **a third of all refugees** worldwide and **do not receive adequate support** to assist the hosted populations. COOPI supports **refugees and displaced people** in various countries such as **Niger, Mali, Mauritania, Senegal, Gambia, the Central African Republic, the Democratic Republic of the Congo, Somalia, Lebanon** (the country that hosts the largest number of refugees in proportion to the national population) and **Jordan, Peru and Ecuador**.

Since 2017, COOPI has initiated, in collaboration with **UNHCR**, a **reception and protection project in Niger** aimed at the most vulnerable asylum-seekers evacuated

from Libya in the framework of the Emergency Evacuation Transit Mechanism (ETM).

In **Mali, Senegal and Gambia**, COOPI has been supporting migrants and displaced people since 2018 thanks to the financing of AICS, Italian Agency for Development Cooperation. In Peru and Ecuador, COOPI is responding to the **Venezuelan humanitarian crisis**: in total, **more than 4 million people** have fled from Venezuela to neighboring countries, most of the time arriving in serious need. **Peru** is home to around **820,000** migrants and refugees. **COOPI has been present in the country since 2000** and started facing the migration emergency in November 2018. In collaboration with **UNICEF** and **IOM International Organization for Migration**, COOPI is involved with **taking in Venezuelan migrants** at the border area with Ecuador, the main “gateway” to the country. Since the early months of 2019 COOPI has also been active in Ecuador.

## Education in emergency: protection and future of children



According to UNHCR estimates, in 2018 one refugee out of two is a minor, and many of these (111,000) are separated and unaccompanied. More than 4 million refugee children between the ages of 5 and 17 have not had the chance to go to school during 2018, half a million more than in 2017. Girls and young women are particularly vulnerable: more at risk of leaving the educational path at an early age compared to their male peers and more exposed to the risk of sexual violence, forced marriages, early pregnancies.

**Education is a crucial element for the protection and normal development of children affected by a crisis**: school protects children from violence and risk of forced recruitment by armed groups, helping them to regain a sense of normalcy and security in their daily life; it makes them self-sufficient, allows them to be listened to and understood and is the best way to invest in their future.



Among the **regions most affected** by today's humanitarian crises are **West and Central Africa and the Middle East**. Here COOPI is very active, including education in emergency projects (for an overview of the situation and activities carried out in each area, please refer to the relevant regional chapters in this document).

In 2018, COOPI also published its **Policy on Education in Emergency**.

## Sustainable energy: a challenge for international cooperation



Three billion people - about 40% of the world's population - do not have access to sustainable fuels and technologies for cooking. Nearly one billion people live without access to electricity. **Sub-Saharan Africa** represents **half of the global population without access to energy**. **Latin America and the Caribbean** are far behind in terms of access to **low environmental impact technologies for cooking**.

For several years, COOPI has been implementing projects that **promote the spread of eco-sustainable, renewable energy technologies** in both **development and emergency contexts** in countries such as **Ethiopia, Somalia, Uganda, Malawi, Mozambique, the Democratic Republic of the Congo, Sierra Leone, Bolivia and Haiti**.

In many cases COOPI has introduced **innovative solutions** in the field, has been able to **activate and coordinate a network** of diverse actors, has demonstrated the ability to **modulate** its intervention according to **the needs and the context**, **minimizing the environmental impact**.

In **Ethiopia**, COOPI has created an innovative multi-year project to **generate carbon credits**: the introduction of thousands of **"improved stoves"** with high energy yields and the rehabilitation of water points have resulted in significant savings in the use of resources, recognized and valued through the **Gold Standard certification** and the **generation of carbon credits**. The credits are now sold on the energy market, **generating new funds to be reinvested** in the specific territory (for more information on the project, see Chapter: "Eastern and Southern Africa").

In **Sierra Leone**, COOPI participates in an international project funded by the European Commission for the **electrification of rural areas**, which will benefit more than 800,000 people overall (for more information on the project, see Chapter: "West Africa and the Lake Chad Basin").

COOPI also contributes to the **development of best practices** and participates in **international work groups** on access to eco-

sustainable energy: it was the **leader of the Set4Food project** (Sustainable Energy Technologies for Food Utilization) funded by the European Commission (ECHO); since 2015 COOPI has participated in the work of the **Technology and Innovation Work Group of the Global Food Security Cluster**, led by the Food and Agricultural Organization (FAO) and the World Food Program (WFP); since 2016 COOPI participates in the **Safe Access to Fuel and Energy (SAFE) Working Group**.

In 2018 COOPI started the preparation of its own guidance document on the energy access sector.



PHOTO: CORALIE MANERI



It is possible to consult the 2015-2020 COOPI Strategy, "Together we can make the world a better place" on [www.cooi.org](http://www.cooi.org).

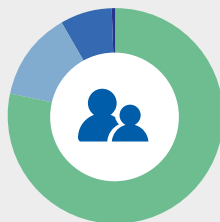
# COOPI's imprint: activities and results

In 2018 COOPI was present in 30 countries around the world, including Africa, the Middle East, Latin America and the Caribbean. In 25 of these countries, it carried out 222 projects, mainly for emergency and development, and supported 1,940 children through the CSP. In 5 countries (Mauritania, Kenya, Jordan, Colombia and Ecuador) COOPI planned the start-up of activities for the following year or continued to maintain active relationships with different level of stakeholders. In total, more than 4,700,000 beneficiaries have been reached.

In 2018, COOPI expanded its presence to 2 new countries, Gambia and Mauritania.

## TYPE OF INTERVENTION

- **Emergency 189**
- **Development 32**
- **Child Sponsorship Program 19**
- **Education to Development 1**





## COOPI's imprint: activities and results

Legend//  Number of projects  Number of direct beneficiaries

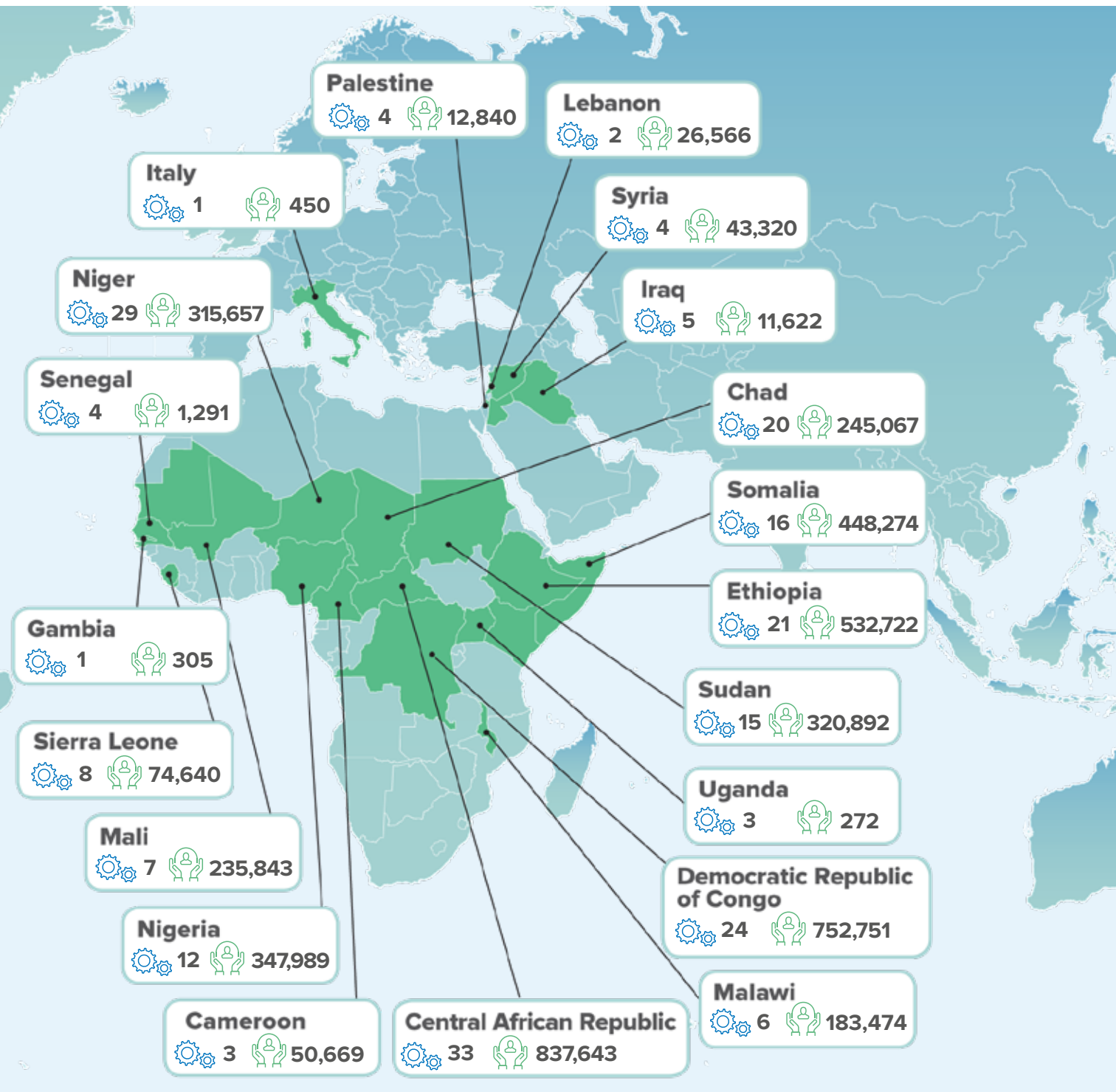


PHOTO: FATI ABUBAKAR

## West Africa and the Lake Chad Basin crisis

In West Africa COOPI operates in nine countries: Chad, Mali, Niger, Nigeria, Senegal, Sierra Leone, Cameroon, the Gambia and Mauritania.

West Africa communities face daily food insecurity and chronic malnutrition, social breakdowns and migratory flows. The causes of the many emergencies that cyclically affect this region can be found in adverse climatic events such as drought and desertification and a population boom, accompanied by political instability and widespread crime, as well as chronic vulnerability factors and a low resilience that undermines the population's ability to react to adverse events. In addition, frequent internal clashes primarily due to the presence of various armed groups linked to Islamic fundamentalism and inter-ethnic conflicts as well as conflicts between breeders and farmers often claim numerous casualties in the villages. Since 2009, the violence perpetrated by terrorist groups linked to Boko Haram or to Al-Qaeda has continued, especially in Mali, Burkina Faso and Niger.



### SAHEL

**24 million** people need humanitarian assistance

**10.8 million** people suffer from severe food insecurity

**3.7 million** children suffer from malnutrition

**5 million** displaced people and refugees

**400,000** children excluded from the school system

### LAKE CHAD BASIN

**10.7 million** people need humanitarian assistance

**3.6 million** people affected by food insecurity

**490,000** children suffer from malnutrition

**2.5 million** displaced people

**232,000** refugees

**3 million** children excluded from the school system



PHOTO: FATI ABUBAKAR



**84**  
NR OF  
PROJECTS



**1,271,461**  
NR OF  
BENEFICIARIES

Total International and Child Sponsorship Program

## COOPI's imprint: activities and results

COOPI responds to the humanitarian crisis in the **Lake Chad Basin**, one of the most serious worldwide, intervening in all four countries bordering the lake - Niger, Chad, Nigeria and Cameroon - with a **multi-year and multi-sectoral intervention program**.

COOPI met the immediate essential needs of the affected communities and quickly worked towards building resilience and gradual independence, trying to make the **emergency** and the **development interventions** as synergistic as possible, in full harmony with the principles of the Humanitarian Nexus, which is also promoted by the most influential international institutions. Food security, nutrition, protection and education are the pillars of an intervention that reached **more than 330,000 people**, including numerous **refugees and internally displaced people**. COOPI is currently devoting attention and increasing efforts to **refugees and migrants** in the region: since 2016 it has been collaborating with the **International Organization for Migration (IOM)** and since December 2017 it has started to systematically collaborate with **UNHCR in Niger** in order to provide **reception and protection to evacuated people from Libya**. COOPI is currently managing 18 guesthouses in Niamey, 3 in Agadez and 1 in Tillabery ensuring, in addition to food and accommodation, psycho-social support for severely traumatized adults and

children (frequently victims of torture, violence, trafficking) and favoring resettlement in their final destination.

Since 2018, with the support of **AICS**, COOPI has carried out activities of psycho-social support and training for migrants and displaced persons in **the Gambia and Senegal** and manages three temporary houses in **Mali** for vulnerable transit migrants and return migrants.

In the Lake Chad basin, COOPI works with the **Italian Agency for Development Cooperation (AICS)**, with influential international partners such as **ECHO, UNHCR, USAID/OFDA, Unicef, European Union, Swiss Cooperation, IOM and other United Nations agencies** and in collaboration with the **local authorities and non-governmental organizations** present in the area.

In Sierra Leone, COOPI participates in the international multi-year project *Promoting Renewable Energy Services for Social Development in Sierra Leone (PRESSD-SL)* for the electrification of rural areas. As part of the project, funded by the **European Union**, which will benefit more than 800,000 people overall, COOPI has already installed a 79 kW solar-powered **Mini-Grid** and an **Energy Hub** to provide approximately **15,000 people** with access to eco-sustainable electricity.



To learn more about the work of COOPI in West Africa and the Lake Chad Region, visit the pages of the website **[www.cooopi.org](http://www.cooopi.org)** dedicated to activities in individual countries.



PHOTO: SILVANO RUPELLA

## Central Africa

In Central Africa COOPI has been operating since the '70s in the **Democratic Republic of the Congo (DRC)** and the **Central African Republic (CAR)**, both battered by decades of dictatorship and armed clashes.

In the **Democratic Republic of the Congo**, a country that has about 99 million inhabitants belonging to hundreds of different ethnic groups often in conflict with each other and that at the end of 2018 experienced its first democratic elections, COOPI has been present since 1977 with emergency and development projects in many parts of the country.

Given the great geographical extension and the complexity of logistics, in order to be more and more effective, COOPI is currently concentrating its activities in three main areas - Ituri / North Kivu, Kasai Central and Tanganyika - where it mostly carries out projects to combat malnutrition and health support, strengthening resilience and promoting food security, protecting children and reintegrating boys and girls associated with armed groups (Kasai), protecting and promoting the reintegration of women survived to violence into the socio-economic fabric. In 2018, among the main donors of COOPI in the DRC, we mention **ECHO and the European Union, the Italian Agency for Development Cooperation, the United Nations Humanitarian Fund.**

Moreover, through Child Sponsorship Program, COOPI supports street children and girls accused of witchcraft in the DRC.



### DEMOCRATIC REPUBLIC OF THE CONGO

**1.3 million** displaced people

**554,700** refugees

**12.8 million** people in need of humanitarian assistance

**8.5 million** people at risk of epidemics

**4.3 million** children suffer from child malnutrition; of which 1.3 million of severe malnutrition

### CENTRAL AFRICAN REPUBLIC

**643,000** displaced people

**575,000** refugees

**2.9 million** people in need of humanitarian assistance

**90,000** children suffer from malnutrition; of which 38,200 of severe malnutrition



**57**  
NR OF  
PROJECTS



**1,590,394**  
NR OF  
BENEFICIARIES

Total International and Child Sponsorship Program

## COOPI's imprint: activities and results

In the **Central African Republic**, COOPI began operating in 1974 (the longest active international humanitarian organization). The CAR has been affected by a very serious humanitarian crisis since 2013: despite the fact that since 2016 the country has a new president who is supported by the international community, the process of disarmament, demobilization and reintegration is slow to progress and countless armed groups continue to dominate most of the territory. Almost half of the population depends on humanitarian assistance to survive.

Currently more than 496 thousand people in 6 prefectures benefit from the support of COOPI which manages 6 large displaced sites - 4 in Bambari, 1 in Bria and 1 in Alindao - where COOPI is also in charge of managing food distribution.

In the CAR, COOPI carries out, above all, projects of food security, the reintegration of women and girls who were

victims of violence, child protection, education in emergency and infrastructure rehabilitation, all the while operating in areas where the activity of aid workers is strongly hindered. In the Mont Carmel area, near the capital Bangui, COOPI is implementing an innovative training and socio-economic integration project aimed at young people affected by conflicts. The project, funded by **FAO** and the Italian **Agency for Development Cooperation**, also involves Nobel Prize winners **Muhammad Yunus** and **Tavakkol Karman** and their Centres and Foundations, the Order of the Discalced Carmelites and the Central African Government with its ministries of economy and plan of agriculture, breeding and animal health.

In 2018 among the main institutional donors of COOPI in the Central African Republic, we mention the **UNHCR**, the **World Food Program**, the **United Nations Humanitarian Fund**, **ECHO** and the **European Union**.



PHOTO: EDUARDO SOTERAS JALIL



To learn more about the work of COOPI in Central Africa, visit the pages of the website **[www.coopi.org](http://www.coopi.org)** dedicated to activities in individual countries.



PHOTO: CORALIE MANERI

## Eastern and Southern Africa



**In Eastern and Southern Africa, COOPI works in Ethiopia, Malawi, Somalia, Sudan and Uganda. Moreover, COOPI's headquarters of its Eastern and Southern Africa Regional Coordination are located in Nairobi (Kenya).**

In areas characterized by chronic water scarcity, affected by frequent droughts, and yet whose economy is mainly based on pastoralism and agriculture, areas where the indicators of human development are among the worst in the world, COOPI has been working for some time. Here COOPI carries out food security interventions and promotes raising the salary of small farmers and artisans through the integration and diversification of livelihoods and the increase of production capacities. COOPI is also rehabilitating water basins and promoting innovative energy saving projects and the use of renewable energy sources.



PHOTO: CORALIE MANERI

### HORN OF AFRICA

**27 million** people suffering from severe food insecurity

**11.2 million** displaced people

**4.5 million** refugees

**15,454** people suffering from cholera



**61**  
NR OF  
PROJECTS



**1,485,634**  
NR OF  
BENEFICIARIES

Total International and Child Sponsorship Program



To learn more about the work of COOPI in Eastern and Southern Africa, visit the pages of the website **[www.cooapi.org](http://www.cooapi.org)** dedicated to activities in the individual countries.



## COOPI's imprint: activities and results

In **Ethiopia**, COOPI has also created an innovative multi-year project funded by the **European Union** to **generate carbon credits**. The introduction of 6,000 **improved stoves**, with high energy efficiency, and the rehabilitation of water sources has led to a reduction in the use of resources. The energy savings achieved were also recognized with a **Gold Standard certification** and the **generation of carbon credits**. The credits, sold on the **energy market**, then generated **funds** to be **reinvested in the project**. Thus a second phase of activities could begin which then leads to the distribution of another **20,000 improved stoves**, useful for the population to cook. Their use will release **further carbon credits**, strengthening the **virtuous circle** started with the first part of the project.

In **Sudan**, COOPI is working to increase access to drinking water and is also carrying out two very complex projects

for the rehabilitation of water basin dams funded by the **European Union**. These interventions are allowing populations to return to areas abandoned for the lack of water and contribute to lowering the level of social conflict linked to competition for a scarce and fundamental resource. Furthermore, in areas where water is available again, new income-generating activities have started and a social fabric is gradually rebuilding: these are elements fundamental for development.

In order to prevent and fight diseases in **Somalia**, COOPI provides emergency medical services and outpatient care for the treatment of HIV and tuberculosis thanks to the support of the **Global Fund** and in collaboration with health facilities and local institutions. Through two consortia of humanitarian operators, COOPI participates in food security, water access and water services management projects.



PHOTO: FIRAOL LEMECHA HARENA



PHOTO: FEDERICO PONTI

## The Middle East and the Syrian crisis

**In the Middle East, COOPI is present in Syria, Iraq, Lebanon, Jordan and Palestine.**

The Syrian crisis, which began in Syria in 2011 and in Iraq in 2013, also involves neighboring countries in different ways and to different extents: in this area almost 20 million (13.1 million in Syria and 6.7 million in Iraq) people need humanitarian assistance in some form, millions of people suffer from insufficient access to food and clean water, children under the age of six have known nothing but war and, although the military conflict has seen a reduction in intensity, many schools are still closed.

The massive movement of refugees and displaced people has a strong impact especially on the economy and basic services of border countries with limited populations, such as Lebanon and Jordan.



PHOTO: FEDERICO PONTI

### SYRIA

**6.1 million** displaced people

**5.6 million** refugees

**13.2 million** people need humanitarian assistance

**4.6 million** people suffer from malnutrition

**6.5 million** people do not have sufficient access to food

**14.6 million** people do not have sufficient access to water and hygiene services

**11.3 million** people do not have sufficient access to health services

**5.8 million** children and young people cannot attend a regular educational path



**15**  
NR OF  
PROJECTS



**94,348**  
NR OF  
BENEFICIARIES

Total International and Child Sponsorship Program



**In Syria COOPI intervenes in different areas and in several sectors.** In 2018 it carried out emergency response interventions, providing **hot meals** to the displaced people of East Ghouta, combining distributions with **protection interventions** (prevention of anti-personnel mines, recovery from physical and psychological trauma) and promotion of a **return to normal life and self-sustenance** (materials for agriculture and family farming, including irrigation). COOPI also worked on protection by opening a **psycho-social support center for children and adults** in Aleppo East, with a special focus on the most vulnerable people such as the elderly, people with disabilities and family mothers who are often the breadwinners. Finally it promoted **food security, hygiene and resilience** with the rehabilitation of wells, the creation of vegetable gardens and the distribution of seeds and kits for the cultivation and breeding of poultry. In 2018,



PHOTO: ROSE IBRAHEEM

among the main institutional donors of COOPI in Syria, we mention **UNHCR, OCHA** and **ECHO**.

**In Iraq, COOPI continued to carry out education in emergency activities**, with the opening of temporary schools in areas devastated by the war in the territories around Mosul, the rehabilitation of water distribution and purification systems serving schools (from 2018 also in the District of Al-Shirqat with the rehabilitation of water facilities and water purification in the villages), the dissemination of correct practices of water use and hygiene and risk reduction campaigns related to the dense presence of anti-personnel mines in the territory. In 2018, COOPI intervened in Iraq mainly thanks to the support of the **Italian Development Cooperation Agency** and the contributions of **private donors**.

**In Lebanon and Jordan** COOPI has rescued refugees by giving a first response to the most immediate needs and then has begun to implement actions to strengthen resilience by supporting both host communities and refugees with child protection actions, school support, improvement of basic water and sanitation conditions. **From 2018 in the north of Lebanon** (Akkar region) COOPI coordinates a **multi-year project** for the planning and stabilization of public **solid waste** management services funded by the **European Union**. The project involves 12 local municipalities and several international and local partners, academics and specialists in the sector, with the aim of drastically reducing the risk of epidemics and the release of pollutants in the Mediterranean Sea.

**In Palestine COOPI continues a multi-year activity to promote professional training** financed by the **European Union**, facilitating the creation of adequate connections between schools and the labor market and supporting small businesses created by young people, especially in East Jerusalem. In 2018 COOPI also launched a program of **psycho-social support, professional training and job placement** for Palestinian women who survived gender-based violence funded by the **Italian Agency for Development Cooperation**.



To learn more about the work of COOPI in the Middle East, visit the pages of the website **[www.coopi.org](http://www.coopi.org)** dedicated to activities in the individual countries.



PHOTO: NESTOR QUIÑONES IZQUIERDO

## Latin America and the Caribbean



COOPI has been working in Latin America since 1967; in 2018 it continued to operate in Bolivia, Ecuador, Guatemala, Haiti, Paraguay and Peru. COOPI's headquarters of its Latin America and Caribbean Regional Coordination is based in Lima. In addition to the countries listed, COOPI is also a registered nonprofit in Colombia and it is allowed to operate in the country (even if it is not managing any project at the moment).

When we talk about Latin America and the Caribbean, we refer to three heterogeneous geographical areas, namely South America, Central America and the Caribbean. These sub-regions have quite different physical-natural, environmental, socio-political and economic characteristics. Despite this, the role and the approach of COOPI within the countries in question has some common lines, which have been well-defined and which have evolved over the years. Today in this area COOPI mainly carries out **emergency interventions**, accompanies the subsequent **reconstruction processes** and promotes



PHOTO: NESTOR QUIÑONES IZQUIERDO

### VENEZUELAN CRISIS

**More than 4 million** Venezuelan migrants and refugees.

**1,300,000%** is the inflation rate in Venezuela, today the highest in the world.

In 2017, infant mortality increased by **30%**, maternal mortality by **65%** and cases of malaria by **76%**.

**80%** of families suffer from food insecurity.



**23**  
NR OF  
PROJECTS



**297,256**  
NR OF  
BENEFICIARIES

Total International and Child Sponsorship Program



To learn more about the work of COOPI in Latin America and the Caribbean, visit the pages of the website **[www.cooi.org](http://www.cooi.org)** dedicated to activities in individual countries.

## COOPI's imprint: activities and results

**disaster risk reduction paths.** With regards to more classic interventions in the field of economic and social development, the promotion of human rights and governance, the role of COOPI and international NGOs in the region is an increasingly second-level intervention and is oriented towards technical assistance to local actors (institutional and non-governmental/civil society).

The constant deterioration of the socio-economic situation in Venezuela, due to hyperinflation, internal political instability, the progressive limitation of human rights, not to mention the high level of violence from 2015/16 to today, has caused the greatest humanitarian crisis exodus of modern Latin American history: since the beginning of the crisis more than 4 million migrants and refugees have left Venezuela, more than 10% of the country's population. Colombia is the country that hosts the

largest number of Venezuelan citizens, more than 1.1 million, followed by Peru, with 820,000 migrants and refugees.

COOPI intervenes in the north of Peru, on the border with Ecuador, where 90% of migrants enters the country by land. By coordinating the humanitarian response with **national institutions, UN agencies, international and local NGOs, and the Red Cross**, COOPI provides **guidance, protection, housing, food and transport to the most needy families** (approximately 5,000 people, a number continuously increasing). It also intervenes to preserve the **health conditions of migrants in transit** and responds to health and hygiene needs, in favor of around 8,500 families. From 2019 COOPI is also developing a **regional approach** in this context by conducting a feasibility study on the extension of its intervention to support migrants in **Ecuador, Colombia and Brazil**.



PHOTO: NICOLAS RÉMÉNÉ



# Main sectors of intervention in 2018



## Food security

- 437,655 people in emergency contexts supported through food distributions or cash transfers
- 34,729 tons of food distributed
- 417 tons of seeds supplied to 107,550 farmers
- 35,760 farmers trained in agricultural techniques
- 19,350 head of cattle distributed
- 366,840 animals vaccinated
- 3 production chains and sales routes supported



## Water and hygiene

- 338,830 people given access to drinking water
- 58,160 people have access to toilets
- 146 water structures constructed (including 1 dam)
- 138 water structures rehabilitated (including 2 dams)
- 534 latrines built
- 37 water schemes extended or rehabilitated
- 248,380 people reached by awareness campaigns



## Environment and disaster risk reduction

- 97,960 people who benefited from activities to strengthen the capacity of DRR
- Strengthening of officials capacity in 90 municipalities
- 24 brigades trained and active in the area
- 39 contingency / evacuation plans prepared / updated and simulations carried out
- 13,747 families sensitized to the management of solid urban waste and which now have waste collectors
- 112,340 trees planted



## Energy

- 641,148 people have access to electricity produced from renewable sources
- 100 community recharging points and 22 electrified energy hub points
- 60,000 solar cookers distributed
- 227 solar panels and 442 batteries provided
- 393 students completed renewable energy training courses



## COOPI's imprint: activities and results



## Protection

- 840 children associated with armed forces reunited with families
- Medical and psychosocial support for 16,345 unaccompanied minors or children separated from families
- Taking in 17,751 people who survived gender-based violence
- 12,838 people taken in to get psychosocial and psychological support
- Access to drinking water and sanitation facilities for 66,138 displaced people
- 69,130 hygiene and water purification kits distributed



## Migrations

- 2,900 asylum seekers lodged in guesthouses
- 6,403 asylum seekers took part in activities of socio-economic reintegration and psycho-social support
- 13,018 people participated in information meetings for raising awareness on the risks of migration



## Education in emergency

- 38,890 children (of which 7,323 girls) have access to education in emergency
- 384 emergency classes set up in temporary schools
- 1,292 teachers trained in emergency contexts
- 24,025 school kits distributed



## Training

- 3,210 teachers trained
- 310 schools supported
- 200 classrooms equipped with school supplies
- 81,996 children have access to primary education
- 24,013 young people taught to read
- 2,346 young people have access to vocational training courses
- 1,295 people took part in training courses for the development of entrepreneurial and marketing skills for small businesses

## COOPI's imprint: activities and results



## Health

- 419,800 people given access to health services
- 53,746 people (of which 16,544 women) have access to medical services on mobile clinics
- 3,500 HIV positive pregnant women assisted during pregnancy
- 63,000 mosquito nets with insecticide distributed to 12,600 families
- 110 health centers rehabilitated
- 20 million pieces of pharmaceutical products distributed



## Nutrition security

- 97,328 malnourished children taken in
- 43,235 pregnant and lactating women taken in
- 1,515 health workers trained
- 1,924 community volunteers trained
- 115 nutrition units created / supported



To learn more about individual projects, visit the website **[www.coopi.org](http://www.coopi.org)**

## Food distribution to people in need in Italy

Italy has not escaped increasing poverty and fragility, which year after year involve ever larger segments of the population. COOPI has been carrying out a food distribution project which aids people in difficulty.

The initiative, launched in 1999 at the behest of Father Barbieri, has gradually developed and is now more organized: in 2018 it reached **about 100 households** for a total of more than **450 people living in Milan and in Lombardy**, half of them of **Italian nationality**.

In 2018 COOPI distributed about **20 tons of food**, also thanks to the commitment of volunteers and in collaboration with a series of **groups and organizations active in the Milan and Lombardy area**.

For 2019 COOPI intends to further strengthen its commitment to combat poverty in Italy. Many beneficiaries of the activities already

in place reside in Milan in the San Siro district, close to the Foundation's headquarters. Here COOPI aims at open a special space in which to carry out both **food distribution** and **reception activities** for people who benefit

from the distribution of food packages. Furthermore, COOPI intends to organize cultural events, such as conferences and photographic exhibitions relating to its own international cooperation activities, in the belief that these initiatives could bring **precious opportunities for knowledge and intercultural dialogue** into the space.



# The resources of COOPI

## Institutional donors

COOPI traditionally bases its activity to a decisive extent on so-called “institutional” funds, coming from public or private entities, whose mission is to select international cooperation projects considered worthy and fund them.

This choice is closely linked to the organization’s modus operandi, based mostly on the implementation of structured projects with the aim of helping communities involved to grow from within, supporting them in the process of ownership. These are projects that, in addition to interventions dealing with specific emergency situations, present an important component of promoting cultural changes and generating virtuous economies. Projects of this type require significant investments whose returns become visible in medium to long wait times that are often difficult to reconcile with the

expectations of many individual donors who look for quick results from their contribution.

Institutional donors, such as the European Commission or UN agencies, however, take a more technical approach and are more likely to accept longer wait times. On the other hand, these types of institutions require that the organizations financed by them demonstrate in a very specific way the results produced and the changes obtained, therefore COOPI carries out an important activity of accountability towards these donors.

### INSTITUTIONAL INTERNATIONAL AND NATIONAL DONORS



**FAO** Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations • **UNFPA** United Nations Population Fund • **UNIDO** United Nations Industrial Development Organization • **Charity and Defence of Nature Foundation**



The complete list of COOPI donors can be found on the page, “Partnership,” on the website [www.cooopi.org](http://www.cooopi.org)



# The balance sheet in brief

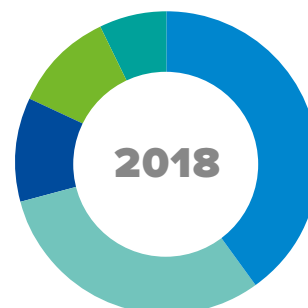
<b>BALANCE SHEET</b> (in Euros)	<b>2018</b>	<b>2017</b>
<b>ASSETS</b>		
Net fixed assets	974,067	1,180,609
Receivables from donors	5,639,895	2,952,538
Receivables from others	643,307	848,675
Liquid assets	7,407,943	9,861,992
Prepayments and accrued income	11,764	29,360
Accrued income for ongoing projects	14,611,518	22,087,822
<b>TOTAL ASSETS</b>	<b>29,288,494</b>	<b>36,960,996</b>
<b>LIABILITIES</b>		
Common fund	70,000	70,000
Other funds	1,247,152	778,845
Operating Profit	44,144	2,983
<b>TOTAL NET WORTH</b>	<b>1,361,296</b>	<b>851,828</b>
Provisions for risks and charges	-	72,721
Severance indemnity for subordinate employment	491,215	479,940
Payables to bank	2,781,349	1,341,687
Other short payables	3,460,800	2,849,049
Accruals and deferred income	210,951	229,674
Project deferred income	20,982,883	31,136,097
<b>TOTAL LIABILITIES</b>	<b>29,288,494</b>	<b>36,960,996</b>
<b>PROFIT AND LOSS ACCOUNT</b> (in Euros - reclassified balance)	<b>2018</b>	<b>2017</b>
<b>PROCEEDS</b>		
Income by projects	58,972,126	40,912,971
Subscriptions	7,400	7,500
Donations	1,609,108	832,625
Repayments and various proceeds	39,325	48,647
Financial income	743,514	627,995
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>61,371,473</b>	<b>42,429,737</b>
<b>OUTLAYS</b>		
Outlays by projects	56,947,672	38,343,124
Headquarters' staff and collaborators	2,224,449	1,734,499
Institutional outlays	949,901	609,979
General outlays	474,776	783,532
Financial outlays	730,531	955,621
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>61,327,329</b>	<b>42,426,755</b>
<b>PROFIT/LOSS FINANCIAL YEAR</b>	<b>44,144</b>	<b>2,983</b>

## The resources of COOPI

## Receivables for projects

2018

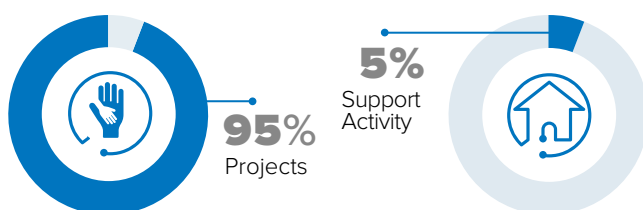
● International Organizations	40%
● European Union	31%
● Italian government and local Institutions	11%
● Foreign governments	11%
● Private institutions and private donors	7%



## Use of funds for intervention sector

● Humanitarian assistance	25%	
● Agriculture	18%	
● Health	18%	
● Training	13%	
● Migration	10%	
● Water and Environmental Sanitation	8%	
● Socio-economic services	3%	
● Other (Governance/Human rights, Energy and other)	5%	

## Use of funds



## Use of funds for geographical area



Eastern and Southern Africa	33%
Central Africa	32%
Western Africa	24%
Middle East	6%
Italy	3%
Latin America and the Caribbean	2%

The full version of the final balance sheet as at 31 December 2018, subject to audit by BDO Italia SpA, and the related certification letter are available on the website [www.cooi.org](http://www.cooi.org)

# Strategic partners

COOPI constantly looks after partnership development and fundraising with foundations, companies and major donors.

The implementation of humanitarian and development programs of significant size and impact can and must necessarily pass through a dialogue and a multi-stakeholder co-financing plan, where one or more institutional donors can be supported by private philanthropic subjects, who contribute resources on specific and concrete activities.

An essential element of the partnership action and fundraising for these private donors is the proposal **to finance a specific project or activity**, not to make a free donation on a campaign. Each of these organizations is indeed interested in clearly seeing how their donation can, unequivocally, achieve an immediate, significant and lasting impact.

In 2018 the partnerships with the Italian **Fondazione San Zeno** continued on a three-year program carried out in Palestine about Technical and Professional Education. On the other hand the Italian **Fondazione Zanetti** supported a project against malnutrition in Niger.

Among the partnerships with companies, the one started in 2008 with **Pidielle**, a family company that produces and sells **ELGON** branded professional cosmetics for hairdressers, co-finances the COOPI projects dedicated to women in **Sierra Leone**; in the last three years, in particular, the company decided to support a project **to promote and strengthen the cashew nut supply chain**. In December 2017, the CEO,

Serena Caimano, decided to go to Sierra Leone to visit the communities and see the cultivation, in order to later share the experience through a travel diary published on the company website.

The partnership with Pidielle-ELGON has therefore grown and developed over time: since 2017 the company has also actively involved its **employees, customers and suppliers** in fundraising activities (personal fundraising and crowdfunding), as the choral participation in the race, DeeJay Ten.

In Switzerland, the awareness-raising and fundraising actions of COOPI Suisse, a legally independent entity founded and developed in Lugano to promote and strengthen COOPI's values in the Swiss Confederation, were joined by two Education in Emergencies projects carried out in Iraq thanks to the support of the **Herrod Foundation based in Montreaux and a generous private donor**.

In the USA the relationship with the **Italy-America Chamber of Commerce** has continued, carrying out certain initiatives during the year that support an education in emergency project in Iraq, involving the associated companies. International fundraising from individuals is also possible on the crowdfunding platform [www.globalgiving.org](http://www.globalgiving.org).

## COMPANIES AND PRIVATE INSTITUTIONS


















## FOUNDATIONS









# Fundraising from private donors

The dialogue and the constant search of interlocution and fundraising with private donors is of significant importance for COOPI as this is one of its founding reasons for being a civil society and a non-governmental organization.

COOPI carries out numerous fundraising activities by private citizens through multiple **online and offline channels**, organizing events and initiatives which promote that specific territory.

**Between 2017 and 2018, COOPI launched its new Help a Warrior campaign dedicated to the topic of education in emergency situations.** The campaign raises public awareness on the importance of promoting back to school activities for those children and young people living in war zones, or in any case devastated by humanitarian emergencies.

Help a Warrior was launched on the occasion of World Day for Children's Rights and developed throughout 2018, as the common thread of the majority of the awareness raising and fundraising activities carried out during the year on various channels, online and offline, and on the ground. For more information on the Help a Warrior campaign, see also [www.cooi.org](http://www.cooi.org).

A dedicated management is then reserved for Child Sponsorship Program donors, which COOPI currently carries out in **19 centers in 6 countries** (Senegal, Uganda, Ethiopia,

Democratic Republic of the Congo, Central African Republic and Sierra Leone) for the benefit of **1,940 children**.

Regarding the **"offline" fundraising channels** among the main activities carried out in 2018, we recall:

- **7 mailings with appeals and updates** aimed, as appropriate, at occasional and continuous donors;
- 2 issues of the **COOPI News** newsletter (six-monthly);
- **materials for the 5x1000 campaign**;
- promotion on **printed paper, TV and radio**.

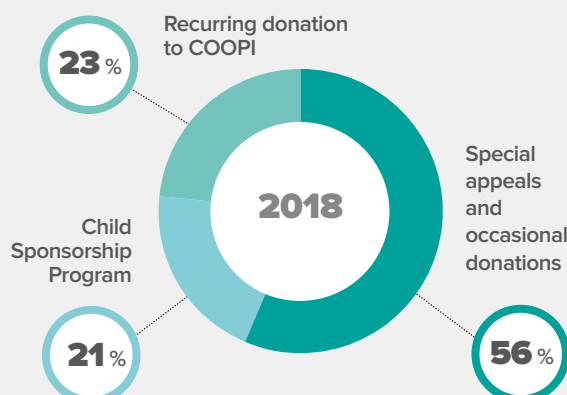
Regarding the **online fundraising channels**, the main activities carried out in 2018 include:

- **37 specific appeals** and **14 newsletters** sent via email as appropriate to different categories of supporters;
- promotion and management of the websites [www.aiutaunguerriero.org](http://www.aiutaunguerriero.org) and [adottareadistanza.cooi.org](http://adottareadistanza.cooi.org) and of the COOPI Facebook and Instagram pages;
- **personal fundraising** initiatives promoted through **Facebook** by friends and supporters.



PHOTO: OLIVIA ACLAND

## What do private donors choose?



## Fundraising from private donors

In 2018 COOPI organized or actively participated in numerous **events** such as the fourth edition of **COOPI Cascina Aperta, Solidarity Concerts** in partnership with the Milan Symphonic Orchestra LaVerdi, **Steps towards Elsewhere** promoted by the Fondazione Zanetti, the **5x15 Format** and the event organized in **partnership with COIN** in Rome with the participation of actress, Valentina Lodovini, and journalist, Carlo Ciavoni.

Alongside the events organized by headquarters, numerous awareness-raising and fundraising activities are organized

on the ground by local volunteer groups such as, COOPI Crema and COOPI Brescia and from the association COOPI Trentino. To learn about the activities carried out by each local group, visit the facebook page of each one.

In addition to these activities, and many others, particularly those of a more managerial nature, there are national campaigns for fundraising by means of solidarity **SMS**, for the devolution of **5x1000** and the **Christmas initiative Paper, Ribbons and Solidarity** (Carta Nastri e Solidarietà) and the bequest **campaign to increase in-memory donations for COOPI**.



### Paper, Ribbons and Solidarity 2018

The traditional initiative of Christmas packages has allowed COOPI to collect **€ 176,000** for **education in emergency projects in Iraq and Niger**, as part of the Help a Warrior campaign.

The campaign was held from 1 to 24 December 2018 in **66 cities in 14 regions where more than 450 people** wrapped customers' packages in **107 shops**, including, **COIN, Libraccio, Libraccio IBS, Beauty Star, Eataly, Librerie COOP** and in some of the shopping centers of the **IGD chain** and in some **Ubik bookshops**.

### Solidarity SMS 2018

The **2018 solidarity SMS campaign** was also dedicated to the Help a Warrior campaign. Thanks to the support of telephone companies and the main national TV networks, there were **two promotion periods**: from **8 to 28 January** (on **RAI** and **Mediaset** TV channels) and from **8 to 21 April** (on **LA7** TV channel) which raised **€ 24,109**. Many supporters have decided to include the appeal of COOPI on their social networks: singers **Emma Marrone, Alessandra Amoroso, Francesco Gabbani**, writers **Gianni Biondillo** and **Chiara Gamberale**, actors **Valentina Lodovini, Valentina Carnelutti** and **Massimo Lopez**, the tv hosts **Caterina Balivo** and **Adriana Volpe**, the Chefs **Mirko Ronzoni**

and **Erika Liverani**. • **TV**: The campaign was promoted free of charge by **RAI, Mediaset and La7** and promoted on **25 local and 8 digital and satellite TV networks**, and in the circuits of **Grandi Stazioni, Metropolitana Milanese and Cinema**. • **Radio**: 4 national and 25 local stations. • **Press** (offline and online): 6 national and local newspapers, 3 press agencies, 8 weekly newspapers, 4 communication newspapers, 39 internet sites, 10 blogs. With the support of **TIM, Vodafone, Wind 3, Infostrada, Fastweb, Postemobile, COOPVoce, Tiscali, Convergenze, TWT**.

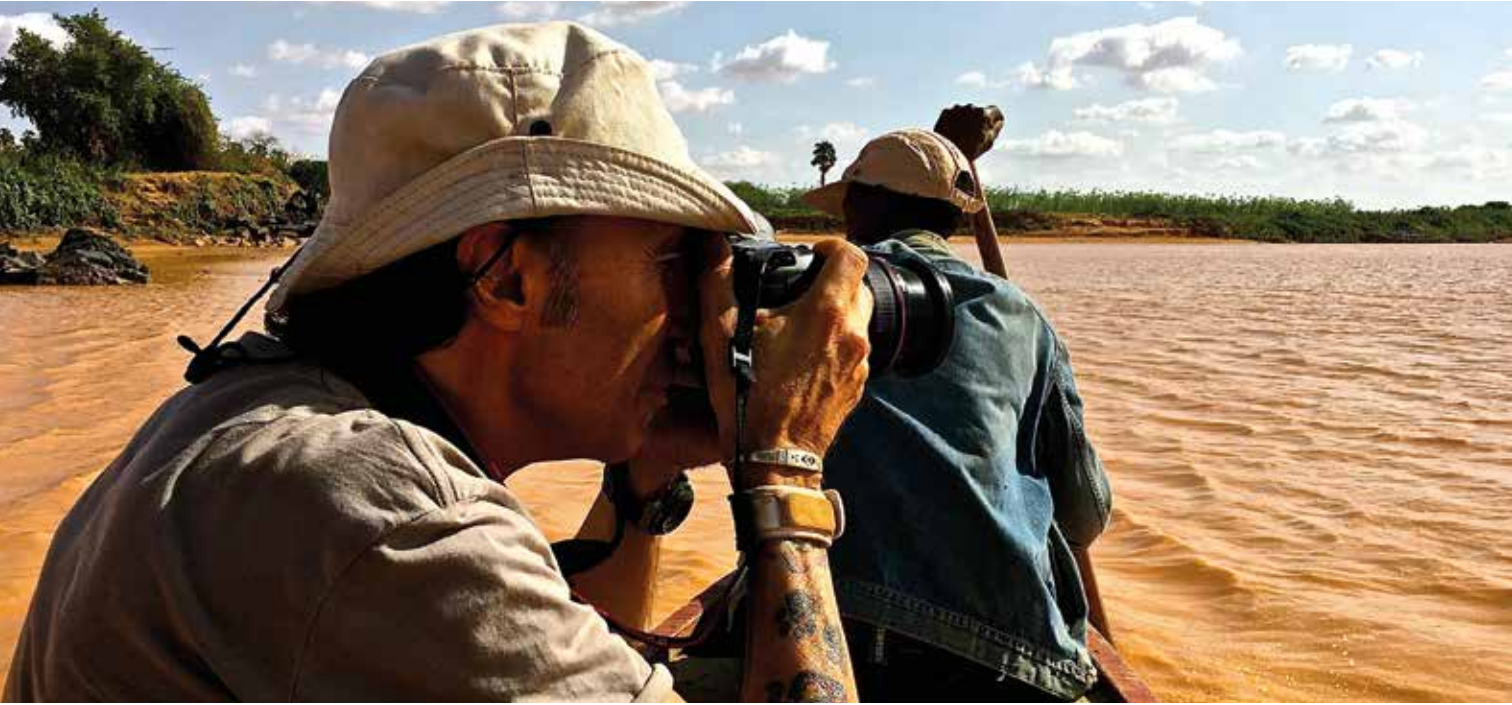
### 5x1000

Each year, from February to June, COOPI promotes the "5x1000" campaign, for which Italian taxpayers donate 5x1000 of their taxes to COOPI. The theme of this campaign is promoted all year long on various channels. In 2018 COOPI received **€ 82,520 with 1,883 preferences** (relating to the 2016-2015 income tax returns).

### Look for Me Among the Living

In 2015, COOPI launched the Cercatemi tra i vivi (Look for Me Among the Living) campaign to show potential donors the importance and function of bequests and in-memory donations to COOPI. Since the launch of the COOPI campaign, it has **received bequests and in-memory donations for around € 90,000**.

## COOPI communicates



COOPI's communication constantly revolves around three main objectives: spreading knowledge of the most relevant issues of International Cooperation in the vast public, strengthening the organization's positioning and relations with donors and partners and growing the organization's reputation.

Between 2017 and 2018, COOPI further structured its communication activities with respect to the past, most notably regarding institutional and advocacy communication on the one hand and awareness-raising and fundraising for the general public on the other. The topics and activities highlighted in 2018 are summarized below, following the main guidelines defined by COOPI for the development of the organization's institutional communication: description of themes (rather than self-referencing) and full discussion of complex situations (rather than single events), privileging results of quality over quantity.

In 2018 COOPI gave significant journalistic coverage to the evacuation of asylum seekers from Libyan detention centers to UNHCR guesthouses in Niger managed by COOPI. Here COOPI offers psychological support to people who have suffered violence and harassment during the journey. Starting

from the World Refugee Day, which also included the visit of the UN High Commissioner for Refugees, Filippo Grandi, to Niger, **La Repubblica** covered the topic and spoke in depth about it for about two months, both in print and in online editions. The topic was also taken up on Vita and on several other local, national and international Media outlets: this helped bring the public's attention to both the human drama experienced by migrants and the socio-political profile of the crisis and the complexity of its management.

Another issue that was strongly highlighted in 2018 was the crisis in the Lake Chad Basin. In the May issue of the sector magazine, **VOICE Out Loud**, entitled, "Have we forgotten the Lake Chad Basin?" dedicated to the situation and interventions at Lake Chad, the in-depth article "Education in Emergency protects lives" by COOPI was published. The article analyzes the reasons that make it crucial to promote Education in



## The resources of COOPI



The speakers of the "Rebuilding hope: the FAO-Nobel Peace Laureates Alliance for Food Security and Peace" among whom the Nobel Peace Laureate Muhammad Yunus, the FAO General Director José Graziano da Silva and COOPI President Claudio Ceravolo.

Emergency in the region and takes stock of the main activities carried out by COOPI in the four countries overlooking the lake. This publication takes up the key theme of the COOPI awareness campaign, Help a Warrior, on the importance of Education in Emergencies, launched in 2017 and continued throughout 2018.

Since November 2018, the collaboration with the Italian Development Cooperation Agency has made it possible to display the **photographic exhibition, "Peoples of Lake Chad. A humanitarian crisis seen from the inside"** for two months at the Museo delle Civiltà (Civilizations Museum) in Rome. With his photographic shots far from the classic reportage approach,

the Chadian photographer, Abdoulaye Barry, focuses on the daily life of the people experiencing the crisis, showing "from the inside" how much dignity and ability to fight gives strength to these populations.

At the beginning of 2018, COOPI also launched its **new website**, which is more accessible and easier to navigate than the previous one, and at the same time reflects the evolution experienced by the organization in recent years.

Finally, in 2018 the new **COOPI Communication Manual** was drafted and approved with guidelines for setting the communication activities carried out by the organization.

## How many people follow COOPI

coopi.org	223,415
adottareadistanza.coopi.org	14,892*
Newsletter	35,776
Youtube	57,718
Facebook	23,025
COOPI news	10,000
Twitter	6,674

\* number of visualizations without sponsored campaigns on social networks

The press review of COOPI for the year 2018 recorded

372 issues

"Help a Warrior" topic was broadcasted by the Italian RAI news programmes - Tg1, Tg2Dossier, Tg3 and Rainews24



# Methodological Note

Transparency is a cardinal principle for COOPI: it characterizes the organization's action through the provision of processes and procedures that promote and safeguard it and informs communication between the organization and all its stakeholders.

The COOPI Annual Report, published this year for the fourth time, constitutes the natural evolution of the original Annual Report that the organization had already published in the previous 14 years and illustrates its governance and organization, strategic lines, policies and the working methods, the use of resources and the main activities carried out, all over the world as well as in Italy, and illustrates their commitment to communication to the various stakeholders.

The 2018 Annual Report includes data and indicators deemed appropriate for describing and evaluating the organization and its activities, taking into consideration the indications provided in the Third Sector Reform context, by the Guidelines for the preparation of the Social Report of Non-Profit Entities (published by the non-profit organization in 2010) and the Global Reporting Initiative Guidelines, widely shared internationally.

The process of drafting the Annual Report began with the mandate of the Senior Management and included extraction of data from the information systems of the organization and, when appropriate, re-elaboration of the same by the various offices responsible for the subject; integration of available information by conducting interviews with senior management and the managers of the various offices; revision of the analytical index of the document and drafting of the texts; approval of the chapters of the document by the various

competent offices and final approval by the Top Management. The Annual Report is integrated into a set of activities carried out by the organization with the aim of providing comprehensive accountability to its stakeholders. The Financial Statements, from which the balance sheet and economic-financial data were extracted, were certified by an accredited external auditor (the balance sheet and relative letter of asseveration can be consulted on the website [www.coopi.org](http://www.coopi.org)). COOPI's activity is also analyzed through intense internal auditing by the Control, Monitoring and Audit Office and periodically by some of the most authoritative and demanding financiers in the world of international cooperation, including ECHO, US AID, UNICEF. The recognition of COOPI as an NGO recognized by the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and its registration in the Register of Legal Persons of the Prefecture of Milan further testify to the existence in Coopi of specific requirements of solidity and transparency.

The contextual data reported in the document come from official documentation of authoritative international institutions, such as the UN, the European Commission and the Agencies and Offices connected to them.

For the set up of the Annual Report, the management of the drafting process, the conduct of interviews and the finalization of the document, COOPI availed itself of the support of an external consultant with a recognized professionalism in the matter.

# COOPI in the world

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## **BOLIVIA**

Calle Victor Sanjinéz n. 2722,  
Sopocachi, La Paz

## **CAMEROON**

Quartier Madagascar,  
Kousseri

## **CHAD**

Quartier Klemat, 2eme arrondissement,  
Rue 3211 Porte 0387  
BP 1900 Ndjamena

## **ECUADOR**

Barrio Rumiñahui: N62 Nazareht  
n. OE1-260 y Melchor Toaza.  
Conjunto Kendari, Departamento n. 11

## **ETHIOPIA**

Yeka subcity Woreda 8, House no.  
New P.O.Box 2204  
Addis Ababa

## **GAMBIA**

Fajara M Section, Bakau,  
Banjul

## **GUATEMALA**

2a Avenida 0-67 Colonia Bran, zona 3  
Ciudad de Guatemala

## **HAITI**

Route de Kenscoff n. 33, Petion-Ville,  
Port-au-Prince

## **KENYA - REGIONAL COORDINATION EAST AND SOUTHERN AFRICA**

Kyuna Crecent, House N. 40,  
Westlands  
P.O. Box 3857 - 00100 Nairobi

## **IRAQ**

English Village, Villa 366, Erbil

Al-Mansur, Al-Nu'man commercial  
complex, 3rd floor, No. 8,  
Baghdad

## **LEBANON - REGIONAL COORDINATION MIDDLE EAST**

General Street, Oneissi Building 8<sup>th</sup> floor,  
Furn El Chabbek, Beirut

## **LEBANON**

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Kfaraabida, Batroun,  
North Lebanon

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Niamey - B.P. 11501

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Jabi Abuja

## **PALESTINE**

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Sbeh building, flat n. 5  
Jerusalem PO Box 49621

## **PARAGUAY**

Calle Eligio Ayala 929,  
entre EEUU y Tacuari, Asuncion

## **PERU - REGIONAL COORDINATION LATIN AMERICA AND THE CARIBBEAN**

Calle Federico Gerdes 193,  
Santiago de Surco, Lima

## **CENTRAL AFRICAN REPUBLIC**

Sica 1, quartiere Sissongo, BP 1335  
Bangui

## **DEMOCRATIC REPUBLIC OF CONGO**

Ecole Belge, Bureau 55, Avenue de la  
Gombe N° 01 Gombe, Kinshasa

## **SENEGAL**

Mermoz, rue mz - 70 n.19,  
B.P. 15169, Dakar

## **SIERRA LEONE**

Ronsard Drive, 49H Off Spur Road,  
Freetown, Sierra Leone

## **SYRIA**

Malki Albzme 4058/8, Damasco

## **SUDAN**

House N° 16, Block 13 PE  
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## **COOPI SUISSE**

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## **AMERICAN FRIENDS OF COOPI**

presso King Baudouin Foundation  
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Together we can make the world  
a better place.

## **COOPI HEADQUARTERS**

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