



ANNUAL REPORT
2021/2022



A WORD FROM OUR CHAIRMAN

The strength and vibrancy of our Foundation, which has been driven forward by committed ambassadors, employees, and former partners of the Comgest Group since being created five years ago, was once again front and centre in 2022. By working closely with ambassadors to carefully select and then monitor the progress of projects, the Comgest Foundation Board ensures that each supported association receives a high level of commitment and high-quality support. Since 2017, thirty ambassadors whose projects have been selected have enabled the associations they support to receive donations from The Comgest Foundation.

During the 2021-2022 accounting year, fourteen new projects were funded. Although it is not the Foundation's main purpose, we supported two emergency aid appeals in response to the human tragedy caused by the Russian invasion of Ukraine (Fondation de France & Red Cross/ICRC). Favouring more long-term initiatives, we continued our support of eight multi-year projects: Munafa/Entrepreneurs du Monde, SIPAR, Fazasoma, Passerelles Numériques, Terre & Humanisme, AOAH, Ecoles du Monde and Clubhouse. Lastly, six new projects were approved, each one aligned with the Foundation's objectives.

The Foundation's Board also draws on its expertise to select and support of a number of projects that cannot be funded directly by the Foundation itself, but which are funded by specific entities within the Comgest Group: this year, three new projects were approved by The Comgest Foundation for this type of funding: Antarctica/Piers Mulvey, Third Age Caregivers and Ukuwela.

In total, The Comgest Foundation and its 52 donors, to whom we extend our warmest thanks, have helped more than 17,000 individuals. Annual donations are now supplemented with income from The Comgest Foundation's permanent reserves, and this will eventually make the endowment fund autonomous, thus guaranteeing long-term support for the projects selected.

Arnaud Cosserat
Chairman of The Comgest Foundation



MISSION AND VALUES

The Comgest Foundation is committed to improving the living conditions of vulnerable people around the world.

Our mission is to support projects focused on **key areas** that we believe can have the most tangible and significant impact on people's lives:

- Education
- Economic empowerment
- Health and Disabilities
- Environmental protection

A grant-making organisation, The Comgest Foundation's endowment fund was established in 2016 to organise the philanthropic initiatives of the Comgest Group¹, an independent, international asset manager focused on long-term quality growth and responsible investment.

Guided by the Comgest Group's core values of **partnership, quality, integrity, courage and care**, the Foundation sponsors projects that align with its key areas of focus and the values of the firm. Each project is presented and monitored by a current or former Comgest employee called the Ambassador, who will support the project in all its stages and report on its progress and results to the Foundation.

Since the Foundation's establishment in 2016, the Comgest Foundation and various Comgest entities have sponsored 48 projects in 20 countries

¹ The Comgest Group includes: Comgest Asset Management International Limited; Comgest Asset Management Japan Limited; Comgest Benelux; Comgest Deutschland; Comgest Far East Limited; Comgest S.A.; Comgest Singapore Pte Ltd; and Comgest US LLC.

ORGANIZATION

COMGEST AMBASSADORS: HEART OF THE FOUNDATION

Project proposals are made by an **Ambassador**, who must be a current or former employee of the Comgest Group. All projects under consideration by the Foundation require an Ambassador, whose role is to present the project to the Foundation's Board of Directors, as well as to continually monitor and report on their recommended project.

- Prior to presenting a project, an Ambassador should:
 - Visit or arrange a meeting with the organisation and staff in charge of the project
 - Assist - where appropriate - with the preparation of the necessary project documentation to be presented to the Foundation
 - Obtain key contact information in order to maintain communication
 - Provide any additional information to the Foundation as necessary
- Upon a project being selected, the Ambassador is responsible for:
 - Providing a project update to the Foundation at least every 6 months
 - For multi-year projects: where possible, conducting regular visits to ensure progress
- Upon completion of a project, the Ambassador
 - presents an analysis of the project on behalf of the organisation

The aim of the Ambassador's role is to ensure accountability and active engagement, while also developing a strong partnership with Comgest in order to maximise the progress and impact of a project.

CALL FOR PROJECTS

In March 2021, a call for projects was sent to all Comgest Group employees. A total of 16 projects were received and reviewed by the Board and 14 were selected (11 were financed by The Comgest Foundation and 3 by a Comgest Group entity).

SELECTION PROCESS

When analysing proposed projects, members of the Foundation's Board* make their decisions based on the following, non-exhaustive, criteria:

- Conformity with the aims of the Comgest Foundation
- Commitment of the Ambassador monitoring the project
- Impact on the project's beneficiaries
- Quality of the presentation document (information, detailed budget, timetable)
- Reputation of the applicant organisation and project staff
- Compatibility of the project's budget with that of the Foundation's budget; the Board may decide to finance only a portion of the project
- Diversity of the proposed and current projects
- Number of proposed projects versus the Foundation's current budget

The process ends in September with the selection of the projects to be financed. Selected projects not sponsored by a France-domiciled non-profit organisation are financed directly by a Comgest Group entity.

** If a Board member proposes a project and will act as an Ambassador, that Board member will be excluded from the Board's discussions and decision on this project.*





GOVERNANCE

A Board of Directors is responsible for the management of the endowment fund and for the selection of projects to be financed. The Board of Directors comprises the following current and former employees of the Comgest Group:

- **Abla Bellakhdar**, *Fund Manager, Comgest S.A.*
- **Arnaud Cosserat**, *Chairman and CEO of Comgest Group*
- **Frédérique Darré**, *Investment Management Assistant, Comgest S.A.*
- **Monique Erbeia**, *Coordinator - Funds and Partners, Comgest S.A.*
- **Conny Fabozzi**, *Investor Relations Team, Comgest S.A.*
- **Yann Gerain**, *Environmental, Social and Governance Analyst, Comgest S.A.*
- **Richard Mercado**, *Fund Manager, Comgest S.A.*

OUR PROGRAMS

PROJECTS SELECTED BY THE COMGEST FOUNDATION IN 2021/2022

				
Amiguitos - Bailando Juntos - Honduras	●			
AOAH - Haïti	●		●	
BiblioBus - SIPAR - Cambodia			●	
Croix-Rouge française - Ukraine	●			
Clubhouse - France	●			
Eau et Vie - The Philippines	●			
Ecoles du Monde - Madagascar			●	
Munafa - Sierra Leone		●		
Eloquentia - France			●	
Fazasoma - Madagascar	●		●	
Fondation de France - Ukraine	●			
Habitat & Humanisme - France	●			
Howrah South Point - Inde	●		●	
Le Rire Médecin - France	●			
Maison de L'Avenir - Morocco	●			
Maisons St Joseph - France	●			
Moanoghar - Bangladesh			●	
Passerelles Numériques - Cambodia		●	●	
Piers Mulvey - Antarctica Expedition - UK				●
Terre et Humanisme - Maghreb countries		●	●	●
Third Age Caregivers - Lebanon		●	●	
Ukuwela - South Africa	●		●	
YAKA - France			●	

55

PROJECTS SELECTED SINCE SEPTEMBER 2017



8 PROJECTS IN
SEPTEMBER 2017



9 PROJECTS IN
SEPTEMBER 2018



4 PROJECTS IN
SEPTEMBER 2019



12 PROJECTS IN
SEPTEMBER 2020



8 PROJECTS IN
SEPTEMBER 2021

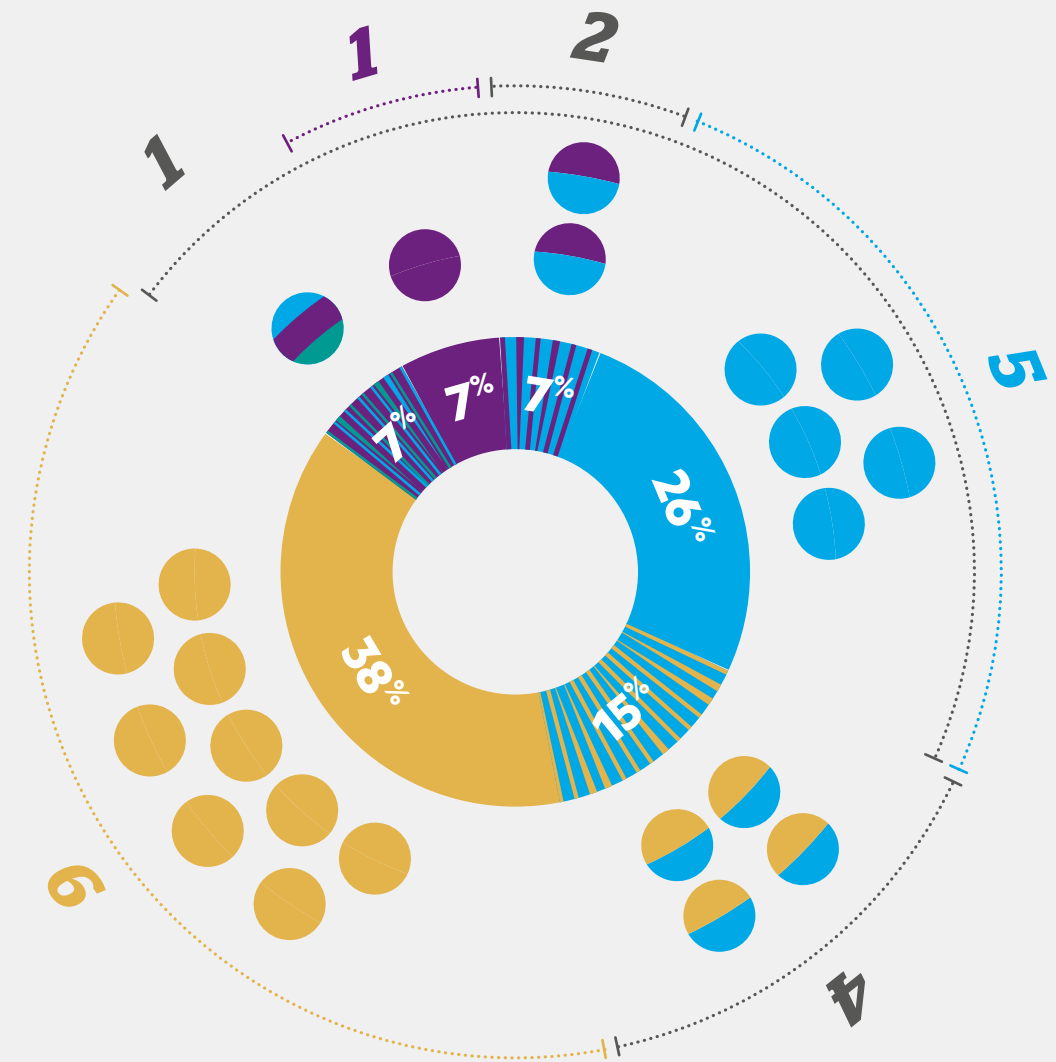


14 PROJECTS IN
SEPTEMBER 2022

AS OF 30/09/2022

NUMBER OF ACTIVE PROJECTS
BY DOMAIN

PERCENTAGE OF
THE 2021/2022 BUDGETS



SINCE SEPTEMBER 2017



AT LEAST **17 664** BENEFICIARIES IN THE ACTIVE PROJECTS

SINCE SEPTEMBER 2017

23
PLURIANNUAL
PROJECTS



32
PROJECTS
OVER ONE YEAR





Comment from the Ambassador
Arnaud Cosserat

Located in the region of El Negrito, the Santa Ana centre has cared for severely undernourished children for more than 25 years. Children can stay from a few weeks to one year. In the last 18 months, a reorganisation of the centre has taken place, with a transition from a Franciscan to a secular management. Julio Ochoa is now the full-time Director with the help of Carla and Lesly, as well as several nurses, educators and a psychologist. Fifteen children stay permanently at the centre which can house up to twenty.

Since early 2022, ten children have been able to return home with their health fully restored.

Each quarter, the project sponsors receive financial accounts as well as documentation evidencing the transformation of children which takes place between when they arrive and when they leave the Santa Ana centre. There are a lot of acute cases that need to be identified as early as possible for children to receive Santa Ana's care.

HELP UNDERNOURISHED CHILDREN



Santa Ana, El Negrito region, Honduras



Description

The purpose of this project is to help severely undernourished children at a specialised rehabilitation centre in Santa Ana in Honduras. The Santa Ana centre was established more than 25 years ago after a local doctor noted that many children were severely undernourished. A committee of several actors, including the Catholic parish of El Negrito Morazan, built a nutritional rehabilitation centre to treat children in grave danger.

Honduras is one of the poorest countries in Central America, torn apart by street gangs and drug cartels. This violence in Honduran society has led to the extreme vulnerability of certain local populations. Around 70 undernourished children per year are welcomed at Santa Ana's hospital for few weeks or months, sometimes for more than a year, depending on the severity of their undernourishment. The children are looked after by a multidisciplinary team of doctors, nurses, social assistants and aides. In addition to nutritional support, the project also provides support for families and often isolated mothers.

Impact / Main indicators

- Improvement of the physical and mental development of undernourished children
- Social support to mothers, who are often isolated.

Project sponsors

Association Amiguitos and Association Bailando Juntos
www.abj-asso.fr

Local partner

Nutritional Center of Santa Ana, El Negrito region, Honduras



Project selected in September 2021
Multi-year project: 3 years



The Comgest Foundation

ECOLE DE PAILLANT "THE PAILLANT SCHOOL"



Paillant, Haïti



Description

This project in Haiti at The Paillant School is twofold: construction of two additional school classrooms to better meet children's needs (regularity of courses, accommodation of all children, etc.) and sanitation facilities. Many of the 300 children who attend the school suffer from malnutrition.

In supporting education in rural areas in Haiti, AOAH also encourages professional training designed to combat intense soil erosion and poor agricultural productivity in the country. Since 2013, AOAH has accompanied vulnerable rural populations in the Miragoane region in Haïti and supported projects to help them.

Impact / Main indicators

- Improved attendance
- Support to 340 students within the school

Project sponsors

Association Œuvres et Accompagnement pour Haïti (AOAH)
www.aoah.org

Local partner

The Paillant School and Compassion (US NGO)



Comment from the Ambassador

Daniel Carvajal

Haiti has been suffering from multiple crises for several years now. The country's current situation and that of the Haitian people is extremely worrying.

Numerous gangs and political instability have allowed the black market and general insecurity to develop, plunging the country into chaos, with the situation becoming increasingly unsustainable for Haitians. It is currently difficult, if not impossible, to feed oneself and basic products are no longer available for the poorest. Children are unable to attend school regularly because of frequent kidnappings in rural areas.

Since the earthquake of January 2010, Haiti has been hit by one natural disaster after another with one recorded every two years (the last was on August 14th 2021) leaving no break for the local population. The school of Paillant was much more affected than feared in the first hours of the earthquake. The school and its outbuildings have suffered a lot of damage.

Despite the difficulties we refuse to give up, and it has been decided to repair as a priority the extensive damage caused by the last earthquake and a new classroom is being planned for construction this year. Despite the insecurity and the difficulties linked to the different global crises, it is more important than ever to continue the development of the school to give hope to the families and the children.

The school currently welcomes 340 students, 50 of whom are expected to sit the 9th grade exams (equivalent to the BEPC in France).

Still in partnership with compassion international, the school of Paillant organized an open day for the children newly taken under the care of compassion and who will join the school in September 2023.



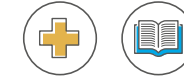
Project selected in September 2021
Multi-year project: 3 years



The Comgest Foundation



BAKUABARI HOME HOWRAH SOUTH POINT



Jalpaiguri, north of West Bengal - India



Description

Founded by Father Laborde, the inspiration for the book «The City of Joy», Howrah South Point (HSP) has been supporting underprivileged children in West Bengal for the last 45 years. HSP promotes human development irrespective of caste, creed or religion.

Bakuabari Home welcomes 50 girls from very poor families throughout the year. More than half of these girls have disabilities (cerebral palsy, physical deformities, mental disabilities).

But Bakuabari is more than a centre for children. This home is a place of life, a haven of peace. There is a large vegetable garden, a farm and tea plantations. The children go to school and take part in the daily tasks of the home: gardening, looking after the vegetable garden and the farm animals, cooking, maintenance of the premises. In terms of medical care, the girls receive physiotherapy and psychotherapy. All the necessary care and medication for their disabilities are also provided.

With this centre, HSP hope to give these girls a chance to integrate society, where the status of women is complex and disabled children are frequently rejected.

The Comgest Foundation has decided to support the Bakuabari Home by co-financing the maintenance and running costs. The Bakuabari Home is also supported by Terres des Hommes Alsace.

Impact / Main indicators

An impact assessment is not yet possible. Objectives:

- Long-term improvement of the quality of life for the girls
- Improved health and developed of skills to help girls find their place in their communities as adults.

Project sponsors

APC - ACTION et PARTAGE avec CALCUTTA
www.apcaltutta.fr

Local partner

Howrah South Point
www.howrahsouthpoint.org



Comment from the Ambassador
Frédéric Bustin

The financial support of the Comgest Foundation has been used in the most effective manner by Bakuabari thanks to the hard work of volunteers from the MEP (Missions Etrangères de Paris). In 2022, I got to know one of them personally, and when he returned to France in 2023, the baton was taken up by a young French woman who left her job as a consultant for a year. While the donation has enabled the Bakuabari centre to remain open and receive 50 outpatients during the day (some of whom come from very far away for treatment) in 2023 we should be able to contribute to not only the running costs of the centre but also the renovation of its water tank. The region is seismic and the tank has cracked over time. The team also wants to maintain its medical aid programme with the presence of a Physio and a Physiotherapist, practitioners and trainers in simple gestures for the local teams.

The needs are varied and of course important, and our permanent local presence of French-speaking volunteers provides us with invaluable contacts to help us carry out our projects.



Project selected in September 2022
Duration: 1 year



The Comgest Foundation

BIBLIOBUS – MOBILE LIBRARY



Suburbs of Phnom Penh, Cambodia



Description

This project targets brickyard workers' families in the suburbs of Phnom Penh. There are three levels of project activities:

- 1) a weekly mobile library for children, which offers animations around books as well as book lending to children and adults;
- 2) educational tutoring activities in collaboration with local primary schools; and 3) a monthly "health" mobile library that offers a health, nutrition and hygiene awareness campaign for children and adults.

Based essentially on developing reading and fighting against illiteracy, SIPAR has been working since 1982 in all of Cambodia's regions with one unique objective: make books an educational lever, transport them and make them accessible to the most underprivileged populations.

Project cofinanced by Luciole Foundation.

Impact / Main indicators

- Bibliobus visits eight suburban villages next to brick factories twice a week
- Beneficiaries: 1219 people, including 370 children who do not attend school

Project sponsors

SIPAR
www.sipar.org

Local partner

SIPAR Phnom Penh



Comment from the Ambassador
Isabelle d'Imperio

In five years, we have been able to observe a higher rate of schooling for children with improved reading and arithmetic abilities, better hygiene and health conditions, positive socialization... with an effect on parents who have, among other things, improved their perception of the education and protection of their children.

A collaboration has been established with the managers of the brickyards as well as with the four primary schools which welcome children, thus offering them new learning and schooling opportunities, something that seemed unattainable just a few years ago.



Project selected in September 2020
Multi-year project: 3 years



The Comgest Foundation



FRANCE
Clubhouse
SE RÉTABLIR • VIVRE • S'ÉPANOUIR



Comment from the Ambassador
Astrid Delanoe

I have been in contact with the clubhouse for over a decade now, initially with the one in Paris and since 2022 with the one in Lille.

I remain incredibly impressed by the success of this model which demonstrates how instrumental the alternatives to pure medical treatments can be in the field of mental disorders.

At Lille in 2022, they started from scratch: one director, no premises, then a full renovation to complete ... ending up with successfully welcoming double the number of members than was expected when the project began.

Professionalism mixed with benevolence and rigour are what allows the clubhouse to achieve a unique accomplishment and be a place where the members feel sufficiently confident and empowered to write the next chapter of their lives.

To me it is proof that working together, being supportive, and mutual learning are key to progress. The engagement and courage of members who dare to engage in the clubhouse after long periods of isolation is a great example I like to keep in mind.

SPREADING THE CLUBHOUSE METHODOLOGY



Lille, France



Description

The Comgest Foundation supported the opening of a new Clubhouse location for mental health support in Lille.

Clubhouse France Association accompanies people made vulnerable by serious and chronic mental disorders (bipolar, schizophrenia, severe depression) to improve their quality of life, autonomy and consequently, the life of their families and others who assist them. Clubhouse's purpose is to provide a personalised individual support to their members thanks to mutual aid and cooperation between the different actors (medical staff, beneficiaries, Clubhouse) with a goal to of professional and social reintegration

Impact / Main indicators

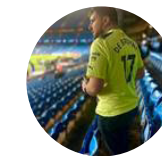
- February 2021: Recruitment in Lille of a person in charge of co-management and social reintegration.
- The Clubhouse Lille opened on January 25, 2022. While the initial plan was to reach 60 members in one year for an average daily attendance of 15 people; Clubhouse Lille ended up welcoming 97 members and an average daily attendance of 25 members. As of May 2023, Clubhouse Lille has 123 members.
- 89% of members have a RQTH (French administrative term for recognition as a person with a disability at work)

- 26 members began a professional qualification in 2022 and out of those, 14 members are now in a long-term professional activity (for more than 6 months). 47 members had a professional experience during the year (internship, work experience period, fixed-term contract, permanent contract).

Project sponsors

Clubhouse France
www.clubhousefrance.org

Testimony from a clubhouse member



ROBIN
30 yrs old
members since April 2022

Since I've been at the Lille Clubhouse my self-confidence has grown, and I have an improved outlook on life. I have a better vision of life, both in terms of human contact and professional subjects. With all the activities we organize at the Clubhouse, the richness of the exchanges and projects we complete together, they all motivate me when thinking about my future.



Project selected in September 2021
Multi-year project: 3 years



The Comgest Foundation

ELOQUENTIA IN MARSEILLE



Marseille, France



Description

Since the creation of the association in 2012 by Stéphane de Freitas, Eloquentia has continued to develop to become a key player in the educational voice and civic expression of young people from working-class neighbourhoods.

Eloquentia's unique pedagogy allows for personal development through specific work on life skills, emotional intelligence and social intelligence. It also aims to increase the awareness of each individual within a group, notably by working on collaborative dynamics and the development of empathy, as well as developing pupils' oral and argumentative skills. These skills need to be developed as soon as possible among young people, in order to limit school drop-out rates and give them the best chance to enter working life.

The project itself aims to bring together 8 classes of middle and high school students from different schools in Marseille around a speaking event on the theme of Identity, and to provide educational courses to around 240 pupils with the objective of being able to come and express themselves and meet each other during a final presentation.

These courses take place during the school year 22-23 with a final presentation in April/May 2023.

The Comgest Foundation has decided to support the 22-23 courses developed by the branch of Eloquantia in Marseille.

Impact / Main indicators

An impact assessment is not yet possible. Objectives:

- Creation group dynamic and cohesion amongst each group of young people
- Improved sense of self-esteem and self-worth, improved sense of confidence, improved oral skills
- Evaluation of the impact of the project on the youngsters by pedagogical animators
- Beneficiaries dare to assert their identity, propose, exchange and listen to ideas
- The beneficiaries feel that they have acquired skills that allow them to better integrate society and the workplace

Project sponsors

Eloquentia - www.eloquentia.world

Local partner

Antenne Eloquentia SUD



Project selected in September 2022
Duration: 1 year



The Comgest Foundation



ELOQUENTIA



Comment from the Ambassador

Benjamin Hottin

Young people from some neighborhoods in and around Marseille face many obstacles to their education and access to work, in addition to a more general kind of social discrimination, poverty reproduction and social determinism. This statement is particularly true in Marseille where the average poverty rate is about 25% and can reach up to 50% in some areas of the city.

Through its actions, Eloquentia tries to participate in solving these issues over the long-term by targeting young people aged between 12 and 25 years' old from urban areas in Marseille and the surrounding areas.

Public-speaking training is given to middle-school and high-school students living in lower income areas in Marseille, identified as priority educational zones. The programme also tackles the following subjects: discovery of collective learning, peer collaboration towards a common goal, personal development and identification of future plans.

With its programmes in Marseille, Eloquentia aims to promote self-confidence as well as a culture of debate and dialogue, in order to create a more inclusive society.

Thanks to the Comgest Foundation, more than 200 young people in Marseille could benefit from these programmes, and this will be, without a doubt, a life-changer for them!



Comment from the Ambassador
Alistair Wittet

The project began in November 2022 and by end March 2023 1476 people in 295 households had been connected to water, ahead of the initial plan.

In total over 80% of the inhabitants of the shanty town chose to be connected to the water supply, underscoring the extent of the unmet need.

I visited the shanty town in question in March 2023 and was struck by the extent to which having running water in their homes was not just practical, but also a source of pride and dignity for the inhabitants. I was also immensely impressed by the professionalism of Eau et Vie and the enthusiasm with which they approached their mission.

EAU & VIE



Cavite, The Philippines



Description

Eau & Vie is a French NGO founded in 2008 by Philippe de Roux with the objective of providing access to clean water in the shanty towns of the Philippines.

By nature, shanty towns are not connected to the water supply network which means that the inhabitants do not have access to clean water or, when they do, it is through expensive deliveries. Eau & Vie, in agreement with the local utility, connects the dwellings of the shanty town directly to the water supply network and collects and transfers the payments to the utility. Eau & Vie is also involved in a number of local projects, such as fire-fighting training, improved menstrual hygiene and solid waste management.

The impacts of the project on the inhabitants are multiple: 20% reduction of water expenses which currently represent about 33% of the inhabitants' monthly income, improvement of economic inclusion as invoices received from Eau & Vie can be used to gain access to basic resources or bank loans, reduction of the time spent fetching water (by women and children), reduction of the risk of expropriation, 80% reduction of the fire risk.

The Comgest Foundation has decided to support access to clean water access for the community of Cavite.

Impact / Main indicators

An impact assessment is not yet possible. Objectives:

- 1,250 individuals = 250 households in urban poor communities in Cavite have access to running water at home
- 90 women/girls have increased awareness on menstrual hygiene practices and access to sustainable menstrual kit
- 180 inhabitants have increased awareness and general hygiene practices as well as hygiene kits
- 300 inhabitants have better understanding of solid waste management practices. 3,000 kilos of waste collected and properly managed by the community
- 3 500 inhabitants have improved protection against fire and emergencies

Project sponsors

Eau & Vie - www.eauetvie.fr

Local partner

Eau & Vie, The Philippines



Project selected in September 2022
Duration: 1 year



The Comgest Foundation



Comment from the Ambassador **Wedig von Gaudecker**

As the ambassador of this project, I am proud to say that since the initial presentation of the project of a vocational school in Madagascar, notable developments have been made in various aspects of the project.

Since late 2022, groundwork for the school's construction was completed. This phase involved clearing and leveling the land to prepare for the subsequent construction stages.

Starting in April 2023, the construction of key structures commenced, marking a significant stride towards completing the project. The drilling, water tower, restrooms and the care-taker's house are currently under construction.

According to the latest update received from Ecoles du Monde, they are on track to complete the project by the end of October 2023.

Indeed, their workforce collaboration is a crucial component of the project's success, with help from local companies, who have experience in constructing school buildings, which has been pivotal in the project's execution. Approximately twenty villagers are contributing to various construction sites. Additionally, they are working with TECTRA, an Antananarivo-based company, for the drilling project. Furthermore, the involvement of approximately 60 permanent employees, ranging from management to teaching and administrative staff, underscores the broader impact of Ecoles du Monde's endeavors.

The positive impact of this project extends to 1,800 to 2,200 beneficiaries, including high school students, totaling approximately 90 per year, and other students within the school complex. This number is set to increase, with up to 25 new students each school year.

Upon completion, the vocational school will allow students from diverse backgrounds to have access to quality secondary education that will equip them with the skills needed to excel in their chosen fields.

CONSTRUCTION OF A VOCATIONAL SCHOOL IN THE BUSH IN BESELY, MADAGASCAR



Besely - Majunga region - Madagascar



Description

Ecoles du Monde was created in 1997 by Charles Gassot, a film producer, following a shoot in Madagascar during which he was confronted with the terrible poverty of this country whose bush inhabitants are totally destitute and abandoned by all.

The objective of Ecoles du Monde is to settle the villagers on their original lands in order to slow down the exodus of the population towards the mirage that is the capital. To do this, the NGO works in three areas: education, development aid, reforestation and maintenance of biodiversity.

Since its creation, Ecoles du Monde has built 15 primary schools in the bush, in the North West of Madagascar in the region of Majunga, dug more than 150 wells and planted more than 300,000 trees.

On the Besely site, the most recent one, Ecoles du Monde is building a vocational school to welcome the children who have completed their education in the primary school.

The Comgest foundation has decided to support the construction of this vocational high school in the bush which will offer interesting professionalization perspectives to the students as well as numerous employment and commercial opportunities in the village of Besely.

Impact / Main indicators

An impact assessment is not yet possible. Objectives:

- After 5 year, a dozen graduates. 100 students at the end of the project (approx 30 students per level)
- Local employment and job creation opportunities (energy, agronomy and agricultural techniques, pharmacology and biochemistry)
- Increased local employment rate
- Creation of local income generating activities

Project sponsors

Ecoles du Monde
www.ecolesdumonde.org

Local partner

Ecoles du Monde in Besely, Madagascar



Project selected in September 2021
Multi-year project: 4 years



The Comgest Foundation



FA.ZA.SO.MA.



Comment from the Ambassador

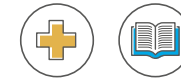
Didier Darré

We are proud to have helped 1,000 children attend school by financing their school canteen.

The Covid crisis has hit Madagascar severely, impacting an already very vulnerable population and disrupting food supply logistics. The local branches that they work with are increasingly in demand by vulnerable local people and helping them remains Fazasoma's priority. The association's commitment to the Ambositra region also allows them to help tuberculosis and leprosis patients as well as prisoners. A new gardening project, "le resto des p'tits cœurs" (restaurant of the little ones), will start on a field which has been loaned to the organisation so that children can be introduced to gardening and the importance of a healthy diet. Fazasoma will increase fundraising efforts to find new regular donors because they are aware that without the generosity of Comgest and other patrons, they could not pursue activities in Madagascar.



SUPPORT OF VULNERABLE POPULATIONS



Ambositra, Fianarantsoa region, Madagascar



Description

The purpose of the project is to support children's education in the Ambositra region by financing school canteens which improve - and sometimes determine - school attendance

Since its creation in 1999, the mission of Fazasoma France has been to support the most vulnerable people in the province of Fianarantsoa by managing shelters/homes, financing school canteens and providing school supplies, as well as developing income-generating activities.

The current situation in Madagascar is dramatic: 5th poorest country in the world, facing the loss of all tourism resources due to the Covid 19 crisis, and the surge of a dengue epidemic in addition to the spread of Covid 19. The already very vulnerable population is facing a major crisis and needs basic support.

Impact / Main indicators

- Over 1,000 children in 10 schools served meals in school canteens.

Project sponsors

Fazasoma France
www.fazasoma.org

Local partner

Fazasoma



Project selected in September 2020
Multi-year project: 3 years



The Comgest Foundation



Comment from the Ambassador

Houda Kilito

Building upon these outcomes, Habitat et Humanisme remains committed to improving the health and well-being for all its residents.

After implementing a programme focused on addiction in 2022 (which will continue into 2024), the Movement will broaden its scope from 2023 to embrace other themes identified in the diagnosis: mental health, aging, and health promotion.

This ambitious action plan will involve volunteers, employees and beneficiaries of the Movement, in association with local and national health actors.

ADDICTION PREVENTION PROGRAM



France



Description

For over 36 years, the Habitat et Humanisme Federation has been working to promote integration through housing and to recreate social links in response to the exclusion and isolation of people in precarious situations.

A large majority of the people housed by Habitat et Humanisme are faced with various forms of insecurity (resources, housing, social breakdowns and exclusion, lack of a residence permit, etc.), thus creating difficulties in several areas, particularly health.

The volunteers and employees of the association who accompany the tenants are sometimes powerless in the face of certain situations: addictions, mental health, poor nutrition, etc.

The objective of the project is to support addicts housed by Habitat et Humanisme by developing a national strategy to combat addiction and provide territorial support to associations. The ultimate goal is for beneficiaries to be «actors» in their own health.

The Comgest Foundation has decided to support the work to establish this strategy and to support its implementation.

Impact / Main indicators

An impact assessment is not yet possible. Objectives:

- The fight against addictions has become part of the accompaniment strategy of the H&H Federation:
- The accompanying teams have strengthened their skills and feel less helpless in the face of addictions
- People who are housed are made aware of addictions and are better supported in their treatment process
- The transversal work between the actors of integration, housing, health prevention and addiction is improved

Project sponsors

Habitat et Humanisme
www.habitat-humanisme.org



Project selected in September 2022
Multi-year project: 3 years



The Comgest Foundation

LE RIRE MÉDECIN THE HEALING LAUGHTER IN NANTES



Nantes, France



Description

Created in 1991 by Caroline Simonds, the professional clowns of Le Rire Médecin perform in 70 paediatric wards in France. A pioneer in France and in Europe, Le Rire Médecin's interventions are recognised for the benefits they bring to children, but also to parents and nursing staff.

The project, which is implemented in the University Hospital in Nantes and supported by the Comgest Foundation, is twofold:

Maternity: Totally integrated into the care project, the performances of the comedian-clowns in the maternity ward, based mainly on humour, songs and music, aim to encourage the activity of the mother towards the baby, to bring comfort and to help create a link in order to avoid rejection or even abuse. It is also sometimes used to help create a link with the nursing teams and as an alternative means of communication (in particular for non-French speaking families)

Abused children Unit: The clowns work with very vulnerable babies and toddlers placed under judicial protection, without their parents present (abused children hospitalized in a room). The programme may evolve to include the intervention of clowns in the waiting room of children summoned to hearings during the day as a means of helping free-up the children's voices. For babies and children who have been victims of violence, the comedians will first come to reassure and create a bubble of comfort.

Impact / Main indicators

An impact assessment is not yet possible. Main indicators:

- Number of play days completed over 12 months
- Number of children and mothers visited
- Other qualitative indicators (interviews, assessments and observations)

Project sponsors

Le Rire Médecin
www.leriremedecin.org



Project selected in September 2022
Duration: 1 year



The Comgest Foundation



Comment from the Ambassador
Grégoire Moreels

Several aspects of my life naturally led me to get involved with «Le Rire Médecin» (The Clown Doctors).

Firstly, I was regularly exposed to the hospital environment from a very young age, where I became aware of its extremes. It is a place of suffering, but also, and most importantly, a place where healing occurs, primarily on a physical level.

A few years ago, I had the incredible chance of becoming a father of two wonderful and healthy children. However, a very close friend of mine did not have the same luck and had to fight alongside one of her sons to overcome a severe illness.

During that time, she shared with me the invaluable help that her son and herself received through the whimsical interventions of the clowns from «Le Rire Médecin» in the hospital.

It seemed obvious to me, then, that I needed to dedicate some of my energy to this association. I organized a fundraising event by running the Paris half-marathon, sporting a vibrant wig and a red nose!

Furthermore, The Comgest Foundation provided me with a means to make an even more significant impact. Thanks to their support, «Le Rire Médecin» received funds that allowed for innovation in opening workshops to assist struggling mother-child couples, as well as children who have been victims of various forms of violence.



IMPROVING LIVING CONDITIONS FOR SICK CHILDREN AND THEIR FAMILIES AT MAISON DE L'AVENIR



Rabat, Morocco



Description

The association L'Avenir supports children with cancer and their families by offering them hospitality in the Maison de l'Avenir, as well as social and psychological support.

Four years ago, The Comgest Foundation contributed to improving the living conditions at the Maison L'Avenir in a sustainable manner (this included undertaking repairs to the home such as the installation of photovoltaic solar panels and a solar water heater as well as fixing the plumbing for a couple of rooms). Two years ago, The Comgest Foundation renewed its support to the Maison de l'Avenir by purchasing a large minibus with 23 seats to help families/children commuting to and from the hospital to Maison de l'Avenir and to reduce their fatigue.

This new project consists of creating a space (70 m²) dedicated to the education and awareness of the children welcomed at the Maison de l'Avenir. In this recreational room, the children and their parents will find different activities such as:

- information meetings to increase parental awareness of the children's treatment and health in general
- craft workshops led by members of the Association
- a recreational area with some video games
- a space for school activities led by teachers who come 3 times a week.

Impact / Main indicators

- Increased parent awareness of childrens' treatment and health habits in general - each month, there is a teach-in for 15 parents.
- Improved quality of life for children (recreational activities, video games, workshops etc) & continuity of the children's education. Approximately 250 kids are benefitting from this space.

Project sponsors

GFAOP (Groupe Franco-Africain d'Oncologie pédiatrique)

Local partner

Association L'Avenir, Rabat, Morocco
www.associationlavenir.ma



Project selected in September 2021
Duration: 1 year



The Comgest Foundation



Comment from the Ambassador

Abla Bellakhdar

The recreational room is the third project supported by The Comgest Foundation, following the implementation of solar panels and the purchase of a minibus. The recreational room is a haven of peace and relaxation for children with cancer during their difficult journey: there are lots of books, some computers with access to video games and periodically some craft workshops. The space is also used to raise awareness of parents who are supporting their children during their treatment.

I am incredibly proud to support this association through this latest project, which is more playful in nature, giving some leisure, relaxing and gaming space to the children.

MAISONS SAINT JOSEPH



Versailles, France



Description

The purpose of this project is to improve the support, care and living conditions of adults with mental disabilities, mostly Down's syndrome, welcomed in two homes in Versailles.

Confronted by the lack of facilities dedicated to people with mental disabilities, Maisons St Joseph set up two homes in 2007 with a family atmosphere to welcome adults with mental disabilities in the heart of the city where they can carry out their activities. These homes, which currently host 14 adults, help them to gain autonomy and pursue personal development goals in the long term.

Maisons St Joseph is constantly trying to improve the quality of the support provided to these young adults by adapting the home equipment and providing new facilities in which they can express their creativity.

Impact / Main indicators

An impact assessment is not yet possible. Expected results include:

- Make the best use of the garden and offer a pedagogical activity around it.
- Improve the well-being of the residents with the installation of a wooden floor to avoid cold and humidity in the house.

Project sponsors

Maisons Saint Joseph - www.lesmaisonssaintjoseph.fr



Comment from the Ambassador

Philippe Lebeau

Maisons Saint Joseph has demonstrated its ability to roll out the phase one of the projects financed by The Comgest Foundation according to our expectations. This was a key condition to consider supporting a second round of equipments/refurbishments in both the Viroflay and Versailles houses in 2021.

Once the understandable Covid related delays have been overcome, residents have been able to move to their newly renovated house at the end of Q1 2021. Monique Erbeia and I have been able to visit the Viroflay house and meet with the residents in June, in their new environment.

This has also provided the opportunity to discuss in detail, on the spot, the remaining projects to be financed (increased security through the paving of two access areas in Viroflay and the installation of two roller shutters in Versailles, creation of a garden shed in Viroflay...). These projects have been selected by The Comgest Foundation and the paving of the two access areas as already been completed.

We are in ongoing contact with Maisons Saint Joseph in order to follow the progresses of the different projects and to make sure the donations are wisely used.



Project selected in September 2021
Duration: 1 year



The Comgest Foundation



MOANOUGHAR



Bangladesh



Description

The purpose of this project is to improve the standard of education provided to the students welcomed in Moanoghar school in Rengamati.

Social and political turmoil combined with the region's chronic underdevelopment and mountainous topography have contributed to making the Chittagong Hill Tracts region one of the poorest regions in Bangladesh with the lowest literacy rate in the country and the highest drop-out rate from primary school.

Moanoghar is the largest children's charity in the greater Chittagong Hill Tracts region. At present, there are 1,100 children in the Moanoghar School and they are provided with free or highly subsidized education. The children come from the remote communities where basic education facilities are non-existent and the parents are too poor to afford education for their children. Approximately, 48% of the children are girls.

Although the passing rates at the Moanoghar School are between 75% to 80%, many children fail in national level Senior School Certificate examination in some selected subjects: English, Mathematics and Sciences (physics, chemistry, and biology).

To improve academic performance at the school, Moanoghar needs to recruit additional teaching staff and implement specific training/capacity building for all the teachers. That is the objective of this multi-year project which we expect to result in better passing rates and grades. Project co-financed by Luciole Foundation.

Impact / Main indicators

An impact assessment is not yet possible. Expected results include:

- Increase in resources via teachers and programmes
- Increase of the pass rates
- Improve grade averages

Project sponsors

Moanoghar School in Rengamati, Eastern Hilltracts, Bangladesh



Project selected in September 2020
Multi-year project: 5 years



The Comgest Deutschland GmbH



Comment from the Ambassador

Emil Wolter

I got to know about Moanoghar in 2009 and have been actively supporting them since through different projects ranging from their higher education learning programme (a fund which gives interest free loans to capable students for higher education), installation of energy (and hence money) saving lighting and the construction of a girls' dormitory. I have visited the school 3 times including once with my own children and remain convinced of the acute need which exists, and the great "heart and mind" shown by its management and alumni. I am humbled by their persistence and courage in the face of adversity and pleased to be able to help, if only a little. Equally, I am grateful that Comgest (and all the individuals associated with it) has shown me the trust and responsibility to extend a hand to Moanoghar on their behalf.

Over the past few years – including with our help and that of others – the physical setting of the school has much improved. Now, the emphasis must be on raising the quality of outcomes in order to help break vicious cycles of poverty and vulnerability to external threats posed by politics, weather and pandemics.

MUNAFa



Freetown, Sierra Leone



Description

This project aims to provide microfinance loans and training to beneficiaries in the slums of Freetown, the capital of Sierra Leone. These beneficiaries mainly derive their living from small informal activities in trade or service, such as the sale of shoes and clothing, drinks, oil, provisions, catering and other income generating activities.

After a first field market study by Entrepreneurs du Monde in April 2018, the programme was registered as a local company, named Munafa, in February 2019 and obtained its credit-only microfinance licence in October 2019. Munafa is engaged in improving in a sustainable manner the resilience and living conditions of marginalized families, by providing financial and socio-economic services tailored to their needs for the development of income generating activities. Munafa uses the individual responsibility group methodology promoted by Entrepreneurs du Monde, which has a strong social component, brings down all the barriers to access loans (no financial or physical guarantees, no joint liability collateral system) and promotes the strengthening of beneficiaries' skills to develop their income-generating activities. In addition to microloans, Munafa provides socio-economic training and social support.

Impact / Main indicators

- Number of branches: 2 in 2022
- Number of active borrowers: 9 532 in 2022
- Number of saving accounts : 7 345
- Granted loan portfolio: 21 664 loans for a total amount of 2.65 Meuros in 2022
- Socio-economic training: financial education, social and health awareness
- Training sessions: 9 035 in 2022
- Training of local teams in social microfinance methodology developed by Entrepreneurs du Monde.
- Operational viability as of end of 2022: 51%

Project sponsors

Entrepreneurs du Monde
www.entrepreneursdumonde.org/fr

Local partner

Munafa - Sierra Leone



Project selected in September 2020
Multi-year project: 3 years



The Comgest Foundation

ENTREPRENEURS
du Monde



Comment from the Ambassador

Monique Erbeia

Testimony of Mariatu KAMARA

"My family didn't have enough money for me to go to school, so I started working when I was 11 years old. At first, I was a street vendor selling condiments...

Thanks to MUNAFA, I opened my own food shop. I got loans from 1,200 to 8,000 SLE (€56 to €375). I opened my shop and bought tables and shelves to better display my products.

Thanks to the training, I am developing my business, improving my relationship with my customers and saving money. I even bought a piece of land. I am so happy with this support that I have become the president of my group of women entrepreneurs supported by MUNAFA!"

One of the many testimonies illustrating that, with an appropriate and comprehensive support provided by a social microfinance institution like MUNAFA, these micro-entrepreneurs can make a success of their small businesses, becoming self-sufficient and improving the living conditions of their families.

FIGHTING POVERTY VIA PROFESSIONAL TRAINING AND YOUTH EMPLOYMENT



Phnom-Penh, Cambodia



Description

This project finances two years of school for 10 students in Cambodia.

Passerelles Numériques (PN) enables very vulnerable teenagers to access education and technical/professional training in the digital sector, based on their natural abilities and commitment.

PN aims to build the employability of these teenagers, which will allow them and their families to get out of poverty in a sustainable manner, and more broadly to help the socio-economic development of Cambodia.

Impact / Main indicators

The graduate's average monthly wage is 388 USD (average family income before joining PNC is 50 USD). 51% of our students are female.

Objectives:

- Strong employment rate: In 2022, 136 students graduated (from the 2020 and 2021 classes), 100% of them found employment in the IT sector.

- Promotion of both boys and girls : 51% of the students are female.

- Increase of average salary (post-graduation): The graduate's average monthly wage is 388 USD (average family income before joining PNC is 50 USD).

- Economic support to their community

- Mentoring of other students

Project sponsors

Passerelles Numériques
www.passerellesnumeriques.org/fr

Local partner

Passerelles Numériques Cambodge



Project selected in September 2021
Multi-year project: 2 years



The Comgest Foundation



Comment from the Ambassador
Sébastien Thévoz-Chabuel

In Cambodia, financial difficulties continue to be a barrier for high school graduates to pursue their higher education in Cambodia. Indeed, 60% of the working poor population survives with less than \$3 USD a day. Consequently, many young Cambodians must drop their studies, move to neighbouring countries, and end up working in very difficult conditions to send some money home.

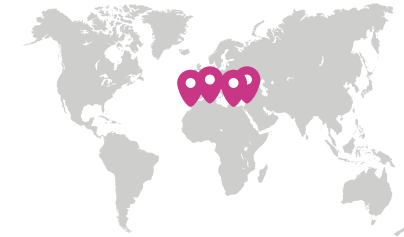
The demographic situation is very peculiar with 77% of the population living in rural areas and 49% aged under 25. Most secondary education is provided on a fee-paying basis, and is therefore inaccessible to most students, especially in rural areas.

Passerelles numériques (PN) directly addresses these issues to break this cycle of poverty for the underserved, providing a relevantly skilled, trained and adaptable workforce for IT markets. Located in Cambodia, Philippines, Vietnam and Madagascar (our newest programme launched in 2021), PN targets the most disadvantaged youths who have no access to education and empowers them with digital training on key technical and soft employability skills. The Comgest Foundation has been a key supporter of the work of PN by contributing to the funding of the costs of some of its Cambodian students.

DISSEMINATION OF AGROECOLOGY IN THE SOUTHERN MEDITERRANEAN BASIN



Morocco, Algeria, Tunisia, Lebanon, Egypt & Palestine



Description

The purpose of this project is to contribute to the food sovereignty of countries in the Mediterranean basin by promoting a sustainable peasant and family agriculture which preserves the environment, values the farming profession, contributes to climate-change resilience and responds to the consumption needs of the local population.

The three specific objectives are:

- Supporting trainers and local associations in their activities of raising awareness and providing agroecology transition training to local communities
- Reinforcing the technical and educational capacities of the trainers
- Stimulating an exchange and experience-sharing network

Terre & Humanisme was created in 1994 and contributes to the dissemination of the scientific knowledge of agroecology techniques in France as well as abroad.

The project beneficiaries will be 12 rural trainers, 7 local partner structures and their members, 600 farmers and 1,500 people such as other farmers, students, associations, and consumers, as well as various national promoters of agroecology (associations, universities, institutions)

Impact / Main indicators

- Appropriation of agroecology techniques by local farmers
- Sharing agroecology experience among farmers and raising awareness of civil society
- Improvement of the trainers' skills

Project sponsors

Terre & Humanisme
www.terre-humanisme.org



Comment from the Ambassador

Yann Gérain

In 2022, a new project manager joined Terre & Humanisme to lead the programme. Thanks to the end of the Covid-related restrictions, she was able to visit the local projects in Morocco twice in March and June 2022. She also made an onsite visit to Lebanon in November to monitor local actions. Awareness-raising, training and support activities continued to be carried out by the facilitators locally. Since the beginning of the programme, 586 people have been trained on agroecology techniques, and 196 farmers have been supported. Over 6,300 people, including farmers, students, and consumers have been made aware of agroecology. Now, Terre & Humanisme supports 15 reference farms located in the areas of intervention of the partner associations. They serve as a model, supporting the dissemination of agroecology. 66 monitoring-supporting visits were carried out in 2022. In May 2023, Terre & Humanisme intends to organise a conference in Egypt with the agroecology trainers of the Mediterranean programme. The agroecology network in Arabic countries continues to expand, and new farmers from Lebanon, Iraq and Syria will be invited to the event. Despite all the efforts made by T&H and local teams, the achievement of the 3-year project will be delayed to mid-2024, instead of Q4-2023 as planned initially.



Project selected in September 2020
Multi-year project: 3 years



The Comgest Foundation

THIRD AGE CAREGIVERS



Lebanon



Description

The purpose of the project is to train 60 self-employed caregivers to support elderly people in their daily activities across 3 different Lebanese regions. The direct beneficiaries of this project will be not only the 60 women who will receive the one-month training course, enabling them to develop income generating activities but also the hundreds of elderly people who will be indirect beneficiaries.

Training sessions included medical and first aid training, communication with elderly, emotional behaviour, physical care, special food techniques.

Moubadarat Wa Kararat Association organized and implemented these training sessions. Created in 2016, the association aims to improve development, advocacy, and leadership in Lebanese society and especially the empowerment of women.

Impact / Main indicators

Results of 2021 sessions:

- 24 ladies were able to find suitable jobs and start working in hospitals, dispensaries, and local elderly shelters.
- 10 ladies bought the required equipment and are giving service-on-demand in their respective regions.
- 22 ladies followed the sessions because they have elderly relatives in their families, and they are now supporting them and providing the requested medical and emotional care.
- As an indirect positive result, six trainees are now members of the association.

Project sponsors

Moubadarat Wa Kararat Association - Lebanon
www.mwklb.org



Project selected in September 2022
Duration : 1 year



Comgest Asset Management
International Ltd

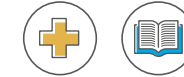


Comment from the Ambassador
Walif El-Hitti

Just like the rest of the world, Lebanon was severely impacted by the Coronavirus pandemic. Thus, the project suffered extensive disruption. As such, the consecutive lockdowns and curfews further delayed the launch phase. However, the situation seems to be stabilizing again and the vaccination process has started in the country, slowly, yet steadily.

All the training material has been updated. The first two trainings are now on track as an agreement was reached with two villages (Souwaneh – South Region and Ayn Dara – Chouf Region) and the recruitment of the participants will start early May. We are aiming for the actual training to begin between mid-May and early June 2021.

UKUWELA



George, South Africa



Description

Carpe Diem School is a government school for learners with disabilities in George, South Africa. During 2017, Carpe Diem launched 'Ukuwela', a skills training and employment programme for learners with disabilities. Ukuwela is an isiXhosa (the African language of this region) word which means 'to cross over'. The programme was initiated to address the unacceptably high unemployment rate amongst school leavers.

Ukuwela aims to develop the potential of each learner to enable access in employment opportunities which contributes to the economic empowerment and the restoration of dignity of learners and their families. It is the only school-based employment programme in South Africa which identifies, places and supports learners with disabilities in employment after school.

To date, 30 learners with disabilities have accessed employment opportunities in the open labour market in activities including computer, hair and beauty, barista etc. The programme also supports the skills training needs of 120 school-going learners.

One of the main priorities is to advocate and raise awareness amongst businesses / companies that people with disabilities can and want to work.

Impact / Main indicators

An impact assessment is not yet possible. Main objectives:

- improved skills sets of learners with disabilities (75 school-going learners with disabilities per year)
- Improved employability and rate of employment (10 school leavers with disabilities per year)

Project sponsors

Carpe Diem School in George, South Africa
www.carpediemskool.co.za



Comment from the Ambassador

Slabbert Van Zyl

Ukuwela has had a busy first half to 2023. Five of their learners who completed their schooling at the end of 2022 were employed at various places of work. Ukuwela hosted two skills-based training courses for their senior learners presented by accredited training facilities. Michelangelo Hair Academy presented a Weaving and Braiding course for the senior girls and African Skills Village hosted a Basic Handyman Course for the senior boys. Following the training, learners received certificates endorsed by an accredited training facility that we believe will give them an advantage when being considered for employment after school. Ukuwela, together with Carpe Diem School, also embarked on a brand-new journey by becoming Computers 4 Kids (C4K) licensees. This enables them to present an accredited computer course for the learners with disabilities including learners who are dependent on wheelchairs for mobility.



Project selected in September 2022
Multi-year project: 3 years



Comgest Asset Management
International Ltd



Comment from the Ambassador

Dawn Turek

The Comgest Foundation has supported YAKA actions from September 2022 - August 2023 to fund cross-cultural exchange, community development and non-formal and formal learning for youth. I have been impressed by YAKA's steady growth over this last year, including:

- 1) IMPOWER program: sent youth to 2 countries (Senegal and India), versus 1 last year;
- 2) Community work: prior success led YAKA to open a 3rd intergenerational center in Montesson;
- 3) SWITCH program: (described above - which I saw first-hand at a group gathering) impressively gathered youth from 3 continents for a week in Paris;
- 4) experienced YAKA's profound impact in the lives of former laureats and young people at YAKA's 10th anniversary celebration in December 2022.

YAKA



France - Senegal - Tunisia



Description

YES Akademia ("YAKA") offers programs focused on cross-cultural, community development via empowerment programs with youth aged 15-35, largely from marginalized, inner-city or rural areas. YAKA accompanies about 500 youth per year in Paris and its suburbs, plus other regions of France and abroad (Senegal, India, Haiti, Tunisia and Nicaragua) with the aim to help them develop ideas, leadership and projects in civic engagement, intercultural knowledge and social entrepreneurship. YAKA's main programs are "IMPOWER" and "PRESS START": 100-500 hours of workshops and training for 2 weeks to 18 months with mentoring and travel. YAKA youth build practical tools, competencies and soft skills such as self-confidence, courage, critical thinking skills, openness and an awareness of their environment which motivates them to launch entrepreneurial actions with social impact, pursue higher education or advance personal goals. These programs take place in France and abroad with partners rooted in the territories.

The Comgest Foundation supported YAKA's 2021/2022 international exchange activities involving approximately 100 youth from France, Senegal, India and Tunisia.

Impact / Main indicators

A complete impact assessment is not yet possible. Some available include:

- 1) 14-day immersion trip for 18 French and Senegalese youth in Aga Biram, Mbour (Senegal)
- 2) One-week social entrepreneurship program for 15 youth in Paris and Tunis (Tunisia);
- 3) Multiple workshops and community-building actions in Ivry-sur-Seine for 80 people; and
- 4) Formation of a steering committee for YAKA's training kit.

Project sponsors

YES Akademia - France
www.yesakademia.org
www.instagram.com/yesakademia_yaka/
www.instagram.com/presstart_yaka/



Project selected in September 2021
 Duration : 1 year



The Comgest Foundation

2041 CLIMATE FORCE ANTARCTIC EXPEDITION



United-Kingdom



Description

The 2041 Climate Force Antarctic Expedition (March 17-28, 2022) is being organized to raise awareness about Antarctica, climate change as well as the Madrid Protocol that protects the region as “a Natural Reserve Land for Science and Peace” and its potential cancellation.

The aim of this expedition led by Robert Swan O.B.E. - the first person in history to trek to both of Earth's poles unaided - is to inspire, develop, and train the next generation of sustainable leaders.

More than 100 young people and business leaders from over 37 nations joined in Ushuaia to sail to the Antarctica peninsula to witness the effects and impacts of climate change already visible in these remote territories.

They will also take part in a 'Leadership-On-The-Edge' (LOTE) programme including interactive workshops, up-to-date climate science training and sustainable development education.

Piers Mulvey, 22 years old, asked for The Comgest Foundation's support to complete his budget to take part in this expedition.

Impact / Main indicators

Raise awareness about Antarctica and the Madrid protocol through social media and other channels:

- Outreach through Instagram, and Facebook, 500+ following on each
- Reposted on larger accounts, 990k followers
- Sent 25+ postcards to crowdfunding sponsors
- Blog posted on multiple company websites, and reposted on their own social media channels
- Blog distributed to all sponsors and on LinkedIn

Train young sustainable leaders to become champions and ambassadors in the fight against global warming:

- Speech given to multiple high schools, finalists of a hydrogen animation competition
- Other speeches given to companies of over 600
- Assisted in creating content for 2041 Schools
- Graduate dinner to be hosted to raise awareness for new leaders

Project sponsors

Piers Mulvey
2041foundation.org/cfa22



Project selected in September 2022
Duration : 1 year



Comgest Asset Management
International Ltd



Comment from the Ambassador

Richard Mercado

Piers is a young man with a big mission to raise awareness about Antarctica and climate change. He spoke with passion about seeing the impacts of climate change on friends and family around the world and his enthusiasm and advocacy reflected a maturity and wisdom beyond his years. Through his trip, blog and conversations he has certainly raised my own awareness and that of many others to not only protect our planet and this special place at the end of the world, but also to the powers of advocacy, action, international team work and humility.

SUPPORT TO THE POPULATIONS AFFECTED BY THE CRISIS IN UKRAINE



Ukraine and neighbouring countries



Description

When the crisis in Ukraine broke out at the end of February 2022, the employees of the Comgest Group immediately informed the Board of The Comgest Foundation of their solidarity with the populations affected by the conflict, to which their many individual actions bore witness. The Comgest Foundation committed in turn to joining them in lending its support.

In such a context, we responded to calls from two organisations which, thanks to their experience in deploying emergency operations and their international networks and local relays, are used to intervening effectively in this type of situation:

- The French Red Cross, which supported the affected populations in the conflict zone, mainly via the ICRC and the Ukrainian Red Cross, the displaced Ukrainian populations fleeing Ukraine into neighbouring countries, in coordination with the local Red Cross national societies (Ukraine, Poland, Romania, Moldova) and the International Federation of the Red Cross, as well as the displaced Ukrainian populations arriving in France thanks to the French Red Cross volunteers
- The Fondation de France, which, in coordination with several European foundations, provided emergency aid to cover the basic needs of thousands of families in Ukraine. The donations were used to help local associations in Poland, Moldavia and Romania to provide support and to welcome families forced to flee Ukraine.

Impact / Main indicators

An impact assessment is not yet possible. Objectives:

- Progression of the beneficiaries into education/training
- Progression of the beneficiaries into employment

Project sponsors

French Red Cross/Croix-Rouge française and Fondation de France

 CROIX-ROUGE FRANÇAISE



© CROIX-ROUGE UKRAINIENNE

Fondation de France



© CROIX-ROUGE FRANÇAISE



© CHRISTOPHE ARGOUES



Project selected in March 2022
Duration : 1 year



The Comgest Foundation

FINANCIAL STATEMENTS OF THE COMGEST FOUNDATION
Excluding donations granted by other Comgest entities

Statement of Financial Position (EUR)		
Assets	2021/2022	2020/2021
Financial assets	1 072 760	330 080
Cash	3 692 374	3 854 966
Total Assets	4 765 134	4 185 046
Liabilities		
Permanently restricted endowment funds	4 382 600	3 865 080
Excess of revenues over expenses	46 284	77 895
Retained excess of revenues over expenses	318 094	240 199
Non restricted endowment funds	15 000	15 000
Total Endowment funds	4 761 978	4 183 174
Suppliers	3 156	1 872
Total Liabilities	4 765 134	4 185 046

Statement of Activity (EUR)		
Operating Revenues	2021/2022	2019/2020
Donations received		
Comgest S.A.	150 000	237 794
Private donors	130 850	102 070
Total Revenues	280 850	339 864
Operating Expenses		
Donations granted to selected programs	422 427	257 167
Operating expenses	3 229	4 801
Taxes	660	
Total Expenses	426 316	261 968
Operating Result	-145 466	77 896
Financial Revenues		
	191 750	
Result	46 284	77 896

DONATIONS GRANTED BY COMGEST ENTITIES
(2016 to 2022)

Comgest S.A.	4 490 605
Comgest Asset Management International Ltd	109 025
Comgest Deutschland	110 401
Comgest Singapore	16 000
Comgest Far East Ltd	40 000

DONATIONS GRANTED TO PROJECTS
(Since 2016)

Comgest entities and the comgest foundation	1 821 553
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