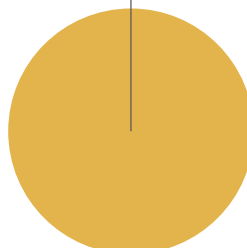
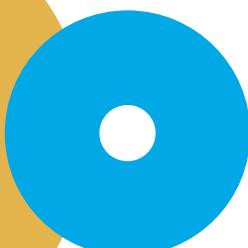
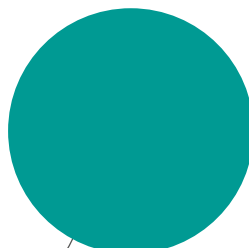
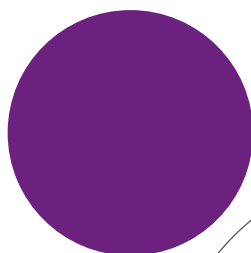




THE COMGEST FOUNDATION

ANNUAL REPORT
2018/2019





A WORD FROM OUR CHAIRMAN

Two years since its creation, the main challenge for an endeavor such as The Comgest Foundation is generally to scale up its initiatives while ensuring its actions remain relevant and have real impact. This is why, from the very start of the Comgest Foundation, we had the idea of relying on ambassadors. Mostly current or former Comgest employees, ambassadors are and have been engaged alongside various philanthropic projects for many years or even decades. They have generally been on the ground gaining the intimate trust that is necessary to commit and financially support these projects over several years. Our ambassadors report frequently to the Board of the Foundation whose members challenge them to ensure the various initiatives remain on the right track. Although each new project is a prototype with its own specific objectives, The Board can capitalize on the experience of its ambassadors and source inspiration for other schemes.

“Leverage other people's brains” is advice that was professed by one of the founders of Comgest thirty years ago in the field of investment. It is now also implemented by The Comgest Foundation, enabling us to select 20 projects since September 2017, of which 9 are pluriannual. Having greater impact also requires better focus. This is why The Comgest Foundation is concentrating on four key areas: economic empowerment, health and disability, education and environment. The result is more than the sum of the parts as it has enabled us to reach 6,300 beneficiaries. Extra-curricular pedagogical empowerment programmes for young people, book distribution to combat illiteracy in Cambodia, micro-finance in the Philippines - there are so many ways we can provide consistent and significant support to great projects that will change the life of so many.

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 20 projects in 12 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 2017 and March 2018, calls for projects were sent to all Comgest Group employees. For both years, a total of 21 projects were received and reviewed by the Board and 16 were selected (13 were financed by The Comgest Foundation and 3 by Comgest entities).

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:

- **Arnaud Cosserat**, *CEO*
- **Emil Wolter**, *Analyst/Portfolio Manager*
- **Lavinia Borcia**, *Group Head of Finance*
- **Shirley Butterworth**, *Senior Investment Assistant*
- **Monique Erbeia**, *Coordinator - Funds and Partners*
- **Yann Gérain**, *ESG (Environment, Social, Governance) Analyst*
- **Isabelle d'Imperio**, *Former Group Corporate Secretary*

OUR PROGRAMS

PROJECTS SELECTED AND SUPPORTED BY THE COMGEST FOUNDATION

				
Amiguitos - Honduras	●			
AOAH - Haïti	●		●	
Bailando Juntos - Honduras	●			
BiblioBus - SIPAR - Cambodia			●	
Charlotte Famin - France	●			
Clubhousse - France	●			
Fazasoma - Madagascar	●		●	
Fotadrevo - Madagascar	●		●	
L' Avenir - Morocco	●			●
Passerelles Numériques - Cambodia		●	●	
Sabrina Poignet - France	●			
SCPI Microfinance - Philippines		●		
YES Akademia - France			●	

PROJECTS SELECTED BY THE COMGEST FOUNDATION AND SUPPORTED BY ENTITY OF COMGEST GROUP

				
GYMPANZEES - United-Kingdom Comgest Asset Management Int Ltd	●		●	

20

PROJECTS SELECTED SINCE SEPTEMBER 2017



7 PROJECTS IN
SEPTEMBER 2017



9 PROJECTS IN
SEPTEMBER 2018



4 PROJECTS IN
SEPTEMBER 2019

AT LEAST **6 300** BENEFICIARIES

SINCE SEPTEMBER 2017

9
PLURIANNUAL
PROJECTS



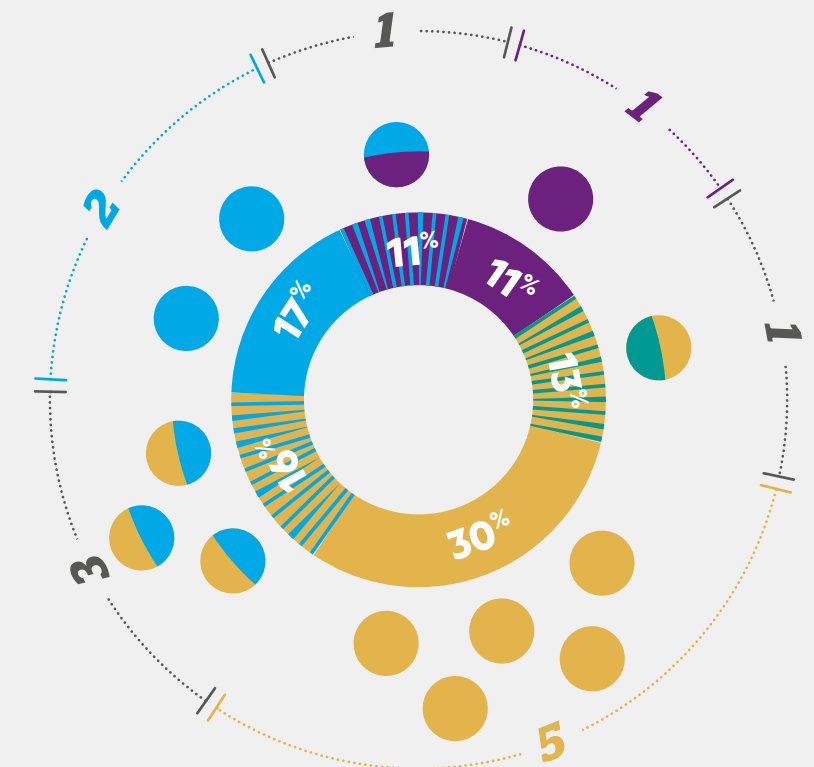
11
PROJECTS
OVER ONE YEAR



AS OF 30/09/2019

NUMBER OF ACTIVE PROJECTS
BY DOMAIN

PERCENTAGE OF
THE 2018/2019 BUDGETS



SINCE SEPTEMBER 2017

8 PROJECTS IN EUROPE

4 PROJECTS IN ASIA

6 PROJECTS IN AFRICA

3 PROJECTS IN
CENTRAL AMERICA/CARIBBEAN

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 2017
Multi-year project : 4 years



The Comgest Foundation



Comment from the Ambassador
Arnaud Cosserat

In 2019, we remained in close contact with the 5 centers that we support, in Bolivia, Honduras and Columbia. Three centers were visited: El Refugio and Maria Auxiliadora in Medellin (Columbia) and Cochabamba (Bolivia). These visits help tighten links with the people responsible for the centers and very often give rise to new ideas to improve their operations. As a result of the contacts, we contributed to a new kitchen for El Refugio (photos hereunder) and we supported financially the Santa Ana center (Honduras) through the creation of a new Social Promoter role who is in charge of identifying children in desperate situations and welcoming them to the center, as well as following up with their parents. The Santa Ana center cares for children who suffer from acute malnutrition. In 2019, the overall political situation has worsened in Latin America. Bolivia is on the brink of a civil war after the 2019 elections and the very difficult political transition from Evo Morales to the new Government. In Cochabamba (Bolivia), the Papa Francisco comedor welcomes 40 children for lunch on a daily basis. Sometimes more than 50 meals a day are distributed as their sisters and brothers often visit the center with them. In Columbia, more than 1.5 million refugees from Venezuela have settled in various cities, including the Medellin district where the Maria Auxiliadora center is active. The Maria Auxiliadora center distributes 50 meals a day. In both countries, children are the first victims of these changes and definitively need support from us.

ECOLE DE PAILLANT "SCHOOL OF PAILLANT"



Paillant, Haïti



Description

This project in Haiti at The Paillant School is twofold: construction of three school classrooms to better meet children's needs (regularity of courses, accommodation of all children, etc.) and a school canteen to increase attendance. 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

- 327 children attending (previously 299)
- Improved attendance
- Corresponding increase of the number of meals served

Project sponsors

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

Local partner

The Paillant School and Compassion (US NGO)



Project selected in September 2018
Multi-year project : 3 years



The Comgest Foundation



Comment from the Ambassador
Daniel Carvajal

I am happy and proud of our contribution to the development of the Paillant school whose more than 300 pupils were able to attend school regularly in 2019. The school has expanded with two new, fully finished classrooms that are spacious and less rudimentary. In addition, the old classrooms were also renovated and the walls painted. In order to better welcome and motivate the children, a playground was created and the sanitary facilities were renovated. Our goal of building three classrooms is about to be reached.

The new school facilities are a source of encouragement and motivation for the teachers and students who can now work in better conditions sheltered from bad weather.

The situation in Haiti is extremely complicated. Insecurity, famine, armed revolts, cyclones, and hurricanes complicate our actions, but I remain more than ever committed to helping the school develop.

Education is a fundamental pillar for development. Thanks to education, the most vulnerable children will be able to get a job and lift themselves out of poverty in a sustainable way.

I would like to warmly thank the COMGEST foundation for its support in this project which is fully in line with the values shared by the company.

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

• Beneficiaries: 1219 people, including 370 children. 140 of them were helped to join school. The others, along with their families, attend educational sessions through multiple activities such as storytelling, individual reading, educational games and creative activities as well as a lending scheme for them and their families. Literacy class for workers and their families were launched in 2 brick factories, offering employees 4 lessons per week during their lunch break, as well as awareness sessions on topics that are relevant to them: parental education, family planning and reproductive health, domestic violence, etc..

Project sponsors

SIPAR
www.sipar.org

Local partner

SIPAR Phnom Penh

Impact / Main indicators

• Mobile library bus visiting 8 suburban villages near brick factories, twice a week



Project selected in September 2017
Multi-year project: 3 years



The Comgest Foundation



Comment from the Ambassador Isabelle d'Imperio

For the second time, I was able to follow the work of a SIPAR team in a brick factory and I saw a real improvement in children's behavior towards the team and the materials. Mothers were very proud of their children's homework even if they themselves did not know how to read.

Thanks to active collaboration with the local headmasters, all the children of school age are now attending school. SIPAR's team and teachers carefully follow the progress of each one of them to prevent school failure and dropouts.

SIPAR extends its activities to reach families through literacy classes, attended mostly by mothers and a few teenagers who left school too soon.

In 2019, Luciole Foundation joined TCF on the project for a 3 year period.



CHARLOTTE FAMIN, WHEELCHAIR TENNIS PLAYER



Paris, France



Description

Charlotte's objective is to reach the World Top 8 to be a seeded player at the 2020 Tokyo Paralympic Games.

Charlotte Famin was injured ten years ago and began playing tennis again three years later. She was ranked 15th in the world among wheelchair tennis players when her project was presented to The Comgest Foundation.

The support granted by The Comgest Foundation will allow Charlotte to travel and pay registration fees for the tournaments included in her preparation program for the Paralympic Games. In addition, she takes part in awareness campaigns regarding sport practice with disabilities for young people.

Impact / Main indicators

- Improved world ranking
- Her good results bring her closer to qualification for Tokyo 2020

Project sponsors

Tennis Club de Riva Bella



Comment from the Ambassador

Inès Régiment

- Charlotte took part and performed well in several masters and other tournaments over the past year, improving her world ranking in preparation for the Paralympics. At Roland-Garros she made it through to the doubles semi-finals which greatly helped her Paralympics preparation.
- Charlotte is now French tennis champion for the seventh time in a row.
- Nevertheless, Charlotte also had to contend with some injuries over recent months.



Project selected in September 2017
Multi-year project: 3 years



The Comgest Foundation

SPREADING THE CLUBHOUSE METHODOLOGY



Lyon, France



Description

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

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 of professional and social reintegration.

Impact / Main indicators

2019 Key figures on professional reintegration achieved by the ClubHouse Lyon:

- Number of beneficiary members: 120 members in 2019
- 14 members found a job (FTC, STC; short assignment, internships)
- 19 members act as volunteers
- 31 out of 120 members (c.26%) are completing professional and social reintegration

Project sponsors

Clubhouse France
www.clubhousefrance.org



Project selected in September 2017
Multi-year project: 3 years



The Comgest Foundation



Comment from the Ambassador
Astrid Delanoë

It has been a great opportunity to bring support to the Clubhouse thanks to the Comgest foundation!

There are still so many actions to implement to make sure mental health issues are treated in an appropriate way outside of the chemical treatments often prescribed.

It has been really great to see Comgest contributing actively over a 3-year period to creating a new ClubHouse in Lyon and to see tangible results and progress within 2 years. (please see the below indicators)

The recruitment of a permanent contract, 2 years after Clubhouse Lyon was created, means that the Clubhouse is able to welcome around 120 members!

It is important to note that the support the Clubhouse provides to its members is not for a limited period compared to a lot of other approaches. This model fully encourages mutual support, solidarity and exchanges which are all representative of Comgest values – this is why I felt it was such a good project!

Working together, contributing to the decision-making process and developing empowerment are part of the dynamic of the Clubhouse model, increasing members' recovery thanks to professional and social reintegration. I am personally strongly convinced that when it comes to either mental health or our professional and personal lives, it is critical to focus on these kinds of attitudes that place emphasis on collective intelligence and mutual support!

SUPPORT OF VULNERABLE POPULATIONS



Ambositra, Fianarantsoa region, Madagascar



Description

The project to be financed is two-fold: 1) support children's education in the Ambositra region by financing school canteens which improve - and sometimes determine - school attendance, and 2) conduct important repairs to one of the shelters for the most vulnerable (isolated women, elderly people, students),

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.

Impact / Main indicators

- Over 1,000 children in 10 schools served meals in school canteens.
- Schooling possible thanks to the meals served
- New project : " les restos des p'tits cœurs »

Project sponsors

Fazasoma France
www.fazasoma.org

Local partner

Fazasoma



Project selected in September 2017
Multi-year project: 3 years



The Comgest Foundation



FA.ZA.SO.MA.



Comment from the Ambassador

Didier Darré

The standout memory from this year 2018-2019 is the trip of co-founder, Francine Langlet, and president, Sébastien Layral, to the site in December 2018.

It is always a proud moment to visit the local teams on site, to discuss with them, to understand what they are experiencing on a daily basis, to realize the extent of their needs. The most difficult part of all this is to be forced to make choices and to refuse help to some people.

It is at this moment that we become aware of the role of Eva and Mariette at whose side we have been walking for many years and who are so precious to us.

It is during this stay that they were able to visit the fifteen or so local antennas, to forge links with our contacts on the spot and to realize that more than 1000 kids benefit from our actions. To see that Elisah, a little girl that Francine met a few years ago, has grown up but still continues her schooling. What a victory !!!

FOTADREVO



Fotadrevo, Madagascar



Description

In the southwest of Madagascar, the Atsimo-Andrefana region increasingly suffers from drought and is one of the poorest regions in the country. The Fotadrevo School is the only secondary school which exists within a 50km radius and children are provided with lunch food thanks to the World Food Program. The 800 students currently eat their lunch on the ground of the sports field.

To improve the hygiene and wellbeing of the children, a French medical student association from the Sorbonne University (Sol6) has decided to support the association running this school (AHSMC) and raise funds to build a school canteen. The foundations have already been cast and the project supported by The Comgest Foundation will focus on the walls and finishing work.

In addition, the Sol6 volunteers will provide hygiene training and other health prevention activities to the play centers.

Impact / Main indicators

- Construction of the school canteen
- Number of meals served
- Number of training sessions/attendees
- Better hygiene and living conditions for the children

Project sponsors

Association Humanitaire Soeur Marie Colette (AHSMC) in collaboration with Sol6 Association www.association-humanitaire-soeur-marie-colette.fr

Local partner

EJPR (Institut Enfant Jésus Providence de Rouen), Tuléar, Madagascar (www.associationlavenir.ma)



Project selected in September 2019
Multi-year project : 2 years



The Comgest Foundation



Comment from the Ambassador
Gabriella Berglund

On the 1st of July, 2020, 35% of the first phase of the project was completed.

The 8 students from SOL6 participated actively and with enthusiasm during the month of July in the construction of the ground floor. Thanks to additional donations, the construction has progressed very well during the winter.

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



Rabat, Morocco



Comment from the Ambassador
Abla Bellakhdar

As this was one of the biggest purchases ever undertaken by the association and as taxes associated with the purchase were substantial (VAT roughly equivalent to 10k€ vs total bus cost ex VAT of 48k€), the association changed its legal status which led to the obtention of the approval from the Health Ministry to get VAT exemption. This VAT exemption is an indirect impact led by this project and that will lead to long lasting savings.

The tax exemption, together with the proceeds from the sale of the old mini-bus, means that our contribution to the project (by far the largest part) has allowed la Maison de l'Avenir to fully fund the mini-bus. The acquisition of the mini-bus has helped the association to reduce substantially the operating costs related to the transportation of families, the CO2 emissions and led in top of that, and most importantly, to the improvement of the commuting conditions and safety conditions of the patients who return from their hospital treatment extremely tired. I saw the mini-bus at the beginning of January 2020 a few days after they received it, adorned with the Comgest foundation logo. I must say I felt proud to have the support of the TCF for this association -that I highly regard- and this project, especially given its various social, economic and environmental benefits.

Description

Two years ago, The Comgest Foundation contributed to improve, in a sustainable manner, the living conditions at the Maison L'Avenir, a house that welcomes families with sick children (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 couple of rooms)

The objective of this second phase of the partnership with Maison de l'Avenir is to purchase a large mini-bus with 23 seats to help families/children commuting from the hospital to Maison de l'Avenir. This new vehicle will reduce the fatigue of the children and their families as well as fuel consumption and related costs.

The association L'Avenir supports children with cancer and their families by providing social and psychological support.

Impact / Main indicators

- Number of beneficiaries/trips: several hundred per year
- Reduction in fuel consumption
- Reduction in operating costs (lower maintenance costs, reduced fuel costs)
- Better living conditions for the families enable them to focus all their energy on supporting and accompanying their sick child.

Project sponsors

GFAOP
(Groupe Franco-Africain d'Oncologie pédiatrique)

Local partner

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



Project selected in September 2019
Duration : 1 year



The Comgest Foundation

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.

- Final exam success rate in 2nd year = TBD later this year due to COVID disruption

- Graduation rate and employment rate = TBD later this year due to COVID disruption

- Promotion of both boys and girls

- Maintenance/increase of average salary (postgraduation): TBD later this year due to COVID disruption

- Economic support to their community

- Mentoring of other students

Impact / Main indicators

Due to the COVID-19 restrictions in Cambodia, the graduation of the year group has been postponed to December. As a result, an impact assessment is not yet fully possible.

Objectives:

- Exam pass rate from 1st to 2nd year = 97%

Project sponsors

Passerelles Numériques
www.passerellesnumeriques.org/fr

Local partner

Passerelles Numériques Cambodge



Project selected in September 2018
Multi-year project: 3 years



The Comgest Foundation



Comment from the Ambassador
Sébastien Thévoux-Chabuel

As the ambassador of Passerelles Numériques for TCF, I am proud of what has been achieved in 2019 by the students and the team in Cambodia. True to its purpose, PN was able to find a new group of students combining both the will to learn and succeed and to share the benefits of that success. Through a very rigorous selection process, the year group we are supporting is composed of students from very poor and rural regions (where average earnings are just \$33 per month) and has a good proportion (57%) of girls. In addition to learning various soft skills vital for working in a company setting, these students receive classes in English and IT-related hard skills, such as Network and IT systems management (1/3 of the promotion) and Web development and software coding. All the students who graduated from last year's class had secured a job by the time they graduated, with an average monthly salary of \$273. With a multiple of 8 times what those young and brilliant students may have hoped for, and with around a third of their salary being shared with their family to support the development of their local community, I am now more convinced than ever of the value of our collaboration with PN. As for the class of 2020, the program has been slightly delayed due to COVID-19 restrictions imposed in Cambodia. I note though that the program and courses resumed quickly with the implementation of a remote system based on Skype and the distribution of PCs to students who could connect from home. This proved once again the quality and dedication of the PN team.

SABRINA POIGNET, WHEELCHAIR FENCER



Paris, France



Description

This project will enable Sabrina to travel and pay registration fees for the tournaments included in her preparation program for the 2020 Tokyo Paralympic Games.

Sabrina was a young soldier when she had a serious car accident on a mission in 2002 and had both legs amputated. After more than 20 months of intensive rehabilitation, she joined the Sport Circle of the national institution for the disabled, where she discovered fencing. In 2005, she is selected for the French national team and in 2016, she ranked 12th in the world. In June 2018, Sabrina won gold medals for sabre and epee fencing at the French Championships.

In addition to fencing, Sabrina shares her experience at hospitals for sick children and at nursing schools, as well as at primary, middle and high schools.

Impact / Main indicators

- 2019 French Champion in sword and saber
- Improving world ranking
- Qualification for 2020 Tokyo Paralympic Games

Project sponsors

Au Bout de la Touche



Project selected in September 2017
Multi-year project: 3 years



The Comgest Foundation



Comment from the Ambassador
Isabelle d'Imperio

2019 was a very important year for Paralympics athletes, in view of the qualification period for the Tokyo games at the beginning of Spring 2020. The year was spent travelling to attend international competitions and training either in Paris where Sabrina has her Maître d'armes, in Bordeaux with her sparing partners or in Rodez, her hometown.

At the end of the year Sabrina was ranked 10th in sword and 9th in saber. The competition is fierce as a lot of younger athletes are coming on the international scene during this pre-Olympic year.

ENTREPRENEURS
du Monde



Comment from the Ambassador

Monique Erbeia

SCPI is now lending to more than 3 500 active borrowers, including nearly 1 500 borrowers from the Catarman branch, directly supported by The Comgest Foundation. The financial viability of SCPI will very likely be reached within a couple of years and no additional support from The Comgest Foundation will be needed. In this very remote rural area, it is a remarkable achievement and living proof of the impact that a well implemented social microfinance methodology can have!

I look forward to continuing the partnership between The Comgest Foundation and Entrepreneurs du Monde

SOCIAL MICROFINANCE TO INCREASE RESILIENCE OF MARGINALIZED PEOPLE



Catarman, Northern Samar Province, Philippines



Description

This project aims to provide microfinance loans and training to beneficiaries in isolated villages who mainly derive their living from farming and agriculture revenue. SCPI opened a branch in Catarman which should achieve financial viability within 6 years.

Created in 2014 and supported since 2016 by Entrepreneurs du Monde, SCPI is engaged in improving in a sustainable manner the resilience and living conditions of marginalized families in urban and rural communities of Northern Samar, by providing financial and socio-economic services tailored to their needs for the development of income generating activities. SCPI 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, SCPI provides socio-economic training and social support.

Impact / Main indicators

Financial services affordable for the poorest (Catarman branch)

- Number of active borrowers: 1 495 as of 31/12/2019
- Granted loan portfolio: 397 198 € as of 31/12/2019
- Socio-economic training: financial education, social and health awareness
- Training modules: 27 as of 31/12/2019
- Training sessions: 523 as of 31/12/2019
- Training of local teams, including five credit agents, in social microfinance methodology developed by Entrepreneurs du Monde.

Project sponsors

Entrepreneurs du Monde
www.entrepreneursdumonde.org/fr

Local partner

Samar Crusade Against Poverty, Inc. (SCPI)



Project selected in September 2017
Multi-year project: 3 years



The Comgest Foundation

YAKA



France - Senegal - India - Nicaragua - Tunisia



Description

Launched in the US in 2007 and in Paris in 2012, YES AKADEMIA ("YAKA") focuses on cross-cultural, community development through empowerment programs with youth between 15 and 35 who are generally from marginalized, inner-city or rural areas. YAKA's main program is called IMPOWER where participants learn about social entrepreneurship, civic responsibility as well as leadership and organization skills via 300 hours of pedagogical workshops. Youth in IMPOWER also travel abroad to work with youth and YAKA partner organisations. In turn, the youth from abroad come to France, as a part of IMPOWER called SWITCH, to develop skills to independently continue community programs in their home countries and carry on with their civic and/or entrepreneurial activities. YAKA's IMPOWER program thus establishes a continuous exchange of knowledge and skills that provides a significant and sustainable impact at a local and global level. The pillars on which YAKA rests are youth, empowerment of youth and solidarity to help in growing a strong, inclusive, autonomous next generation.

The Comgest Foundation is supporting these 2019/2020 international exchange activities programs involving 100 youth from France, Senegal, India, Nicaragua and Tunisia.

Impact / Main indicators

The impact of the project is on the intercultural skills acquired by the 100 French and international youth through YAKA's original programming. The indicators are based on the blogs and vlogs as well as testimonies given by the youth and their parents throughout the programming. Partner non- profits in France and abroad also have a say in the impact of our project to evaluate whether the youth have acquired in their skillsets, global competencies and self-worth.

Project sponsors

YES Akademia - France



Project selected in September 2019
Duration : 1 year



The Comgest Foundation



Comment from the Ambassador

Dawn Turek

The Comgest Foundation's has supported three phases of YAKA's IMPOWER program:

1 - Cross-cultural immersion Phase - travel of 30 French youth for 45 days in July-August 2019: 15 (Soussane, Senegal) and 15 (Guhir, India) to live/work with local youth and partner organizations. Nine local youth participated in the India program and four in Senegal.

French and local youth conducted and participated in workshops (e.g. recycling, eco-friendly farming, mental health, self-confidence, status of women); training sessions on entrepreneurship (business plans, product design/marketing, budgeting/sales); and social-improvement projects (community center renovation, short film production [cattle-theft], trash pick-up [pollution awareness], hosted films [children's cartoons, documentaries on sustainable farming]). Participants also organized "Youth Forums" (in Dakar and Mumbai) of workshops on local issues for 300+ locals.

2 - Preparation for next IMPOWER program (30 French youth; November 2019 - present), incl. pandemic-related modifications:

- Weekly online workshops (March 16th - early June); and
- 9th Promotion - re-scheduled for December 2020: 10 (India), 10 (Senegal) and 10 (Nicaragua), alongside 16 regional youth.

3 - SWITCH program - International youth travel to France: Postponed until 2021 (Covid-19 restrictions).

GYMPANZEES



Bristol, United-Kingdom



Description

The objective of this project is to support a 2-week Gympanzees POP UP event to be held at Easter 2020 in Bristol (1500 children and their families).

The mission of Gympanzees is to enable every child and young person with a disability aged between 0-25 years old (in the UK) to access regular play, exercise and friendship, to improve their physical and mental health and wellbeing, and to take their families out of isolation.

Gympanzees' long term objective is to open 13 centres across the UK while in the shorter term, they aim to operate pop-ups every summer and Easter until the first centre opens in order to help fine-tune the concept (Pop-up = Temporary facility within schools with rooms adapted as a pilot for the future centre)

Impact / Main indicators

- Improve children's health thanks to exercise and experiencing a varied sensory experience
- Create an inclusive playful atmosphere and spaces to allow the whole family to play
- Reduce isolation of families

Project sponsors

Gympanzees (via Prims The Gift Fund)
www.gympanzees.org



Project selected in September 2019
Duration : 1 year



Comgest Asset Management
International Ltd



Comment from the Ambassador
Alistair Wittet

Unfortunately due to Covid19 the Easter 2020 pop-up we funded had to be cancelled, as has the Summer pop-up. The funding has been carried over to the Easter 2021 pop-up which we are hopeful will be able to go ahead.

In the meantime, Gympanzees has launched a new "Our Home" project which provides online support to families with therapist-run Zoom sessions. They have also made available a Lending Library from which families can borrow specialist equipment such as sensory toys or therapy equipment. These have proven hugely successful with over 44000 views of the online content. The lending library was fully booked within 48 hours and currently has a 27-week waiting list for some items.

The charity has worked hard to secure funding during lockdown, despite all fundraising events having to be cancelled. They will start fundraising again for the Easter 2021 pop-up and have decided to continue running the "Our Home" programme with the aim of providing the service to 3500 families over the next 12 months.

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

Statement of Financial Position (EUR)

Assets	2018 / 2019	2017 / 2018
Cash	982 847	106 399
Total Assets	982 847	106 399
Liabilities		
Permanently restricted endowment funds	965 000	15 000
Excess of revenues over expenses	- 73 564	80 118
Retained excess of revenues over expenses	88 569	8 451
Total Endowment funds	980 005	103 569
Suppliers	2 842	2 842
Total Liabilities	982 847	106 399

Statement of Activity (EUR)

Revenues	2018 / 2019	2017 / 2018
Donations received		
Comgest S.A.	151 131	300 000
Private donors	12 500	22 000
Total Revenues	163 631	322 000
Expenses		
Donations granted to selected programs	234 341	238 933
Operating expenses	2 854	2 949
Total Expenses	237 195	241 882
Result	-73 564	80 118

DONATIONS GRANTED BY COMGEST ENTITIES
(2016 to 2019)

Comgest S.A.	1 541 131
Comgest Asset Management International Ltd	37 112
Comgest Deutschland	25 401

DONATIONS GRANTED BY COMGEST ENTITIES AND THE COMGEST FOUNDATION TO PROJECTS SINCE 2016 : 664 421 EUROS

