



Together we can make the world  
a better place.



# ANNUAL REPORT 2021

## A YEAR OF SOLIDARITY





Together we can make the world  
a better place.

COOPI is a Participatory  
Foundation, registered in the  
Registry of Legal Entities of the  
prefecture of Milan.

It is an NGO registered in the  
list of civil society organizations  
pursuant to art. 26 of the Italian  
Law n. 125 of 11 August 2014.

It is an ONLUS by right  
pursuant to the Italian  
Legislative Decree n. 460  
of 4/12/1997.

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**TRANSLATION:** The Tree of Languages

COOPI can receive funds for projects, donations from firms, private individuals and legacies.

**FOR INFORMATION:** [coopi@coopi.org](mailto:coopi@coopi.org) - [www.coopi.org](http://www.coopi.org)

**HOW TO DONATE:**

**POST OFFICE CURRENT ACCOUNT** 990200 "COOPI Cooperazione Internazionale ONG Onlus"

**CURRENT ACCOUNT** Banca Popolare Etica IBAN IT89A0501801600000011023694

"COOPI Cooperazione Internazionale ONG Onlus"

**ONLINE:** [www.coopi.org](http://www.coopi.org)

## VISION

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

## MISSION

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

## VALUES

- SOLIDARITY • TRANSPARENCY • NEUTRALITY
- PARTICIPATION • SUSTAINABILITY OF THE INTERVENTION
- RESPONSIBILITY • TRANSFER OF KNOWLEDGE
- INNOVATION • RESPECT FOR DIVERSITY AND FIGHT AGAINST DISCRIMINATION
- EMPOWERMENT OF HUMAN RESOURCES





## EDITORIAL

In 2021, COOPI's activities still had to take into account the Coronavirus Covid-19 pandemic and its consequences: difficulties in the mobility of people and things, the need for containment measures, and negative effects on the economies of entire populations.

Reading this annual report, you can see that COOPI's activities have been carried out regularly, as we worked even harder to increase our commitment in those many situations where it was easy to see a setback in communities, regarding the objectives of development defined at the international level through the Sustainable Development Goals.

In recent years, the United Nations launched the Local2030 program to facilitate achieving sustainable development goals at the local level. Indeed, it is not enough to have good national plans or well-managed global funds; development can only be achieved if the action is able to stimulate growth with local communities: to "get to the last mile", as we at COOPI testify with the work we have done for almost 60 years ...

During 2021 we worked hard to define our development lines leading up to 2024 in order to reach the furthest village, in the most remote community, as summarized in the document "The near future. Development lines 2022-2024 ", to which the Annual Report dedicates an entire paragraph.

These days our attention is focused entirely on the war that is taking place in Europe, but over the course of 2021, a significant number of nations among those where COOPI operates, had to deal with the war. One of the most worrying cases currently concerns Ethiopia, a country in which COOPI has been present since 1995. However, almost all Sahel countries, such as the Democratic Republic of Congo, the Central African Republic, Somalia and the Middle East, are affected by low intensity conflicts that continue to wreck disastrous effects on economies and on the health of entire communities.

The spread of an increasing number of conflicts on the world stage confirms the importance of our commitment. First of all, international cooperation is one of the ways that, together with politics and international relations, we can help to outline scenarios for a more stable and inclusive development. Secondly, many years and many different situations have taught us the best ways to intervene in conflict situations quickly and with the best professional skills, always in collaboration with the large humanitarian agencies and always improving the methods, skills and tools of specific work.

Raising our voice for non-violent conflict resolutions together with others working in international cooperation and intervening in some of the most serious humanitarian crises are both areas that have felt our strong commitment in 2021 and where we are certain that COOPI in 2022 will also be able to respond effectively to the many challenges we face.

Claudio Ceravolo  
President of COOPI





## LETTER FROM THE DIRECTOR

In the past year, the world stage was dominated by a succession of emergencies that ranged from the Covid-19 pandemic to those caused by conflicts and extreme climatic phenomena.

Consistently and within this general framework, COOPI has been mainly involved in carrying out interventions in emergency situations. On this front, year after year, COOPI intensifies its work and enriches its endowment with adequate tools to better respond to humanitarian crises.

In 2021, COOPI's activities were confirmed to be near 2020 levels, with a slight increase in the number of projects and beneficiaries reached. In addition to continuing with the structuring of Regional Coordinations, we have worked hard to start up activities in the recently opened countries: Libya, Tunisia and Burkina Faso.

2021 was also a year of refocusing the strategic lines for the development of the organization. On an international stage characterized by uncertainty and instability, there was a real need to clearly define the strategic objectives for the Foundation's development in the coming years. Closing the cycle of the 2015-2020 Strategy "Together We Can Make the World a Better Place" we have prepared "The near future," for the Development Lines of 2022-2024. We chose the word near because it defines a roadmap for the development of the next few years and also to demonstrate nearness to the communities where COOPI operates, a distinctive feature of our work. The document - of which you will find a summary also in this Annual Report - is first of all a work tool that clearly indicates the strategic objectives that the Foundation has set for itself from now through the next three years and highlights the specificities of COOPI's way of operating. It will also serve as a point of reference for operational guidelines used directly by the Regional Coordinations and by the Area Managers, ensuring that the general lines of development align with the needs and stimuli coming from the field.

Professional training for humanitarian workers is among the strategic objectives as a key investment in order to be increasingly effective in field work. The "School of International Cooperation Professional training" opened by COOPI certainly goes in this direction and took a lot of our efforts in 2021.

Unfortunately, last year one of our humanitarian workers passed away: Merlin Mbouyo, COOPI operator in Chad. This loss, along with what occurred in 2020 to Yannik Manga, COOPI operator in Cameroon, confirmed once more the importance of applying adequate security measures in the field. This is an area where COOPI has always given much attention and where, in recent years, it has further increased its presence in all countries in which it operates.

Thanks to the commitment of all those who collaborate with COOPI, to the support of the entities - public and private - that finance it and to the many people who support it with their donations and time, COOPI has managed to help millions again this year. To the people in many of the most difficult countries in the world, a constant commitment, recognized by all our stakeholders, confirms the importance of "doing good well."

Ennio Miccoli  
Director of COOPI



# WHO IS COOPI



**COOPI - COOPERAZIONE INTERNAZIONALE IS A HUMANITARIAN ORGANIZATION THAT FOR ALMOST 60 YEARS HAS BEEN COMMITTED TO FIGHTING AGAINST ALL FORMS OF POVERTY**

COOPI - Cooperazione Internazionale is a humanitarian organization that for **almost 60 years** has been committed to fighting against **all forms of poverty** and accompanying populations affected by wars, socio-economic crises or natural disasters, towards recovery and **lasting and sustainable development**.

COOPI Foundation today is present in **33 countries** in Africa, the Middle East, Latin America and the Caribbean, with more than **250 humanitarian projects** reaching more than **6 million people**. COOPI works with an **integrated approach** for overcoming poverty: food security and nutrition, water and hygiene, health, protection and education.

COOPI'S WORKERS MEET WITH MEMBERS OF THE VILLAGE WHO WERE TAKEN IN TO ACCESS CASES OF CHILDHOOD MALNUTRITION (RUBAYA, NORTH KIVU, DEMOCRATIC REPUBLIC OF CONGO)



PHOTO: COOPI ARCHIVE

To give more effective and structured responses to the needs of people in difficulty, both in **development** and **emergency** contexts, and in order to **actively involve beneficiaries** in decisions and activities, COOPI plans its interventions at a **regional multi-country** level and has chosen with conviction the model of **organizational decentralization**, which reduces time spent between planning, decision and action. The development of local partnerships further strengthens development at the local level and improves the living conditions of beneficiary communities.

## SINCE 1965 COOPI - COOPERAZIONE INTERNAZIONALE

has helped more than 110 million people, with more than 2,519 projects in 73 countries, employing about 5,000 expat aid workers and 65,000 local professionals.



110

MILLIONS OF  
PEOPLE HELPED



2,519

PROJECTS



73

COUNTRIES



5,000

EXPAT AID WORKERS

65,000

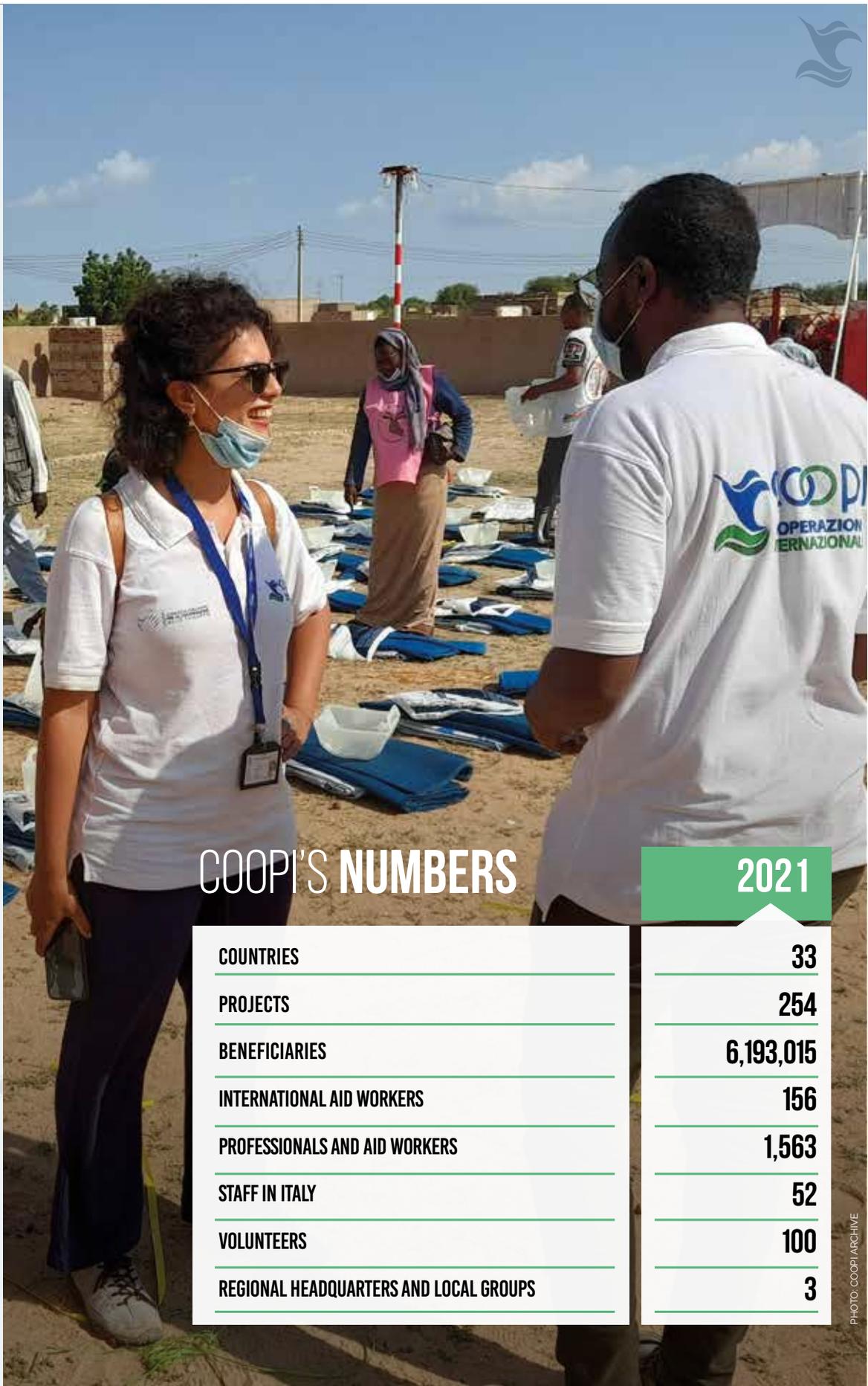
LOCAL PROFESSIONALS

# WHERE WE ARE PRESENT **TODAY** WHERE WE HAVE OPERATED **IN THE PAST**

COUNTRIES  
WHERE COOPI  
**OPERATES**  
**TODAY**

COUNTRIES  
WHERE COOPI  
**WORKED IN**  
**THE PAST**

IN ADDITION TO **ITALY**, COOPI IS ALSO ACTIVE WITH ADVOCACY AND FUNDRAISING CAMPAIGNS IN THE **USA**, THROUGH THE AMERICAN FRIENDS OF COOPI, AND IN **SWITZERLAND**, THANKS TO THE COOPI SUISSE ASSOCIATION



## COOPI'S NUMBERS

2021

COUNTRIES	33
PROJECTS	254
BENEFICIARIES	6,193,015
INTERNATIONAL AID WORKERS	156
PROFESSIONALS AND AID WORKERS	1,563
STAFF IN ITALY	52
VOLUNTEERS	100
REGIONAL HEADQUARTERS AND LOCAL GROUPS	3

# COOPI AND THE ITALIAN INTERNATIONAL COOPERATION



PHOTO: COOPI ARCHIVE

**ON APRIL 15, 1965,  
FATHER BARBIERI FOUNDED COOPI.  
HE WAS THE ONE WHO  
INTRODUCED THE LAY COMPONENT  
IN THE MISSIONS AND  
FOUNDED "COOPERAZIONE  
INTERNAZIONALE"**

On April 15, 1965 Fr. Barbieri founded COOPI. But the history of COOPI begins earlier, in 1961, when the young Jesuit Vincenzo Barbieri was sent by his superiors to study in Lyon at the Faculty of Theology, while awaiting his planned departure for Chad as a missionary. While in France he encountered a much more lively and open cultural environment than that which permeated the Italian province in the years preceding the Second Vatican Council and he came into contact with international laity movements that had already been involved for years, volunteering in developing countries.

In 1962 Barbieri renounced the idea of becoming a missionary and returned to Milan with the intention of training volunteers in preparation for their departure for the southern hemisphere. It is he who first introduced the laity into the mission field and founded the "International Cooperation." The term is thus used for the first time to identify the secular component of work in the missions.

FROM HERE BEGINS A LONG JOURNEY OF NEARLY 60 YEARS DURING WHICH COOPI AND THE ITALIAN INTERNATIONAL COOPERATION GROWS AND TRANSFORMS TOGETHER WITH ALL ITS MANY VOICES.

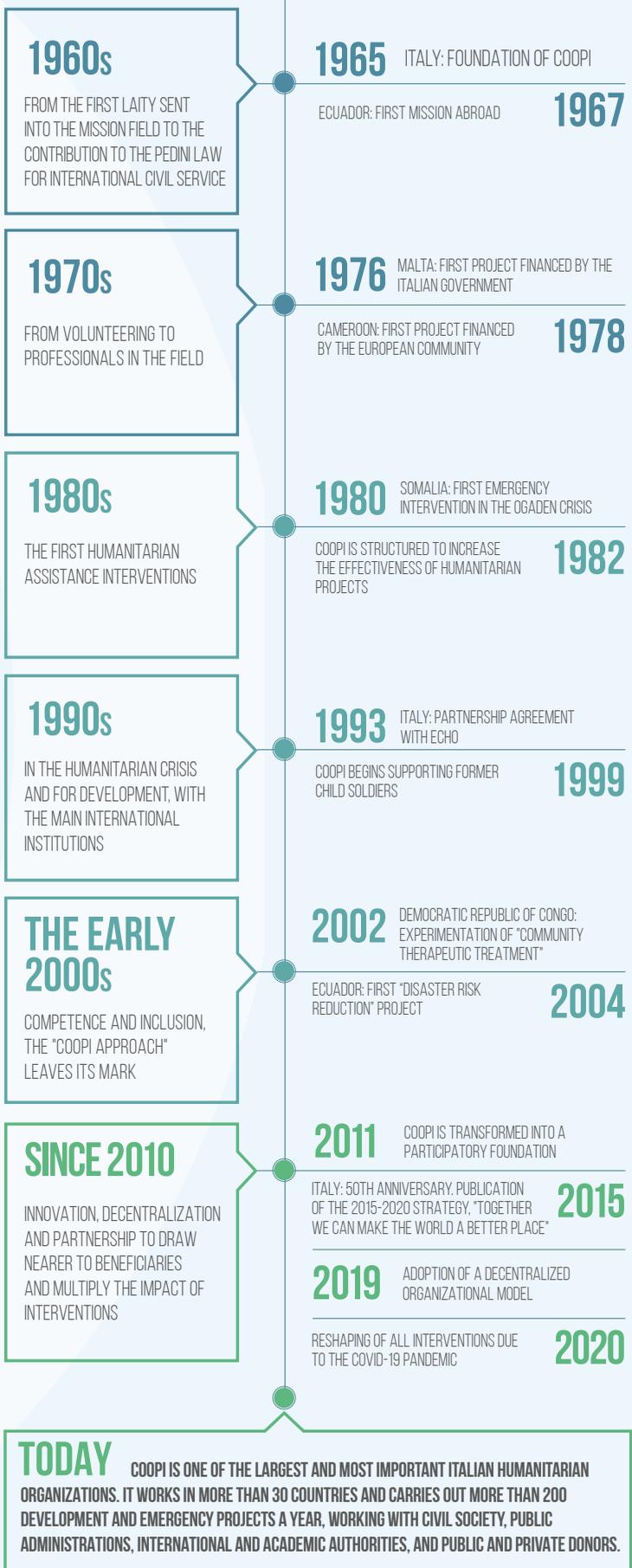


**TO FIND OUT MORE ABOUT THE HISTORY OF FATHER BARBIERI**

and COOPI, you can request the **brochure** published in 2020 on the occasion of the **10th anniversary** of his death as well as **the book: "Ho solo seguito il vento. Vita di Vincenzo Barbieri, padre del volontariato internazionale"** written by Claudio Ceravolo and Luciano Scaletari, prefaced by Andrea Riccardi - both written in the Italian language, by writing to: [amici@coopi.org](mailto:amici@coopi.org).

TO FIND OUT MORE ABOUT THE HISTORY OF COOPI, YOU CAN CONSULT THE DEDICATED PAGE ON THE COOPI WEBSITE

[HTTPS://WWW.COOPi.ORG/EN/HISTORY.HTML](https://www.coopi.org/en/history.html)



# COOPI WAY: DOING GOOD WELL



PHOTO: COOPI ARCHIVE



Since its foundation, COOPI has been a tool for achieving one goal as broad as it is clear: doing good well. Today, with **almost 60 years of field work** both in Italy and in some of the **most vulnerable countries in the world**. COOPI is an **experienced and pragmatic organization** characterized by **widespread leadership and responsibility**.

COOPI operates in the field of international cooperation with the aim of creating a positive impact for the direct recipients of the projects and, indirectly, for the local communities. This is all thanks to an ability to combine **proximity to beneficiaries, readiness to intervene, building relationships** of collaboration on the ground and an approach strongly based on the **transfer of skills**.

**Strong organizational supervision in the areas of intervention, the application of an integrated multi sectoral approach in the field activities and a high degree of professionalization are the distinctive features of COOPI's way of operating and cooperating.**

The ability to **constantly adapt to changes** in the contexts in which it operates, to **capitalize on experience**, and the capacity to enhance skills and **network** make COOPI a **resilient** organization oriented towards **continuous improvement**.

**Efficiency, Effectiveness and Accountability**, understood as responsible and transparent management, are **key principles that characterize COOPI's actions**, through the promotion of numerous processes and tools designed to promote and safeguard the **identity** and the **great variety of its stakeholders**: from the populations in which COOPI works with its financiers, up to its numerous and different external and internal stakeholders.

**COOPI IMMEDIATELY  
BECAME AN INSTRUMENT  
TO ACHIEVE A GOAL AS  
BROAD AS IT IS CLEAR:  
DOING GOOD WELL**

# GOVERNANCE AND ORGANIZATION

**COOPI HAS MORE THAN 60 YEARS OF HISTORY BEHIND IT, DURING WHICH THE ORGANIZATION HAS GROWN STEADILY AND IS STRUCTURED TO FACE THE CHALLENGES OF AN EVER EVOLVING INTERNATIONAL COOPERATION**



PHOTO: COOPI ARCHIVE

COOPI has more than 60 years of history behind it, during which the organization has grown steadily and is structured to face the challenges of an ever evolving International Cooperation. However, these transformations have not affected its identity nor its founding values, as established within the organization's Charter of Values and shared by the people who adhere to and collaborate with it.

**Since 2010, COOPI has been a Participatory Foundation** whose purpose is "to contribute to the harmonious and integrated development of the communities with which it cooperates, in the awareness that through contact and collaboration between peoples, ideals of equality and justice are pursued in order to achieve a better world balance" (Statute, art 2.01).

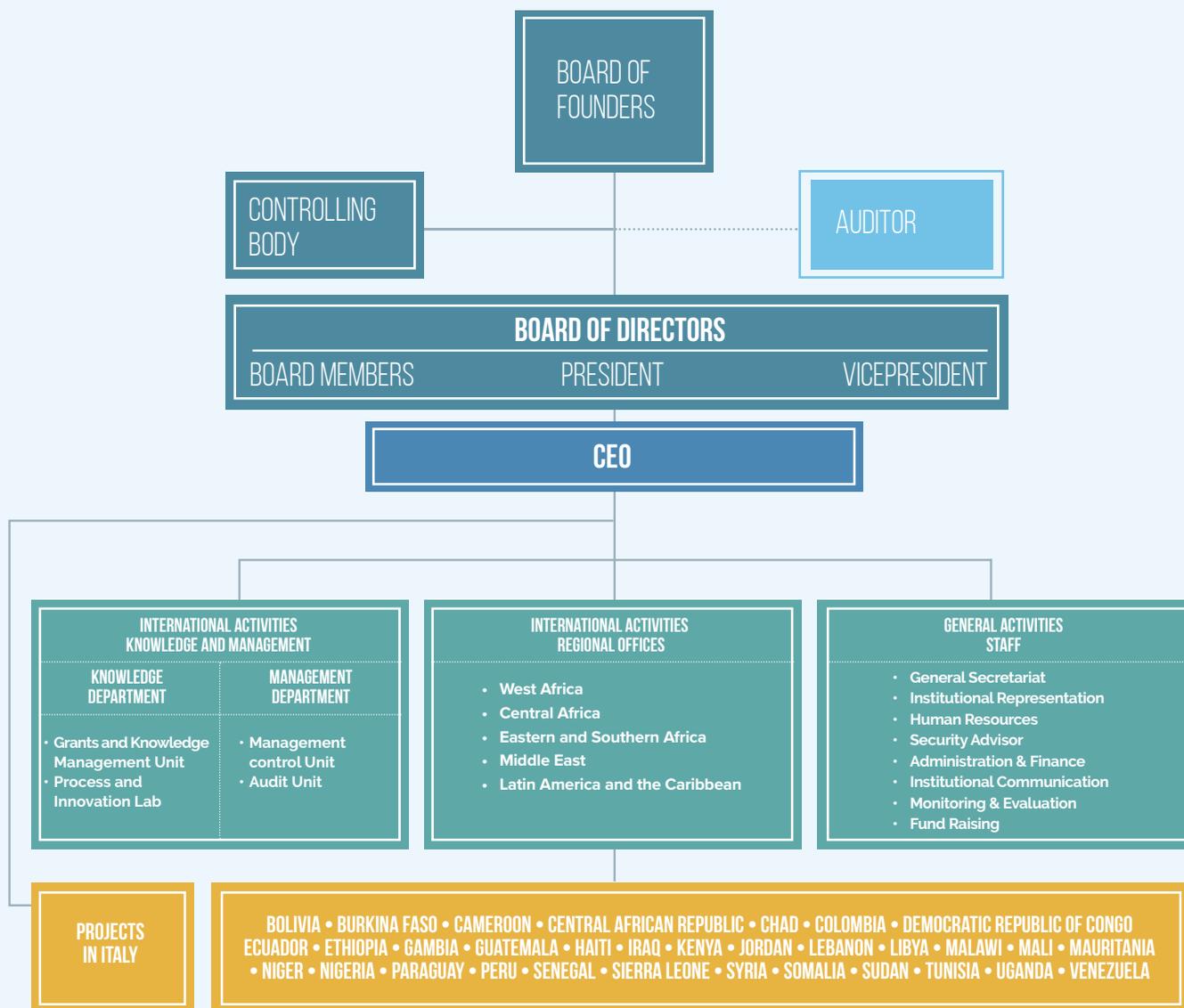
**Credibility and reputation are invaluable for COOPI.** COOPI therefore believes it is essential to clearly express the values, principles and responsibilities that guide its behavior in relations with donors, beneficiaries, project partners, people who work with COOPI and with any other party interested in the organization's activities. Through the **Code of Ethics** - which includes the **Charter of Values** - and the **Organization and Control Model**, which follow the indications provided by Italian Legislative Decree 231, COOPI attests for its **accountability towards stakeholders** in its mission and values, in the effectiveness of activities undertaken, in the efficiency of its organizational structure, and in its legitimacy as an NGO and its mechanisms for protecting legality.

Over the last fifteen years, COOPI has made an important **organizational shift**. The adoption of a **decentralized organizational model** has led to the establishment of **5 Regional Coordinations**: West Africa, Central Africa, Eastern and Southern Africa, the Middle East, Latin America and the Caribbean. The Coordinations play a key role by **bringing the decision-making closer to the area of intervention, validating COOPI at the local level** and **increasing the involvement of a project's beneficiaries** in its decisions. The **headquarters**, on the other hand, confirm the **general direction, support and control** of the overall work.



# COOPI'S ORGANIZATIONAL CHART

UPDATED 12/31/2021



IN 2021, THE COOPI FOUNDATION HAD **63 FOUNDING MEMBERS**. IN 2021 THE **BOARD OF FOUNDERS MET 2 TIMES**, THE **BOARD OF DIRECTORS 10 TIMES**, THE **CONTROL BODY** (FORMERLY THE BOARD OF AUDITORS) **5 TIMES**, THE **SUPERVISORY BODY 1 TIME**. **NO MEMBER OF THE GOVERNING BODIES** OF THE FOUNDATION RECEIVES **ANY COMPENSATION** FOR THE POSITION HELD AND THE ACTIVITY CARRIED OUT IN RELATION TO IT.

COOPI'S STATUTES AND THE CODE OF ETHICS CAN BE DOWNLOADED BY VISITING THE "DOCUMENTS" SECTION OF THE WEBSITE:

[HTTPS://WWW.COOPi.ORG/EN/DOCUMENTS.HTML](https://www.cooipi.org/en/documents.html)

# HUMAN RESOURCES



PHOTO: COOPI ARCHIVE

## COOPI WORKS WITH INTERNATIONAL COOPERATION PROFESSIONALS

The attention in the selection, the targeted training interventions and the interest in creating ongoing relationships combined with the evaluation and enhancement of human resources over time, give the opportunity to work with trained and motivated people.

### THE TEAM IN NUMBERS



HEADQUARTERS STAFF

**52** <sup>40</sup> EMPLOYEES  
<sup>12</sup> COLLABORATORS

29 WOMEN 23 MEN

PEOPLE



EXPAT AID WORKERS

**156**

73 WOMEN 83 MEN



LOCAL WORKERS

**1,563**



VOLUNTEERS

**100**



## OUR EXPAT HUMANITARIAN WORKERS



The people chosen by COOPI are **highly qualified**, with advanced training, working knowledge of several **languages** and many years of **experience in developing countries**.

Every year an **intense selection process** is carried out to choose the most suitable profiles for filling vacant positions among the tens of thousands of applications COOPI receives from all over the world.

Where possible, COOPI promotes the re-hiring of already employed expatriate staff, proposing, in some cases, the evolution of the role and new destinations; the people who worked with COOPI in 2021 have, in fact, an average **duration of previous collaboration of 21 months**.

### CANDIDATE RECRUITMENT

VACANCIES	143
APPLICATIONS RECEIVED	>29,000
PEOPLE SELECTED	180

### IDENTIKIT: PROFILES OF EXPAT HUMANITARIAN WORKERS

AVERAGE AGE	37
TRAINING	DEGREE + SPECIALIZED TECHNICAL TRAINING; ≥2 LANGUAGES
INTERNATIONAL EXPERIENCE (AVERAGE)	+5.5 YEARS
PREVIOUS EXPERIENCE WITH COOPI (AVERAGE)	21 MONTHS

### PRESENCE IN THE FIELD: DESTINATION REGION OF EXPAT WORKERS

WEST AFRICA	54
CENTRAL AFRICA	40
EASTERN AND SOUTHERN AFRICA	32
MIDDLE EAST	16
NORTH AFRICA / MEDITERRANEAN	1
LATIN AMERICA AND THE CARIBBEAN	13

### INTERNATIONAL ORIGIN OF EXPAT WORKERS

ITALY	82
OTHER COUNTRIES	74
AFRICA	48
OTHER EUROPEAN COUNTRIES	18
LATIN AMERICA AND THE CARIBBEAN	4
ASIA	3
NORTH AMERICA	1

TO FIND OUT MORE ABOUT THE **DESTINATIONS OF EXPATRIATE HUMANITARIAN WORKERS**, SEE THE CHAPTERS DEDICATED TO EACH REGION OF INTERVENTION OR THE PAGES OF THE COOPI WEBSITE DEDICATED TO EACH COUNTRY OF INTERVENTION AT THE LINK

[HTTPS://WWW.COOPI.ORG/EN/WHERE-WE-WORK.HTML](https://www.cooopi.org/en/where-we-work.html)



PHOTO: FLORIANA BUCCA

# IMPLEMENTING PROGRAMS: SKILLS IN THE FIELD



In 2021 the consolidation process of the Regional Coordinations continued, which began in 2019, also through the strengthening of **program coordinators** and the **roster of technical consultants** who have put their specialist expertise in the fields of Food Security, Nutrition, Water and Hygiene, and Energy and the Environment.

For COOPI, rigor in our work is the fundamental basis for managing interventions. Compliance and Accountability are distinctive elements for a respectful relationship

towards all stakeholders. For this reason, a significant number of COOPI's people with administrative skills undertake yearly monitoring and controls - economic and financial - for the prevention of fraudulent or incorrect behaviors.

### SPECIFIC SKILLS OF EXPATRIATE WORKERS:

#### PROGRAM AND PROJECT MANAGEMENT

EXPERTS IN PROJECT MANAGEMENT AND PROGRAM COORDINATION	87
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TECHNICAL CONSULTANTS AND PROJECT SUPPORT	12
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#### COMPLIANCE AND ACCOUNTABILITY

ADMINISTRATIVE PROFILES	57
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PHOTO: LUCIA PANTELLA



## TRAINING, A KEY ACTIVITY TO SUPPORT THE OPERATION



Several years ago, COOPI defined a **Training Plan** that takes into consideration the skill development needs of all staff, both at its headquarters and in the countries in which it operates, promoting targeted information, training and periodic updating initiatives.

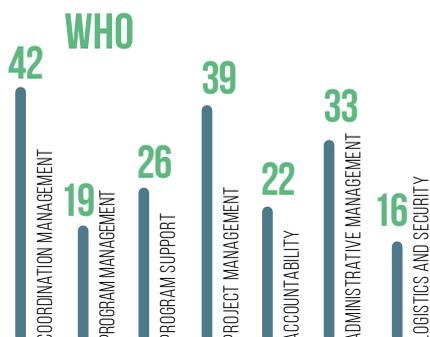
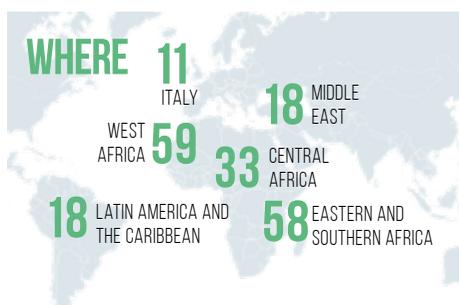
The Plan focuses on **initial training** ("on boarding"): specific and targeted training interventions introduce new collaborators to the culture, structure and operating procedures of COOPI.

The digitization of the "on boarding" path began right away in 2020 when the pandemic broke out and was restructured in 2021 with simpler programs and videotutorials.

For **remote areas** without internet, COOPI produced 14 training packages in order to reach its staff in an inclusive and widespread way.

For some people, COOPI has been able to plan **face-to-face meetings** at the Milan headquarters, always in compliance with the rules linked to the pandemic.

## STAFF TRAINED 197 PEOPLE



## ON-LINE TRAINING ACTIVITIES CARRIED OUT

### E-LEARNING COURSES



### WEBINAR



**MODALITY:** CONNECTIONS THROUGH A UNIVERSAL LANGUAGE OF DELIVERY BETWEEN TWO OR MORE CONTINENTS SIMULTANEOUSLY.

COOPI participates in some **high-level training initiatives** at an international level such as the **Cooperation and Development Network** which includes the **Masters in Cartagena de Indias, Bethlehem, Kathmandu, Nairobi** and the **historic Master in Pavia which this year has reached its 25th edition.**

TO LEARN MORE ABOUT THE COOPERATION AND DEVELOPMENT NETWORK, VISIT THE WEBSITE

[HTTP://WWW.COOPERATIONDEVELOPMENT.ORG/](http://www.cooperationdevelopment.org/)

## HEALTH AND SAFETY, PROTECTION FROM EXPLOITATION AND ABUSE



COOPI follows good practices in the field of **health and safety in the workplace** to protect all the headquarters staff. For expatriate staff there are several information sessions provided through guidelines and procedures. In particular, COOPI has drawn up the "Health Guide" with indications adopted by all organizations that refer to SISCOS (an organization that provides assistance services to NGOs operating in international cooperation). An **e-learning** information module is provided to all **COOPI expatriate staff** on the main reference contents of the Health Guide.

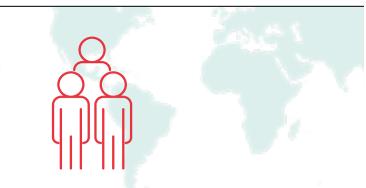
circumstances, will staff abuse their influence in situations of inequality of power.

COOPI has always been on the front lines fighting against all forms of **exploitation and abuse**, while also working to prevent and reduce risks in all its actions; for this reason it adheres to **international standards** and has all staff sign its **policy**. All COOPI staff is required to have an irreproachable behavior towards the beneficiaries of the projects and the communities in which the organization operates, and in particular within the most vulnerable categories. Our aim is to ensure that under no circumstances, for any reason and under any



PHOTO. APSATOU BAGAYA

## STAFF COMPENSATION



The National Collective Labor Agreement for the Trade and Tertiary sectors is applied to personnel working at COOPI's headquarters in Italy, with an increase of 40%.

### AVERAGE STAFF COMPENSATION TRADE AND TERTIARY SECTORS (2021)

SENIOR EXECUTIVES	86,693.48 €
MANAGER/SUPERVISOR	48,846.37 €
1 <sup>ST</sup> LEVEL EMPLOYEES	33,422.99 €
2 <sup>ND</sup> LEVEL EMPLOYEES	31,897.61 €
3 <sup>RD</sup> LEVEL EMPLOYEES	27,868.30 €
4 <sup>TH</sup> LEVEL EMPLOYEES	22,915.78 €

TO FIND OUT MORE ABOUT COOPI'S **HUMAN RESOURCES** AND THE TRAINING INITIATIVES CARRIED OUT, VISIT THE ORGANIZATION SECTION OF THE COOPI WEBSITE AT THE LINK:

[HTTPS://WWW.COOPI.ORG/EN/ORGANIZATION.HTML](https://www.cooopi.org/en/organization.html)



## THE SCHOOL OF INTERNATIONAL COOPERATION



COOPI considers **professionalization** a key element not only for its own development but also for that of wider international cooperation.

Since 2017 COOPI in collaboration with CAPAC (Politecnico del Commercio di Milano) has been promoting professional courses aimed at **training highly qualified humanitarian workers** from a technical, managerial and management point of view. **The School of International Cooperation - Professional Training** was born from this experience.

The distinctive features of the courses promoted by the School are, on the one hand, the **quality of teaching** and, on the other, the **certification of skills acquired**. The teachers are international cooperation professionals,

previously trained to carry out teaching activities in an interactive way, capable of including practical exercises and learning tests. At the start of the courses, training sessions are provided to align the previous skills of the participants, in order to allow greater effectiveness of the activity. Finally, since the CAPAC is a professional training institution accredited by the Lombardy Region, the course issues a certification of the skills acquired, valid throughout the European Union.

In recent years, around **100 candidates** applied for each **course** for **Project Leaders** and **Project Administrators**. About **15% of candidates were selected** to participate in the course and, of these, almost **90% left for professional experience** in the humanitarian sector.



**IN 2021,  
2 EDITIONS OF THE COURSES WERE HELD.  
PARTICIPATION NUMBERS WERE AS FOLLOWS:**

**COURSE FOR  
PROJECT LEADERS:**

**19** PARTICIPANTS

**COURSE FOR  
PROJECT ADMINISTRATORS:**

**17** PARTICIPANTS

PHOTO: FEDERICO PONTI

TO FIND OUT MORE ABOUT  
THE SCHOOL OF INTERNATIONAL COOPERATION,  
VISIT THE WEBSITE

[WWW.EDUCOOPINT.ORG](http://WWW.EDUCOOPINT.ORG)

# A NETWORKING ORGANIZATION



PHOTO: SILVIO QUAST

## IT IS IN THE NATURE OF NGOs LIKE COOPI TO OPERATE IN A NETWORK

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

This characteristic increasingly makes COOPI a facilitator that **helps bring together** social needs - often extreme - and useful resources. In addition, it makes **emergency** intervention effective and enhances the **impacts of development** programs, promotes **inclusion** and **empowerment** of the communities where COOPI operates, feeds a virtuous circle of **trust with financiers** and **donors and promotes cultural change** also in the Global North. Some independent organizations are also part of the COOPI network, but they were created to support COOPI's activities and systematically collaborate with the organization, **American Friends of COOPI** and **COOPI Suisse**.

COOPI considers it essential to operate in a network with **international and local partners** to provide adequate responses to **humanitarian crises** and ensure the construction of **paths to sustainable development** thanks to the integration of the various expertise, the enhancement of advocacy skills, and the exchange of experiences and integration between research and action.

# NETWORK

## UNIVERSITIES AND RESEARCH CENTERS



## MAIN INTERNATIONAL PARTICIPATION



## MAIN ITALIAN ORGANIZATIONS



COOPI is also a member of the Piattaforma Italiana Multisettoriale sull'Energia (Italian Multisectoral Energy Platform). It also participates, as a member of the Global Compact, in the Global Partnership for Effective Development Co-operation. It is represented through the Global Health Italian Network at: Global Fund Advocates Network • G7 Civil Society Task Force • GCAP (Global Coalition against Poverty- Italy) • ZeroZeroCinque Campaign.

As a member of Link 2007, COOPI adheres to: ASviS (Italian Alliance for Sustainable Development) • IAP (Institute for Self-Regulation Advertising) • Permanent Third Sector Forum • As an associate of CoLomba, COOPI participates in the AOI (Italian NGO Association).



PHOTO: COOPI ARCHIVE

TO LEARN MORE ABOUT AMERICAN FRIENDS OF COOPI, VISIT THE WEBSITE

[WWW.COOPI.US](http://WWW.COOPI.US)

TO FIND OUT MORE ABOUT COOPI SUISSE, VISIT THE WEBSITE

[WWW.SUISSE.COOPI.ORG](http://WWW.SUISSE.COOPI.ORG)

# PRINCIPLES, POLICIES AND GUIDELINES

**COOPI WRITES POLICIES ON KEY ISSUES FOR ITS OPERATORS BASED ON CONSOLIDATED EXPERIENCE THAT HAS BEEN DEVELOPING FOR ALMOST 60 YEARS OF WORK IN THE FIELD**

These documents illustrate the organization's position on the topics covered starting from the definition of the international theoretical reference framework.

COOPI's interventions in the field are based on certain principles, which are then articulated in the various sectoral Policies and Guidelines:

- **RECOGNIZE THE CENTRALITY OF THE INDIVIDUAL** BY RESPECTING OTHER'S IDENTITY, SOCIAL AND PHYSICAL CHARACTERISTICS AND ENSURING THE **PROTECTION OF HUMAN DIGNITY**;
- **DETERMINE THE INTERVENTIONS ON THE BASIS OF AN ANALYSIS OF THE CAPACITIES AND VULNERABILITIES OF THE COMMUNITIES**;
- **ADOPT INCLUSIVE DECISION-MAKING PROCESSES**;
- **PROMOTE CAPACITY BUILDING AND KNOW-HOW TRANSFER**;
- **GUARANTEE PROTECTION FROM VIOLENCE** IN ALL ITS FORMS;
- **PROMOTE GENDER EQUALITY**;
- **PROTECTING THE ENVIRONMENT TO PROMOTE SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT**, INCLUDING THROUGH WIDESPREAD ACCESS TO SUSTAINABLE ENERGY AND DISASTER RISK REDUCTION PROGRAMS (DRR).

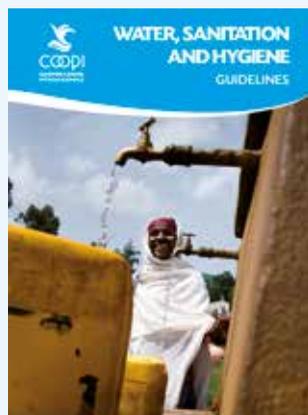
Each COOPI sectoral **Policy** has a dual objective: to help the organization discuss the central issues for its programs in order to share and agree on a working approach and at the same time to clarify and make known the institutional position with respect to the various topics covered. The policies therefore complete the values, the vision and the mission by articulating in more depth the working methods and the strategy underlying the programs defined by the organization.

Furthermore, in conjunction with each policy document, a **Standard Operating Procedures** document is drawn up that translates the theoretical into the practical for program management while accompanying the workers who implement it in order to make the interventions sustainable and effective.

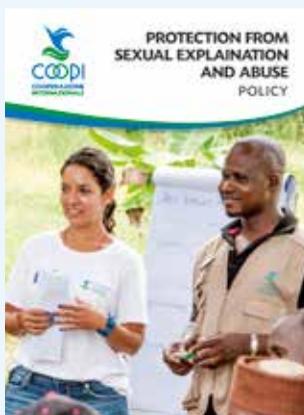
In **2021** COOPI drafted the Guidelines on the **Water and Hygiene sector**.



# COOPI POLICIES AND GUIDELINES



**WATER, HYGIENE AND SANITATION**  
(GUIDELINES, 2022)



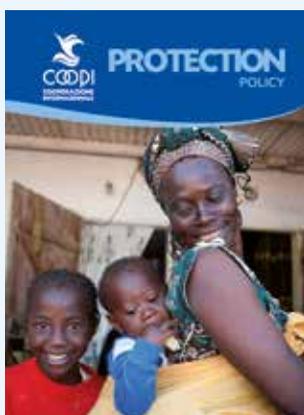
**PROTECTION FROM SEXUAL ABUSE AND SEXUAL EXPLOITATION** (POLICY, 2019)



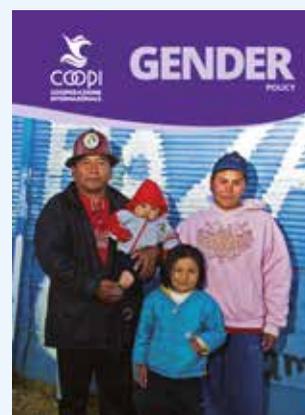
**EDUCATION IN EMERGENCY**  
(GUIDELINES, 2018)



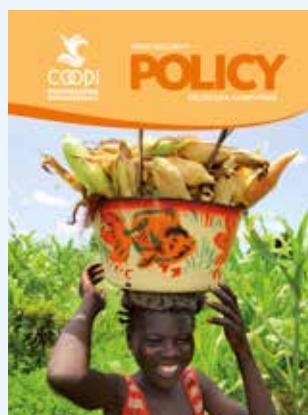
**NUTRITION SECURITY**  
(POLICY, 2017)



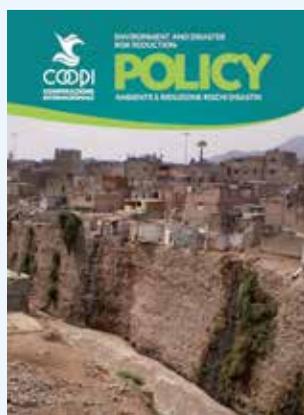
**PROTECTION**  
(POLICY, 2016)



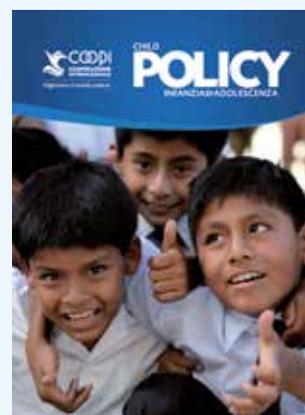
**GENDER** (POLICY, 2015)



**FOOD SECURITY**  
(POLICY, 2014)



**ENVIRONMENT AND DISASTER RISK REDUCTION** (POLICY, 2013)



**CHILDHOOD** (POLICY, 2011)

**CORPORATE SOCIAL RESPONSIBILITY** (POLICY, 2011)

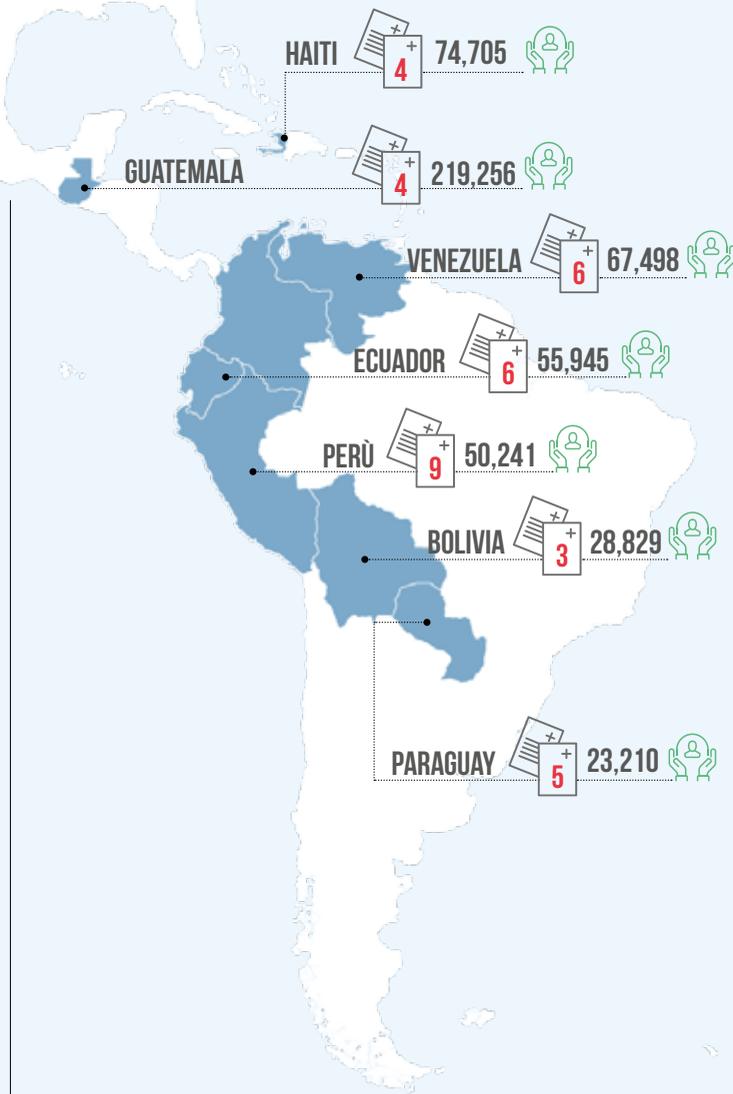
THE POLICY IN CAN BE DOWNLOADED FROM THE WEBSITE [WWW.COOPi.ORG](http://WWW.COOPi.ORG) AT THE FOLLOWING LINKS

- **IN ITALIAN** [HTTPS://WWW.COOPi.ORG/IT/LE-POLICY-DI-COOPi.HTML](https://www.cooPi.org/it/le-policy-di-coopi.html)
- **IN ENGLISH** [HTTPS://WWW.COOPi.ORG/EN/COOPi-POLICIES.HTML](https://www.cooPi.org/en/coopi-policies.html)
- **IN FRENCH AND IN SPANISH** [HTTPS://WWW.COOPi.ORG/IT/DOCUMENTI.HTML](https://www.cooPi.org/it/documenti.html) BY SELECTING THEM FROM THE DOCUMENTS SECTION

# COOPI'S IMPRINT

In 2021 COOPI was present in **33 countries** in Africa, the Middle East, Latin America and the Caribbean and Italy. In 28 of these countries, COOPI carried out a total of **254 projects**, of which 236 were emergency and development projects while 18 were Child Sponsorship programs. In total, the **beneficiaries** were **6,193,115**.

In 2021, COOPI was also present in Burkina Faso, Colombia, Kenya, Libya, Tunisia, planning the launch of activities for the following year and pursuing active relationships with stakeholders on many different levels.



**6,193,015**  
BENEFICIARIES

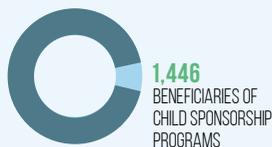


**254**  
PROJECTS



**33**  
COUNTRIES

**6,191,569**  
BENEFICIARIES OF INTERNATIONAL PROJECTS AND ITALY

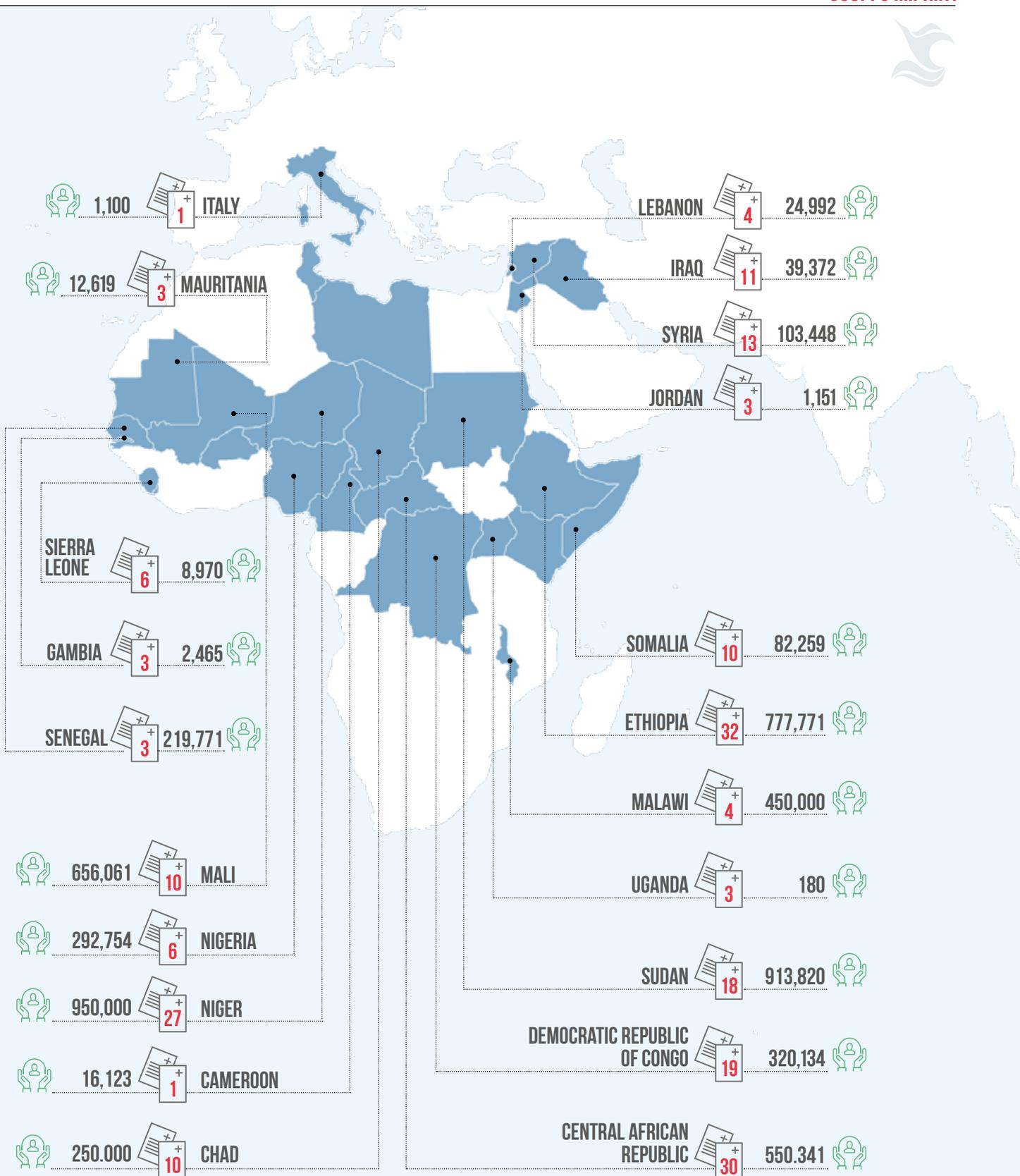


**236** INTERNATIONAL PROJECTS AND ITALY



## TYPE OF INTERVENTION





# THE “NEAR” FUTURE: LINES OF DEVELOPMENT 2022-2024



## IN 2021 COOPI DEFINED ITS NEW LINES OF DEVELOPMENT FOR THE THREE-YEAR PERIOD 2022-2024

**"The near future"** - the title of the document that summarizes them - highlights the first objective right from the start and, at the same time, highlights the element that makes our way of operating impactful for specific and recognizable communities: the concept of "nearness".

**Near understood as our neighbor**, concerning those who find themselves in conditions of fragility. **Near as in those closest to us** and who may need support even if they are "far away" in typical first and third world logic.

**Near as in the near future**, what will happen or, even better, is already happening.



PHOTO: ALESSANDRO GANDOLFI

**Food Security, Protection, Water and Hygiene, Environment and Disaster Risk Reduction** are the most consolidated intervention sectors and have always been at the center of COOPI's programming, especially as regards development projects.

Among the **priority areas of intervention** for COOPI there are, and will continue to be, **support for refugees and displaced populations, nutrition and education even in emergency situations.**

And, although the global scene is witnessing an increase of emergencies, which are becoming more frequent, more localized and more complex to decipher from the point of view of the players involved, COOPI promotes and will continue to **promote the evolution of interventions on the ground within these emergencies in order to promote long-lasting and sustainable development**, a characteristic that has always distinguished its work and whose value is increasingly recognized by the major international donors.

## THE "NEAR" FUTURE: LINES OF DEVELOPMENT 2022-2024

### 6 STRATEGIC OBJECTIVES WILL DETERMINE COOPI'S DEVELOPMENT IN THE NEAR FUTURE

With the new lines of development, COOPI has established the elements of a further stage on its path of growth, going beyond what has already been shored up in terms of operations, ability to intervene and skills. With the document **"The near future: development lines 2022-2024,"** COOPI has created a guideline document that is first of all a **work tool** that highlights **what COOPI wants to do "more"** than what it already does normally and give increasingly effective responses to fight against poverty while supporting an **increasing number of people**. For the period 2022-2024 COOPI has identified **6 strategic objectives** that will determine its development in the near future:



PHOTO: COOPI ARCHIVE

#### 1 HUMANITARIAN AID

DEVELOPMENT OF OPERATIONS IN THE FIELD OF HUMANITARIAN AID.

#### 2 PROXIMITY: DECENTRALIZATION AND PARTNERSHIP TO GROW

SYSTEMATIZATION OF ORGANIZATIONAL DECENTRALIZATION AND DEVELOPMENT OF PARTNERSHIPS.

#### 3 ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION: ACCESS TO ENERGY AND SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT

DEVELOPMENT OF ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION ACTIVITIES, PROMOTION OF ACCESS TO ENERGY AND SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT.

#### 4 FIGHT AGAINST POVERTY IN ITALY

DISTRIBUTION OF FOOD AND LISTENING TO FRAILTIES.

#### 5 DEVELOPMENT OF SKILLS AND PROMOTION OF PROFESSIONALISM

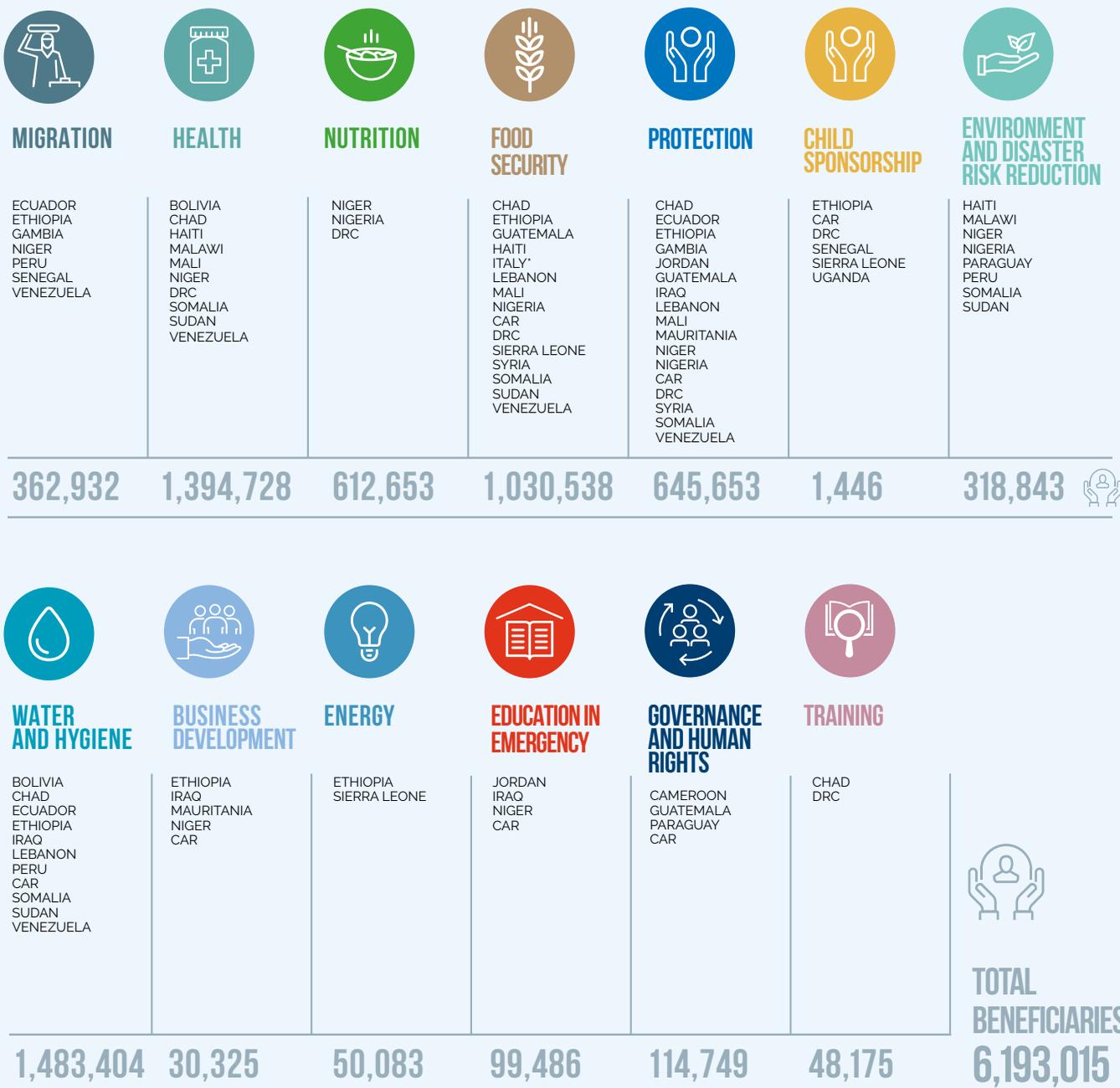
STRENGTHENING THE SKILLS AND PROFESSIONALISM OF INTERNATIONAL COOPERATION.

#### 6 COMMUNICATION AND PARTICIPATION

STRENGTHENING OF POSITIONING AND COMMUNICATION AND INVOLVEMENT OF AN EVER WIDER AND MORE VARIED AUDIENCE OF STAKEHOLDERS.



## AREAS OF INTERVENTION, COUNTRY AND BENEFICIARIES REACHED



IT IS POSSIBLE TO CONSULT THE COMPLETE DOCUMENT "THE NEAR FUTURE. LINES OF DEVELOPMENT 2022-2024" AT THE LINK

[HTTPS://COOPI.ORG/EN/STRATEGY.HTML](https://coopi.org/en/strategy.html)

REGIONAL COORDINATION

# WEST AFRICA

## SAHEL: HUMANITARIAN NEEDS

**29** MILLION PEOPLE IN  
NEED OF HUMANITARIAN  
ASSISTANCE

**14** MILLION PEOPLE  
AFFECTED BY SEVERE  
FOOD INSECURITY

**1.6** MILLION CHILDREN  
SUFFERING FROM  
MALNUTRITION

**5.4** MILLION DISPLACED  
PERSONS AND  
REFUGEES



**West Africa**, one of the richest regions in the world in terms of natural resources, remains impoverished and is suffering the effects of **climate change** and a lack of **security** that throughout the Sahel belt stems from the presence of **armed extremist groups**.

From an environmental point of view, periods of **drought** combined with other adverse climatic events contribute to the erosion of precious **natural resources** as well as to fuel **tensions** between different social groups, such as shepherds and farmers, for the control of **land** and water sources.

The combined effects of all these phenomena contribute to an increase in the number of **displaced** persons and **migrants**.

In this context, COOPI's work in the field has always been characterized by **emergency** response interventions and also by the implementation of **development** programs that aim to strengthen the **resilience** of communities.

## COOPI'S PRIORITY AREAS OF INTERVENTION IN WESTERN AFRICA

The **multi-country regional approach** that characterizes the presence of COOPI in each area of intervention allows it to plan its activities by starting from an updated and comprehensive vision of the needs of each area. COOPI's **decentralized organizational model** allows it to promptly adopt the most appropriate choices for the communities in which it operates from time to time, thanks to participation in coordination tables with the main actors active in each country.

Programs and interventions are always planned and implemented in collaboration with local actors: **institutions, organizations** active in the field and beneficiary **communities**.

### COOPI IN WEST AFRICA IN 2021

#### INTERVENTION SECTORS

#### COUNTRIES

PROTECTION	MALI • MAURITANIA • NIGER • NIGERIA
CHILD SPONSORSHIP PROGRAM	SENEGAL • SIERRA LEONE
EDUCATION IN EMERGENCY	NIGER
MIGRATIONS	GAMBIA • NIGER • SENEGAL
FOOD SECURITY	MALI • NIGERIA • SIERRA LEONE
BUSINESS DEVELOPMENT	MAURITANIA • NIGER
NUTRITION AND HEALTH	MALI • NIGER • NIGERIA
ENVIRONMENT AND DRR	NIGER • NIGERIA
ENERGY	SIERRA LEONE

## WHERE WE OPERATE

COOPI HAS BEEN PRESENT IN WEST AFRICA SINCE 1966. OUR ORGANIZATION CURRENTLY OPERATES IN THE REGION IN NIGER, NIGERIA, MALI, BURKINA FASO, SENEGAL, SIERRA LEONE, GAMBIA AND MAURITANIA. THE **REGIONAL COORDINATION OF WEST AFRICA** IS LOCATED IN DAKAR.



## COOPI IN WEST AFRICA



**58** PROJECTS CARRIED OUT



**2,142,640** BENEFICIARIES REACHED



INTERNATIONAL STAFF  
**54** PEOPLE



LOCAL STAFF  
**604** PEOPLE



WEST AFRICA

IMPROVE ACCESS TO BASIC SERVICES

48 PROJECTS CARRIED OUT  
1,731,202 BENEFICIARIES REACHED

MALI - MAURITANIA  
NIGER - NIGERIA - SENEGAL  
SIERRA LEONE - GAMBIA

Rapid response in **humanitarian crises, protection and education in emergencies, health and mental health, water and hygiene**, and fighting **malnutrition** are the main areas of COOPI's interventions for access to basic services by the people in West Africa. These interventions mainly focus on the following beneficiaries: **refugees, migrants and host communities**. In particular, they are geared towards the most vulnerable subjects: **women and children, the disabled, and the elderly**.

COOPI's main interventions to promote access to basic services in West Africa concern:

- **RAPID RESPONSE** for emergency needs of "populations in movement" such as displaced people
- **INTEGRATED EMERGENCY RESPONSE** for protection, health, mental health, and nutrition;
- **MANAGING TRANSIT CENTERS FOR MIGRANTS AND UNACCOMPANIED MINORS** in Burkina Faso, Gambia, Senegal, Mali and Niger;
- **EDUCATION IN EMERGENCY AND PSYCHOSOCIAL SUPPORT** aimed principally at children whose regular schooling has been interrupted due to humanitarian crises;
- **TAKING IN UNACCOMPANIED MINORS WHO WERE PREVIOUSLY associated with armed groups and helping them reintegrate;**
- **PROMOTING MENTAL HEALTH AT THE COMMUNITY AND INDIVIDUAL LEVEL** ("case management"), including awareness-raising and training actions for healthcare professionals and advocacy at institutions;
- **PROMOTING ACCESS TO QUALITY WATER**, especially at the school and community level with interventions for both the construction and rehabilitation of dams, wells and water points, as well as for training and awareness-raising;
- **DISTRIBUTING FOOD**, especially in Nigeria;
- **FIGHTING AGAINST MALNUTRITION**, especially by caring for children of a critical age and pregnant women, in collaboration with local health structures;
- **PROMOTING ACCESS TO HEALTH SERVICES** especially in remote rural areas, thanks to the use of mobile clinics.



PHOTO: COOPI ARCHIVE



## STRENGTHENING THE RESILIENCE OF POPULATIONS AND MITIGATING THE IMPACT OF CLIMATE CRISES


**10** PROJECTS CARRIED OUT  

**411,438** BENEFICIARIES REACHED


 MALI - NIGERIA - NIGER  
 SIERRA LEONE  
 MAURITANIA

Promotion of food security and development of supply chains, rehabilitation of infrastructures, conflict prevention, participatory planning, and the reduction of risk disasters are the main areas of COOPI's interventions to strengthen the resilience of communities and mitigate the effects of climate change in West Africa. In the Development programs COOPI targets small **farmers and shepherds**, potential **entrepreneurs**, and entire **rural communities** with particular attention to the involvement of **women** and **vulnerable individuals**.

COOPI's main interventions to strengthen the resilience of communities and mitigate the impact of climate crises in West Africa concern:

- **SUPPORTING SMALL PRODUCERS** who are modernizing and relaunching agricultural and livestock activities;
- **TRAINING AND SOCIO-ECONOMIC REINTEGRATION**, especially for the benefit of returning migrants or young people at risk of migration;
- **PROMOTING ACCESS TO CREDIT**;
- **DEVELOPING PRODUCTION AND MARKETING CHAINS** (for example leather and gum arabic supply chains in Mauritania);
- **REHABILITATION OF PRODUCTION INFRASTRUCTURES WITH INCLUSIVE APPROACHES** - such as HIMO (Haute intensité de main d'oeuvre) - that aim to involve the community, informing and promoting local labor and respecting the environment;
- **IMPROVEMENT OF SOCIAL COHESION AND CONFLICT PREVENTION** between farmers and shepherds, especially in rural areas;
- **PARTICIPATORY PLANNING FOR TERRITORIAL DEVELOPMENT AND THE REDUCTION OF ENVIRONMENTAL RISKS**;
- **SUPPORTING THE STRENGTHENING OF SOCIAL PROTECTION SYSTEMS**;
- **TRAINING AND INTERVENTIONS FOR THE PREVENTION AND THE REDUCTION OF RISK DISASTERS**;
- **COMMUNITY PROTECTION**, mapping and reporting of needs to local services;
- **STRENGTHENING THE SKILLS** of local service providers;
- **ADVOCACY** with local authorities to adapt services for the needs of the most vulnerable communities.



PHOTO: MARCO SIMONCELLI

TO LEARN MORE ABOUT THE WORK IN WEST AFRICA ACCESS THE **WHERE WE WORK** SECTION OF THE COOPI WEBSITE FROM THE LINK

[HTTPS://WWW.COOPI.ORG/EN/WHERE-WE-WORK.HTML](https://www.cooqi.org/en/where-we-work.html)

AND FROM HERE CONSULT THE PAGES DEDICATED TO THE INDIVIDUAL COUNTRIES BY SELECTING THEM FROM THE INTERACTIVE MAP.

REGIONAL COORDINATION

# CENTRAL AFRICA

## HUMANITARIAN NEEDS

**31.6** MILLION PEOPLE IN  
NEED OF HUMANITARIAN  
ASSISTANCE

**29.2** MILLION PEOPLE  
AFFECTED BY FOOD  
INSECURITY

**11.6** MILLION PEOPLE  
SUFFERING FROM  
MALNUTRITION

**8** MILLION DISPLACED  
PERSONS AND  
REFUGEES



**Political instability**, the presence of **armed groups**, **poverty** and damage caused by **climate change** make most of the countries of the central region of Africa very fragile. The **Covid-19** pandemic has further worsened the vulnerability of this area characterized by the strong presence of an informal economy that does not reconcile with the restrictions on movements imposed by the health emergency.

Despite these difficulties, COOPI has been present in this area for almost fifty years with projects that - alongside the emergency management component - aim to promote **development processes** and reduce the strong vulnerability of the communities in which it operates.

## COOPI'S PRIORITY AREAS OF INTERVENTION IN CENTRAL AFRICA

In Central Africa COOPI operates in various sectors, favoring, whenever conditions permit, the **transition** processes from **emergency management** to **development processes** with the general objective of promoting wider access to **basic services** for the populations and **strengthening the resilience** of communities.

The programs and interventions arise from close collaboration with the **institutions** and **organizations** active in the area that are earnestly involving the beneficiary **communities**.

### COOPI IN CENTRAL AFRICA IN 2021

INTERVENTION SECTORS	COUNTRIES
PROTECTION	DRC • CAR • CHAD
CHILD SPONSORSHIP PROGRAMS	DRC • CAR
EDUCATION IN EMERGENCY	CAR
FOOD SECURITY	DRC • CAR • CHAD
TRAINING	DRC • CHAD
BUSINESS DEVELOPMENT	CAR
GOVERNANCE AND HUMAN RIGHTS	CAR • CAMEROON
WATER AND HYGIENE	CAR • CHAD
NUTRITION AND HEALTH	DRC

## WHERE WE OPERATE

COOPI HAS BEEN PRESENT IN CENTRAL AFRICA SINCE 1974. OUR ORGANIZATION CURRENTLY OPERATES IN THE DEMOCRATIC REPUBLIC OF CONGO, CENTRAL AFRICAN REPUBLIC, CAMEROON AND CHAD IN THE REGION.



### COOPI IN CENTRAL AFRICA



## CENTRAL AFRICA

### OFFERING PROTECTION AND PROMOTING EDUCATION IN EMERGENCY



**Protection** activities are a constant in the programs carried out by COOPI in Central Africa and are also present across the board in most of the field interventions with a particular focus on those aimed at children and women. Among the main protection activities carried out by COOPI in Central Africa:

- **REINTEGRATION OF WOMEN** who have survived violence;
- **ACTIVITIES FOR PREVENTING** sexual violence;
- **TAKING IN AND REINTEGRATING UNACCOMPANIED MINORS;**
- **SUPPORT FOR THE RECOGNITION OF CHILDREN NOT REGISTERED** in the civil registry and therefore "invisible" to the institutions;
- **TAKING IN AND REINTEGRATING MINORS PREVIOUSLY ASSOCIATED WITH ARMED GROUPS;**
- **EDUCATION IN EMERGENCY AND PSYCHOSOCIAL SUPPORT** aimed at children who have never followed a school path or for who it has been interrupted due to conflicts and humanitarian crises;
- **PROMOTION OF MENTAL HEALTH** with listening centers and psychological support both at community level and with individual case management;
- **INSURING EMERGENCY SHELTERS** and managing areas of displaced persons;
- **TRAINING** for income-generating activities, especially for returning migrants and young people at risk of migration.

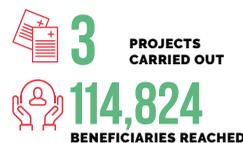
As part of **Education in Emergency**, COOPI carries out "infrastructure" and support and training activities including:

- **CONSTRUCTION OF SCHOOL INFRASTRUCTURES** with semi-permanent materials, locally sourced when possible;
- **REHABILITATING DAMAGED CLASSES;**
- **CONSTRUCTION OF TEMPORARY "LIGHT" SCHOOL STRUCTURES** where it is not possible to provide fixed structures;
- **EQUIPPING THE CLASSROOMS;**
- **PROVIDING SCHOOL SUPPLIES;**
- **TRAINING OF TEACHERS AND PARENTS.**

**EDUCATION IN EMERGENCY ACTIVITIES IN CENTRAL AFRICA IN 2021 WERE MAINLY CARRIED OUT IN THE CAR AND IN THE LAKE CHAD REGION.**



### INCREASING ACCESS TO WATER



As part of promoting **access to water** in Central Africa, COOPI operates in **schools** and at the **community level** with the construction and rehabilitation of dams, wells, water points and latrines. In pastoral areas, interventions are also carried out to improve access to water for livestock.

**IN THIS SECTOR, COOPI WORKED ABOVE ALL IN THE LAKE CHAD REGION IN 2021.**



## PROMOTING FOOD SECURITY


**16** PROJECTS CARRIED OUT  

**366,324** BENEFICIARIES REACHED


**DRC**  
**CAR**  
**CHAD**  
**CAMEROON**

In Central Africa COOPI promotes **food security** through articulated programs that mainly include:

- **FOOD DISTRIBUTION;**
- **START-UP AND RELAUNCH OF AGRO-PASTORAL ACTIVITIES;**
- **IMPROVEMENT OF THE STORAGE CAPACITIES** of agricultural and livestock products;
- **MANAGEMENT AND OVERCOMING OF CONFLICTS** between shepherds and farmers, especially in Chad;
- **SUPPORT FOR SMALL BUSINESS OWNERS**, especially returning migrants and young people at risk of migration.

**THESE ACTIVITIES IN 2021 WERE MAINLY CARRIED OUT IN CAR AND DRC.**

Among the most innovative lines of intervention in this sector is the promotion of agro-pastoral activities conducted with environmentally sustainable practices also in the context of large natural parks where these activities can represent a valid option for the livelihood of the population and at the same time to safeguard the precious biodiversity which characterizes these contexts, too often endangered by unsustainable anthropogenic activities, especially poaching. In this context, in particular, in 2021 some multi-year projects were launched in the Democratic Republic of Congo.

## COMBATING MALNUTRITION


**6** PROJECTS CARRIED OUT  

**103,583** BENEFICIARIES REACHED


**DRC**  
**CAR**  
**CHAD**

In terms of combating malnutrition, COOPI acts both with regards to health intervention as well as training and prevention with activities of:

- **IDENTIFYING AND TAKING CARE OF MALNOURISHED CHILDREN**, especially in the critical age group of under 5 alongside protocols against malnutrition and in collaboration with health structures;
- **TRAINING IN BOTH COMMUNITIES** and families in order to be able to identify cases of malnutrition;
- **TRAINING FOR WOMEN** on correct dietary practices during pregnancy and breastfeeding and subsequently for children.

**THIS TYPE OF ACTIVITY IN CENTRAL AFRICA IN 2021 WAS CARRIED OUT MAINLY IN THE DRC.**



PHOTO: COOPI ARCHIVE

TO LEARN MORE ABOUT THE WORK IN CENTRAL AFRICA ACCESS THE **WHERE WE WORK** SECTION OF THE COOPI WEBSITE FROM THE LINK

[HTTPS://WWW.COOI.ORG/EN/WHERE-WE-WORK.HTML](https://www.cooi.org/en/where-we-work.html)

AND FROM HERE CONSULT THE PAGES DEDICATED TO THE INDIVIDUAL COUNTRIES BY SELECTING THEM FROM THE INTERACTIVE MAP.

REGIONAL COORDINATION

COOPERAZIONE  
INTERNAZIONALE

# EASTERN AND SOUTHERN AFRICA

## HORN OF AFRICA: HUMANITARIAN NEEDS

**38** MILLION PEOPLE IN  
NEED OF HUMANITARIAN  
ASSISTANCE

**28** MILLION PEOPLE  
AFFECTED BY FOOD  
INSECURITY

**12** MILLION PEOPLE  
SUFFERING FROM ACUTE  
MALNUTRITION

**10.6** MILLION  
DISPLACED  
PERSONS

**4.7** MILLION REFUGEES  
AND ASYLUM  
SEEKERS



The **Horn of Africa** region has several significant problems - including long-lasting **conflicts**, widespread **political instability** and frequent **climate shocks** - with repercussions on the local economy and social infrastructure. The restrictions on freedom of movement resulting from the spread of the **Covid-19** pandemic have further damaged the socio-economic fabric of the countries in the area.

Present in this complex regional context for more than forty years, COOPI - alongside emergency interventions - carries out programs for the **sustainable development** of the areas where it operates, combating food insecurity, promoting widespread access to water and sustainable sources of energy, and striving to promote greater community cohesion.

## COOPI'S PRIORITY AREAS OF INTERVENTION IN EASTERN AND SOUTHERN AFRICA

The planning of the activities according to a **multi-country regional approach** allows COOPI to develop an overall and comprehensive view of the needs of each area and the **decentralized organizational model** gives the opportunity to organize the intervention according to the needs identified on the field.

Coordination with **institutions** and **organizations** operating on the ground as well as the involvement of **local communities** in the planning and implementation of interventions are an essential element of COOPI's approach to field work.

In Eastern and Southern Africa, COOPI operates in various sectors, favoring, whenever conditions permit, the **transition** processes from **emergency management** to **development** with the general aim of promoting wider access to **basic services** for the populations and **strengthening community resilience**.

### COOPI IN EASTERN AND SOUTHERN AFRICA IN 2021

INTERVENTION SECTORS	COUNTRIES
PROTECTION	ETHIOPIA • SOMALIA
CHILD SPONSORSHIP PROGRAMS	ETHIOPIA
MIGRATIONS	ETHIOPIA
FOOD SECURITY	ETHIOPIA • SOMALIA • SUDAN
BUSINESS DEVELOPMENT	ETHIOPIA
WATER AND HYGIENE	ETHIOPIA • SOMALIA • SUDAN
NUTRITION AND HEALTH	MALAWI • SOMALIA • SUDAN
ENVIRONMENT AND DRR	MALAWI • SOMALIA • SUDAN
ENERGY	ETHIOPIA

## WHERE WE OPERATE

COOPI HAS BEEN PRESENT IN EASTERN AND SOUTHERN AFRICA SINCE 1980. OUR ORGANIZATION CURRENTLY OPERATES IN THE REGION IN ETHIOPIA, MALAWI, SOMALIA, SUDAN AND UGANDA. FURTHERMORE, THE HEADQUARTERS OF THE **EASTERN AND SOUTHERN AFRICA REGIONAL COORDINATION** IS LOCATED IN **NAIROBI** (KENYA).



### COOPI IN EAST AND SOUTH AFRICA



## EASTERN AND SOUTHERN AFRICA

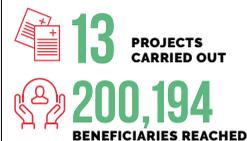
### MANAGING THE HUMANITARIAN EMERGENCY



As part of the management of humanitarian crises in Eastern and Southern Africa, COOPI is active with **rapid response** mechanisms for the needs of **"populations on the move"**, from setting up temporary shelters and providing basic services to accompaniment towards start-up of small income-generating businesses. In this context, in 2020 and 2021 COOPI was very active above all

- in **Ethiopia and Sudan** in the areas where the greatest impact of the humanitarian crisis triggered by the conflict in the **Tigray region** occurred;
- in areas where extreme climatic phenomena have occurred, such as the **floods** that hit **Sudan** and, in early 2022, in response to cyclone Ana in **Malawi**.

### PROMOTING FOOD SECURITY



In Eastern and Southern Africa, COOPI promotes food security through articulated programs that mainly include:

- **START-UP AND RELAUNCHING OF AGRO-PASTORAL ACTIVITIES;**
- **SOCIO-ECONOMIC REINTEGRATION** and training, especially for the benefit of returning migrants or young people at risk of migration;
- **DEVELOPING MARKETING CHAINS** and production; such as the coffee supply chain in Ethiopia;
- **CONFLICT PREVENTION** between shepherds and farmers especially in rural areas ;
- **FACILITATING ACCESS TO SUSTAINABLE ENERGY**, especially in rural contexts. In addition to the projects for the installation of solar panels, carried out throughout the region, a three-year project was concluded in Ethiopia in 2021 which led to the introduction of about 10,000 "improved" stoves in rural areas of Bale and South West Shewa - in the Oromia region - including training within the community for their production and maintenance on site. The project has activated a virtuous circle of generation of carbon credits which are then reinvested for local development.



PHOTO: COOPI ARCHIVE



## INCREASING ACCESS TO WATER


**29** PROJECTS CARRIED OUT  

**1,225,921** BENEFICIARIES REACHED



In Eastern and Southern Africa, COOPI promotes **better and more widespread access** to water by operating above all at a **community level**, with different types of intervention:

- in **rural areas**, **dams**, **wells**, **water points** and **latrines** are built and rehabilitated;
- in **pastoral areas**, especially in **Sudan**, interventions are also carried out to improve **access to water** for **livestock**;
- in **Ethiopia**, interventions are mainly aimed at ensuring **access to water** for **public services**, such as **hospitals**.

## MITIGATING THE IMPACT OF CLIMATE CRISES


**4** PROJECTS CARRIED OUT  

**129,416** BENEFICIARIES REACHED



In Eastern and Southern Africa - a region in which climate shocks are constantly growing both in intensity of phenomena and in frequency - COOPI carries out extensive programs for the **disaster risk prevention and reduction**, also with the development of georeferencing systems. In 2021, COOPI developed its programs in this

area especially in **Malawi** - where it carried out a project in the districts of Chikwawa and Nsanje, which was hit at the beginning of 2022 by cyclone Ana, - in **Sudan** - to support the vulnerable populations of the open areas of Mayo - and in **Somalia** - within the SomReP consortium - to implement the response plans to environmental disasters.

## STRENGTHENING HEALTHCARE SUPPORT


**6** PROJECTS CARRIED OUT  

**544,406** BENEFICIARIES REACHED



The type of **healthcare support** activities carried out by COOPI in Eastern and Southern Africa vary according to the countries and needs.

In 2021, COOPI has contributed to the prevention of the spread of **Covid-19**, launching a two-year project to support the **national vaccination campaign in Malawi** and carrying out cross-cutting prevention actions in **all the countries of the region**.

Healthcare support in the region in 2021 was also articulated in the continuation of a program activated in Somalia in collaboration with the national healthcare

system to reduce the incidence of tuberculosis mortality and in a project in **Ethiopia** to improve health conditions - including nutrition - of vulnerable populations and internally displaced persons in the areas of the countries bordering Kenya.

TO LEARN MORE ABOUT THE WORK IN EASTERN AND SOUTHERN AFRICA ACCESS THE **WHERE WE WORK** SECTION OF THE COOPI WEBSITE FROM THE LINK

[HTTPS://WWW.COOPI.ORG/EN/WHERE-WE-WORK.HTML](https://www.cooi.org/en/where-we-work.html)

AND FROM HERE CONSULT THE PAGES DEDICATED TO THE INDIVIDUAL COUNTRIES BY SELECTING THEM FROM THE INTERACTIVE MAP.

REGIONAL COORDINATION

# MIDDLE EAST



## SYRIAN CRISIS: HUMANITARIAN NEEDS

**13.4** MILLION PEOPLE IN  
NEED OF HUMANITARIAN  
ASSISTANCE

**12.4** MILLION PEOPLE  
AFFECTED BY FOOD  
INSECURITY

**13** MILLION PEOPLE  
WITHOUT SUFFICIENT  
ACCESS TO CLEAN WATER

**6.7** MILLION  
DISPLACED  
PERSONS

**6.6** MILLION SYRIAN  
REFUGEES  
WORLDWIDE

**2.5** MILLION CHILDREN  
UNABLE TO FOLLOW A REGULAR  
EDUCATION PATH



11 years have passed since the beginning of the **Syrian crisis**, the most serious in the world for the number of people forced to flee. More than **13 million** people have **fled** the country or are displaced within its borders.

The crisis also affects **neighboring countries**, which have welcomed more than 5 million Syrian refugees - the highest number in the world - and are under increasing financial pressure; difficulties are further aggravated by the socio-economic impact of the **Covid-19** pandemic. Even in a context in which both refugees and host communities have been severely affected by the **widespread loss of their livelihoods** and **food insecurity**, COOPI promotes both emergency interventions and projects for the restart of recovery and development processes in the region in the communities where it operates.

## COOPI'S PRIORITY AREAS OF INTERVENTION IN THE MIDDLE EAST

The multi-country **regional approach** in the planning of interventions allows COOPI to understand closely the needs of the area and the **decentralized organizational model** gives the possibility to adopt quickly the most appropriate choices for the communities in which it operates.

In the Middle East, in the Syrian crisis area, COOPI operates above all in three sectors - **food security, protection, and water and hygiene** - favoring, whenever conditions permit, the **transition** processes from **emergency management** to **development**.

Field work is carried out by continually coordinating interventions with local authorities and organizations in the area and by listening to and involving the local beneficiary communities.

### COOPI IN THE MIDDLE EAST IN 2021

#### INTERVENTION SECTORS

#### COUNTRIES

PROTECTION	JORDAN • IRAQ • LEBANON • SYRIA
EDUCATION IN EMERGENCY	JORDAN • IRAQ
FOOD SECURITY	LEBANON • SYRIA
BUSINESS DEVELOPMENT	IRAQ
WATER AND HYGIENE	IRAQ • LEBANON

## WHERE WE OPERATE

COOPI HAS BEEN PRESENT IN THE MIDDLE EAST SINCE 1998.

OUR ORGANIZATION CURRENTLY OPERATES THROUGHOUT THE REGION IN SYRIA, IRAQ, LEBANON AND JORDAN. COOPI HAS ITS **MIDDLE EAST REGIONAL COORDINATION IN BEIRUT**. IN 2021, ACTIVITIES WERE LAUNCHED IN **NORTH AFRICA** TO STRUCTURE COOPI'S WORK IN **TUNISIA AND LIBYA**.

## COOPI IN MEDIO ORIENTE



31

PROJECTS CARRIED OUT



168,963

BENEFICIARI RAGGIUNTI



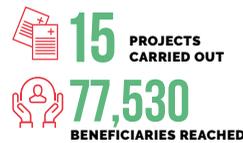
STAFF INTERNAZIONALE  
16  
PERSONE

STAFF LOCALE  
132  
PERSONE



MIDDLE EAST

# PROVIDING PROTECTION AND PROMOTING EDUCATION IN EMERGENCY



**Protection** activities carried out by COOPI within the Syrian crisis are essentially split between two fronts. The first front has the objective of giving **support to particularly vulnerable** and war-traumatized **people** - especially single mothers left alone to care for their children, as well as the disabled and elderly - to whom COOPI addresses with:

- **PSYCHOSOCIAL SUPPORT**, both with mobile units and with the opening of Community Centers aimed primarily at women;
- **ACCOMPANYING THOSE NEEDING PSYCHOLOGICAL SUPPORT**, through individual case management and supply of specialized and quality services, such as those provided by therapists;
- **VOCATIONAL TRAINING COURSES AND SOCIO-ECONOMIC REINTEGRATION**;
- **SUPPLY OF MEDICAL AND GENERAL MATERIAL AND AWARENESS CAMPAIGNS**.

**THESE ACTIVITIES ARE CARRIED OUT IN ALL COUNTRIES OF THE SYRIAN CRISIS AREA IN WHICH COOPI OPERATES: SYRIA, IRAQ, LEBANON AND JORDAN.**

The second front of intervention is instead aimed at children and young people, to encourage the restarting of regular education and training courses. As part of Education in Emergency, COOPI carries out both "infrastructure" and support and training activities including:

- **CONSTRUCTION AND REHABILITATION OF SCHOOL INFRASTRUCTURES** when possible with semi-permanent materials, when available locally sourced;
- **ACCOMPANYING TO AFTER SCHOOL PROGRAMS** for reintegration into the educational system and to reduce the risk of dropping-out;
- **EQUIPPING CLASSROOMS AND PROVIDING SCHOOL SUPPLIES**;
- **TRAINING OF TEACHERS**, especially in managing children who are victims of trauma caused by humanitarian crises.

**IN RECENT YEARS, EDUCATION IN EMERGENCY ACTIVITIES WERE IMPLEMENTED ESPECIALLY IN IRAQ AND SUBSEQUENTLY IN LEBANON AND JORDAN. STARTING IN 2022 THEY WILL ALSO BE LAUNCHED IN SYRIA.**



PHOTO: PICASA



## PROMOTING FOOD SECURITY AND INCOME GENERATING ACTIVITIES

 **9** PROJECTS CARRIED OUT  
 **44,955** BENEFICIARIES REACHED

 IRAQ  
 SYRIA  
 LEBANON

In the Middle East, in the area of the Syrian crisis, COOPI promotes various types of interventions as a response to poverty and the spread of food insecurity:

- **START-UP AND RELAUNCH OF SMALL AGRICULTURAL AND LIVESTOCK ACTIVITIES;**
- **LAUNCH OF OTHER INCOME-GENERATING ACTIVITIES,** including through the cash for work mechanism;
- **SUPPORT FOR SMALL BUSINESS OWNERS;**
- **FOOD DISTRIBUTIONS** for particularly vulnerable people (female heads of household, disabled, elderly) also supporting the relaunch of small local businesses.



PHOTO: ROSE IBRAHEEM

**IN THE AREA OF THE SYRIAN CRISIS, COOPI CARRIES OUT THESE TYPES OF PROJECTS MAINLY IN SYRIA, IRAQ AND LEBANON.**

## PROMOTING ACCESS TO WATER AND HYGIENE

 **7** PROJECTS CARRIED OUT  
 **46,478** BENEFICIARIES REACHED

 IRAQ  
 LEBANON

In Iraq, COOPI promotes **better and more widespread access to water** by operating above all at the **community level**:

- **ENSURING QUALITY WATER AND SANITATION** for public facilities, such as schools and hospitals;
- **BUILDING OR REHABILITATING WELLS, WATER POINTS AND LATRINES,** especially in rural areas;
- **HANDING OUT HYGIENE KITS.**

**A MULTI-YEAR PROJECT UNDERWAY IN LEBANON FOR AN INTEGRATED AND SUSTAINABLE MANAGEMENT OF MUNICIPAL SOLID WASTE IS ALSO PART OF THIS LINE OF INTERVENTION.**

TO LEARN MORE ABOUT THE WORK IN MIDDLE EAST ACCESS THE **WHERE WE WORK** SECTION OF THE COOPI WEBSITE FROM THE LINK

[HTTPS://WWW.COOPI.ORG/EN/WHERE-WE-WORK.HTML](https://www.cooi.org/en/where-we-work.html)

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REGIONAL COORDINATION

# LATIN AMERICA AND THE CARIBBEAN



## VENEZUELAN CRISIS: HUMANITARIAN NEEDS

**7** MILLION PEOPLE IN  
NEED OF HUMANITARIAN  
ASSISTANCE

**8.8** MILLION  
DISPLACED  
PERSONS

**7** MILLION MIGRANTS,  
REFUGEES AND ASYLUM  
SEEKERS



In Latin America and the Caribbean COOPI operates in a very large area that has considerable internal differences, both from an environmental, social and economic point of view: South America, Central America and the Caribbean. Within the vast diversity of environmental, cultural, and political-economic contexts in the individual countries of intervention, COOPI develops an **integrated strategy of multi-sectoral response in complex crisis situations** in Latin America and the Caribbean that strengthen the **resilience** of communities in a framework that seamlessly links humanitarian relief, rehabilitation and development. In recent years, several of the countries in which COOPI operates in the region have been hit by the Venezuelan crisis, the most serious internal humanitarian crisis in modern Latin American history.

## COOPI'S PRIORITY AREAS OF INTERVENTION IN LATIN AMERICA AND THE CARIBBEAN

The main areas of intervention in which COOPI is involved in the Region are the promotion of food security and access to livelihoods, access to water, environmental protection and the disaster risk reduction, support for moving populations and protection, the promotion of inclusive governance and human rights, healthcare and the promotion of sexual and reproductive rights, the circular economy and solid waste management.

**Participatory governance and technical assistance to local actors** strongly characterize COOPI's approach in intervening for the benefit of **groups that suffer specific situations of vulnerability** such as indigenous populations, farmers, migrants, asylum seekers and refugees, with priority given to women and children. Special attention is paid to **Haiti**, a country with the lowest development indices in the region, in particular in relation to **nutrition** and **food security**. The involvement of the **institutions**, the **workers** present in the field and the **communities** with which it operates characterize all of COOPI's interventions in the region.

### COOPI IN LATIN AMERICA AND THE CARIBBEAN IN 2021

INTERVENTION SECTORS	COUNTRIES
PROTECTION	ECUADOR • GUATEMALA • VENEZUELA
MIGRATIONS	ECUADOR • PERU • VENEZUELA
FOOD SECURITY	GUATEMALA • HAITI • VENEZUELA
GOVERNANCE AND HUMAN RIGHTS	GUATEMALA • PARAGUAY
WATER AND HYGIENE	BOLIVIA • ECUADOR • PERU • VENEZUELA
HEALTH	BOLIVIA • HAITI • VENEZUELA
ENVIRONMENT AND DRR	HAITI • PARAGUAY • PERU

## WHERE WE OPERATE

COOPI HAS BEEN PRESENT IN LATIN AMERICA AND THE CARIBBEAN SINCE 1967. CURRENTLY IN THE REGION COOPI IS PRESENT IN BOLIVIA, ECUADOR, GUATEMALA, HAITI, PARAGUAY, PERU, VENEZUELA AND COLOMBIA WHERE, IN **BOGOTÀ**, IT HAS THE HEADQUARTERS OF THE **REGIONAL COORDINATION**.

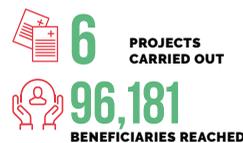


### COOPI IN LATIN AMERICA AND THE CARIBBEAN



## LATIN AMERICA AND THE CARIBBEAN

### PROMOTING ACCESS TO WATER AND HYGIENE



In Latin America and the Caribbean, COOPI promotes **equal and more widespread access to water** by operating above all at the community level, intervening in several ways: construction and rehabilitation of **infrastructures**,

**as in schools and health centers** through the WASH Fit / WASH Sis Water and Sanitation for Health Facility Improvement Tool, distribution of hygiene kits, training and awareness raising.

**INTERVENTIONS IN THIS SECTOR IN RECENT YEARS HAVE MAINLY BEEN CARRIED OUT IN VENEZUELA, ECUADOR, BOLIVIA, PARAGUAY AND PERU.**

Finally, the numerous **prevention** interventions against the spread of **Covid-19** carried out in most of the countries of the region also fall into this sector.



### MANAGING THE HUMANITARIAN EMERGENCY AND PROVIDING PROTECTION



As part of the management of humanitarian crises in Latin America and the Caribbean, COOPI works with local partners to promote rapid response mechanisms for the needs of **"populations on the move"**, from the setting up of **temporary shelters** and supplying **basic services** to the offering assistance for small start-ups and **income-generating activities**. As part of these interventions, COOPI's action provides an important component of protection for populations in conditions of vulnerability, especially boys and girls, girls and women, in the latter case aimed at accompanying people who are victims of gender-based violence, as well as human trafficking and trafficking and the guarantee of sexual and reproductive rights. In this context, COOPI in recent years has mainly activated the intervention:

- in the context of the **Venezuelan crisis** - in **Venezuela**, with local communities, and in countries hosting refugees, especially in Ecuador and Peru;
- in **Haiti**, repeatedly hit by climatic shocks (cyclones, earthquakes).





## PROTECTING THE ENVIRONMENT AND REDUCING THE RISK OF DISASTERS


**6** PROJECTS CARRIED OUT  

**62,272** BENEFICIARIES REACHED



In this context, COOPI develops its interventions in Latin America and the Caribbean essentially along two lines: promotion along with conservation of environmental **ecosystems and reduction of risks disasters**.

The first is developed above all in areas of great environmental value - such as that of the **Gran Chaco** in Paraguay - and aims to activate **sustainable development** programs that offer communities concrete prospects for equitable development while protecting the biodiversity of places.

The second aims to prepare communities for the prevention and mitigation of disaster risks. COOPI's programs in this sector are mainly based on the creation of **geographic information systems** on the resources and vulnerabilities of the territory, the carrying out of **risk studies**, the strengthening of **risk and crisis management skills at EU and institutional level** and the transfer of know-how.



## PROMOTING FOOD SECURITY


**6** PROJECTS CARRIED OUT  

**202,090** BENEFICIARIES REACHED



COOPI promotes articulated programs for food security throughout the area in which it operates in Latin America and the Caribbean, mainly through:

- **START-UP AND RELAUNCH OF SMALL AGRICULTURAL, ARTISANAL AND ENTREPRENEURIAL ACTIVITIES;**
- **FOOD DISTRIBUTIONS** and CBI (cash-based interventions) through the use of sim cards;
- **PROVIDING BALANCED SCHOOL MEALS** in schools and educational institutions;
- **DEVELOPMENT OF SUPPLY CHAINS.**

**FOOD SECURITY ACTIVITIES ARE CARRIED OUT BY COOPI THROUGHOUT THE REGION, MAINLY IN HAITI, GUATEMALA AND VENEZUELA.**

TO LEARN MORE ABOUT THE WORK IN LATIN AMERICA AND THE CARIBBEAN ACCESS THE **WHERE WE WORK** SECTION OF THE COOPI WEBSITE FROM THE LINK [HTTPS://WWW.COOPI.ORG/EN/WHERE-WE-WORK.HTML](https://www.cooi.org/en/where-we-work.html) AND FROM HERE CONSULT THE PAGES DEDICATED TO THE INDIVIDUAL COUNTRIES BY SELECTING THEM FROM THE INTERACTIVE MAP

# FOOD DISTRIBUTION AND THE FIGHT AGAINST POVERTY IN ITALY



**POVERTY IN ITALY**

**5.6**

MILLION PEOPLE IN  
ABSOLUTE POVERTY, OF  
WHICH 1.3 ARE CHILDREN

**2.6**

MILLION PEOPLE  
IN RELATIVE  
POVERTY



Launched in 1999 through the initiative of Father Barbieri, the activity of distributing food to people in difficulty in Milan has grown year by year.

Since 2020 in particular, there has been a sharp increase in requests for food aid, closely linked to the consequences of the Covid-19 pandemic. Despite the restrictions, and thanks to a complete reorganization of the business, it was possible not only to continue, but also to enhance distribution, even during the health emergency.

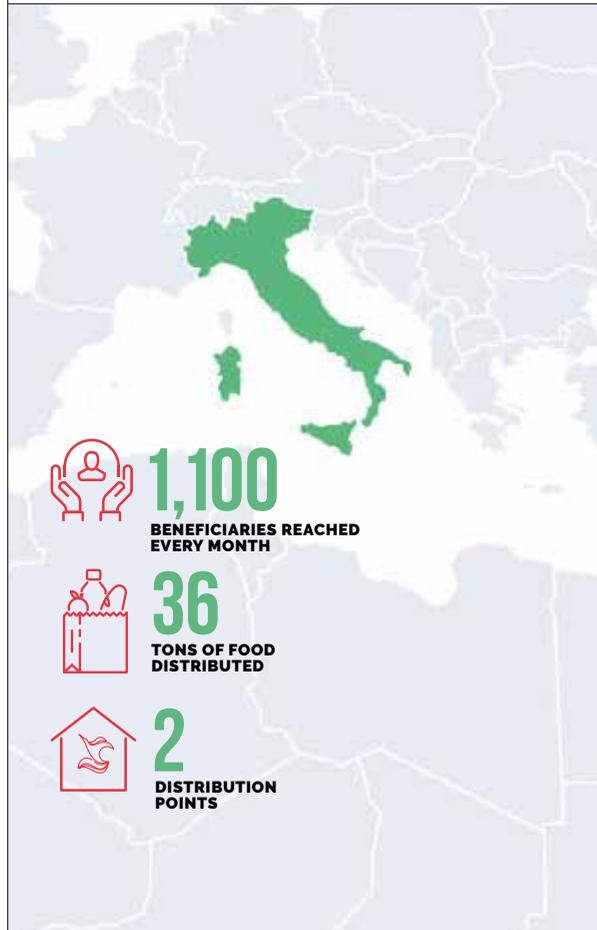
In 2021 COOPI reached approximately **370 families - 1,100 people** - in various districts in and around Milan with a monthly food distribution that equaled about **36 tons of food**.

Moreover, in 2021, the idea of expanding support for people in difficulty in our country has taken on greater consistency, even beyond food aid.

The **first food distribution center** opened in 2020 and has already become a **point of reference in the San Siro district**: a place to listen that is part of a network of organizations active in the area for a more effective fight against fragility and the lack of citizenship, which for large sections of the population, increasingly limits their access to social services as well as their ability to exercise their own rights.

The effectiveness of this experience led COOPI to open a **second distribution point** in the Gallarate district in 2021. Located directly within the COOPI headquarters, this second point is also a meeting place for the headquarters staff and those who benefit directly from the food aid, as well as with those who want to support the project by bringing their own contributions directly to the distribution point – **precious opportunities for knowledge and dialogue**.

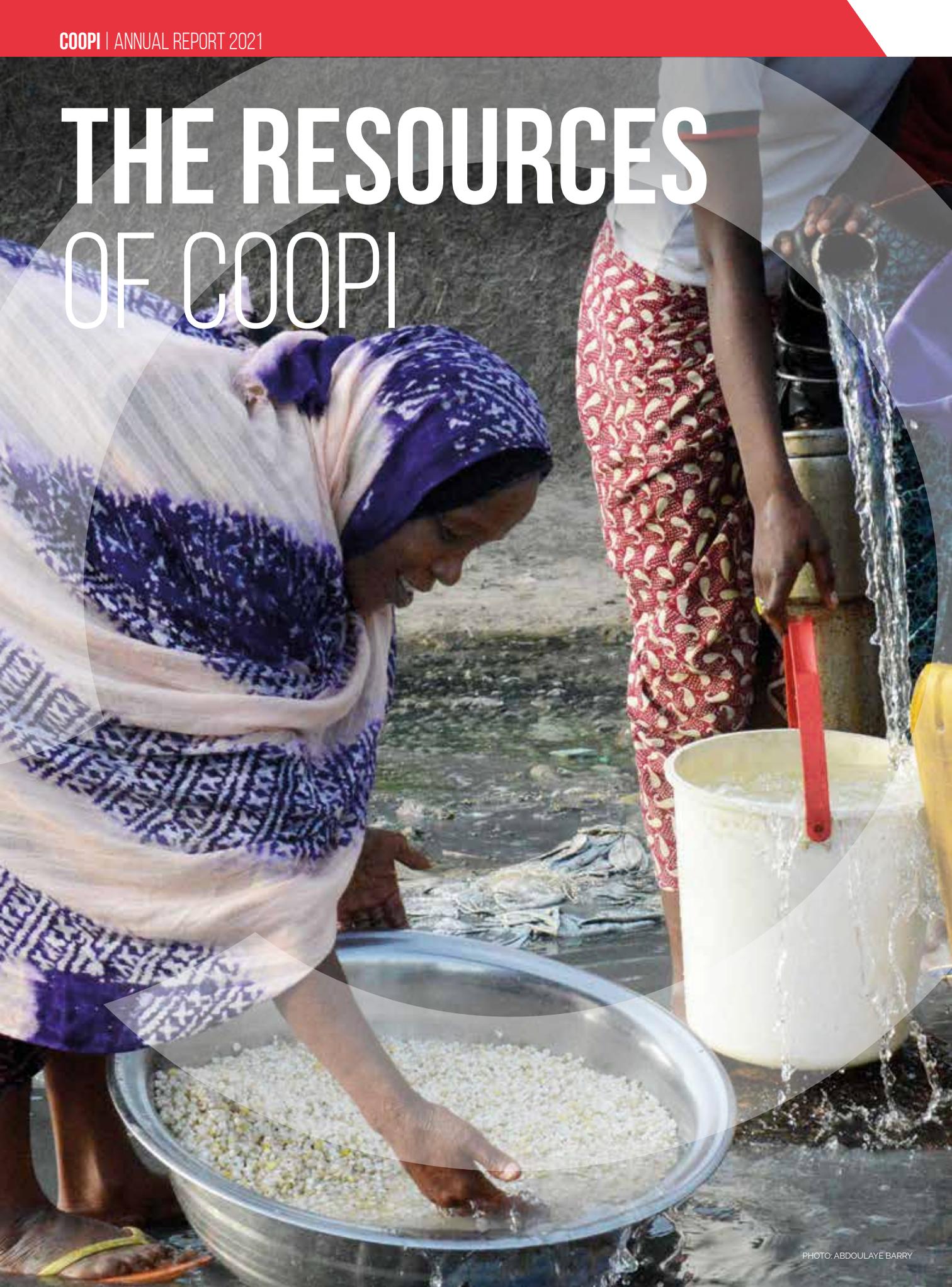
**IN ITALY, INCREASINGLY LARGE SECTIONS OF THE POPULATION LIVE WITH POVERTY AND EXPERIENCE OLD AND NEW FORMS OF FRAGILITY. THE CRISIS TRIGGERED BY THE CORONAVIRUS COVID-19 PANDEMIC HAS FURTHER AGGRAVATED THE SITUATION**



TO LEARN MORE ABOUT THE WORK IN ITALY ACCESS THE **WHERE WE WORK** SECTION OF THE COOPI WEBSITE FROM THE LINK

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# THE RESOURCES OF COOPI





# INSTITUTIONAL DONORS

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

This choice is closely linked to the organization's modus operandi, based mostly on the implementation of structured projects with the aim of helping involved communities grow from within, supporting them in the process of becoming autonomous over time. These are projects that, alongside interventions that deal with specific emergency situations, present an important component of promoting cultural changes and generating virtuous economies. Projects of this type require significant investments whose returns become visible in medium-long wait times that can be difficult to reconcile with the expectations of many individual donors who look for quick results from their contributions. Institutional donors, such as the Italian Agency for Cooperation and Development (AICS) and the European Commission or UN agencies, however, take a more "technical" approach and are more likely to consider longer wait times. On the other hand, these types of institutions require that the organizations financed by them demonstrate in a very specific way the results produced and the changes obtained, therefore COOPI carries out the important work of accountability towards these donors.

**COOPI BASES ITS BUSINESS ON INSTITUTIONAL FUNDS: A CHOICE STRICTLY LINKED TO THE ORGANIZATION'S MODUS OPERANDI, BASED ON THE IMPLEMENTATION OF STRUCTURED PROJECTS**

## MAIN INSTITUTIONAL DONORS

  <p>(For funding projects in Central and West Africa)</p>  <p>Activity supported by the Canada Fund for Local Initiatives          Activités réalisées avec l'appui du Fonds canadien d'initiatives locales</p>	    	    <p>Direzione dello sviluppo e della cooperazione DSC</p>	 <p>European Union</p>  <p>Fonds Humanitaires en République Démocratique du Congo</p>	 <p>Empowered lives. Resilient nations.</p>  
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FAO Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations • International Crime Court  
 • UNFPA United Nations Population Fund • UNIDO United Nations Industrial Development Organization  
 • US Department of State Bureau of Population, Refugees, and Migration

# STRATEGIC PARTNERS



PHOTO: COOPI ARCHIVE

**COOPI IS CONTINUALLY COMMITTED TO BUILDING PARTNERSHIPS WITH OTHER LARGE HUMANITARIAN ORGANIZATIONS AND ACTIVATING COLLABORATIONS WITH FOUNDATIONS, COMPANIES AND MAJOR DONORS**

COOPI acts in the field more and more often in **partnership** with other **major players in the world of international cooperation**: acting together, each according to their skills, is increasingly important to intervene effectively on the ground in the worst **humanitarian crises** and to promote an **organic and sustainable development**.

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



## PARTNER HUMANITARIAN ORGANIZATIONS

- ACF
- ACF SPAGNA
- ACTED
- ADRA VENEZUELA
- ALIMA
- ALTERVIDA
- ANE ETIOPIA
- AVSI
- BDC ANGLICAN RDC
- CARE FRANCIA
- CCM
- CHRISTIAN AID IRELAND
- COMUNE DI FANO
- COOPI SUISSE
- COSPE
- GROCE ROSSA BELGIO
- GROCE ROSSA CIAD
- CRS
- CWW
- DRC
- E4IMPACT
- ENGIM
- ERICA
- HUMANITY & INCLUSION FRANCIA
- ICU
- INTERAIDE
- IRC
- LVIA
- MANI TESE
- MANOS UNIDAS
- MDM FRANCIA
- MERCY CORPS
- MLAL
- NEEDSLIST
- OHDEL
- OXFAM SPAGNA
- PADF
- PARAGUAY ORGANICO
- PLAN INTERNATIONAL
- PUI FRANCIA
- SAVE THE CHILDREN ITALIA
- SOLIDARITÀ INTERNATIONAL FRANCIA
- SOS SAHEL FRANCIA
- TDH SVIZZERA
- TINTA VIOLETA
- UNITED PURPOSE
- UNIVERSITÀ DELL'INSUBRIA DI VARESE
- VIS
- WHH
- WVI

## FOUNDATIONS, COMPANIES AND MEDIA PARTNERS



ELGON®



BEAUTY ★ STAR

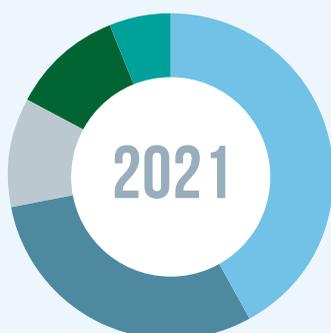


# THE BALANCE SHEET IN BRIEF

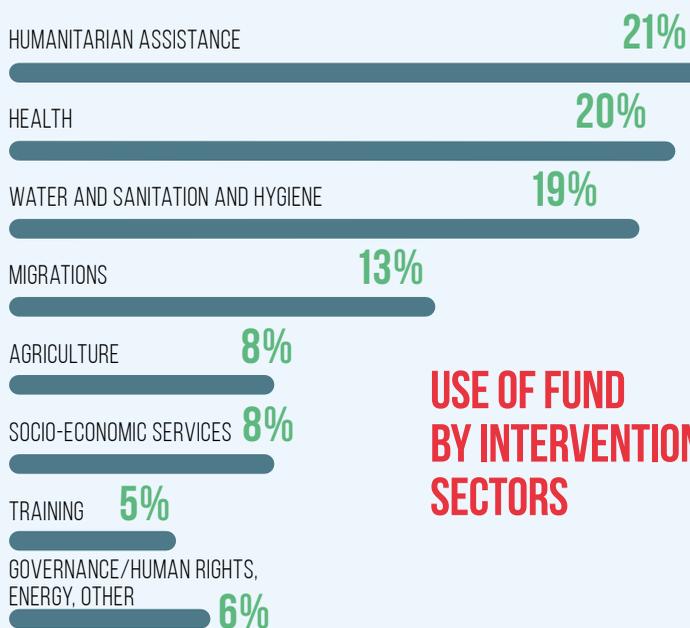
<b>BALANCE SHEET</b> (in Euro)		<b>2021</b>
<b>ASSETS</b>		
Net fixed assets		749,341
Receivables from donors		4,174,909
Receivables from others		3,850,456
Liquid assets		13,133,262
Prepayments and accrued income		7,421
<b>TOTAL ASSETS</b>		<b>21,915,389</b>
<b>LIABILITIES</b>		
Common fund		70,000
Reserves restricted by the decision of institutional bodies		150,000
Other funds		2,277,664
Operating profit		65,521
<b>TOTAL NET WORTH</b>		<b>2,563,185</b>
Provisions for risks and charges		150,000
Severance indemnity for subordinate employment		562,910
Payables to banks		3,205,572
Other short payables		3,278,059
Accruals and deferred income		
Projects deferred income		12,155,663
<b>TOTAL LIABILITIES</b>		<b>21,915,389</b>
<b>PROFIT AND LOSS ACCOUNT</b> (in Euro; reclassified balance)		
<b>PROCEEDS</b>		
Income by projects		64,683,885
Subscriptions		6,500
Fundraising		1,145,029
<b>TOTAL</b>		<b>65,835,414</b>
<b>OUTLAYS</b>		
Outlays by projects		62,555,337
Fundraising outlays		827,911
Support outlays		2,386,645
<b>TOTAL</b>		<b>65,769,893</b>
<b>PROFIT/LOSS FINANCIAL YEAR</b>		<b>65,521</b>



## FUNDING SOURCES



INTERNATIONAL ORGANIZATIONS	42%
EUROPEAN UNION	30%
ITALIAN GOVERNMENT AND LOCAL INSTITUTIONS	11%
FOREIGN GOVERNMENTS	11%
PRIVATE INSTITUTIONS AND PRIVATE DONORS	6%



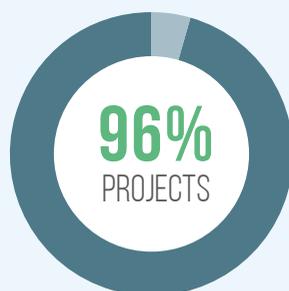
## USE OF FUND BY INTERVENTION SECTORS



## USE OF FUNDS BY GEOGRAPHICAL AREA

AFRICA	81%
LATIN AMERICA AND THE CARIBBEAN	10%
MIDDLE EAST	8%
ITALY	1%

## HOW THE FUNDS ARE USED



THE FULL VERSION OF THE FINAL FINANCIAL STATEMENTS AS OF DECEMBER 31, 2021, SUBJECT TO ACCOUNTING REVIEW BY BDO ITALIA SPA AND THE RELEVANT CERTIFICATION LETTER ARE AVAILABLE AT THE FOLLOWING LINK:

[WWW.COOPI.ORG/EN/ACCOUNTABILITY.HTML](http://WWW.COOPI.ORG/EN/ACCOUNTABILITY.HTML)

# FUNDRAISING FROM PRIVATE DONORS

**DIALOGUE AND CONSTANT CONVERSATION REGARDING FUNDRAISING WITH PRIVATE DONORS IS OF SIGNIFICANT IMPORTANCE FOR COOPI AS THIS IS ONE OF ITS FOUNDING REASONS FOR BEING A CIVIL SOCIETY AND A NON-GOVERNMENTAL ORGANIZATION**

2021 saw strong growth in fundraising promoted via **digital platforms**. These activities had already begun to grow in 2020 as a result of the limited mobility caused by the Covid-19 pandemic. Over the last year, this fundraising medium has been curated in a more systematic way through investments, structuring, cultivating and coordinating the various tools and has gained significantly higher responses than in the past. 2021 was also a year of increased coordination between fundraising activities carried out online and those carried out over more traditional channels.

**+50%**

**NEW CONTACTS CLOSE TO COOPI'S MISSION**

**49**

**SPECIFIC APPEALS SENT BY EMAIL**

**+1.8**

**MILLIONS OF PEOPLE REACHED WITH SOCIAL MEDIA CAMPAIGNS**

In 2021 all the other indicators relating to social media also made a decisive leap forward (for more information see the COOPI Communicates chapter).

## 8 ACQUISITION CAMPAIGNS

- WITH **APPEALS ON KEY** ISSUES, SUCH AS WORLD HUNGER, PROTECTION AND EDUCATION OF CHILDREN, THE SYRIAN CRISIS, AND DISTRIBUTION OF FOOD TO NEEDY FAMILIES IN ITALY;
- IN PARTICULAR MOMENTS OR PERIODS SUCH AS BACK TO SCHOOL AND WOMEN'S DAY;
- ALSO PROPOSING SPECIFIC WAYS TO DONATE SUCH AS 5X1000 OR BEQUESTS.

**11 PAPER MAILINGS;**

**10,000 COPIES OF THE BIANNUAL "COOPI NEWS" NEWSLETTER**

In 2021 COOPI also continued to promote and manage **Child Sponsorship** Programs for the benefit of almost **1,500 children** in 18 centers within **6 countries** (Ethiopia, Central African Republic, Democratic Republic of Congo, Sierra Leone, Senegal and Uganda). During the entire year, caring for donors was an important task executed swiftly and extensively to keep donors abreast of the various interventions carried out thanks to their contributions. As for initiatives and in person events, 2021 was still a year of suspension: with the exception of **Cascina Aperta** in September, all other initiatives were put on hold due to the ongoing health emergency. The initiatives organized in the area by the volunteer groups of COOPI Crema and COOPI Brescia were also severely limited.





During 2021, COOPI received as a gift some personal protective equipment and objects from companies such as **Modo, Gima, Accenture, Sapori and Ricordi**, who wanted to demonstrate their commitment to the causes defended by the Foundation.

## FOOD AID CAMPAIGN FOR FAMILIES IN DIFFICULTY IN MILAN

The fundraising campaign for **distributing food bags to families in difficulty in Milan** was kept alive throughout the year by combining promotional tools - radio spots, billboards, leaflets - with activities more specifically aimed at actively involving the network in the area close to the Foundation. Among these, an invitation to bring shopping bags directly to the **2 collection points in Piazza Selinunte and Via De Lemene** was an **invitation well received, especially by people and schools in the neighborhood**.

## 5X1000

In 2021, COOPI's campaign for the promotion of 5x1000 was structured around the different ways in which COOPI  **fights poverty**, in the world and in our country.

The campaign significantly financed the distribution of food bags to families in difficulty in Milan, which has been increasing rapidly due to the social consequences of the Covid-19 pandemic.

In 2021 COOPI received **€70,405.39 in contributions from 5x1000** with **1,730 preferences** (relating to the tax returns 2020-income 2019).

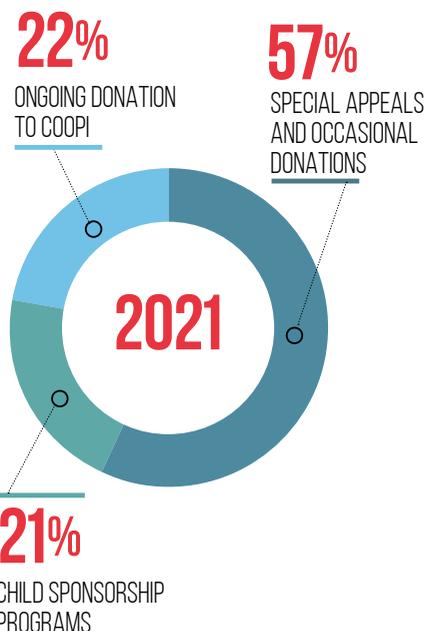
## LIFE IS A GIFT THAT LASTS FOREVER

In 2021, the **new COOPI legacy campaign entitled "Life is a gift that lasts forever"** was launched with completely revised graphics compared to the previous one and the **new dedicated website [testamentosolidale.coopi.org](http://testamentosolidale.coopi.org)**.

The launch of the campaign - which has been backed by the National Council of Notaries - was accompanied by an **intense outreach towards numerous Provincial Notary Councils throughout Italy**: 28 Councils joined the campaign which, immediately, led to an increase in requests for information from both notaries and potential donors.

In 2021 COOPI received a bequest of €10,000, bringing the total bequests and in-memory donations since 2015 to approximately **€290,000**.

## WHAT PRIVATE DONORS CHOOSE



# COOPI COMMUNICATES

COOPI'S COMMUNICATION HAS THE OBJECTIVES OF GROWTH, NOTORIETY, STRENGTHENING THE POSITIONING OF THE ORGANIZATION AND ACCREDITATION WITH DONORS AND PARTNERS, PROMOTING KNOWLEDGE OF THE MOST RELEVANT ISSUES OF INTERNATIONAL COOPERATION

COOPI's communication is developed within the framework of macro objectives: the growth of the organization's reputation, the strengthening of the positioning of the organization, the accreditation with donors and partners, and the promotion of knowledge by a wide audience of the most relevant issues of international cooperation.

## THE NEW COOPI INSTITUTIONAL VIDEO

Created mainly during the lockdown periods imposed by the Covid-19 pandemic, COOPI's new corporate video, released at the beginning of 2021, was at the center of the "Who is COOPI" brand awareness campaign, launched after the 55th anniversary of the foundation of the organization. In an increasingly harsh climate towards those in a position of serious socio-economic disadvantage (such as migrants, refugees, and vulnerable communities in developing countries) and those who provide professional aid in order to **"focus on those in the margins"** (such as NGOs and humanitarian workers), the campaign aimed to relaunch the values of **social cohesion and solidarity** that are both the basis of COOPI's **vision and mission** as well as the basis for the UN's **2030 Agenda** for Sustainable Development.

For this reason, the Italian commercial that was taken from the video enjoyed the social patronage of **Sky** (in the period 11-15 April), **La7** (20-30 June) and **RAI** (27 September - 4 October), thus airing for free on digital platforms, television, web and social networks.

The video - 3 minutes long and created in motion graphics - tells the story of COOPI's commitment in the world and invites you to deepen your knowledge of digital media (website and social media). It has been translated into 4 languages (Italian, English, French and Spanish) and is available on institutional **digital and social channels**.



THE NEW COOPI CORPORATE VIDEO CAN ALSO BE VIEWED ON YOUTUBE:

[HTTPS://YOUTU.BE/CT-6ZQ2FFEI](https://youtu.be/CT-6ZQ2FFEI)

Rai Per il Sociale



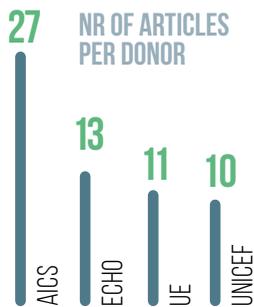
## TELLING THE STORY OF COOPI'S COMMITMENT

In 2021, like every year, a substantial part of COOPI's communication attempted to highlight the organization's commitment within the various countries and in the various sectors of cooperation, in order to both make the organization increasingly "accountable" as well as to promote the organization to its main stakeholders.

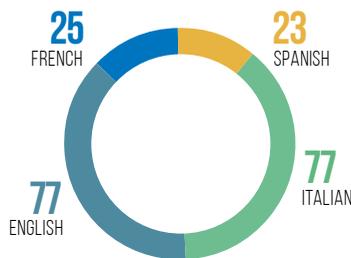
COOPI's commitment is shown through various tools from the press - print and online - for example, the dossiers dedicated to activities in individual countries, the COOPI website, social networks, and the Social Report.

### IN 2021, COOPI'S PRESS REVIEW COUNTED

**168** ISSUES **77** ARTICLES HAVE BEEN PUBLISHED ON THE ORGANIZATION'S WEBSITE DEDICATED TO **48** COMPLETED PROJECTS, EACH TRANSLATED INTO MULTIPLE LANGUAGES.



PUBLISHED ARTICLES DIVIDED BY LANGUAGE



### HOW MANY HAVE FOLLOWED COOPI

	2021	VARIATION % 2020-2021
COOPI.ORG	334,823	+40%
NEWSLETTER	56,736	+54%
YOUTUBE	39,562	+116%
FACEBOOK	29,426	+10%
TWITTER	8,000	+6%
LINKEDIN	29,000	+26%
INSTAGRAM	3,185	+45%
COOPI NEWS	10,000	-



PHOTO: ANGELO LOY

COOPI COMMUNICATES



THE CRISIS IN SYRIA AND IN IRAQ

COOPI's commitment in the Middle East was the focus of 2 different issues on Repubblica.it.

The section "COOPI on the front line in support of children and families" was also edited for major donors, taken from the dossier "10 years of war in Syria" - published by the Italian monthly Vita - which traces the evolution of the situation in the region, giving voice to several humanitarian aid workers active in the region.

THE COMMITMENT IN THE DEMOCRATIC REPUBLIC OF THE CONGO

Following the news of the killing of Ambassador Luca Attanasio and of the policeman Vittorio Iacovacci - assigned to his escort - COOPI was consulted several times by the Italian media (radio, TV, press agencies) to reconstruct the context in which the facts took place and to discuss the long-term commitment of humanitarian workers in the country.

COOPI's commitment in the DRC was also followed by the newspaper, Vita, which published an article on the innovative approach to the treatment of malnutrition in the Covid-19 era, which was signed by Daouda M' Bodj, COOPI's Nutrition Programs Coordinator and Coordinator of the Nutrition cluster in the country.



PROMOTING DISASTER RISK PREVENTION

On the occasion of the World Day for Disaster Risk Reduction (DRR, 13 October), the European Union Department for Humanitarian Aid and Civil Protection (ECHO) decided to enhance an intervention funded in Bolivia and implemented by the consortium led by COOPI. This intervention, based on the introduction of open-source technology to alert the population in advance, especially those located in the most remote areas, was told through an effective video, which became the pivot of numerous relaunches on twitter during the dedicated week to the DRR.

STUDIES ON THE CIRCULAR ECONOMY

As part of the multi-year project funded by AICS, "LaPazRecicla. Integrated approach to waste management in the Municipality of La Paz, Bolivia. New technologies to promote the circular economy," COOPI contributed to the drafting of three scientific articles on the subject through the signature of Luca Moresco: "Sensitivity analysis and improvements of the recycling rate in municipal solid waste life cycle assessment: Focus on a Latin American developing context on ScienceDirect.com; "Circular Economy, International Cooperation, and Solid Waste Management: A



Development Project in La Paz (Bolivia)" in Sustainability - published in January 2022 - and "Environmental assessment of construction and demolition waste recycling in Bolivia: Focus on transportation distances and selective collection rates" in Waste Management and Research.

## ADVOCACY CAMPAIGNS

Through 2021 COOPI was committed to supporting **advocacy campaigns** promoted by the international cooperation sector as a whole. At the international level, COOPI signed the Letter on **ICVA's "Famine Prevention"** and the positioning note of the **Food Security and Nutrition Working Group of the Sahel and West Africa**. In Italy, the organization contributed to the visibility of Campaign 070 and promoted "What a world would it be without cooperation?".

**Campaign 070** was promoted by **FOCSIV, Link 2007, AOI Cooperazione e Solidarietà Internazionale, CINI Coordinamento Italiano ONG Internazionali**, for the effective and immediate destination of 0.70% of national wealth in support of development objectives: an international and European commitment repeatedly signed also by Italy without ever actually following up on it.

"**What a world would it be without cooperation?**" is a campaign promoted by **CoLomba** - Lombardy's international cooperation network made up of 42 civil society organizations - to fight against prejudices and fake news that affect international cooperation by giving it the value it deserves.

## THE DRAMA OF CLIMATE CHANGE IN A DOCUMENTARY

The documentary "**Tropico del Caos**" ("Tropic of Chaos") - made in collaboration with director Angelo Loy - was broadcast on August 21, 2021 on Rai Storia. The documentary - broadcast for the first time on Rai3 in 2019 - leads the viewer to deepen the dramatic reality of communities living in the Lake Chad Region whose waters are inexorably drying up due to climate change, a context in which COOPI has been operating for many years by promoting the protection of those most fragile and revitalizing the Region in many respects, from access to water to the diversification of income-generating activities.



## METHODOLOGICAL NOTE

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

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

The 2020 Annual Report includes data and indicators deemed appropriate for describing and evaluating the organization and its activities, taking into consideration the indications provided by the Guidelines for the preparation of the Social Report of Third Sector Entities and the Guidelines of the Global Reporting Initiative widely shared internationally.

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

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

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

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



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Together we can make the world  
a better place.

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