



Together we can make the world
a better place.

Annual Report 2011

A year of fight against poverty

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Credits

Editorial Supervision: Isabella Samà

Project curated by: Daniela Aprile

With thanks for their cooperation:

Claudio Ceravolo, Marco Cinquegrana, Alberto Cogo, Bianca Dendena, Giacomo Franceschini, Damiano Lotteria, Novella Maifredi, Ennio Miccoli, Sabrina Munaò, Diana Nahum, Barbara Nese, Piero Brunod, Uberto Pedferri, Angela Spettoli.

Iconographic research: Daniela Aprile, Laura Carbonara, Isabella Samà.

Photos by: archivio COOPI, Maria Barletta, Sofia Bergonzani, Gianluca Camerino, Saskia Carusi, Francesca Colombi, Giuseppe Damiano, Camilla Dogliotti, Vincenzo Dell'Aversano, Alessandro Gandolfi, Francesca Longo, Michele Papa, Daniele Persico, Luca Salerno, Claudio Torres.

Graphic Design: TosiCampanini

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Editorial

Seeking continuous improvement



In the following pages you can read data, tables and graphs, giving an account of a year of dedicated work by hundreds of COOPI's operators and showing the small steps that we have made towards the fight against poverty and for a fairer world. No figure then on my part, but just an account of some of the moments that make 2011 a very important year in the life of the Foundation.

First of all, the election of the new Board of Directors. In fact, only in 2011 the Foundation, which was established in December 2010, has received recognition from the Prefect. Therefore in June, it was possible to hold the first meeting of the Board of Founders, in which were elected six members of the Board of Directors and the President. It was decided to appoint people without any economic link with the Foundation to highlight the separation of powers between those working in the Foundation professionally and those responsible for strategic steering and monitoring. All the members of the Board of Directors, as well as the Auditors, offer their collaboration for free. In 2011, the new Board has already initiated many activities to ensure the economic sustainability of the Foundation and to improve the processes of governance.

Throughout the year the campaign "I DO GIVE A DAMN" carried on and received the High Patronage of the President of the Republic. This was a recognition that made all of us very proud and glad, along with the hundreds of volunteers that followed us in the streets of Italy.

2011 was also a particularly important year for all the operators who are questioning the effectiveness of development aid. On 1 December 2011 took place the 4th High Level Forum of Busan, in South Korea, where, for the first time in history, NGOs were able to sit at the institutional tables together with governments and international agencies. The forum presented the opportunity for a broad reflection driven by the argument that 50 years of development aid and billions of dollars spent did not prevent many countries from sinking each year more and more into the spiral of misery.

In Busan, a milestone was reached in the negotiations between the various international actors and a process was initiated and will be closely monitored. Many changes will mark the next decade of cooperation, such as the importance assumed by NGOs in the Southern Hemisphere, South-South cooperation and the recognition of the positive role played by private companies. The 2011 report can be read also in light of the debate on aid effectiveness. Not all our experiences have been 100% positive, obviously. But what counts is to analyze the mistakes, and not to remaining complacent. If an intervention does not work as expected, it is important to question carefully the reasons why and to try to adjust the strategy. In this sense, the report is a useful tool for all of us and for all those who are mindful of the emerging issues in international cooperation, within a process of continuous quality improvement.



CLAUDIO CERAVOLO
PRESIDENT OF THE FOUNDATION
COOPI - COOPERAZIONE
INTERNAZIONALE

An overview

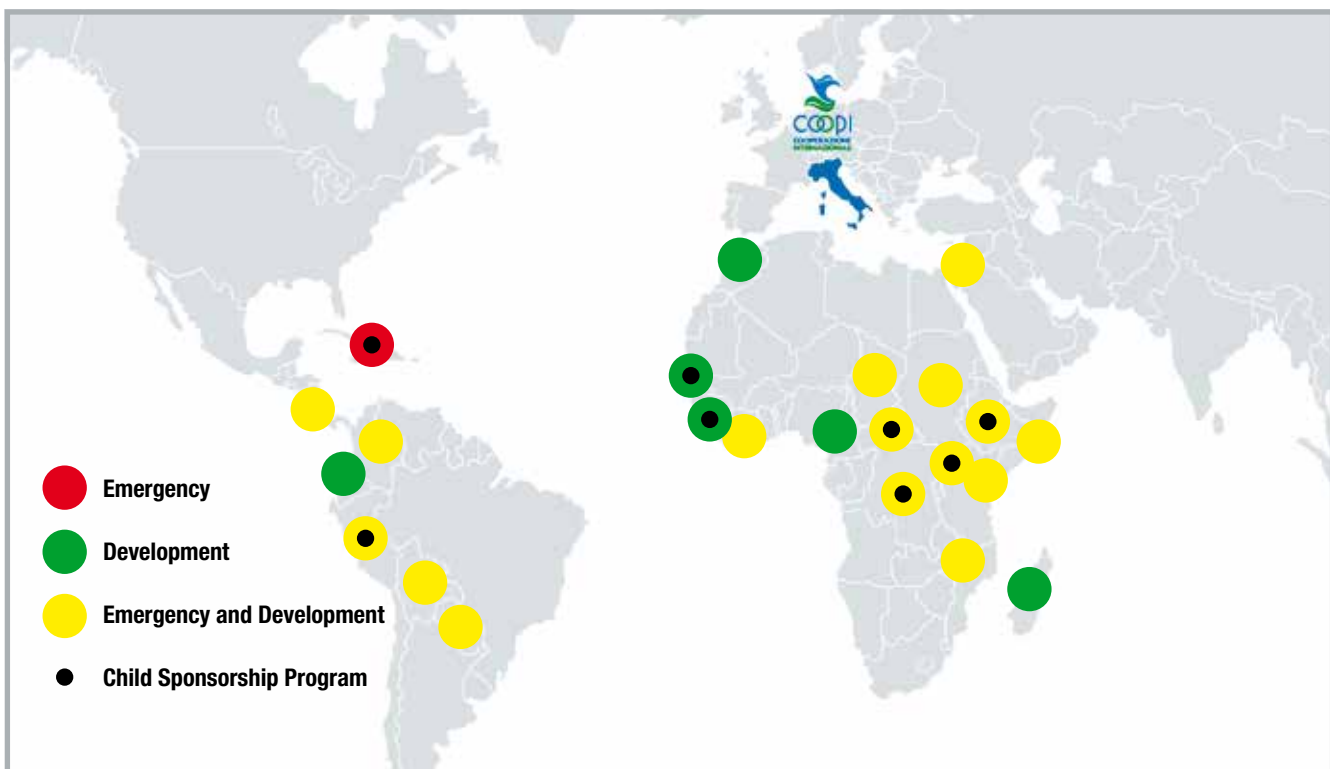
Countries, projects, sectors and beneficiaries



In 2011 COOPI worked in 23 countries in Africa, Latin America and the Middle East (see graph 2). To better understand the reasons behind COOPI's intervention in these countries, it is very useful to refer to the index of human development (Human Development Index, HDI), prepared by the Development Programme of the United Nations (United Nations Development Programme, UNDP). The Human Development Index combines indicators related to health, education and standard of living, to describe the economic and social development of a country. In particular, a low HDI reflects conditions of great

poverty, which are caused by different critical issues and translate into equally diverse humanitarian interventions.

Table 1 shows the human development indexes of the countries where COOPI works. As can be inferred, the African countries where COOPI has been active in 2011 are placed within the lowest end of the ranking. And it is precisely in Africa that COOPI carries out the majority of its projects, to be more precise, 168. The fact that most of COOPI's interventions concentrates in these settings is indicative of its mission: working to support the poorest populations of the world.



COOPI in the world

In 2011 COOPI worked in 23 countries. In 16 of these, it led both emergency and development projects; in 6 of these it carried out exclusively development projects, in 1 (Haiti) only emergency projects and in 8 it carried out also Child Sponsorship Program.

In general, a timely response to emergencies, whether caused by natural disasters or by socio-political crises, is only the first phase of an intervention that aims to initiate and strengthen the development of local communities in the long term (see the map and the differentiation between development and emergency projects).

To provide more detail, it is noted that the countries where COOPI carries out the largest number of projects, as many as 79, are the Central African Republic, the Democratic Republic of the Congo and Chad, which are the countries with the lowest HDI. In addition to these, Somalia is the second country of intervention of COOPI, for which, however, the index of human development is not available. COOPI's interventions in these countries focus mainly in the areas of health, food security and humanitarian assistance (see tab.3). In fact these countries constitute the areas that are most subject to chronic critical issues both of social-political and environmental nature. In particular, Central African countries have in common a number of episodes of civil war that fol-

lowed one another, and such situation, in the countries of the Horn of Africa and Sub-Saharan Africa, is exacerbated by the occurrence of extreme environmental events, such as the drought. Instead, the projects carried out in Latin America in 2011 (36 in total) relate to countries with an HDI in average higher than the African countries, with the exception of Haiti, and this portrays two contexts- the African and the Latin-American one- that are very different from one another, for what concerns the issues and the degree of criticality and to which correspond interventions based on the local specificities. In Latin America, in fact, the main interventions of COOPI focused on the field of humanitarian assistance, defined as prevention of natural disasters (see p. 36).

Table 1. Human Development Index in the countries where COOPI operates

Based on the 187 countries surveyed, the UNDP has compiled a list ranging from those with the lowest index of development to those with the highest. In the table, Somalia has not been listed; Sudan is still considered as a unified state between north and south; the data concerns the position in the ranking.

HIGH HUMAN DEVELOPMENT

87	Colombia
83	Ecuador
80	Peru

MEDIUM HUMAN DEVELOPMENT

131	Guatemala
130	Morocco
114	Palestine
108	Bolivia
107	Paraguay

LOW HUMAN DEVELOPMENT

143	Kenya
150	Cameroon
151	Madagascar
155	Senegal
158	Haiti
161	Uganda
169	Sudan
170	Ivory Coast
171	Malawi
174	Ethiopia
179	Central African Republic
180	Sierra Leone
183	Chad
187	Democratic Republic of Congo

Table 2. Number of projects by region and Countries

COOPI carries out 208 international projects in 23 countries of the world: 168 in Africa, 36 in Latin America and 4 in the Middle East.

Region/Countries	N° of Projects	N° of countries
AFRICA	168	15
Democratic Republic of Congo	45	
Somalia	30	
Chad	16	
Sierra Leone	9	
Central African Republic	18	
Ethiopia	10	
Malawi	10	
Ivory Coast	4	
Sudan	5	
Uganda	8	
Senegal	1	
Madagascar	1	
Cameroon	1	
Kenya	9	
Morocco	1	
LATIN AMERICA	36	7
Haiti	4	
Guatemala	7	
Bolivia	8	
Paraguay	3	
Colombia	3	
Ecuador	2	
Peru	9	
MIDDLE EAST	4	1
Palestine	4	

These are some of the examples: in sub-Saharan Africa are concentrated the interventions on food security, health and humanitarian assistance; in the Latin American countries the work focuses evenly on preparing the population for the risk of natural disasters; in Ethiopia and Malawi, COOPI is conducting projects to ensure access to renewable energy within the fight against poverty and environmental degradation; in Senegal and Peru co-development projects in the context of migration are carried out.

Table 4. Areas of intervention per number of projects and number of beneficiaries

Sector	Beneficiaries
HEALTH	2,546,964
HUMANITARIAN ASSISTANCE	1,130,765
FOOD SECURITY	906,593
WATER	757,194
SOCIO-ECONOMIC SERVICES	178,929
EDUCATION	85,039
ENERGY	35,579
GOVERNANCE AND HUMAN RIGHTS	9,817
MIGRATION	434
TOTAL BENEFICIARIES	5,651,314



Since 2011 COOPI also intervenes in the field of energy, bringing to 9 the areas of international action (see tab. 4).

The most demanding area for the association is “**health**”, with 45 projects mainly classified as basic health care (16), nutrition (14) and maternal and child health (8). The majority of projects are conducted in the Democratic Republic of Congo (14), Somalia (11) and Chad (10). The second area that counts the highest number of projects is **food security** (48) the majority of which concerns food security in the strict sense (25) and agriculture (18). The countries in which this work concentrates are the Democratic Republic of Congo (10), Somalia (8) and the Central African Republic (6).

The third area that counts the highest number of projects is **humanitarian assistance** (40). The major areas are disasters prevention (20 projects) and the traditional humanitarian assistance (12). The countries where this kind of interventions is mainly carried out are Peru (7), Guatemala and Somalia (5 each).

The **socio-economic services** are the fourth area of intervention, based on the number of projects (34), channelled particularly in the Democratic Republic of Congo (17). These services are defined primarily as psycho-social assistance (16).

The field of “**water**” comprises 18 projects and 757,194 beneficiaries. The interventions in this area take place especially in Somalia (6) and focus on sanitation activities related to the use of water (10) or related exclusively to the access to water (7).

Next, comes the field of **education** with 11 projects, carried out mostly in the Central African Republic (6) and Palestine (3), which take the form of primary and secondary interventions.

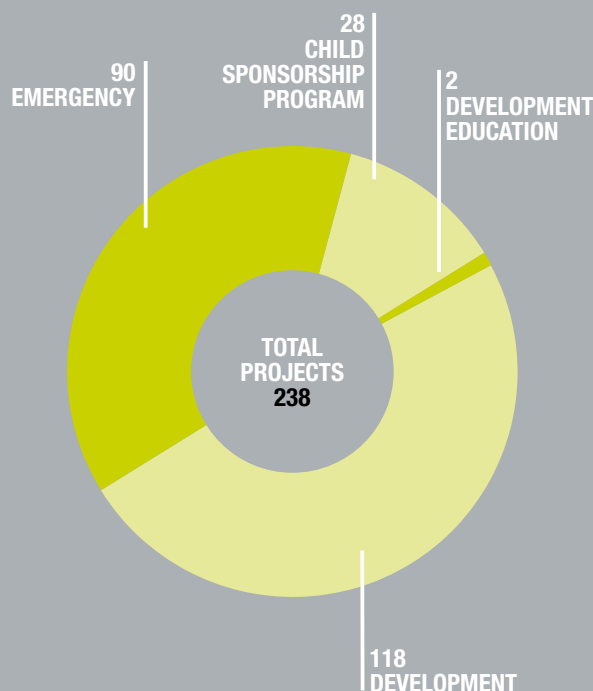
The field of “**governance and human rights**” counts 8 projects, almost equally distributed across 7 countries (see Tab. 3). It is defined primarily as cultural work carried out for the recognition of the rights of the most vulnerable social groups.

The fields of **energy** and **migration** count 2 projects each.

The field of **Child Sponsorship Program** deserves a separate discussion; for this purpose, see the reading on pages 38-39.

Graphic 5. Number of cooperation projects by type of intervention

COOPI carried out 90 emergency projects and 118 development projects. Adding to these the projects on development education conducted in Italy and the Child Sponsorship Program ones, COOPI has carried out a total of 238 projects of international cooperation.



Time line

COOPI's response to some dramatic and semi-unknown events that took place in 2011



JANUARY

As a result of Hurricane Agatha that hits Guatemala in 2010, COOPI provides immediate assistance to farmers, distributing seeds and agricultural tools.

MARCH

The region of Ucayali, in Peru, is devastated by the floods. COOPI mobilizes to provide the population with the basic necessities and to rehabilitate the houses.



FEBRUARY

The prefecture of Hout Mbomou, in the Central African Republic, is targeted by the rebels of Lord Resistance Army. In 2011, COOPI intensifies its intervention in the area, working on the recovery of the agricultural sector and the educational system, in addition to the provision of psycho-social support.

MARCH

In the Democratic Republic of Congo, the southern area of Irumu continues to be the stage of conflict and hostility. COOPI, the only NGO in the area, helps the population with projects of prevention, reintegration and protection of the victims.

MAY

The internally displaced people of North Darfur struggle to return home after years of instability, also due to the adverse weather conditions. For this reason, COOPI works to increase the water supply for both humans and livestock.



JULY

12 million people in the Horn of Africa are affected by the worst drought recorded in the last 60 years. COOPI distributes vouchers for food and water in Somalia, while in Kenya and Ethiopia it works to prepare the population to deal with climate-related disasters, safeguarding animals and crops.



2012

APRIL

The Ivory Coast is afflicted by the conflict between the supporters of the elected President, Alassane Ouattara, and those of his rival, the outgoing President, Laurent Gbagbo. COOPI responds to the health emergency by setting up mobile clinics.

OCTOBER

Amudat is an extremely poor district of Uganda where malnutrition and infant mortality are daily dramas. COOPI provides farmers with the knowledge and means to ensure a better and guaranteed harvest. In addition it equips schools with wells and vegetable gardens to adequately support the nutrition of children.

COOPI yesterday and today

For the past 46 years, COOPI has been working side by side with the poorest populations to build a better world

OUR VISION: A world without poverty

COOPI aspires to build a world without poverty, where the principles of justice and equality could be put into practice, as well as sustainable development and social cohesion, through the meeting of cultures and collaboration among all people of the world.

OUR MISSION: Working together for development

COOPI wants to contribute, through the commitment, motivation, determination and professionalism of its people, to poverty reduction

and to the growth of the communities around the world with which it cooperates, by intervening in emergency situations, reconstruction and development, to achieve more balanced "North-South" relations between developed and depressed areas or developing countries.

Between 1965 and 2011, **50,000 local staff** have worked for COOPI in Africa, Latin America and Asia. Over **1.300 projects** have been carried out in **53 Countries** helping **80 millions people**.

- Countries where COOPI is present in 2011
- Countries where COOPI is present also with Child Sponsorship Program in 2010
- Countries where COOPI has been present before 2010



COOPI IN NUMBERS IN 2011

23

Countries

210

Projects

2,621

Children sponsored

28

Child Sponsorship Program

129

International Staff

4,500

Local Staff

66

Staff in Italy

350

Volunteers

5

Regional Offices in Italy

43,623,932

Budget (in €)

5,651,314

Direct beneficiaries

The year 2011 saw COOPI extend its work in two additional Countries, compared to the previous year, bringing our presence to 23 Countries. The work carried out within the framework of international programs also endorses the priorities of intervention of the previous year, in the specific, the employment of new technologies in the context of development cooperation and prompt response to emergencies.

It is precisely in line with these two priorities that we can place the countries where the presence of COOPI is new: Madagascar, in the capital of which a study of environmental vulnerability was conducted, and Ivory Coast, that was the stage of a dramatic post-electoral conflict, which was however not covered by the media, as the attention was absorbed by the concomitant "Arab Spring." The estimates speak of at least 3,000 deaths in the clashes, more than 300,000 internally displaced people and 200,000 refugees in neighboring Countries: numbers that suggest a humanitarian crisis, in which COOPI has intervened in the front line to provide health care and psycho-social support to the victims of violence.

The intervention in forgotten places and in support of marginalized populations is the figure that most marked the work of COOPI in 2011. Indeed, another type of crisis where the association has continued to operate is that of the Horn of Africa, where last year was registered the worst drought in 60 years: more than 12 million people in East Africa suffered from it.

The causes of this critical situation are to be found in the low rainfall that took place during the last two rainy seasons, a trend that confirms the Horn of Africa as one of the most vulnerable to the ongoing climate change. Besides, in Somalia, the drought adds up to a political and military crisis that have remained unresolved for decades and that have driven thousands of people to move, putting a strain on the limited resources of neighboring Countries. The intervention of COOPI in this Country therefore focused on supporting the livelihood activities of the most vulnerable communities, aiming primarily at ensuring access to the most precious resource, water.

In addition to the interventions in the context of what can be defined some truly neglected crises, COOPI renewed its commitment and its presence in the "long-standing" countries that is, those where it has been working for many years and often with a large number of projects. First among all the Democratic Republic of the Congo, as well as Chad, Palestine and Sudan. These countries are characterized by an unstable political situation, issue that is reflected in the conditions of deep distress for the local population. Sadly, such countries can be defined as in a state of chronic emergency.

Regardless of the problem COOPI aims to maintain strong its presence in the countries in which it operates, to attend to and support the most vulnerable communities in the transition from a state of emergency to that of development.

In the following pages, you will find a concise account of COOPI's projects, country by country. It is our way to give back collectively to our donors and supporters the richness of our humanitarian work.

Bolivia

Beneficiaries 56,408

- > Created/rehabilitated 32 wells and 24 collection systems for rainwater
- > Trained 60 members of the water management committees
- > Supported 30 rural communities in the development of agricultural activities



Archivio COOPI. Tentayape, formazione sessione di igiene.

issue of water through specific training of participative management; a campaign was carried out to raise the awareness of families on the issue of hygiene through the distribution of 1,800 hygiene kits and 1,800 filters for the purification of water; furthermore, the responsible personnel was trained on the monitoring of the water systems constructed.

In the agricultural field activities **were carried out in support of fish farming in 30 rural communities** engaged in basic agricultural and zootechnical activities, the work focused for the most part on climate risk management, seeking to reduce the vulnerability and enhance the production, with an emphasis, again, on the sustainable use of water resources.

The most important event in recent years in Bolivia was the election of Evo Morales, the first indigenous president in Latin America, in 2006. Morales was welcomed by a broad consensus in the country, but over the time, some of the proposed reforms have generated new social tensions, such as the one aiming at redistributing land to the farmers. In 2011 COOPI carried out diversified interventions in Bolivia, related to the sectors of water, food security, humanitarian assistance and governance. The water sector, in particular, is that in which are concentrated the majority of interventions. **In the areas of Machareti, Huacaya y Huacareta, COOPI has intervened in order to ensure to the populations the access and the sustainable use of water resources**, against the occurrence of droughts, which very frequently affect the area. In particular, the following activities were carried out: rehabilitation/construction of 32 wells and 6 tanks and set up of 24 systems of water catchment, purchase of the materials necessary for the maintenance of these structures and training of the staff involved, creation of management committees that were sensitized and made accountable on the

In terms of humanitarian assistance, COOPI intervened to support the populations affected by the drought in the area of Chaco, constructing and rehabilitating water collection systems, distributing information about conservation techniques and developing guidelines for a quick response to the emergency.

Similarly to other Latin American countries, in Bolivia, **COOPI is implementing a project of disaster preparedness benefiting directly more than 20,000 people**. Such project is carried out by raising the awareness of the population and of local authorities on the environmental disasters that are more likely to happen, particularly droughts and fires, supporting the planning of steps to limit the impact of such events and conducting training activities for students and educators.

Lastly, given the situation of extreme vulnerability of the Guarani population in the Bolivian Chaco, **COOPI has been promoting in the public opinion the respect for human rights and fundamental freedoms of the Guarani families**, to promote a peaceful conciliation of different interests and awareness of the multi-ethnicity of the Bolivian society.

Colombia

Beneficiaries 3,161

- > More than 600 people were sensitized on women's rights
- > 1,250 people were assisted following the floods
- > Approximately 500 people were trained in the Master in Development Cooperation in Cartagena

The political situation in Colombia has been unsettled for a long time as a result of the clashes between the guerrillas of the Revolutionary Armed Forces of Colombia (FARC) and the National Liberation Army (ELN) with the governments of the day. The situation faced by the Colombian people is problematic, since nearly half of the population lives in conditions of extreme poverty in a social context characterized by a widespread criminality. **The project of humanitarian assistance is geared precisely towards the internally displaced people fleeing the conflict and in particular women, that among them are one of the most vulnerable groups.** Besides improving the psychosocial care of the victims of gender-based violence, through the creation of



Archivio COOPI. Dipartimento di Bolivar, assistenza alle popolazioni colpite da inondazioni.



Archivio COOPI. Cartagena, studenti del master.

counselling groups, COOPI has conducted extensive outreach activities to raise awareness on women's rights. Such activities involved approximately 600 people, 10 community leaders and representatives of four organizations of internally displaced people.

Psychosocial assistance has also been provided to 1.250 victims of the floods that took place during the rainy season in the Department of Bolivar. Such undertakings were accompanied by activities designed to restore and ensure access to basic and health and hygiene services.

In 2011, **COOPI has renewed its participation**, jointly with the other Italian NGOs - CISP and VIS - and with the University of Pavia, **to the coordination of the Master in Cooperation and Development of the University of St. Bonaventure in Cartagena.** The project aims to contribute to improving the skills of staff employed in public and private Latin American organizations, through the training of teaching staff and students. At the same time, 2011 has seen the growth and strengthening of the SEDA Center (Service Center of the same Master) in providing technical assistance to cooperation actors from Latin America. One example was the endorsement of a sustainability scheme for scholarships for students of the Master that will allow carrying on the provision of quality training opportunities for international cooperation actors in Latin America.

Ecuador

Beneficiaries 324

- > 268 Afro-Ecuadorian women involved in the promotion of Afro-Latin culture
- > 24 representatives of local authorities sensitized on the rights of Afro-Ecuadorian members of the society
- > Development of scientific events and research for disasters prevention



Ph. L. Salerno. Bambina afro-discendente dopo l'alluvione.

Since 2007, the presidency is held by Rafael Correa, elected from the ranks of Alianza País (center-left coalition), and who placed Ecuador in the block of the Andean countries characterized by an autonomy-seeking process. Social inequalities in the country are particularly evident in relation to indigenous and Afro-Ecuadorian communities that live in more disadvantaged conditions than the rest of the population and with more difficult access to services. In the Country live 11 different indigenous ethnic groups and their presence is concentrated mainly in rural areas.

It is precisely towards the Afro-Latin American minority that is geared the project carried out in the provinces of Guayas, El Oro and Los Rios, within the field of governance for the development of the integration and social cohesion processes. The strengthening of this section of the civil society, which is a minority, yet very significant, took place through the establishment of cultural centres, the training of local event organizers, plays staging the Afro origins of Ecuadorians, identifying Afro-Ecuadorians handicrafts and opening specific spaces for their sale. Moreover, exchanges among different associations were also promoted and the material available on the Afro culture was organized into a system; local authorities and other regional stakeholders were involved in awareness raising activities and activities for the promotion of the “Mirada Negra”, a program aimed precisely at wide spreading the Afro-Latin American culture and its enhancement.

Earthquakes, floods, droughts are events that periodically affect the South American continent. It is precisely **in disaster preparedness** that COOPI is intervening in Ecuador by supporting the creation of events and scientific research aimed at framing the phenomenon in terms of vulnerability and needs, and at identifying and organising best practices. In this way **COOPI aims to create a pilot ‘regional’ intervention to be replicated also in other areas of Latin America** and to be carried out also through media circulation.

Guatemala

Beneficiaries 28,605

- > Provided food aid to 1,900 families following natural disasters
- > Students and teachers of 6 schools sensitized and trained on disaster prevention
- > **More than 600 families equipped with shelters and first aid material for the immediate post-emergency**

The contemporary history of Guatemala has been marked by a continuous succession of moments of great political instability, coups d'état and episodes of civil war marked by acts of violence in most cases perpetrated against the American-Indian minorities. The last presidential elections in Guatemala that took place in November, confirmed the victory of former general Molina, proving the absence of a clean break with a past, the consequences of which are still affecting the country.

In addition to the socio-political conditions faced by the country, a major obstacle to its development is constituted by the extreme weather events that the country has experienced, particularly during 2010.

In the context of emergency work, **COOPI intervened in the Polochic region following the hurricane Agatha**, to restore agricultural activities on which depended 1.750 families. Seeds and agricultural tools were distributed and training activities on agro-forestry management were organized, in order to diversify the diet and minimize the risk of depending solely on a limited number of food resources.

In the district of San Marcos, which was hit by several floods, COOPI has intervened in the area of food security to restore the production structures and has carried out awareness raising activities for the prevention of instances of severe malnutrition of children. In this context **it has also taken steps to identify with a participatory approach best practices for mitigation and adaptation to climate change**, the organization of



Ph. S. Carusi. Dipartimento di Peten, distribuzione di sementi a seguito della Depressione Tropicale 12-E.

such best practises into a structure and their dissemination.

However, it is in the field of disaster prevention that focuses the majority of COOPI's work in Guatemala (in particular in Santa Rosa, Escuintla, Retalhuleu, Quetzaltenango, San Marcos and Jutiapa), in the area of Livingston and Limonada in Guatemala City. The intervention involved the implementation of technical training activities for the local emergency preparedness and the implementation of simulation exercises, the development of response plans in case of emergency that include people with disabilities (for whom appropriate solutions are identified), the establishment of forums and opportunities for exchange and discussion; the sensitization of women and young people through information, education and communication activities, the support for the coordination of local and regional authorities for emergency response and implementation of mitigation works on the banks of waterways. All this has been designed **with particular attention to the multi-ethnicity of the population**, especially with regard to its most vulnerable components.



Ph. S. Carusi. Dipartimento di Peten, assistenza agli agricoltori colpiti dalle inondazioni.

Haiti

Beneficiaries 37,240

- > 500 families equipped with temporary shelters
- > Over 200 people trained on emergency response
- > 4 pumps and 6 wells constructed/rehabilitated in containing an outbreak of cholera

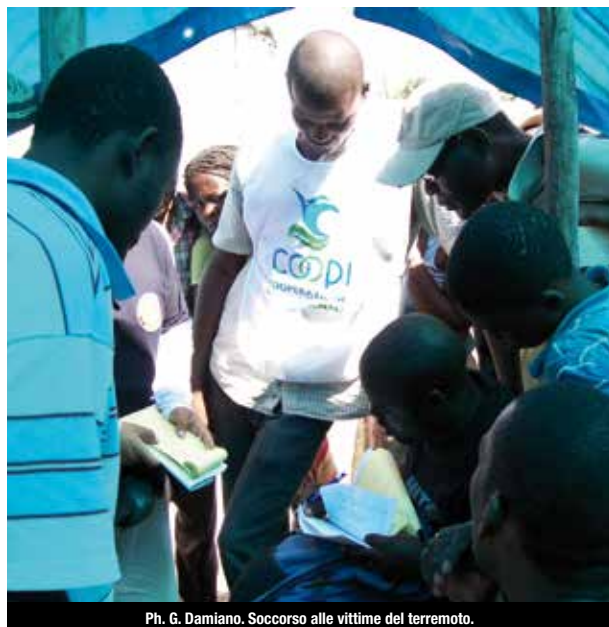
Haiti is the least developed Country in the northern hemisphere and one of the poorest in the world. Approximately 80% of the population lives in a state of abject poverty. In January 2010, Haiti was the scene of one of the worst natural disasters in decades. An earthquake measuring 7.3 on the Richter scale, with its epicentre 17 km from the capital Port-au-Prince, caused the immediate death of over 220,000 people to whom are to be added some 7,000 victims of the cholera epidemic and nearly 1 and a half million of displaced people. Also the local institutions and the entire production structure of the country have been seriously affected, a fact that made the recovery even more difficult.

In addition to the intervention in the immediate post-earthquake, **COOPI remained in the country to carry on the identification of locations suitable for the construction of shelters for the population.**

For the construction of such structures, plastic sheets, ropes, wood and metallic materials were distributed to 500 families.



Ph. G. Damiano. Soccorso alle vittime del terremoto.



Ph. G. Damiano. Soccorso alle vittime del terremoto.

Furthermore, essential supplies (food and water) were also distributed and steps were taken to build temporary structures (25 blocks of latrines and 10 water distribution and storage systems) to meet the basic needs. **In addition, following the outbreak of the cholera epidemic, dedicated facilities were built to isolate the people affected by the disease;** medical supplies for their care were purchased and distributed; access to chlorinated - and therefore safe- water was ensured; 4 pumps were rehabilitated; 6 wells constructed and 16 awareness raising and training sessions carried out on best health and environmental practices to prevent the spread of the disease.

Currently COOPI is implementing a project that focuses on disaster preparedness carrying out **vulnerability analysis and studies of computerized and cartographic seismic micro-zoning relative to the metropolitan area of Port-au-Prince**, introducing in this field the use of geographic information systems (GIS). These studies are designed as a tool available to the different levels of government (national, regional, provincial and local) to improve the management of emergency situations. In addition, COOPI carried out 10 training sessions for volunteers and local civil defence operators on crisis management and for a wide-ranging awareness raising of the population.

Peru

Beneficiaries 68,574

- > 7,000 families assisted following disasters of natural origin
- > 90 community leaders sensitized on the issue of disaster prevention
- > Over 2,000 representatives of local communities trained on disaster preparedness and mitigation

Peru is a country characterized by huge historical and cultural treasures, as well as by deep conflicts and inequalities, which made today's society as dynamic and fast growing as uneven.

In fact, despite the good macroeconomic performance at national level, a number of factors, including poor infrastructure and weak state services, have prevented the spread of the positive effects on the whole territory. In the same Lima, home to more than 27% of the total population, still exist very wide ranges of underemployment that force many people to live below the poverty line. Consider, moreover, that the

South American country is of high seismic risk. The most serious and recent episodes in terms of earthquakes, occurred in 2001 in the south of the country, in 2007 in the centre and in 2011, when the epicentre was located at the border with Brazil. Thus recognizing the close link between environmental vulnerability and development of the country, **COOPI is working in Peru to create a geographic information system and an analysis system of the essential resources for early response and recovery on metropolitan scale** (Lima and the Callao region) **in case of earthquakes of high magnitude and/or tsunami**. The activities carried out were therefore the creation of filing systems for georeferenced data regarding water services, health care, energy supply, transit/escape routes, shelters in the event of an emergency and systems for the distribution of food that should function in case of emergency. Vulnerability and seismic micro zoning analyses were also arranged, resulting in the production of dedicated cartography and dissemination of the results in order to provide the different levels of government (national, regional, provincial and local) with tools for the management of emergencies. At the operational level, steps were taken to train more than 2,000 representatives of local communities on emergency management. It was sought to strengthen



Ph. F. Colombo. Beneficiaria del progetto di supporto alle comunità andine.

the capacity to respond to events carrying out extensive awareness-raising activities targeted on the one hand at 90 community leaders, and secondly, to the social sectors identified as the most vulnerable, through different tools: **modules of risk preparedness were introduced in the school curriculum for children and sporting events were organized for young people**, promoting the Internet as means of engagement. Panels were created in several locations to raise public awareness on preparedness for natural disasters and to disseminate good practices to be implemented in case of

emergency (e.g. first aid medical care).

In addition to actions aimed at the preparedness and mitigation of disasters, COOPI worked in the field of humanitarian assistance providing assistance to people affected by floods and landslides in the region of Ucayali and in the district of Puno, creating temporary housing solutions, distributing survival kits, providing food aid, rebuilding and rehabilitating healthcare and school facilities and centres and providing psycho-social support to the affected populations. Specific support to the agricultural activities has also been provided to 300 families affected by floods in the areas of Cusco and Puno, through the distribution of seeds, tools, veterinary drugs and technical support. Furthermore, being present in the Lombardy region a large Peruvian community characterized by a strong tendency of joining into associations of nationals still closely connected to the Country of origin, **COOPI is implementing a project related to the field of migration with the aim of stimulating the socio-economic development of the regions of origin** through the support and the strengthening of co-development initiatives. For example, it is being planned the creation of a financial platform for the promotion of migrant remittances in Italy and to support the organization and the development of fair trade micro-enterprises in Peru.

Paraguay

Beneficiaries 8,250

- > 860 Indigenous people sensitized and involved in the promotion of the indigenous community
- > More than 4,000 people sensitized on disaster preparedness and mitigation
- > 160 farmers engaged in income generating activities

After being characterized by an unprecedented political instability in the first half of the twentieth century, Paraguay saw a long ruling of the Conservative Party, which ended only in 2008 when the former Bishop, Fernando Lugo, was elected President.

The majority of the population is involved in agricultural activities carried out in small plots of land that sometimes are not sufficient to provide sustenance for the families. This contributes to the phenomenon of urbanization, which is not accompanied by social integration: to this, another relevant issue must be added: the marginalization of Indigenous minorities. **COOPI has recognized the importance of integrating these minorities in order to promote social cohesion.** It has therefore carried out activities such as the construction and equipment of cultural centers, the training of teachers as means of awareness raising in schools, the implementation of play and recreational activities



Archivio COOPI. Formazione sulla potabilizzazione dell'acqua nel Chaco.



Archivio COOPI. Supporto alle attività agricole.



on this topic, also carrying out awareness-raising activities in the Indigenous communities to become aware of their rights and to be recognised by the local authorities.

COOPI has also been engaged in the field of economic development in the Chaco Paraguayo region supporting the start-up of small income generating activities targeted to include young people in the labour market. In particular, the growing and processing of medicinal plants was chosen in order to market the derived products, to promote the recovery of traditional knowledge in this field and engage 160 farmers in the required agricultural activities. Lastly, always in the Chaco Paraguayo region, **COOPI is also present with a project on disaster preparedness geared at mitigating the effects of drought** through training activities of the technical personnel responsible for the operational management of emergencies. In addition COOPI has carried out awareness raising activities for the local population differentiating them for children, young people and women, also meeting the language requirements of indigenous minorities and setting up meetings and exchanges between the different authorities involved in order to strengthen their ability to respond in case of emergency. At the end of the project, which began in 2011 and that will continue throughout 2012, 40 local communities will be equipped with emergency plans, a strategy will be developed to reduce the risks for the Chaco region and steps will be taken to develop an Atlas of the Risk that could support the decision making processes.

Ethiopia

Beneficiaries 776,867

- > Over 50 awareness raising campaigns carried out on health and hygiene practices
- > Over 500,000 animals vaccinated and/or treated
- > 45 veterinary personnel trained and supported

The recent history of Ethiopia has been characterized by wars, internal conflicts and recurrent droughts. Hostilities with Eritrea started in 1998 and have not been fully resolved yet, being thus part of the history of this country for the last fifteen years. The UN Boundary Commission announced in 2002 the decision on the border line, which however has not yet been agreed between the two states. Like Somalia, Kenya and South Sudan, also Ethiopia last year has been severely affected by what has been called the worst drought in the Horn of Africa over the past sixty years. The causes of this situation are to be found in the low rainfall occurred during the last two rainy seasons, the effects of which are showing in all their gravity. The loss of crops threatens the survival of many families, and considering that breeding is another very important source of income in the region, there have been substantial losses. The intervention of COOPI in Ethiopia is highly diversified: first of all, recognizing the serious problems related to water supply, **COOPI has worked in the water sector in the Woreda of Dolo, Liben Filtu and Liben** through the rehabilitation and strengthening of 3 manual wells and 1 mechanical pump and the training of 1 Management Committee to ensure the sustainability of the water system. At the same time, 80.000 tablets to make water drinkable were distributed and over 50 awareness-raising campaigns on health and hygiene practices have been carried out to limit the spread of epidemics such as for example diarrhoea. **The planned projects activities** for disaster prevention in five pilot communities **in Filtu, Hudet and Dolo municipalities** in the southern part of Ethiopia, **which is mainly inhabited by pastoral nomads and semi-nomads, are always focused primarily on mitigating the effects of drought.** Steps were taken to raise the awareness of the public and of the local authorities on the issue of drought, to ensure that they are able to identify their own vulnerabilities and design emergency plans as a result. Another significant part of the activities was the implementation, in partnership with the beneficiaries, of the actions that they, themselves, identified as a priority. Considering the importance of livestock for the subsistence of the communities, **COOPI provided assistance to agro-pastoral communities affected by the drought** in the state of Benishangul Gumuz and in the regions of Somali and Oromia, rehabilitating 18 wells, each of which provides water for approximately 300 people; in addition it distributed health

treatments for around 500.000 animals and provided assistance in vaccination and support campaigns to 45 CAHWs (Community Animal Health Workers) with training activities. In the context of socio-economic services, COOPI carried out micro-credit activities in Addis Ababa, addressing women as the main target group. The women were actively involved as seamstresses through the provision of equipment and technical training. They also received operational training to be able to establish production cooperatives. **Women are also benefiting from a psychosocial assistance project carried out in the district of Sebategna Merkato** in Addis Ababa. Such project provides support to 240 single mothers and vulnerable women through awareness raising activities on the issues of health and personal and environmental hygiene. **Of great importance in terms of innovation is the project on access to sustainable energy** aimed at improving the means of subsistence in rural areas not yet supplied, in the regions of Somali and Oromia, in Southern Ethiopia. This project, lasting several years and started in 2011, involves the installation of solar energy systems for energy supply in schools, health centres and veterinary centres, promoting the use of renewable energy in the running of the activities of three agricultural cooperatives and accompanying the introduction of these new technologies with activities focusing on technical training and on procedures and regulations.



Ph. A. Gandolfi, Wadera, il coordinatore paese di COOPI fa visita ai progetti di sicurezza alimentare.

Kenya

Beneficiaries 105,897

- > More than 75,000 animals treated with prophylaxis to improve their resistance to drought
- > 18,000 people made aware of the importance of adopting good health-environmental practices
- > More than 54,000 people trained on preparedness and mitigation of the effects of drought

Following the change of government in 2002, a number of structural reforms were initiated in Kenya, aimed at strengthening the institutions, fight corruption and promote economic development. This gave new impetus to the development of the country, which is considered the commercial and financial centre of gravity of East Africa. The violence that followed the last elections in 2008, however, is symptomatic of an internal political situation not yet completely stable.

The historic key word is the fight against poverty, with particular attention to rural development, water, health, education and rehabilitation of degraded suburban areas. With the objective of promoting rural development and food security of rural communities, **COOPI has intervened in the first place in the district of Mandera, with the aim of improving the agricultural production of approximately 3,000 families**, through the distribution of many kits containing seeds and agricultural tools and through the training of farmers; these families were

also given tablets for water purification and training sessions on good health and hygiene practices. **Given the importance of livestock** in the sustenance of families, especially in rural areas, **prophylaxis campaigns have been carried out to increase the resistance to droughts of over 75,000 animals. In the informal settlements of Nairobi**, particularly in Huruma slum, training activities were carried out on the topic of food and **85 families were involved in the production of vegetables and in starting up small income-generating activities**. Always with the aim of increasing and diversifying the income of households, COOPI worked to identify the most vulnerable people in the slum of Mathare in Nairobi, in order to allocate them small grants. Being, like Somalia, a region subject to frequent periods of drought, **the objective of some activities in the district of Mandera has been to limit the impact that the prolonged drought could have in terms of malnutrition**. Therefore three water supply points were developed

inclusive of tanks, pumps and troughs for the cattle that will be managed by three committees. Interventions to ensure water supply were carried out in the Ifo refugee camp, where steps were taken to drill a well and to build a raised tank. **More than 54,000 people in the border area between Kenya and Ethiopia were sensitized and trained through a participatory approach on risk analysis associated with the drought**, on conducting vulnerability studies, on the correct use of early warning systems, on the establishment of emergency plans in response to the crisis and on the need for storage systems that can ensure the availability of resources.



Ph. C. Torres. Mathare, agricultura urbana.

Sudan

Beneficiaries 149,846

- > 600,000 animals vaccinated and 100,000 treated
- > 400 farmers and livestock breeders trained on water conservation techniques
- > 70 local stakeholders trained and involved in the dissemination of good health and hygiene practices

The recent history of Sudan is marked by strong disorders and violence, expressions of a civil war that on several occasions has shaken the country since its independence. The series of clashes between government forces and rebel groups led many humanitarian organizations to abandon the country leaving civilians at the mercy of the violence from which they flee gathering in Internally Displaced People camps in Darfur and to a lesser extent, in Chad. As provided for in the peace agreement that put an end to more than two decades of civil war between the North and the South of the country, parliamentary and presidential elections were held in April 2010, followed by a referendum that in 2011 gave life to the State of South Sudan.

COOPI's interventions focused in the Darfur region that for a long time has been the scene of armed clashes and particularly hit by periods of severe drought. These conditions have contributed to determine over the years the conditions of extreme poverty faced by the population, whose sustenance depends on agriculture and



Archivio COOPI. Progetto di approvvigionamento di acqua potabile.



Ph. S. Bergonzani. Operatori COOPI in missione sul campo.

farming activities on small scale. To allow the management of these activities and to ensure access to basic services for the population, different interventions were carried out, in the first place in the field of water-hygiene. **Existing water sources were rehabilitated and technical personnel was trained on how to properly manage such resources;** 22 committees were also set up, in order to facilitate and rationalize the use of water resources in case of emergency. In addition, 70 teachers and local activities-organisers have conducted some awareness raising campaigns on hygiene rules to be followed for the provision of water from water sources. In terms of breeding, on the other hand, interventions took place in the areas of Malha, Es Sayah and Mellit, **where health care was provided to the animals (vaccinations and treatments) to ensure basic veterinary services in support of 7,600 communities**, furthermore steps were taken for the direct involvement of farmers and veterinary staff that was assembled in 26 groups, called CAHWs (Community Animal Health Workers).

To improve the food security of communities in the North Darfur, that depend on agricultural activities, **COOPI has been involved in the training of 400 farmers and breeders on agricultural techniques and management of livestock**, building troughs for the animals and contributing to the improvement of the livelihoods of the communities through the creation of short-term paid employment opportunities, that benefited 150 vulnerable people.

Somalia

Beneficiaries 1,550,734

- > 58 wells created/rehabilitated
- > Over 1,1 million animals vaccinated
- > 3 hospitals rehabilitated and equipped



Archivio COOPI. Assistenza alle vittime della siccità.

The political situation in Somalia is characterized by great instability, which occurred through recurrent episodes of civil war. Since 2009 the head of the Transitional Federal Government is the leader of a moderate group of Islamic Courts (CIC). Despite this, however, the situation is still far from stable. The worst drought in half a century, along with the violence of an endless war, and the difficulties of intervention on the side of the international community, led to one of the worst humanitarian crises. To date, there are thousands of people who are moving from central Somalia to Kenya, Ethiopia and Djibouti to seek assistance in the refugee camps set by the United Nations.

In these circumstances, the commitment of COOPI in the country is divided into different areas to cope with an emergency spread all over the country. First of all **COOPI has worked** in the field of humanitarian assistance, **in the regions of Bay and Middle Juba, providing aid to displaced people** through temporary shelters and vouchers for water. Assistance to refugees in refugee camps was also provided **in the areas of Bossasso and Galkayoin Puntland, where short term job opportunities were created and the basic health and hygiene services** ensured through the construction of latrines, the rehabilitation of water points, the promotion of good practices for the hygiene and sanitation of water, activities that involved more than 9,400 beneficiaries. Always within the field of humanitarian assistance, **COOPI provided support to healthcare facilities in order to ensure adequate care for displaced people** and trained medical staff to improve the way of dealing and responding to emergencies and the rapid response to maternal and child malnutrition.

The identification of the households considered at risk from

the nutritional point of view was followed by the distribution of food, seeds and agricultural tools. With regard to the interventions more closely related to the agricultural field, these were mainly concentrated **in the regions of Bay and Juba and in the Galgadud**. Here **COOPI provided support to agricultural production** through training courses for farmers, construction and rehabilitation of as many as 3,120 storage facilities and awareness raising of farmers and communities on the benefits in terms of reducing loss of harvest, through the distribution of vouchers for food, seeds and agricultural equipment. In the broader context of supporting the entire agricultural production



Archivio COOPI. Assistenza alle vittime della siccità.

chain, COOPI has improved the food security of communities through financial and business training for the sale of manufactured products and the start up of small income-generating activities. **The organization has also developed activities to support farming in Somaliland**, Puntland and in some areas of central and southern Somalia through: raising awareness on how to manage livestock, training more than 200 workers responsible for the vaccination of livestock, a campaign of vaccinations that allowed us to vaccinate more than one million animals, the supply of material for the prophylaxis of the most common diseases and the rehabilitation/construction of infrastructure for the sale of cattle. In a region where, according to the data published by FAO, more than 40% of the population lives in remote areas characterized by lack or shortage of water, most of COOPI's intervention aimed at improving the access to water sources in many areas of the country, specifically in the areas of Galgadud, Hiran, Bay, Juba, Gedo and Mudug. Thus, 58 wells were built, or, if already present, rehabilitated, through the involvement of vulnerable groups in these activities.



Archivio COOPI. Distribuzione di voucher acqua e cibo.

of women. In the field of healthcare, **COOPI intervened in the prevention and treatment of sexually transmitted diseases (STDs) and AIDS in the areas of Boroma, Burao and Berbera** in Somaliland through support activities for the identification and testing systems of individuals at risk; the training of medical staff responsible for the care of the patients; formulation of diagnosis and management of patients, supply of medicines and instruments for the treatment/prophylaxis of patients. In this way approximately 2,200 direct beneficiaries have been reached. On the other hand, to improve the nutrition of the population of the Gedo region severely hit by famine, COOPI granted access to food and water to more than 10,000 vulnerable individuals, mostly women and children, through the distribution of vouchers



Archivio COOPI. Distribuzione di voucher acqua e cibo.

Awareness raising and education campaigns were carried out on the importance of proper management of these “water points” allocated to small management committees also responsible for their maintenance. Besides the provision of water for domestic and agricultural use, the access to basic health and hygiene services was ensured through the construction of blocks of latrines and the distribution of ceramic filters and tablets to purify water. Also the activities carried out in the town of Galkayo aim to create a healthy and adequate environment, promoting the proper disposal of waste, the collection of which is mainly the responsibility

for water and food, the awareness raising on the need to treat the cases of acute malnutrition, and the training of personnel on the prevention and detection of cases at risk.

COOPI also intervened in the field of basic health care rehabilitating and equipping the hospital of Baidoa in the Bay region, and the regional hospitals of Boroma and Burao in Somaliland, through the provision of equipment and medicines, the training of personnel and raising the awareness of the patients in the health centers on good hygiene practices and the prevention of epidemics, in particular tuberculosis.

Uganda

Beneficiaries 329,987

- > Assisted 1,940 women victims of violence
- > 25,000 people sensitized on gender based violence
- > 9 wells rehabilitated / constructed

The elections of February 2011 led to the fourth term of President Museveni who occupies the political scene since the end the Eighties. To this political continuity, however, does not correspond an equally strong stability in the country. Uganda has been committed to fight the Lord's Resistance Army, the rebel army founded by Kony who has been opposing the government. This violent group continues to attack by crossing the borders of the different countries surrounding Uganda carrying on a reign of terror and insecurity throughout Uganda. In Uganda **COOPI has worked and still works in the northern part of the country and in the district of Oyam, in order to prevent and reduce sexual and gender violence**, taking action to improve the provision of care and the psycho-social assistance for the victims of violence. In particular, the activities carried out in this respect are:

- support provided to 2,000 women victims of violence and their children;
- counselling activities including also group therapy;
- community awareness raising, targeting nearly 25,000 people, on the issue of sexual and gender based violence through the materials distributed in the four shelters, in schools and through the radio;
- involvement of representatives of local NGOs on the management of shelters, if present.

The attention to the victims of violence is also a focal

point of the intervention in the areas of Pader and Agago where more than 4,000 women and children are the beneficiaries of the interventions in the health sector.

The objective is to improve the basic services in order to reduce the maternal and child mortality and morbidity rates through nutrition education activities and training on maternal and child health and reproductive health at community level; to establish a service of preventive and curative consultations, including vaccinations for children, and to strengthen the diagnostic capacity through the training of medical personnel. **The other field in which COOPI operates in the areas of Pader, Agago and Karamoja is that of food security**, which covers activities closely related to breeding and agriculture. In the first instance through the training of farmers on good sanitary practices and animal nutrition, rehabilitation of water supplies for livestock; in the second instance, through the distribution of vouchers for seeds to 480 beneficiaries, the technical training of approximately 360 farmers in 9 sessions of the Farmer Field Schools and the start-up of small income generating activities resulting from the processing and sale of agricultural products. Such activities have been accompanied by various awareness raising and educational activities on the area of nutrition education, in order to improve the access to basic services, especially for the most vulnerable people.



Archivio COOPI. Sessione di formazione su acqua e igiene.

Chad

Beneficiaries 710,150

- > 20 nutrition centers built/rehabilitated
- > Assisted more than 20,000 malnourished children
- > Supported 180,000 displaced people

The recent history of Chad has been marked by tensions between government forces and opponents resulted in various coup d'état attempts. This has led to an internal crisis that has worsened the living conditions of the population. Most of COOPI's interventions in Chad focused in the area of health care. In the eastern part of the country, specifically **in the Dar Sila region**, where is concentrated the majority of refugees from Sudan, **COOPI**



Ph. M. Papa. Donne in attesa di visita.

has worked to reduce the risk of transmission of sexually transmitted diseases and HIV; it made kits available for post-exposure prophylaxis (PEP), it trained personnel who can administer antiretroviral therapy (ART) to adults and children, it equipped laboratories and medical care facilities with the equipment required to perform diagnostic tests and it raised public awareness on the risks and prevention. In the field of nutrition, **in the region of Dar Sila and in the areas of Mongo Bitikine and Mangalmé, COOPI rehabilitated and opened 20 outpatient nutrition and therapeutic centers**, with the aim of reducing mortality and morbidity caused by acute malnutrition, raising the awareness of the population on the need for treating acute malnutrition, training 300 health professionals on the prevention, identification and treatment of acutely malnourished patients according to the current protocols and promoting the adoption of best dietary and health and hygiene practices at household level.

To ensure free access to basic health services, COOPI's work focused mainly in the region of Dar Sila to rehabilitate/equip health-care facilities by providing basic services and the medical-health care equipment necessary for the preventive and curative treatment of patients, it included the training of medical personnel on the treatment of patients, in particular victims of sexual violence. Approximately 1,500 women were assisted in the area of reproductive health, while more than 20,000 children were included in health programs aiming at reducing malnutrition. For what

concerns the work on children, in particular, COOPI has carried out nutritional education activities for children of school age and for those individuals responsible for the care of children under the age of 5. The focus on the area of children is also highlighted by the interventions aimed at ensuring maternal and child health. 50 people were trained - among nurses, doctors, assistants and midwives- on the treatment of pregnant women and on pre and post-natal care, while also providing consultation services.

In the context of health care also falls the project to support vulnerable communities in the health districts of Goz Beida, to prevent, mitigate and respond to the cholera epidemic through awareness raising activities, training of nursing staff, distribution of anti-cholera kits and medicines to treat the disease.

Since Chad is subject to migrations of refugees from Sudan, humanitarian assistance - and in particular the provision of aid for refugees- is the other main area of COOPI's interventions in this country. In particular, in this context, **COOPI has been active in the region of the Great Sido, aiming at integrating the refugees gathered in the refugee camp of Yaroungou with the native population**. With the same objective, COOPI has also intervened in the region of Dar Sila, to encourage the return of the displaced people and their integration with the local population. In particular, COOPI has taken action for the construction/rehabilitation of health centres and latrines, also carrying out the training of personnel on their maintenance; it trained medical and paramedical staff responsible for the treatment of patients; it provided medical equipment and started vaccination campaigns; it provided support to manage malnutrition and to offer activities of continuous epidemiological surveillance, thus focusing its interventions mainly in the field of health. **In the region of Eastern Logone, COOPI also carried out a project designed to support and strengthen civil society organizations** through training and support to local communities in implementing projects, interact with and consult stakeholders and managing natural resources.

Central African Republic Beneficiaries 344,756

- > more than 40 local operators working in the dissemination of good agricultural practices
- > over 20,000 children included in quality education
- > 175 Local Authority Representatives trained on Women's and Children's Rights

The history of the Central African Republic is marked by a succession of military coups d'états that took place in a more or less violent way. The last one happened in 2003 and brought François Bozizé to power: re-elected twice through free elections. Despite Bozizé's popular mandate, the rebels continued to control the areas on the border with Sudan, Chad and Cameroon, so that the safety condition remains precarious in CAR. COOPI is present in CAR since the mid-seventies and has been ensuring its presence even during very turbulent times in the country. **The continuity, the large number of projects and their quality have permitted COOPI to gradually become deeply rooted in the territory.** During 2011 COOPI carried out 18 different projects focusing, however, its work **on food security and education.** In the first case, **the intervention was mainly conducted in the prefectures of Sibut, Sangha Mbaere, Mambere Kadei, Lobate and in the province of Haute Mbomou** through many activities, including:

- distribution of approximately 50,000 kg of improved seed (mainly corn, peanuts and manioc) and more than 5,000 toolkits

for agriculture;

- promotion of nurseries;
- technical assistance at all stages of seed multiplication process and agricultural production through the support of more than 40 local counselors;
- training of technical staff for the implementation and management of urban and peri-urban vegetable gardens.

In the field of education, COOPI worked mainly **in the sub-prefecture of Paoua and in the prefecture of Haut Mbomou.** More specifically, **its interventions were focused on the field of primary education** to ensure child literacy and help make the schools a safe environment, through prevention and risk reduction of violence against children.

Therefore, work was done in cooperation with more than 500 people including teachers and school employees who were trained to ensure high quality teaching standards; three structures to hold classes were rehabilitated and school supplies were provided to "emergency" schools in the most vulnerable communities. In particular, **in Batalimo area, the intervention**



Ph. F. Longo. Distribuzione di utensili agricoli.



Archivio COOPI. Attività di formazione su acqua e igiene.

was targeted at 7.000 people, including Congolese refugees and internally displaced people hosted in camps, and continuity of education for children was ensured through the establishment of structures for the lessons, the provision of school supplies, training of teachers and the development of non-formal education activities. Food aid was guaranteed to refugees within a nutrition health program in the prefecture of Haut Mbomou. Furthermore, in the same area, COOPI provided psycho-social assistance to communities that have been victims of violence perpetrated by the Lord Resistance Army (LRA) through a multi-sectoral program aimed at identifying the victims, providing psychological support, including them in technical training programs to involve them in agricultural and commer-

cial activities, and facilitating their social reintegration into the community. Finally, COOPI's concern about the most vulnerable groups has resulted in a project that aims at promoting the integration of the Aka Pygmy minority through their involvement in development projects.

Over two years this project, that involved 7,900 beneficiaries, trained and sensitized the pygmies, the community inclusion arena and the local authorities on human rights and the prevention of human rights violations. In addition, support was provided to the Aka minority to be recognised by the administrative authority and therefore provided with missing documents. Finally, teachers were trained to promote the inclusion of Aka children into classes and the creation of a climate conducive to learning in order to encourage the inclusion of adult pygmies into literacy activities.



Ph. F. Longo. Formazione in tecniche di gestione della produzione avicola



Ph. M. Barletta. Cooperanti con beneficiari pigmei.

DR Congo

Beneficiaries 944,082

- > More than 5,000 farmers trained on good agricultural practices
- > Assistance to 18,000 women victims of violence
- > 8,200 malnourished children included in health and nutrition programs

The Democratic Republic of the Congo (formerly Zaire) is one of the largest states of the African continent. The Country has many natural resources, but it has the lowest Human Development Index in the world. In particular, the region of Kivu appears to be highly unstable, due to the presence of rebel groups in the territory that are committing all sorts of atrocities.

The constant danger leads to thousands of displaced people, is the driver of food insecurity and increases the spread of diseases. COOPI has been continuously renewing its commitment to DRC since the seventies, thus constituting one of the 'historical' countries where the organization operates. In 2011 COOPI has carried out as many as 45 projects, mainly related to food security sector, socio-economic activities, humanitarian assistance and health in different parts of the Country. **The long track record in the territory and the wide range of activities carried out allowed COOPI to acquire a deep knowledge of the context and to be recognized by the local and international organizations.**

In the field of food security, COOPI has primarily worked in Kasai-Oriental and in the Kivu region, as well as in the area of Kinshasa, Fizi and in the villages along the Kananda - Milimba axis, by adopting an integrated Community approach to help in terms of food and support to agricultural production, and to promote restructuring in the pre-existing economic fabric. The activity was carried out through different activities and it supported more than



Ph. C. Dogliotti. Screening dei casi di malnutrizione.



Archivio COOPI. Mahagi, attività di formazione.

75,000 beneficiaries. First of all, kits were distributed to more than 15,000 families to increase agricultural production, each of them containing about 10 kg of seed grain (mainly corn and soybeans), horticultural products and tool sets; then more than 5,000 farmers were trained on the techniques to be implemented to maximize yield plots. The training of the farmers was one of the main activities that was done by actively involving the local population.

The theoretical and technical training, as well as an understanding of the agricultural framework, also dealt with issues related to livestock breeding (mainly farmyard animals), including environmental awareness activities spread via radio, panels and performances. Besides the training to improve the production processes, a training of the people involved in the processing and sale of agricultural products was activated. Under the project in South Kivu, for example, 20 mills were set in motion and the personnel in charge of their management had to be trained; COOPI also took part in the rehabilitation of road sections to facilitate local market exchanges. Wherever possible, we tried to include the above mentioned activities within food security framework, also as a means of recovering the former child soldiers, getting them involved in work activities and accelerated literacy, in order

to promote their social reintegration as well as their families reintegration. Within the socio-economic framework, **COOPI has been working hard**, especially by carrying out psychosocial assistance projects **to provide integrated aid** including medical care, psychosocial support and accompaniment for economic reintegration of the victims.

The above mentioned activities were **mainly led in Southern Kivu** (more than 3,000 beneficiaries) and **in Ituri provinces** (4,500 beneficiaries), **Haut Hélé and Bas Hélé** (more than 75,000 beneficiaries). Firstly, great weight was placed on identifying violence cases involving both women and children. In order to improve medical care, more than 440 health professionals were trained including doctors, nurses and health workers so to build/rehabilitate and to equip 14 health facilities with basic services and materials; 12 counseling and psychological support groups were established for the victims, and mother-child joint activities were carried out to restore their relationship, also involving the women's families who are usually marginalized. Furthermore, in order to ensure their social integration, both women and children were included in education and technical training programs to start small businesses.

The establishment of supervisory committees and communication mechanisms to ensure early warning in case of violations of children's rights was supported at the community level, and extensive awareness raising campaigns on gender-based and sexual violence were run, reaching out to nearly 400,000 people among which the hospitality staff, the families, the community leaders, the representatives of local NGOs and the local institutions. As aforementioned, the DRC is severely stricken by the refugees flood. For this purpose **COOPI provided humanitarian assistance to more than 93,000 people, among which the refugees and the local people in the province of Ituri and Southern Kivu**, through cross-cutting interventions including:

- rehabilitation activities of health centers;
 - medical supplies, staff training in the field of obstetrics, neonatal care and nutrition;
 - promotion of good personal hygiene practices and construction of latrines;
 - school placement of the children in compliance with the national programs and awareness raising campaigns on the protection of women and children against gender-based violence and sexual abuse.
- COOPI has also been continuously working in the health field in the DRC. First, COOPI has provided nutrition assistance

in the provinces of Maniema, Equateur, Kinshasa, Kasai Oriental and Kivu, reaching more than 25,000 beneficiaries.

Interventions in this field were mainly targeted at children under 5 years old: 8,200 acutely malnourished children were assisted through nutritional programs that involved more than 3,100 families and were based on staff training and on raising awareness about good nutritional practices.

COOPI also distributed food to school canteens and to basic nutrition units, and it provided agricultural inputs to the most vulnerable communities.

In some cases, even the families of malnourished children benefiting from COOPI's activities took advantages of the inputs to implement family gardens from which they could obtain products to diversify their daily diet.

Great efforts were also made by COOPI to improve basic health services for more than 500,000 people through rehabilitation and support to more than 30 healthcare facilities including hospitals, health centers and clinics **in the provinces of Kasai Oriental, Kivu and Equateur**. The goal was achieved mainly through: training of health personnel on the implementation of laboratory analysis, training of midwives on best management practices for pregnant women; training on family planning, offering vaccines and first aid medicines to be administered to children, organizing centers to provide psychosocial support within the basic health centers and raising awareness about the importance of this initiative. **Training activities were conducted, and equipment and medicines were provided for malaria prevention in Equateur province while cholera treatments were supplied to the area of Kinshasa**. More than 290 patients were assisted under this project in the support centres and 230 people were trained in epidemiological surveillance.



Archivio COOPI. Cooperante in missione a Mahagi.

Cameroon

Beneficiaries 400

- > 35 technical training sessions carried out during the entire project
- > 28 tutors involved in training
- > 75 young people provided with start up capital for income-generating activities

Even if Cameroon boasts one of the highest GDP in sub-Saharan Africa, its economic growth has been compromised by over taxation and bureaucratic slow-downs.

Ten years ago the unemployment rate exceeded 30% and since then it has not declined substantially. In fact, youth unemployment is now a major problem, considering the difficulties faced by the central authority to create new jobs.

COOPI's activities in Cameroon fit in this context, since they are aimed at improving the integration of young people into the world



Archivio COOPI. Apprendisti, beneficiari del progetto di artigianato.



Archivio COOPI. Apprendisti, beneficiari del progetto di artigianato.



of work - particularly craft activities - through specialist training courses and their business management training. In particular, this goal was achieved in 2011 by continuing the project started the previous year. During the project start-up stage 150 young people had been identified based on their previous experience. They were properly trained and provided with facilities and equipment necessary to start small craft businesses, and finally trained in operational and administrative management of small businesses.

Ivory Coast

Beneficiaries 210,584

- > 7,976 children under 5 years old assisted
- > 127 health workers trained
- > 3,600 people assisted through “mobile clinics”



Archivio COOPI. Attività di sensibilizzazione.

In October 2010 the post-election crisis in Ivory Coast generated a flurry of disorders that lasted for many months. According to the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR), in the first months of 2011 the critical situation caused 1 million people from Abidjan to flee the combats. In response, **COOPI intervened** mainly in the health sector, with the aim of improving access to primary health care in the health districts of Boléquin and Zouan Hounien, in the eastern part of the country, to reduce morbidity and mortality in the above mentioned areas, reaching about 135,000 beneficiaries. In particular, in the health district of Boléquin a health care system was established consisting of three “mobile clinics” to provide emergency support to 3,600 people. In the area of Zouan Hounien the goal was achieved by rehabilitating and equipping health facilities (if already present),



Archivio COOPI. Intervento sanitario a seguito dell'attivazione delle cliniche mobili.

in order to ensure access to basic health services for the population. Instruments, medicines, vaccines for children and laboratory materials were then provided to make the structures functional and efficient. Great importance was given to health personnel training on emergency managing and on safe patients handling based on severity assessment, in order to ensure a free high quality service.



Archivio COOPI. Intervento sanitario a seguito dell'attivazione delle cliniche mobili.

To this end, over 120 health professionals were trained including doctors, nurses and assistants. In addition, special attention was paid to pregnant women and children under five years of age: more than 3,000 pregnant women and almost 8,000 children were assisted. **A fundamental part of the project progressing in the Prefecture of Zouan-Hounien is also to provide support to the victims of violence.** The goal is to create a protective environment for children and women who are victims of gender violence through an efficient implementation of psychosocial support provided by the community structures in charge of socio-cultural activities. Different activities will contribute to the achievement of this objective, ranging from raising the awareness of human rights and gender-based violence of over 18,000 people, including children and young people, to the establishment of counselling groups, to the training of personnel in emergency medical care and in victim assistance and reintegration into society.

Sierra Leone

Beneficiaries 11,672

- > ,690 people sensitized on women's rights to education and land
- > More than 400 subjects supported to start income-generating activities
- > 2,725 families helped to increase domestic agricultural production



Ph. G. Camerino. Staff COOPI con le leader del progetto di advocacy e promozione dei diritti delle donne.

Sierra Leone's recent history is characterized by a ten-year civil war that formally ended in early 2002.

The conflict, besides being a leading cause of the current state of deep poverty, has been characterized by large-scale abuses mainly against women. Even today, they continue to face widespread discrimination and violence that are exacerbated by a lack of access to justice. Thus women lie at the heart of COOPI's actions, inspired with the main goal of making them active in their own recovery.

Within the governance and social service sectors, **COOPI worked in the district of Kono and in the western area to improve the ability to prevent and to respond to violations of children's and women's rights.**

Advocacy actions were organized for 4,000 people, as well as training actions for 60 people, including managers and qualified personnel, to enable them to correctly and timely identify the victims of violence and to provide them with support. **Particular attention was paid to women through education and training projects.** In the same areas, more than 150 women were involved in the promotion of their rights to literacy and access to land, on which they were first sensitized and trained. In the districts of Kono, Kailahun, Koinadugu and in the western part advocacy actions were carried out to bring to light the importance of recognizing rights violation and of advancing their pro-

motion. **Furthermore, 435 people, mostly young ones, were supported to create and launch income-generating activities.** Technical training and business management assistance was offered based on their experience.

Interventions in Freetown had as their objective the amelioration of the whole agricultural productive chain, so to improve food security in the urban and peri-urban areas, particularly in the districts of Kono, Kailahun and Tonkolili. In this connection, a participatory approach was implemented through the strong involvement of about a hundred farmers, who were organized in small local groups and, from a technical point of view, were trained on savings and credit systems as well as on administration/management of microbusiness.

Great importance was also attached to experience and result sharing through the creation of a forum in order to promote the exchange of ideas about urban agriculture and the inclusion on the agenda of the country.

COOPI's intervention in the health sector in Kono district and in the health center based in Kissy **focused on enhancing medical care for women with difficult pregnancies.** Hence, to reduce the maternal and neonatal mortality COOPI rehabilitated 10 clinics strategically positioned, improved means of communication, provided equipment and training to medical staff. During the project 140 women have received assistance.

Senegal

Beneficiaries 424

- > 8 migrant associations trained in management skills
- > 16 migrant associations trained in project development

Although the country experienced strong growth in recent years, the living conditions of the Senegalese population have not significantly improved. The above mentioned situation generates a migration that has been affecting Italy for many years. In our country, Senegalese migrant communities are characterized by a dense network of particularly active associations.

Besides the solidarity point of view (assistance to newly arrived expatriates), in fact, Senegalese communities have proven to be effective in promoting social, cultural and religious cohesion and in managing external relations both with the destination context - Italy- both with the country of origin.

Based on the above mentioned characteristic, COOPI developed an initiative that was carried out in 2011 to contribute to the improvement of economic and social conditions of the people

living in rural and peri-urban areas in Senegal, by supporting partnership and interdependent relationships between Senegal-Italy. **More specifically, the activities aimed at training, accompanying and providing technical assistance to Senegalese migrants in Italy** in the field of project management, co-development and partnership promotion among local authorities in Italy and Senegal, so to strengthen their institutional capacity. Hence, in 2011 the training activities that had been carried out during the last years and addressed to eight Senegalese associations were continued. The activities pertained to the project cycle, administrative management, development strategies in Senegal, fund raising, as well as to development education to be implemented both in Italian and Senegalese secondary schools.



Archivio COOPI. Sessione di formazione.

Madagascar

After acquiring independence, Madagascar has been marked by a series of coup d'états, and is still politically unstable. At the moment, despite the recent agreements between the political party that holds power and the opposition that should lead the country towards a normalization phase, the political situation in Madagascar is still in the stabilization process. The main problems that severely limit the country's development are first and foremost AIDS, extreme poverty, aggravated by severe health problems, malaria, and widespread acute malnutrition. This is one of the countries where COOPI has only recently begun to

work, as a result of the international embargo on aid. In addition to the regional project, to which we previously referred speaking of Malawi, **COOPI is working in Madagascar on a disaster prevention project**, that aims at assessing the vulnerability of the inhabitants from some villages close to Antananarivo by collecting and systematizing the information through participatory approaches. This phase is considered to be the starting point for the detailed analysis of vulnerability and risk that serves as the basis for preparing emergency plans and local strategies.



Archivio COOPI. Frazione della città di Antananarivo.



Archivio COOPI. Area di intervento.



Archivio COOPI. Sessione di formazione sulla prevenzione disastri.

Malawi

Beneficiaries 307,304

- > Distributed over 67,000 information packages on malaria
- > 14 Care Group Models trained in proper hygiene practices
- > 15 Committees trained in civil defence

Malawi's economy is mainly rural and is characterized by inefficient and outdated tools and technology. Mortality rate in its broader sense, hence not just concerning the infants, reached a very high level (11,2%), which has been heavily influenced by the second plague that affects the country: AIDS. The virus continues to strike people and the resulting data show that Malawi has the dubious distinction of coming top of the African Countries. Given the gravity of the situation, COOPI adopts different strategies to intervene in the Country.

With regard to agriculture, great importance has been attached to the conservation of natural resources in Kasungu district by encouraging the use of local techniques and native seeds aimed at soil conservation and fertility.

To restore food security in Salima district hit by flooding, training activities were organized for six Civil Defence Committees and 4 Country Organizations, through which new farming techniques, short cycle maize varieties and other crops, tools and irrigation equipment were introduced. Furthermore, some labour activities were carried out and directed to the most vulnerable people so to stabilize the river banks.

Interventions in the health sector focused on malaria prevention for children and women through the planning and organization of meetings, awareness campaigns and dissemination of good practices with over 200 volunteers and workers. In addition, diversified communication activities were performed to raise disease awareness and increase prevention practices, ranging from video and poster creation to theatre and short essays writing.

The intervention undertaken in Salima district and in Lilongwe area is closely related to the health sector with greater focus on sanitation: COOPI strengthened 14 Care Group Models, made up of 10 community volunteers trained in community mobilization and dissemination of good hygiene practices and healthy nutrition. The majority of interventions performed by COOPI in Malawi



Archivio COOPI. Controllo dello stato nutrizionale di un minore.

are focused on disaster prevention, and in this field are being laid the foundations for future developments thanks to the introduction of new technologies with great potential for applications.

In Salima district that was hit by flooding, **activities focused on strengthening the capacity of communities and local authorities to respond to any emergency situation** through the consolidation and development of institutions' networks; 15 civil defence committees for managing early warning systems and first aid were also formed, according to emergency plans developed together with local communities; in addition, 5 evacuation centres were equipped with basic sanitation facilities,

medications and first aid kits.

COOPI leaves ample room for the introduction of innovative technologies in this field, as evidenced by the regional project that includes Malawi, Madagascar, Mozambique and Comoros. This project aims at creating the disaster management tools through hazard zone mapping using the geographic information system (GIS). Furthermore, a multilingual regional database to systematize and share the data collected was also created so that the partners should be provided with valuable support in dealing with environmental emergencies. **With regards to DISCOVER project**, that will be carried out only in Malawi and should continue over the next few years, **the participation of communities and local government structures is expected in order to develop innovative and sustainable business**, with respect to climate change.

The focus **on the introduction of innovative technologies and sustainable environmental practices emerges from the project implemented in Kasungu District**, which schedules the provision of electricity based on renewable energy sources such as solar and biofuels to strengthen agricultural productivity of rural communities and to create small income-generating activities. Furthermore, the resulting energy will be supplied to public facilities such as schools and health centres.

Morocco

Beneficiaries 4,000

- > 350 artisans supported
- > 100 farmers assisted

In Morocco the division between the ruling class and the rest of the population is gradually smoothing out. The government is improving the economic system as well as the banking supervision system resulting in an increase in the creation of new businesses and in a general economic development. However, there are still pockets of poverty existing in some areas of the Country, especially in rural areas, that remains traditionally closed to Berber population and women. In 2011 COOPI renewed its presence in the province of Nador where it has been



Archivio COOPI. Le donne a lezione.

working for years. This allowed to deepen the understanding of the socio-economic fabric of society, and to have the endorsement of local authorities and associations working in the area. In Morocco, the craft sector is of the utmost importance to the local economy and is a great resource for women, as it allows them to get together and to escape from the rigid male-dominated family hierarchy.

The project **COOPI** is implementing in the above mentioned context **aims at promoting local development by strengthening the production and marketing of the local artworks, as well as of the beekeeping products and diverse agricultural products.** All that has been done **by paying particular attention to the respect and protection of the environment and to socio-economic integration of women.** About 350 artisans have been assisted with manufacturing of artworks using natural and recycled materials (mainly fabrics and wood). In municipalities where the intervention was led a recycling system



Archivio COOPI. Apprendiste, beneficiarie del corso di sartoria.

for waste materials has also been implemented, and widespread activities have been conducted to raise awareness among the children and adolescents on that field, as well as on environmental protection. Besides supporting the local production, COOPI stayed abreast of the artisans in the selection of traditional products to sell them on the local market and to bring them to a broader reality of local Fair Trade.



Archivio COOPI. Incontro di formazione sui nuovi articoli di artigianato.

Palestine

Beneficiaries 2,013

- > Rehabilitation of 24 public infrastructures through short-term job creation
- > More than 100 students involved in vocational trainings
- > 400 children included in educational pathways



Ph. A. Gandolfi. Caverna riabilitata per ricovero bestiame in Area C.

Even without chronicling the troubled history of the Israeli-Palestinian conflict, the events that marked the past few years are emblematic of an unstable reality where any intervention has become far more problematic because of the delicate balance that it entails. In December 2008 Hamas offensive resulted in a resurgence of hostilities between the two parties. Israeli launched ground and air counterattacks causing many victims. UN mission, that had been investigating the conflict since April 2009, reported human rights violations took place on both sides. The delicate situation is further compounded by the growing presence of armed men, significant discomfort caused by checkpoints located throughout the territory and the extensive appropriation of Palestinian land for Israeli settlements.

In this delicate context, COOPI is working, sometimes facing major difficulties, mainly on two types of projects: the first relating to the socio-economic field, the second to education.

In the first instance, the activities planned aim at **improving the living conditions of marginalized groups through the**

creation and diversification of income sources. More specifically 527 people in Gaza and 225 in the West Bank belonging to vulnerable groups (including widows and Bedouin women), were employed by COOPI in activities of rehabilitation/construction to re-establish infrastructure and to collect waste for a remuneration established in accordance with the representatives of the municipalities involved. In the field of education, **COOPI guaranteed access to primary education in the community of Khirbet Tana**, near Nablus to 11 children, by opening a temporary structure, adequately equipped with basic amenities and a creative area, in order to ensure safe and healthy learning environment. In the context of education **COOPI worked with professional training institutions in East Jerusalem and with community centers to spark interest in vocational training among young people**, to ensure the courses were meeting the market needs that had been identified throughout specific investigations, and to increase the number of students enrolled in the courses through outreach activities.

The expertise

Reducing the risk of natural disasters



Over the course of its history, COOPI has always deemed the environment as a central factor in his interventions. In recent years and particularly over the past decade, it has paid special attention to and has developed specific expertise in reducing the risk of natural disasters such as earthquakes, floods and tsunamis.

Why did it focus on environment and disaster risk reduction?

Since the end of the millennium more than one million people in the world have been killed by natural disasters and 2,3 billion people have been directly involved. Data from the Center for Research on the Epidemiology of Disasters (CRED) confirm that the above mentioned phenomena are growing: in 2011, 332 disasters were recorded affecting over 244 million people, with an economic loss of US\$ 366,1 billion¹. The main reason for the increase in disasters is the impact of climate change that facilitates the emergence and increase in climate events (drought, extreme heat, fire), in weather events (e.g. tropical storms and cyclones) and hydrological events (floods, landslides, etc.)². The phenomena associated with climate change are causing rural depopulation and increased urbanization growth rate up to 75%³. This results in new social and environmental vulnerabilities that undermine the functioning of the development model that is generally applied.

For example, cities such as Lima, Quito, La Paz, Caracas and Port-au-Prince are exposed, in and of itself, to various risks (seismic, morphological, hydrological, technological risk etc.) and at the same time are characterized by many vulnerability factors (generalized poverty, the absence of a civil defence force, etc.). The speed with which the above mentioned areas were populated did not allow the planning and the implementation of building and urbanization codes, nor the creation of territorial jurisdictions and the functioning of services in normal times and times of crisis. Hence, generally speaking, the invasion of areas at risk, the construction of low quality homes, the deforestation, intensive agriculture in friable soils are just some of the trends that are taking place, particularly in developing countries.

COOPI intervenes in these vulnerabilities.

In 2011 alone, the association launched 20 interventions on disaster risk reduction, mainly concentrated in Latin America, the Caribbean (Haiti) and in Sub-Saharan Africa (Malawi, Kenya and Ethiopia). In Malawi, COOPI developed the DISCOVER project, by involving the community and local government structures to support the most vulnerable situations and people to develop innovative, entrepreneurial

and sustainable solutions for climate changes. Furthermore, it implemented some activities - within a wider program in the Kasungu and Lipoma districts- to improve access to and efficient production of renewable and sustainable energy.

It also promoted the use of Geographic Information Systems (GIS) in the same country and in neighbouring countries (Comoros, Madagascar, Mozambique) to direct disaster preparedness and response plans in local communities. In Peru, COOPI proceeded with a project started in 2010 that aims at building, through the use of GIS, a geo-referenced database of essential resources to respond to an earthquake or a tsunami that is expected to occur in the metropolitan area of Lima and Callao. The study, called "SIRAD" and based on data and analysis of the vulnerability of resources, allowed to identify the priorities for improving the crisis management system in Lima and Callao, as well as to facilitate the centralization of information and access to information for the staff dealing with disaster risk reduction. In Peru, Ecuador and Guatemala, besides continuing its interventions to strengthen the response capacity of communities and civil defence, COOPI organized a series of scientific events and researches aimed to strengthen the organization on disaster risk reduction issues. Finally, in Port-au-Prince, community awareness action, organizational capacity building and population response to natural disasters were continued. In terms of emergency response, after the flood that occurred at the beginning of the year, COOPI intervened in Peru by providing assistance to the inhabitants of the Eastern province of Ucayali department. Since September 2011 it has also been working in Colombia in Bolivar department to assist 2,500 people affected by the flood.

It continued carrying out its activities in areas heavily affected by drought such as the Kenya-Ethiopia border, Paraguayan Chaco and Bolivian Chaco.

1) EM-DAT The International Database (CRED). <http://www.emdat.be/>

2) CRED, Disaster Category Classification and peril Terminology for Operational Purposes, p. 6-8 downloadable on http://cred.be/sites/default/files/DisCatClass_264.pdf

3) For example, it is estimated that Bolivia has an urban population of 63%, Ecuador of 66%, Peru of 76% (IRD Data).

A Year of COOPI's Life



International Cooperation, that's "our" full name, was founded in 1965 and since then it has not stopped growing. I am not referring to the number of humanitarian projects that COOPI is implementing, nor to the number of countries where it is working, but rather to its ability to keep up with the changing landscape. One of the most significant changes that COOPI experiences is strengthening our operational structures in the countries where we are working, which results in greater autonomy and responsibility with respect to the headquarter. The reason for this change is to be closer to the territories, to the beneficiaries, to the places where the actors in humanitarian aid meet together and where the lines of action are laid down. It is a change that is reflected in the headquarter's vocation, that should become the base of support for regional coordination/countries.

As such, in Milan we are developing and refining new tools, procedures, documents to improve the overall work as well as the effectiveness and sustainability of our humanitarian action. This year, for example, COOPI issued its first policy on childhood, which implied a hard consultation work between experts and practitioners in the field. Subsequently, 5 dossiers were published on COOPI's sectoral work on agriculture, water, health, education, humanitarian assistance. In this way, we shared what has been done globally on the ground and we will continue along the current path towards the drafting of the policy.

In addition, we enhanced the training programme for volunteers, by introducing sessions held at the headquarter on management tools, financial reporting, project eligibility criteria for international donors, communication tools for the organization. Since the delegation of responsibility to foreign offices also implies an effective control by the headquarter, the "Quality Control" office was established. The purpose of this office is to ensure that the planning, accounting and auditing of the project, as well as the opening and management of foreign offices comply with the procedures.

In a scenario of strong contraction in development aid and of emergence of new actors in international cooperation, we have been working to encourage the bonds of solidarity between the Italian community and the communities in the Southern world, serving as information, participation and collaboration hub. If we are able to pursue the great goal of the quality and sustainability of the projects and of the organization, we owe it to those who have expressed or renewed their confidence in us and to those who have chosen to work with us. Hence, my sincere thanks to all our donors - public and private institutional donors - to our partners - universities, research centers, civil society organizations - and to our relief workers, employees and volunteers. International Cooperation is able to stand in its own feet thanks to everyone's support.

Ennio Miccoli



ENNIO MICCOLI
DIRECTOR
OF THE FOUNDATION COOPI -
COOPERAZIONE
INTERNAZIONALE

Child Sponsorship Program

Children, Projects, Countries



Child Sponsorship Program Number of projects and children supported per Country as of 31/12/2011	Sierra Leone	Uganda	Perù	Senegal	CAR	Ethiopia	Haiti	DR Congo	Totale
Projects per Country	5	4	5	3	6	4	1	1	28
Children supported per Country	246	462	420	405	506	273	152	157	2.621

In 2011 COOPI carried out 28 Child Sponsorship Program projects in **8 countries**: Sierra Leone, Uganda, Peru, Senegal, Central African Republic, Ethiopia, Haiti and the Democratic Republic of the Congo, with the aim to create an effective and long-lasting framework for protecting the rights of the children. Activities are aimed at children but also at their families and at the communities where they live, and are carried out by COOPI in partnership with local schools and associations dealing with children's rights protection and having a greater understanding of the context and culture where interventions should be led. The choice of local partners is made based on reliability and transparency criteria, as well as on the ability to pursue their goals, in order to strengthen the local associations. **2,621 children** have been supported by Child Sponsorship Program.

Sierra Leone

Activities launched in previous years in the **schools of Gbaidu, Gbondu and Massabendu** in Kono District were continued through three educational projects. Thanks to Child Sponsorship Program children were guaranteed an education (through tuition fees coverage, the distribution of uniforms and the equipment needed to attend school), healthcare, the right to play, and protection. Additionally, several interventions were conducted in favour of the whole community: teachers training, literacy courses and awareness meetings for parents. In December a new intervention for children has been started in a fourth school, the **Fountain of Hope School** is located in a very poor neighbourhood of Freetown. Furthermore, the intervention in **Grafton orphanage**, where 36 disabled children abandoned by their families and/or orphans are hosted on the outskirts of Freetown, has been strengthened. Child Sponsorship Program allowed the children to attend school, to be protected, to access to healthier food and to medical care so to improve their health and to reduce disability.

Uganda

There are three ongoing projects in **Kampala**, two of which, the **Kamwokya Christian Caring Community** and the **Duggan School**, ensure primary and secondary education to vulnerable children in one of the most crowded slums of Kampala. The project beneficiaries are children and teenagers, mostly orphans due to HIV/AIDS, who should be the "heads of households" since they are expected to care for their younger siblings, or who are living in a foster family, or whose mothers in addition to their own children are nursing other orphans. In particular, Child Sponsorship Program provides for the payment of tuition fees, the provision of school supplies and assists the families to improve the general conditions of the household, by facilitating school attendance of children and young people. The project carried out in collaboration with the **Missionaries of Poverty** provided shelter, food and medical care for the children, orphans and disabled people living in extreme poverty and hardship hosted by the "The Good Shepherd Home." In **Nebbi** COOPI jointly worked with Caritas on a Child Sponsorship Program project for children at risk of dropping out from school due to the precarious living conditions of their families. The main goal is to protect their rights: health, play, education and protection. At the same time, the families get guaranteed assistance so that they are able to take care of the child.

Peru

Five projects have been carried out in Peru, in collaboration with five different partners, to ensure access to adequate food, medical care, education, security, and game for children. These projects include **Hogar San Camilo** that through the Child Sponsorship Program helps to assist and ensure access to education for children affected by HIV/AIDS. Special attention is given to pregnant women

to prevent the transmission of the virus to the fetus. Through the **Sagrada Familia**, COOPI provides material assistance and psychological support to abandoned children and orphans, who are exposed to the risks of street life: drugs, violence, prostitution. COOPI in concert with **CIMA** shelter home supports children and adolescents who have a history of petty crime and had a prison or domestic violence experience or who are living on the streets, with the aim of reintegrating them back into their family where possible, and to facilitate their reintegration into society. The **House of Panchita**, however, is a center established in Lima in 1989, which provides day care for children, girls and women who work as domestic servants. Finally, COOPI worked in collaboration with **Children's Homes** Association that runs a shelter for abandoned or orphaned children, offering inclusive education and vocational training. The center is also involved in census taking, education, nutrition and medical care.

Senegal

COOPI works in Ziguinchor and Dakar where it cooperates with the **"Association Pour le Soutien des Enfants Déshérités de la Banlieue"** (ASEDEB) that aims to protect the rights of vulnerable children with disabilities through rehabilitation, care services and school placement. The project also aims to create awareness meetings for families and the community on the situation of children with disabilities and on their rights. In Ziguinchor, in collaboration with **Notre Dame de l'Espérance School** and **Assorep**, the Child Sponsorship Program projects provide education, health care, nutritional and psychological care, family mediation and social inclusion of children from the poorest neighbourhoods.

Central African Republic

In CAR Child Sponsorship Program projects are mainly focused to ensure the right to education for the most vulnerable children. The projects are realized in collaboration with six local partners. The **St. Charles Louanga** care centre and **Paroisse de St. Joseph de Turin**, in Bangui, provide assistance to highly vulnerable children experiencing serious difficulties. In particular, St. Joseph parish is a reference point for the whole neighbourhood and offers constant accompaniment to the families and their children. COOPI has been working with **CRHAM** (Centre de Réhabilitation pour les Handicapés Moteurs) since 1994 to provide access to education for young children and vocational training for adolescents with motor impairments, as well as to support rehabilitation, physiotherapy and surgical services. Furthermore, CRHAM aims to integrate disabled people into society, to provide psychological support to parents and to sensitize the community. In Lobaye region COOPI collaborated with **Bouchia, Mbaiki and Mongoumba Schools** to provide education, nutrition and basic health care for children. In particular in Mongoumba a special focus was placed on providing access to primary education for pygmy children to combat discrimination against minorities and indigenous peoples.

Ethiopia

COOPI collaborated with the local NGO **Integrated Holistic Approach Urban Development Project** to carry out 3 projects in 3 Kebeles (municipal districts) of Addis Abeba that host children who are extremely vulnerable and are living on the streets by providing them with shelter, food, sanitation, counselling and entertainment, education and literacy. COOPI also supported the **Sara Cannizzaro Child Minders Association** (S.C.C.M.A.) Centre to ensure better living conditions for children aged 3 to 12 years and living on the street or coming from very poor families and who have never attended school or who had to abandon it. The project completes its action through vocational training for single mothers to ensure that women can learn a trade, and therefore will have a better future and increased possibilities to take care of their children.

Haiti

The project is carried out in partnership with the **Saint Paul Dalmas Institute**. In January 2010 the school was completely destroyed by the earthquake and the children attended lectures under a big tent in the following months. In the spring of 2011, modular classrooms were built thanks to the school private funds. Child Sponsorship Program ensures improved living conditions for orphaned or homeless children. The project in fact aims to ensure access to education for all children of the school, to reduce child mortality by ensuring timely and adequate medical treatment, to provide safe drinking water for the school, to help children overcome trauma through recreational activities and adequate psychosocial support in collaboration with competent staff, to organize recreational activities and sensitize families on the importance of education and hygiene of the children through monthly visits and targeted meetings.

Democratic Republic of Congo

In eastern Democratic Republic of the Congo, COOPI works with **Ek'Abana Foyer** in Bukavu that gives shelter to mai-mihogo children and to children accused of witchcraft. 42 girls living in the center are accused of witchcraft or are victims of abuse and 70 girls attend the center only during the day because they have been reinserted into their family. The center helps children to accept their past and their present reality by working closely with the child, the family and the whole community. Ek'Abana Foyer also serves as a day care center for about 800 mai-mihogo children aged 5-11 years living on the street, begging and not going to school. 20 social workers are working in the center to take care of children's welfare and education, to "find" the street children and to incline them towards the activities of the center. Awareness meetings on topics related to education and child protection from abuse and violence are also organized for families.

COOPI in Italy

Events, campaigns, valuable partnerships

In 2011, COOPI received €15,662 from its supporters through the relationship management, thus achieving a growth of 13% in fund-raising from individuals over 2010. In particular COOPI's major donors accounted for +110% of the total funds raised over the previous year. In addition, COOPI raised €23,168 extraordinary funds through the campaigns launched with AGIRE (the Italian Agency for Emergency Response), the special action carried out during Christmas, the solidarity sms for the campaign "Together for a hundred thousand" and the donation of Fabbrica del Sorriso. Direct dialogue with donors started in 2010 and raised good contributions through "Face to Face" activity. In one year, Padua, Rome and Florence teams were added to the existing one in Milan (a total of 51 people were involved) and collected €2,595 to be allocated to COOPI's projects via direct debit (DD).

Child Sponsorship Program also has grown up. Thanks to donor relationship management and promotion the number of children in care has increased to 2,621 (+22%), as well as donations (€719,269, +29%) and the number of supporters (2,532, + 24%). COOPI saw the extension of its presence in the Italian territory through the opening of

COOPI's NUMBERS IN ITALY

26,121

Donors, among which 69 "big" and 1,732 "new"

315,662

Individual donations (in euro)

323,168

Donations from extraordinary activities (in euro)

1,125

Mass media releases

5,882

Facebook Fans



Archive COOPI. La campagna IO NON ME NE FREGO a Padova.

new offices (in Trentino and Sardinia) and the establishment of local groups (in Milan, Padua, Crema). In particular, compared to 2010, it has increased the number of events produced (131 compared to 81), general fundraising (it reached €40,656) and sympathizers (1,407 compared to 414). The number of active volunteers has remained stable (about 350) and shows the difficulty that the Italian non-profit sector faces in attracting new volunteers. On the other hand, COOPI launched in October the website www.volontaricoopi.org, the first of its kind in Italy, which has seen 1,732 users in two months.

In 2011, two campaigns were carried out: the institutional communication campaign “I GIVE A DAMN”, and a fundraising campaign “Together for a hundred thousand”. “I GIVE A DAMN” campaign against inequality and poverty in its second edition took the form of a road tour where the regional offices of Sardinia, Lazio, Veneto, Tuscany and Trentino were actively involved in. The campaign received a Medal from the President of the Republic and it was granted patronage by the European Year of Volunteering. “Together for 100,000” campaign against maternal and child malnutrition, however, raised more than €220,000 to tackle the food crisis in the Horn of Africa and Sahel.

COOPI promoted institutional communication through the publication of two new sectorial dossiers (Education and Humanitarian Assistance), the Childhood policy, “COOPI News” published on a six monthly schedule, the monthly newsletter for stakeholders “COOPI Rumors”, the Annual Report, the child rights calendar, “Together” COOPI’s party, COOPI Doc video review. Furthermore, it improved its presence on the web and social networks resulting in an increased number of visitors and website traffic on coop.org (from 2010 to 2011, respectively 2,957 visitors, +2%, and 10.373 visits, +5%),



Archivio COOPI. Le dialogatrici COOPI in azione.

and followers exceeded expected numbers (in January 2012 5,882 people). Finally, COOPI obtained a 30% increase in press reviews compared to 2010 (a total of 1,125 times, including 1,067 times on the press and on the web, 31 times on the radio and 27 times on TV). In terms of events, COOPI organized the auction “Bags for Africa” (bags made by fashion houses offered for sale for projects supporting women) and the exhibition “NGO World Videos” within the Milano Film Festival (awards for best humanitarian short films). In addition, it benefited from the Concert of Suzuki Music School and from the

GRIN photography auction (Group of Iconographic National Editors).

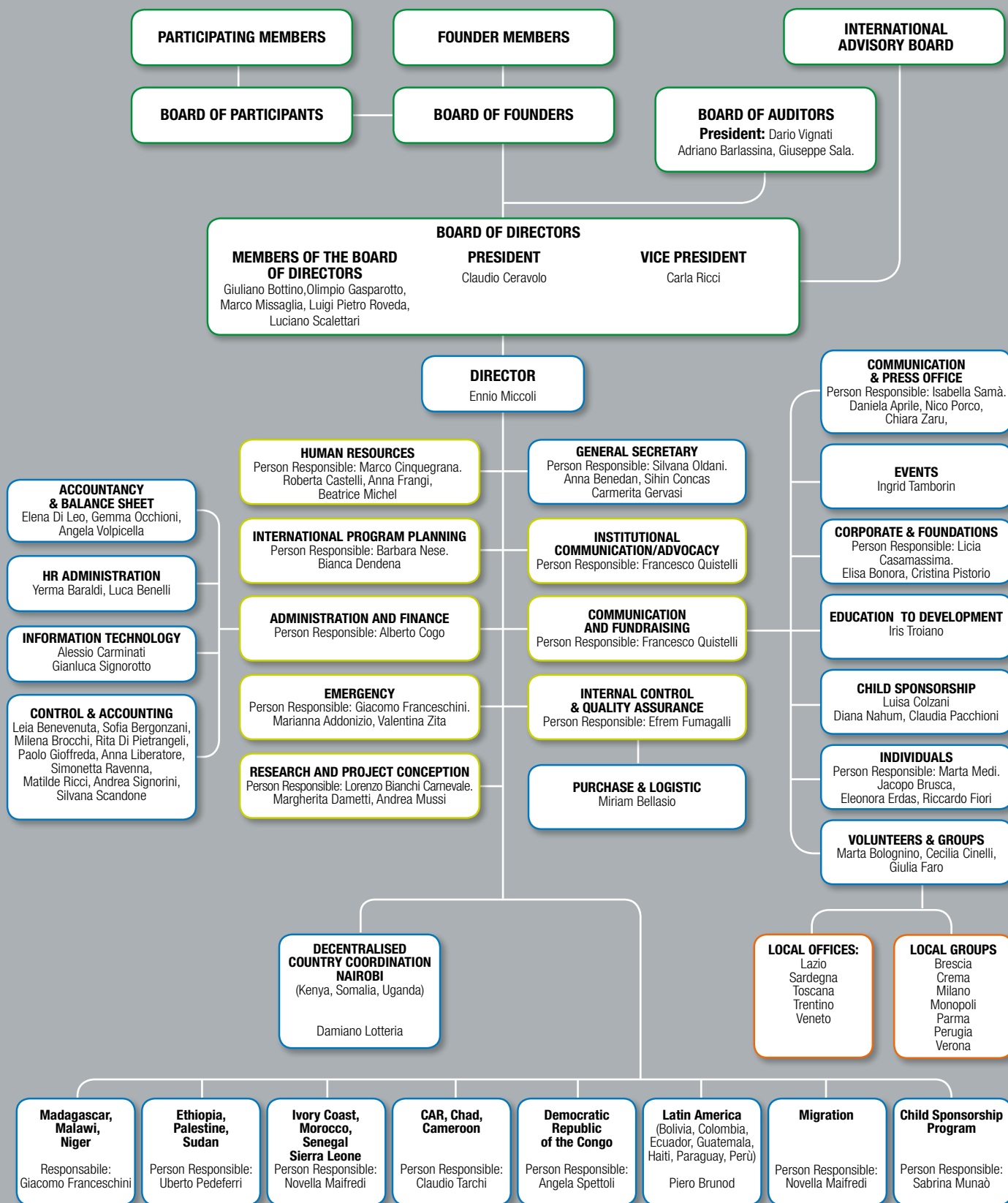
COOPI has continued building on its relationship with the companies, aimed at creating long-term and valuable partnerships. In particular, it established the “corporate relationship” policy, including procedures and evaluation criteria to be met while establishing a relationship with companies; it organized the second conference on “NGOs and firms,” hosted at Bocconi University during which the theme “Access to energy as a prerequisite for development” was discussed; it saw the “Business and Environment” prize awarded to Terna firm by UNIDO for Kami project in Bolivia.



Archivio COOPI. Inaugurazione della mostra che raffigura l'elettificazione a Kami, operazione sostenuta da Terna e COOPI.

Organization chart

Foundation COOPI – Cooperazione Internazionale



Budget 2011



To the Board of Directors of Foundation COOPI - Cooperazione Internazionale

1. We have audited the financial statement of Foundation COOPI - Cooperazione Internazionale, at December 31, 2011. The responsibility for the financial statement being in conformity with the norms that regulate reporting criteria lies with the members of the Board of Directors of COOPI - Cooperazione Internazionale. Our responsibility is to express a professional opinion on the budget based on the financial audit. This report is not issued in conformity with the standing law, owing to the fact that COOPI- Cooperazione Internazionale in its financial statement for the year 2011 ended on 31 December has no legal obligation to undergo scrutiny of accounts as per Art. 2409 bis of the Italian Civil Code.

2. Our examination was performed on the basis of the auditing standards issued by Consiglio Nazionale dei Dottori Commercialisti e degli Esperti Contabili (the National Chartered Accountants Committee and the Account Experts) and recommended by Consob.

In accordance with these standards, the audit was planned and performed in order to obtain all the necessary elements to assess whether there are significant errors in the financial statements and whether the results, on the whole are acceptable. Our audit includes the verification on test basis of all the evidence supporting the amounts and disclosures in the financial statements, of the suitability and correctness of the accounting principles used and of the estimates made by management. We believe that our audit provides a reasonable basis for the expression of an opinion.

For the opinion on the prior year financial statements, which figures are presented for comparative purposes in agreement with the law, we refer to our report issued on July 05, 2011.

3. In our opinion, the financial statement of Foundation COOPI - Cooperazione Internazionale at December 31, 2011 have been correctly prepared in accordance with the application laws and show a true and fair view of the financial situation and of the results of the Foundation.

Milan, 1st June 2012 - PKF Italia S.p.A.

Fioranna Negri

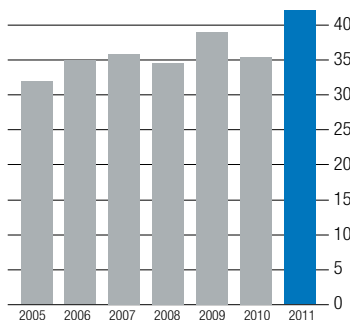
Management report IN EURO	2011	2010
INCOME		
Projects income	41,826,986	34,084,943
Quota shares	6,700	8,625
Donations	1,143,356	817,829
Refunds and various incomes	12,318	111,017
Financial incomes	634,572	471,921
	43,623,932	35,494,335
CHARGES		
Charges paid for projects	39,868,580	32,244,967
Personnel and local cooperation	1,618,403	1,629,070
Institutional charges	694,424	477,677
General charges	572,261	394,630
Financial charges	863,972	746,299
	43,617,640	35,492,643
BALANCE OF THE ASSOCIATION	6,291	1,692

Donations and contributions IN EURO	2011	2010
European Union	21,692,697	17,551,379
International Organizations	14,636,389	11,029,580
Italian government and local Authorities	2,69,014	1,637,677
Private donations	3,087,780	2,595,024
Other sources	1,655,884	2,345,857
	43,541,764	35,159,516
Other sources	82,167	334,819
TOTAL	43,623,931	35,494,335

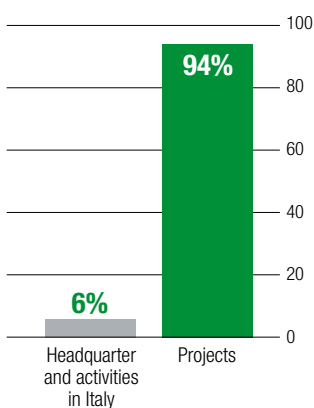
Balance sheet IN EURO	2011	2010
ASSETS		
Net fixed assets	1,058,626	938,416
Loans to donors	5,064,673	5,358,401
Other accounts receivable	681,244	902,610
Liquid assets	6,463,949	4,753,861
Accruals and deferrals	-	-
Prepaid expenses for ongoing projects	20,617,187	20,943,994
TOTAL ASSETS	33,885,679	32,897,282
LIABILITIES		
Common Fund	126,007	109,422
Operating profit	6,291	1,691
TOTAL NET ASSETS	132,297	111,114
Provisions for liabilities and charges	79,961	961
Severance indemnity	119,749	109,500
Bank liabilities	2,860,877	2,518,434
Other short term liabilities	3,915,688	3,366,580
Accruals and deferred income	23,407	15,033
Prepaid expenses for ongoing projects	26,753,701	26,775,661
TOTAL LIABILITIES	33,885,679	32,897,282

Donations and contributions to COOPI

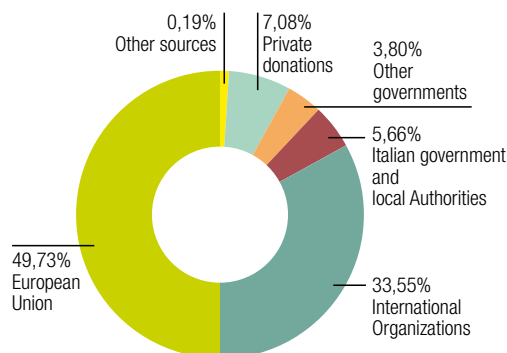
(In millions of Euro)



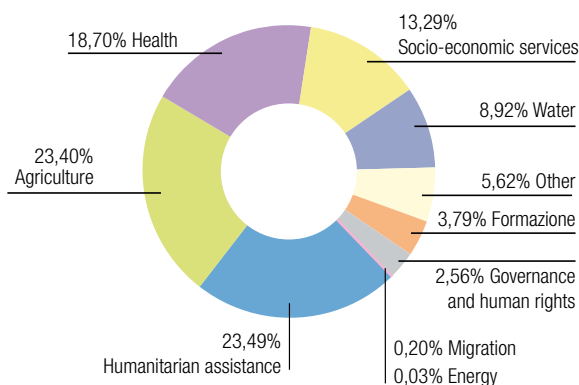
How funds are used



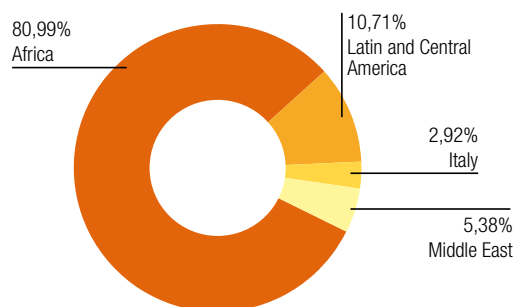
Where the funds come from



Allocation of funds by geographical area



Allocation of funds by areas of intervention



Thank you to:

Institutional donors ¹: ECHO; UE; UNICEF; UNDP; MAE; OCHA; Cooperazione Italiana; CHF International; World Bank; AU-IBAR; WFP; UNOPS; UNHCR; FAO; Ambasciata Norvegese; Mediafriends; Fondazione CARIPLO; Charity and Defence of Nature Foundation; World Vision International; UNFPA; USAID; Cooperazione Francese; International Criminal Court; Compagnia San Paolo; WHO; Regione Lombardia; AGIRE; AFD; CARITAS; Cooperazione Svizzera; IRISH Aid; Catholic Relief Services; Disasters Emergency Committee; Ambasciata Francese in RDC; Fondazione Rita Levi Montalcini; IOM.

Corporate: Accenture; Allea; B by Limoni; Banca Popolare Etica; Brussels Airlines; Camera Nazionale della Moda Italiana; Carlo Erba; Gruppo Cartorama; Citroen; COIN; ELGON; Faberstone; Fabbrica Energie Rinnovabili Alternative; Gemeaz Cusin; GUNA; Intesi Group; Itaca Comunicazione; Luna di miele solidale; PALM; Partesa; Sanofi Italia; Scapa Italia; SEA; Sephora; Terna; Teuco; Università degli studi ECAMPUS; Zardetto.

... and to all the 26,000 people for supporting COOPI.

1) Sponsors of projects completed in December 31, 2011

HOW TO SUPPORT US

By Post:

postal account 990200 account holder: COOPI - Cooperazione Internazionale - ONG ONLUS

By Bank:

wire transfer using the following account information:
account holder: COOPI - Cooperazione Internazionale - ONG Onlus.
current account 000000102369, Banca Popolare Etica -
IBAN: IT 06 R 05018 01600000000102369
current account Banca Prossima – Milan branch - 20121,
Via Manzoni (corner of via Verdi) -
IBAN: IT36A0335901600100000000003

Online:

Online: please see our website at www.coopi.org

CONTACT US

If you have any questions about COOPI, regarding the support programs, or about the products of COOPI's SHOP you can contact us anytime, by asking for the Office of Donor Relations.

Mon-Fri 9.00-18.00

Telephone +39.02.3085057 - Fax +39.02.33403570

Donor Relations

Jacopo Brusca - amici@coopi.org

Major donors and legacies

Marta Medi - medi@coopi.org

Italian Volunteers

Cecilia Cinelli - volontari@coopi.org

Child Sponsorship Program

Luisa Colzani - colzani@coopi.org

Office of Corporate and Foundation Relations

Licia Casamassima - aziende@coopi.org

Follow us on:



COOPI around the world*

* Our foreign offices may change. Consult the website www.cooi.org for up-to-date information.

BOLIVIA

Calle Jacinto Benavente 2173
La Paz

CHAD

B.P. 1900 Kemat
N'djamena

COLOMBIA

Carrera 27A n. 40A-68
barrio La Soledad
Bogotá

IVORY COAST

Cocody, Riviera Palmeraie,
Programme 3 Rive Gauche,
07 BP 290
Abidjan

ECUADOR

Calle Arroyo del Rio N36-145
y Manuel Maria Sanchez
Quito

ETHIOPIA

Bole Kefle Ketama Kebele,
n. 10 House n. 013
P.O. BOX 2204
Addis Abeba

GUATEMALA

28 Calle 11-74 zona 11,
Colonia Granai II
Ciudad de Guatemala

HAITI

Avenue des Marguerites,
Rue Maranatha 2, Belvil
Port au Prince

COORDINATION

NAIROBI - KENYA

Peponi Road, House 0039,
Westlands -
P.O. Box 3857- 00100
Nairobi

MADAGASCAR

Lot VB 72 TER AB
ambatoroka BP 102
Antananarivo

MALAWI

Area 14 plot 111
Lilongwe

MOROCCO

Bv Sakia el Hamra Rue 134,
n.4, 4ème étage, Apt. 7, 62000
B.P. 1173
Nador

NIGER

Avenue du Fleuve
PL-40 Face Lycée la Fontaine
B.P. 11501
Niamey

PALESTINE

Mounts of Olives, Alshik Anbar
street, Sbeh building, flat n. 5
PO Box 49621
Jerusalem

PARAGUAY

Ruta Transchaco Km. 410
Predio IPTA Cruce Pioneros
(Depto Presidente Hayes)
Asuncion

PERU

Calle Coronel Zegarra n. 264,
Jesus Maria
Lima

CENTRAL AFRICAN REPUBLIC

B.P.1335
Bangui

DEMOCRATIC REPUBLIC OF THE CONGO

Av du Ring 67
Quartier Macampagne
Commune de Ngaliema
Kinshasa

SENEGAL

Avenue Birag Diop
(Rue 5 x F - Point E)
B.P. 11561
Dakar

SIERRA LEONE

49H Off Spur Road
Freetown

SUDAN

El Hagaz Building n. 266,
5th floor-apartment 501
Khartoum

UGANDA

P.O. BOX 33058 Plot 3999
Bukasa Close, Muyenga
Kampala

COOPI in Italy

REGIONAL OFFICES

COOPI LAZIO

Via Aniene 26/A - 00198 Roma
Tel. +39.06.89685318 - laio@coopi.org

COOPI SARDINIA

Via Bolotana 28 - 09044 Quartucciu (CA)
Tel. 3280944268 - sardegna@coopi.org

COOPI TUSCANY

Piazza Pier Vettori 7 - 50143 Firenze
Tel. 0550137186 - toscana@coopi.org

COOPI TRENTINO

Via Carlo Esterle 7 - 38122 Trento
Tel. +39.0461.231529 - trentino@coopi.org

COOPI VENETO

Via Citolo da Perugia 35 - 35137 Padova
Tel. +39.049.657518 - veneto@coopi.org

COOPI Headquarter

COOPI - COOPERAZIONE INTERNAZIONALE ONG Onlus

via F. De Lemene 50 - 20151 Milano - Italia
Tel. +39.02.3085057 r.a. - FAX +39.02.33403570
coopi@coopi.org - www.cooi.org
C.F. e P. IVA 80118750159



Miglioriamo il mondo, insieme.