

"Since the first days back in 1965 we at COOPI recognized that development is a collaborative process"

> Fr. Barbieri, founder (b.1931 – d.2010)

WHO WE ARE

COOPI - Cooperazione Internazionale is an Italian nongovernmental and non-religious organization for cooperation and development, founded by Father Vincenzo Barbieri in 1965.

Over the last 50 years, COOPI has helped more than 100 million people through 1,600 projects in 63 countries.

COOPI is currently involved in 24 countries in Africa, the Middle East, Latin America and the Caribbean with 150 humanitarian projects that impact nearly 2.4 million people. Thanks to its experience and results, **COOPI is the nonprofit most trusted by local partners**.

OUR COMMITMENT

COOPI is committed to reducing poverty and contributing to the development of the communities it cooperates with around the world. COOPI combines a flexible, multisector approach and decades of expertise to implement current and longterm development and relief needs, to the ultimate benefit of building resilience and reducing poverty in communities in the Global South.



BUILDING PARTNERSHIPS TO HAVE MORE IMPACT



"I will never forget what happened to me, but, by going to the COOPI center, I have come to understand that what happened to me was not my fault." Nadege, victim of sexual violence, Central African Republic

"I have modified my nutritional habits by following the COOPI project. I used to eat once per day; now I eat 3 times every day. My health has improved. My husband makes every effort to let me rest: he goes to the fields, carries weight for me. Since I am pregnant, my meals have improved both in quantity and in quality." Jypsie Nzobo, beneficiary of a maternal and child health project, Democratic Republic of Congo

> "Thanks to COOPI, food is never missing from my house!" Austin Yusiuf, farmer, Malawi

OUR MULTISECTOR APPROACH

COOPI'S MAIN SECTORS OF INTERVENTION ARE PART OF AN INTEGRATED APPROACH TO STRENGTHEN RESILIENCE AND RESPONSE-ABILITY OF LOCAL COMMUNITIES.



COOPI HAS OVER 50 YEARS OF EXPERIENCE WORKING IN DIFFERENT CONTEXTS AROUND THE WORLD

COOPI's global interventions are inspired by and streamlined in accordance with the Sustainable Development Goals set forth by the United Nations for the post-2015 development agenda.

COOPI works on behalf of disadvantaged groups of people worldwide, including at-risk children,
victims of gender-based violence, people with disabilities, ethnic minorities, refugees and internally displaced persons, people affected by HIV/AIDS and other marginalized groups.







"Wherever it works, COOPI stipulates a 'confidence and friendship pact' with its interventions. COOPI builds up trust with both local stakeholders and program partners as an organization that is the expert in the specific context." *Ennio Miccoli, Executive Director, COOPI*



COOPI AROUND THE WORLD

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AMERICAN FRIENDS of COOPI

Contributions to American Friends of COOPI are made under the King Baudouin Foundation United States (KBFUS), a 501(c)(3) public charity that facilitates thoughtful, effective giving to Europe and Africa. Gifts by check can be made out to KBFUS, with "American Friends of COOPI" in the memo section. Please send checks to KBFUS, 10 Rockefeller Plaza, 16th Floor, New York, NY 10020. Gifts by credit card can be made at www.kbfus.org. Click on the "Donate Now" button, and select "American Friends of COOPI" under "Giving Option 1: Nonprofit Partners Overseas".

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RESPONSE-ABLE COOPERATION WORLDWIDE

FOOD SECURITY





ENSURING FOOD SECURITY AND PROMOTING RESILIENCE

COOPI defines food security as access to food of sufficient quantity and quality to ensure nutrition and a healthy life.

COOPI promotes food security by:

- > Ensuring a rapid response to food crises
- > Promoting sustainable development processes
- > Working to increase and stabilize the production and quality of food over time

COOPI explores and tests **innovative mechanisms** to mitigate the effects of food crises by **increasing the resilience of the communities** with which we cooperate.

COOPI also supports the **development of strategic production chains** for food security purposes (selfsufficiency) and safeguarding livelihoods. COOPI promotes the **transfer of knowledge and best-practices** for the benefit of communities and local institutions.

COOPI programmes focus on **both rural and urban areas**, which are increasing in number and will have increasingly larger pockets of poverty.

COOPI pays special attention to the **protection of biodiversity and enhancing the value chain of local production** with participatory approaches, keeping the needs of indigenous populations in mind. COOPI also promotes water usage and raising awareness to minimize waste in agriculture projects.

COOPI INTERVENTIONS Lebanon FLICT MEDIATION Atural resources SUPPORTING PASTORALISM ND LIVESTOCK FARMING ANAGEMENT Niger Sudan Chad Guatemala Sierra Leone Nigeria Ethiopia ANTICIPATE AND CAR PROMPTLY RESPOND TO EMERGENCIES Somalia Kenya DRC Malawi NTEGRATING DRR INTO FOOD SECURITY FOCUSING Paraguay ROGRAMS ON URBAN OOD SECURITY



"I learned how to plant seeds, learned about planting extension and, with this knowledge I have now, I am selling more vegetables. There is no lack of food in my house anymore. And this is possible because of COOPI."

Austin Yusiuf, member of the Mmanga commitee in Pemba, Salima district, central region of Malawi, commenting the benefits of being part of a food security programme implemented by COOPI in the region in 2014.

NUTRITION





COMBATTING CHILD MALNUTRITION



Ensuring nutrition security has always been one of COOPI's core pillars.

COOPI focuses on four aspects:

- **1. Integrated Approach.** Child malnutrition is the result of a series of economic, social, family, and environmental factors and cannot be limited to food distribution alone. COOPI focuses on:
 - > Hygiene and sanitation practices
 - > Availability of adequate healthcare services
 - > Providing families and communities with the possibility to access food in sufficient quantity and quality, both physically and economically
- **2. Response Based on Needs Assessment.** COOPI carefully analyzes local needs and implements actions accordingly. Actions vary depending on the situation, such as humanitarian response in the event of war or natural disaster, or addressing chronic food shortages.
- **3. The "1000-Day Approach".** COOPI gives special attention to nutrition in the first 1,000 days of a child's life, demonstrated to be the most crucial period for child development.
- 4. Promotion of Research & Action. COOPI's interventions tackle the relationship between:
 - > The health of mothers and undernourished children
 - > Food education
 - > The promotion of breastfeeding





"When I started the exclusive breastfeeding, my family wanted me to stop and give water to my baby. But I decided to apply and respect the project's recommendations. Then I realized that my child is healthy thanks to the exclusive breastfeeding. Instead, mothers that gave water to their children are obliged to bring them to the hospital, because they often get sick."

Flore Kumbu, participant at COOPI project about pregnancy nutrition and exclusive breastfeeding promotion, now mother (DRC, 2015).

ENVIRONMENT & DRR



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PROMOTING INTEGRATED RISK AND CRISIS MANAGEMENT



COOPI's actions for disaster risk reduction (DRR) are based on three key concepts:

- 1. Environmental sustainability
- 2. Participation
- **3.** Integration of the principles of prevention, mitigation and preparedness into actions in response to disasters resulting from natural phenomena

Operationally, COOPI conducts the following activities:

- > Land analysis and information systems to research the vulnerability of the resources necessary for land functioning and management.
- > Natural resources conservation and DRR oriented land management to ensure access and availability of essential resources and their sustainability over time.
- > Capacity building for DRR at three levels: community, institutional and multi-scalar coordination.
- > Education, communication and information activities.
- > Risk mitigation and infrastructure support, including the construction/rehabilitation of evacuation outes, removal of architectural barriers, construction of shelters and management of emergencies.
- > Scientific research and knowledge transfer.





"Today we rescued 25 wounded people, which shows that we young people must be prepared for any emergency. Everything we learned here will help us a lot. They are things we can put into practice in schools, but also where we live. No matter the reward, we have the satisfaction of saying: 'I saved a life'."

Young participants in the First Games to disasters preparedness (Ecuador).

PROTECTION





EQUALITY, SAFETY AND DIGNITY FOR ALL



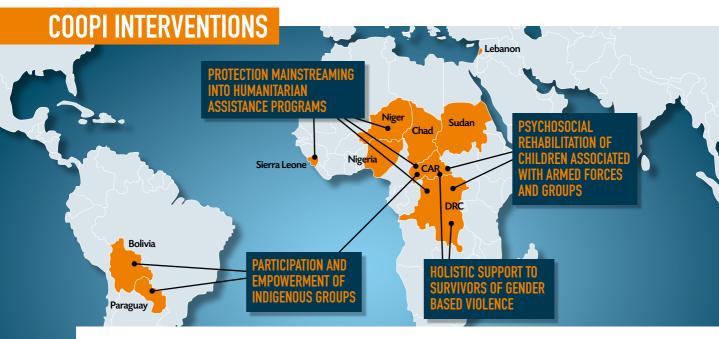
COOPI includes **protection** among its key values and places it at the center of its actions on the ground. COOPI works to ensure that all women, girls, men and boys can enjoy their rights on equal terms, in safety and dignity, including in times of internal displacement, wars, conflicts and/or natural disasters. To do so, COOPI carries out both **programs specifically dedicated to protection** and **mainstreams protection** into humanitarian assistance programs so that human rights and their promotion are central to each intervention, laying the foundations for reconstruction and a more equitable and sustainable development.

For COOPI, protection is inspired by the following key concepts:

- 1. Placing the individual at the center of humanitarian response
- 2. Promoting community mobilization and engagement
- 3. Supporting participation and empowerment of the most vulnerable groups

COOPI's protections programs focus on:

- > Protecting **children's rights** at large the right to proper nutrition, health, education, safety, play, and leisure and, in specific contexts, working on the psycho-social rehabilitation of **children associated with** armed groups and forces.
- > Supporting victims of gender-based violence through specific care and psycho-social support and referrals to holistic health services for appropriate medical care.
- > Supporting refugees/internally displaced persons and people affected by armed conflicts with holistic support targeting specific needs in health and psycho-social well-being.
- > Providing **indigenous and natives groups** with skills to improve their own living conditions, be recognized as part of the population and participate in the democratic life of the country, after a process of raising community consciousness.
- > Supporting **victims of natural disasters** both by immediate responses to crises with first-aid activities and post-emergency reconstruction and activities.





"Little by little, I took courage : I learnt a job and I came back to my home village. I really thank COOPI because it never left me alone. Today I work in my own garage, I am an appreciated mechanic and I have a family."

Assana* was a child associated with an army group in CAR. He attended COOPI project for rehabilitation and re-integration in 2015.

*name has been changed

WATER AND SANITATION





IMPROVING ACCESS TO SAFE WATER AND SANITATION



Attention to safe water access and sustainable use, as well as suitable hygiene and sanitation practices, has always been present in COOPI's activities, both as stand alone projects and mainstreamed into programming in other sectors.

To improve the effectiveness of its interventions, COOPI is inspired by the following key concepts:

- 1. Socio-education approaches
- 2. Appropriate technologies
- 3. Increasing attention to innovative solutions and research

Activities are classified into four sectors of intervention:

> COOPI assists **water sources management** by mapping water sources, verifying water quality with tests and providing irrigation techniques/systems development and training.

> COOPI's actions focus on **access to safe drinking water**, working to provide infrastructures for water access, collection, storage, distribution and draining and to enhance purification and filtering, including for refugees and displaced persons.

Hygiene practices in communities are highly promoted through awareness raising campaigns and water drainage infrastructure maintenance.

> Waste management; in particular, COOPI works to strengthen solid waste collection and disposal in urban contexts.

In the area of access to safe drinking water, special attention is given to household water treatment and safe storage systems, including for refugees and displaced persons. The control, treatment and reuse of wastewater and storm water is another interesting topic, especially in contexts characterized by water scarcity. Concerning sanitation activities, COOPI is engaging in actions for proper waste management (including special waste, such as medical waste) in new contexts by leveraging the positive experiences of recent years.





"Many people do not have the means to get water not even for cooking or washing. There just isn't any water "on-tap". So the beneficiaries' reaction was terrific! They were extremely happy to have their own water filters as now they can have safe water in their homes. For them, it's a dream come true."

Esperancia Caesar, COOPI field agent in Haiti, introducing efficient and sustainable energy solutions for food cooking and preservation in camps and informal settlements (Set4food project, 2015).