



Together we can make the world
a better place.

ANNUAL REPORT COOPI 2023 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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A YEAR OF SOLIDARITY

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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 - 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

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 2023 we organized an international conference on the complexity of the problems of international cooperation which was held at the end of the COOPI Meeting, the week-long event of meetings and discussions with all the representatives of the organization abroad and the operators of the Italian headquarters.

This provided an important exchange for international experts to reflect on the current challenges, in particular on the "Cascading crisis", as defined by Antonio Guterres, UN Secretary General, a crisis that, because of its rapidity and universality, puts the humanitarian system to the test.

The 2023 Annual Report is permeated by the underlying presence of global "polycrisis", which throughout the year has impacted the work of COOPI on the ground, challenging us to find approaches that can offer adequate answers to the needs of populations.

When in 2015 the United Nations proposed a series of sustainable development goals to address the terrible challenges of today's world, it sensibly set objective 16 "Peace, justice, strong institutions" in the knowledge that without peace it would have been impossible to achieve the previous 15 objectives. We have experienced this very clearly on the ground: the continuation and worsening of conflicts in the majority of the countries in which we operate has greatly hindered our daily work for health, food security and people's dignity. A striking example comes from the situation of Sudan, a country in which COOPI had been promoting food security, water supply and environmental hygiene, and disaster risk reduction for years. On 15 April 2023 a bloody conflict broke out between the Sudanese Armed Forces and the Rapid Support Forces, with at least 15,000 dead, eight million refugees, 25 million people in need of humanitarian assistance to survive, an imminent famine and war crimes committed by all parties involved in the conflict. Therefore, COOPI had to stop all development programmes in order to provide first emergency assistance, in very challenging conditions in terms of logistics and safety.

And in 2023 similar crises were seen in most African and Middle Eastern countries.

The world of international cooperation is changing rapidly: this was said at the conference and we witness it on a daily basis. Nowadays a paternalistic approach such as "I teach you to fish" is completely outmoded. Today, only a true partnership with local communities is acceptable. In addition, one would also expect the involvement of other stakeholders, such as private for profit, development banks, universities and research centers.

For us at COOPI this is not a problem: for years we have been used to collaborating with numerous stakeholders, as seen in the pages dedicated to partnerships, recognising each party's different expertise.

We are not even afraid of the turning point given to Italian cooperation by the Mattei Plan: at the time of writing, the projects which will be financed by the plan have not yet been defined. However, should there result momentum for development, we will be happy to make a contribution. We should, however, avoid reducing public development aid to a currency of trade, aid against political influence or border control.

The founding principles of international cooperation, as well as our entire history, exist for the protection of human rights, in the fight against poverty and inequality, in the promotion of peace and reconciliation processes. All this must not be forgotten, even in the face of all the changes that are affecting our world. And this we must guarantee with all our supporters.

Claudio Ceravolo
President of COOPI





LETTER FROM THE DIRECTOR

Responding to emergencies is steadily becoming the focus of COOPI's commitment year after year. Humanitarian crises and natural disasters increasingly affect the regions in which the organization operates. They are often intertwined and add up to each other, aggravating the difficulties experienced by the local population.

In 2023 - just to mention a few examples - the conflict in Sudan, the earthquake in Syria and the worsening security conditions throughout West Africa led us to deploy and strengthen - together with our partners - important humanitarian assistance and protection interventions to support communities.

In addition to work in emergencies, the promotion of development processes in many countries continued, for example, with interventions to promote food security, nutritional security and access to water and sanitation.

Responding promptly and effectively to crises requires a strong presence on the ground and specific skills. In 2023, the process of decentralisation - with a further strengthening of Regional Coordination - and "localization" continued, resulting in an increased strategic and integrated collaboration with our local partners.

There was also a strong commitment to the training of operators. In addition to the courses provided by the School of International Cooperation, the training system of the organization as a whole was strengthened with advanced training initiatives being implemented in specific areas - such as administration, logistics and security - aimed at both local and international operators.

Systematically analyzing and monitoring our work is essential to keep on improving our endeavour: the integrated system of monitoring, evaluation, accountability and learning MEAL - which has gradually become operative - Today, it offers COOPI significant information providing an overview of the state of play of our interventions.

In Italy, the food distribution project saw a significant increase in activities resulting in a considerable number of people receiving help. In addition, the space for the distribution of aid in Piazza Selinunte became a hub against Food Waste as part of the Food Policy project of the City of Milan.

None of this would have been possible without the crucial support of our funders and the generosity of our donors, the daily commitment of our staff - on the ground as well as at COOPI headquarters - and the close proximity of our volunteers: to all I extend my heartfelt thanks. I am sure that together we will continue to help many communities in emergencies and support them in development processes.

Ennio Miccoli
Director of COOPI



WHO IS COOPI



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

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

COOPI today is present in **33 countries** in Africa, the Middle East, Latin America and the Caribbean, with more than **239 humanitarian projects** reaching **nearly 7 million people**.

COOPI works with an **integrated approach** in situations of **emergency** and **development** by promoting food security and nutrition, water and hygiene, health, protection and education.



PHOTO: SILVANO PUPELLA

To give more effective and structured responses to the needs of people in difficulty 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 **decentralized organization**, reducing time spent between planning, decision and action. The development of **local partnerships** further strengthens development at the local level and improves living conditions of beneficiary communities.

SINCE 1965 COOPI - COOPERAZIONE INTERNAZIONALE

HAS HELPED
125
MILLION PEOPLE



WITH MORE THAN
3,000
PROJECTS



IN **74**
COUNTRIES



EMPLOYING APPROXIMATELY
5,400
EXPATS AID WORKERS
68,000
LOCAL PROFESSIONALS



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



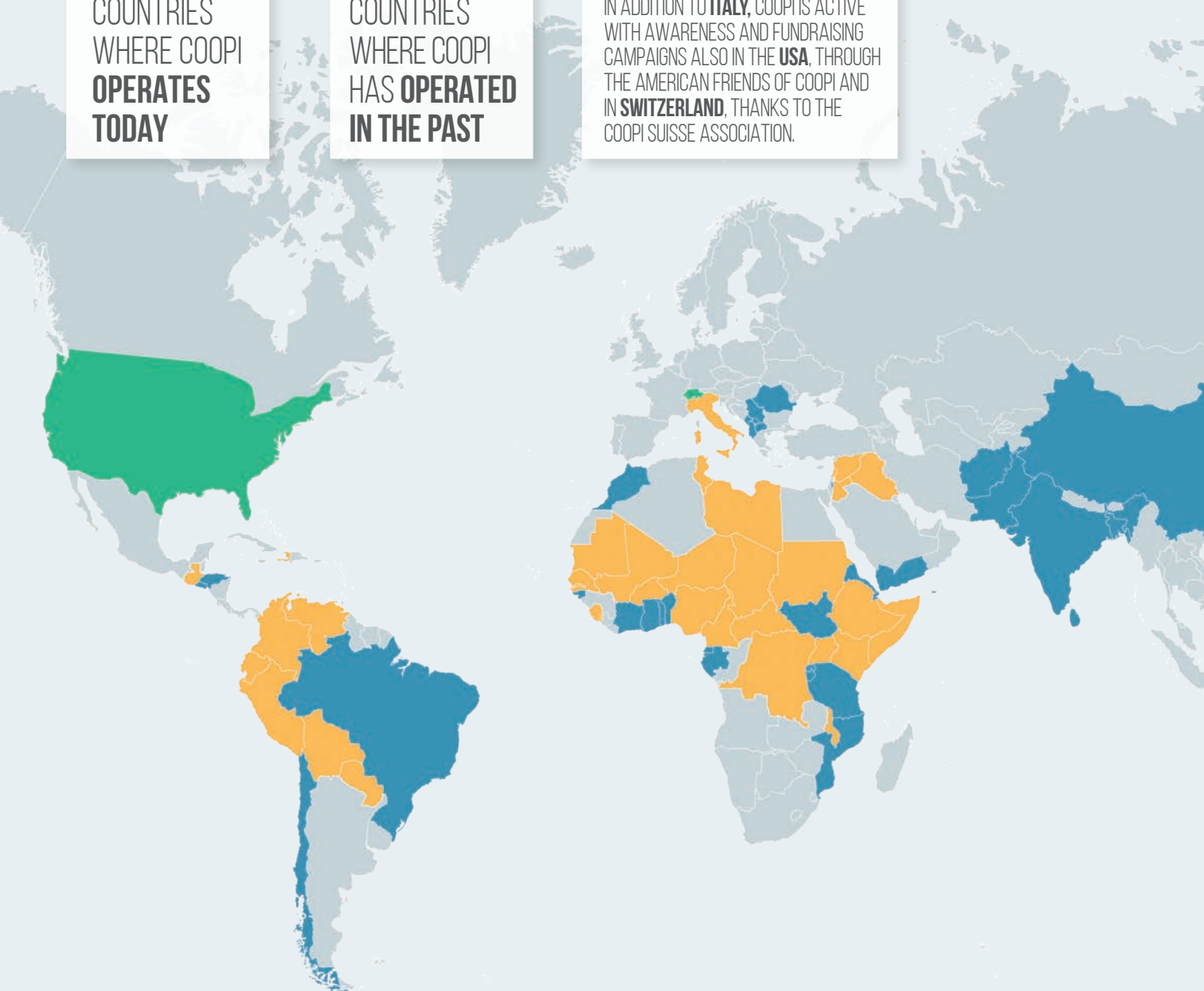
COUNTRIES
WHERE COOPI
OPERATES
TODAY



COUNTRIES
WHERE COOPI
HAS **OPERATED**
IN THE PAST



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





COOPI'S NUMBERS

2023

COUNTRIES	33
PROJECTS	239
BENEFICIARIES	7,324,449
INTERNATIONAL AID WORKERS (EXPATS)	244
PROFESSIONALS AND AID WORKERS	1,630
STAFF IN ITALY	68
VOLUNTEERS	100
LOCAL GROUPS IN ITALY	2

PHOTO: COOPI ARCHIVE

COOPI AND THE ITALIAN INTERNATIONAL COOPERATION



PHOTO: APSATOU BAGAYA

ON 15 APRIL 1965, FATHER BARBIERI FOUNDED COOPI TOGETHER WITH A GROUP OF VOLUNTEERS. IT WAS HE WHO INTRODUCED THE LAY COMPONENT INTO MISSION WORK AND FOUNDED THE "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 GROW AND EVOLVE TOGETHER WITH ALL THEIR MANY VOICES.

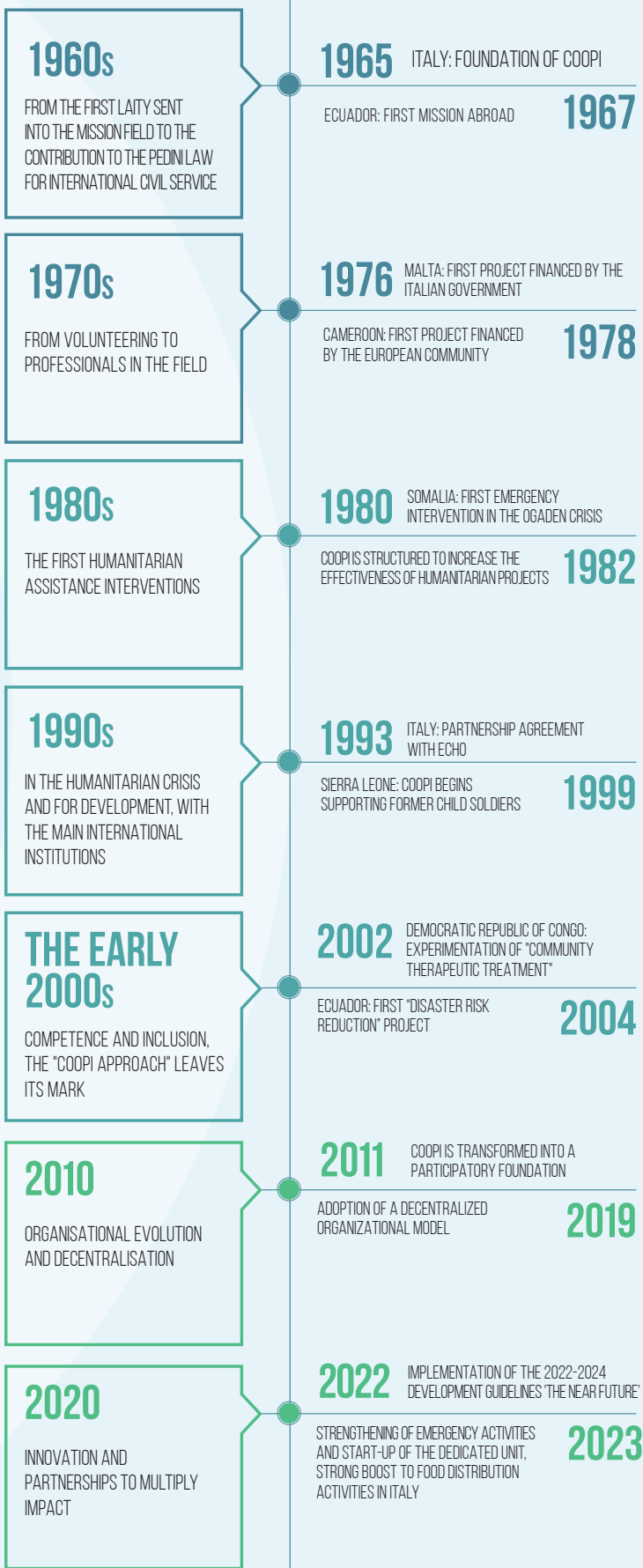


PHOTO: COOPI ARCHIVE

TO FIND OUT MORE ABOUT FATHER BARBIERI'S WORK you can request the book **"Ho solo seguito il vento. Vita di Vincenzo Barbieri, padre del volontariato internazionale"** - written by Claudio Ceravolo and Luciano Scalettari - with a preface by Andrea Riccardi - writing to amici@coopi.org

TO FIND OUT MORE ABOUT COOPI'S HISTORY, CONSULT THE DEDICATED PAGE ON THE COOPI WEBSITE

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



COOPI WAY: DOING GOOD WELL



PHOTO: SARA MAGNI



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 the ability to combine **proximity to beneficiaries**, **readiness to intervene**, **building collaborative relationships** on the ground and an approach firmly based on the **transfer of skills**.

Strong organizational supervision in the areas of intervention, the application of an **integrated multi sectoral approach in activities** on the ground **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 its 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 donors, 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



PHOTO: ALESSANDRO GANDOLFI/PARALLELOZERO

COOPI IS A PARTICIPATORY FOUNDATION WHOSE PURPOSE IS "TO CONTRIBUTE TO THE HARMONIOUS AND INTEGRATED DEVELOPMENT OF THE COMMUNITIES WITH WHICH IT COOPERATES."

COOPI has more than 60 years of history behind it, during which the organization has grown steadily and has structured itself 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 to COOPI. COOPI therefore believes it is essential to clearly express the values, principles and responsibilities that guide its behaviour in relations to 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 to 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 and North Africa, 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 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.

The effectiveness of the decentralization process represents an essential priority for COOPI which has integrated it with various carefully designed, implemented and coordinated components:

- THE ADOPTION OF A SERIES OF **TOOLS** TO SUPPORT **INTEGRATED PLANNING, STRATEGIC PLANNING, MONITORING AND EVALUATION** PROCESSES;
- THE **DEVELOPMENT OF SKILLS** AND CONSTANT **PROFESSIONAL UPDATING** OF THE STAFF, BOTH IN ITALY AND IN ALL THE COUNTRIES OF OPERATION;
- THE STRUCTURED **MEETING MOMENTS** - SUCH AS, FOR EXAMPLE, THE ANNUAL COOPI MEETING - IN WHICH THE VARIOUS COMPONENTS OF THE ORGANIZATION DEBATE TOGETHER IN AN IN-DEPTH, CONSTRUCTIVE AND PROSPECTIVE MANNER.

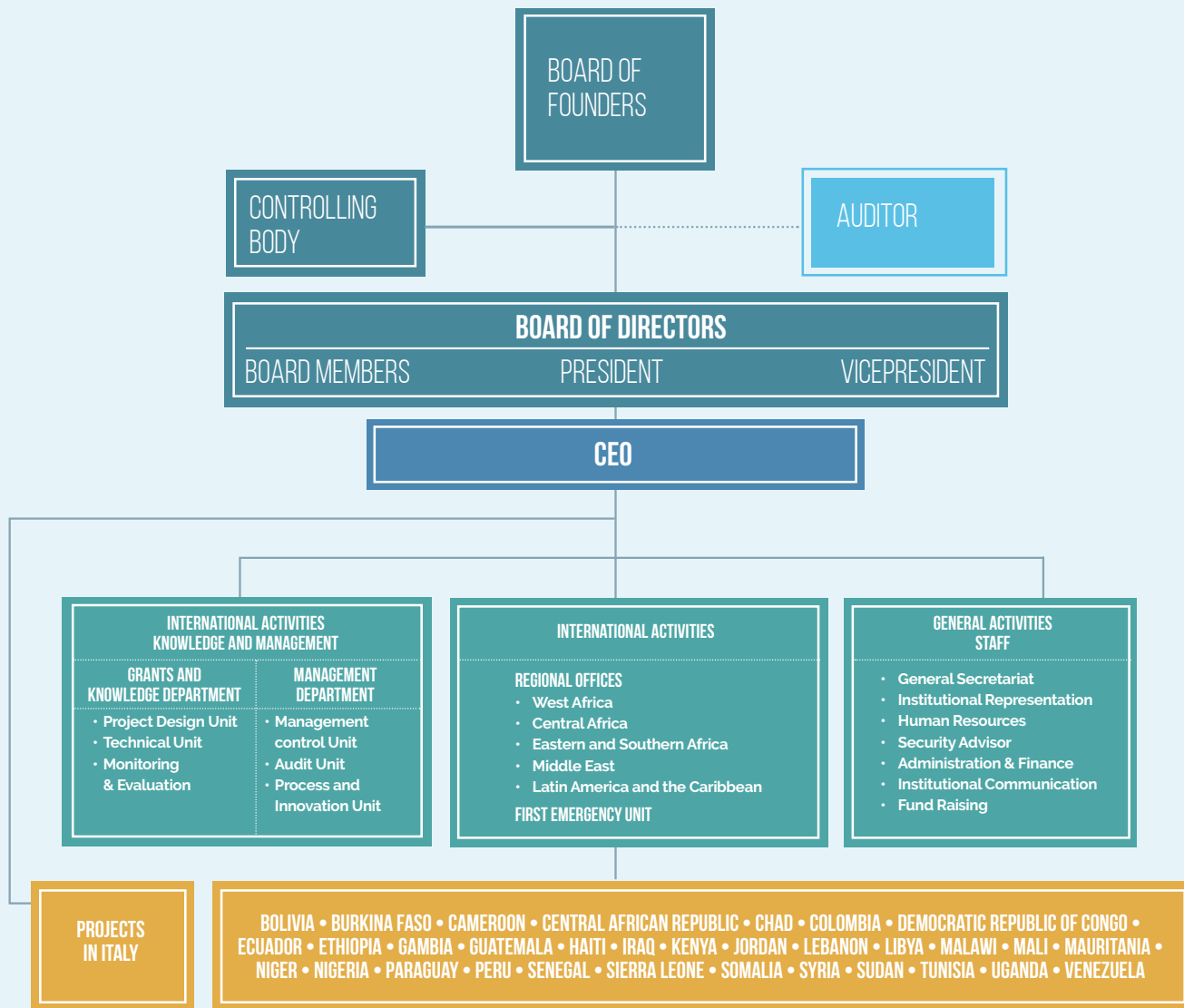
The combination of these elements - and above all the integration and constant coordination of the various processes and tools - contributes to making the work of the organization more effective and accountable every day towards all our stakeholders.



PHOTO: COOPI ARCHIVE

COOPI'S ORGANIZATIONAL CHART

UPDATED 2/28/2024



IN 2023 COOPI FOUNDATION HAS **60 FOUNDING MEMBERS**.

IN 2023, THE **BOARD OF FOUNDERS** MET **ONCE**, THE **BOARD OF DIRECTORS** **9 TIMES**, THE **SUPERVISORY BOARD** **9 TIMES**.

NO MEMBER OF THE FOUNDATION'S GOVERNING BODIES RECEIVES **ANY REMUNERATION** FOR THE OFFICE HELD AND THE ACTIVITY PERFORMED IN CONNECTION THEREWITH.

THE ARTICLES OF ASSOCIATION, THE CODE OF ETHICS AND MORE INFORMATION ON THE MEMBERS OF THE DIFFERENT BODIES OF THE FOUNDATION CAN BE DOWNLOADED FROM THE COOPI WEBSITE:

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



PHOTO: COOPI ARCHIVE

COOPI MEETING AND CONFERENCE “COMPLEXITY IN THE PRESENT AND FUTURE OF INTERNATIONAL COOPERATION”

From 23 to 28 October the 12th edition of the COOPI Meeting was held in Milan at the COOPI headquarters.

The COOPI Meeting aims to give unity to the work of the organization in various areas of the world in which it operates: through presentations, working groups and moments of study, the participants have the opportunity to share what has been done in terms of planning, tools and activities; to incorporate new lines of action and to reflect on the development of the organization.

Every year, a large number of representatives from the many countries where COOPI operates as well as representatives from headquarters meet up for this event in order to compare experiences, operating methods and development prospects.

In 2023, 36 people from 19 different countries and 59 people from the Italian headquarters participated in attendance, with the active participation of some members of the Board of Directors as well.

PARTICIPANTS IN 2023

36
PEOPLE FROM
19 COUNTRIES



59
PEOPLE FROM THE
ITALIAN HEADQUARTERS



The 12th edition of the COOPI Meeting concluded with the **conference 'Complexity in the present and future of international cooperation'**, which hosted a debate **open to all interested parties** – both inside and outside the organisation – on the growing complexity and multidimensionality of the crises triggered (or aggravated) in many countries by climate disasters, natural calamities and wars, the increase and coexistence of which have a multiplying effect on the harmful effects on populations. The conference – broadcast in 4 languages – was attended by more than **400 people** (both in attendance and remotely), including several COOPI staff members from the different countries in which the organisation operates.

HUMAN RESOURCES



PHOTO: JIBRIL JARRAR



COOPI WORKS WITH INTERNATIONAL COOPERATION PROFESSIONALS

Attention in the selection process, targeted training interventions and interest in creating ongoing relationships combined with the evaluation and coaching of human resources over time, result in trained and motivated people.

THE TEAM IN NUMBERS

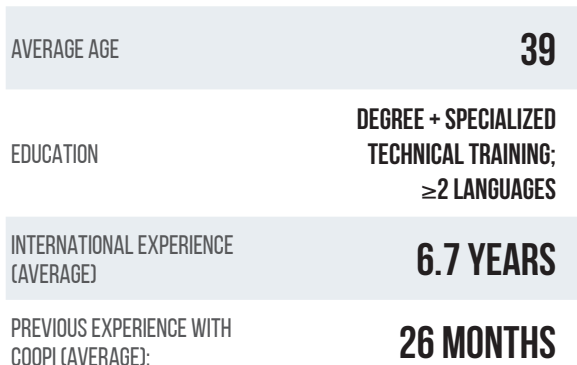


OUR EXPAT HUMANITARIAN WORKERS

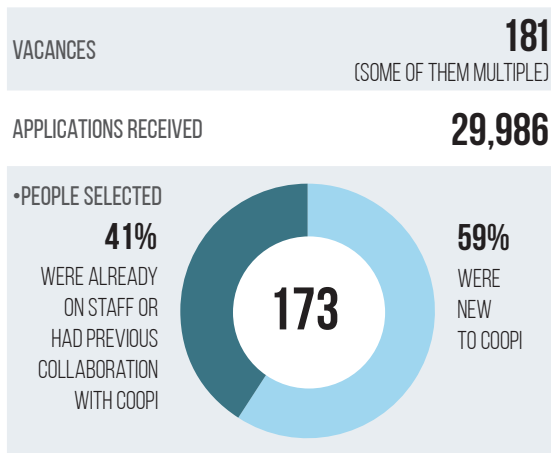


COOPI intervenes in complex contexts by implementing articulated projects. For these reasons, **operators with previous experience in the same role** and in crisis contexts are chosen to work in the field: the right balance between motivation and experience, between skills and interest in local realities makes the difference in order to intervene effectively in the field.

SNAPSHOT: PROFILE OF EXPAT HUMANITARIAN WORKERS



CANDIDATE RECRUITMENT



* the figure includes all operators who had an employment or cooperation contract with COOPI during the year

** the figure refers to the number of local operators as at 31-12-2023

OUR EXPAT HUMANITARIAN WORKERS

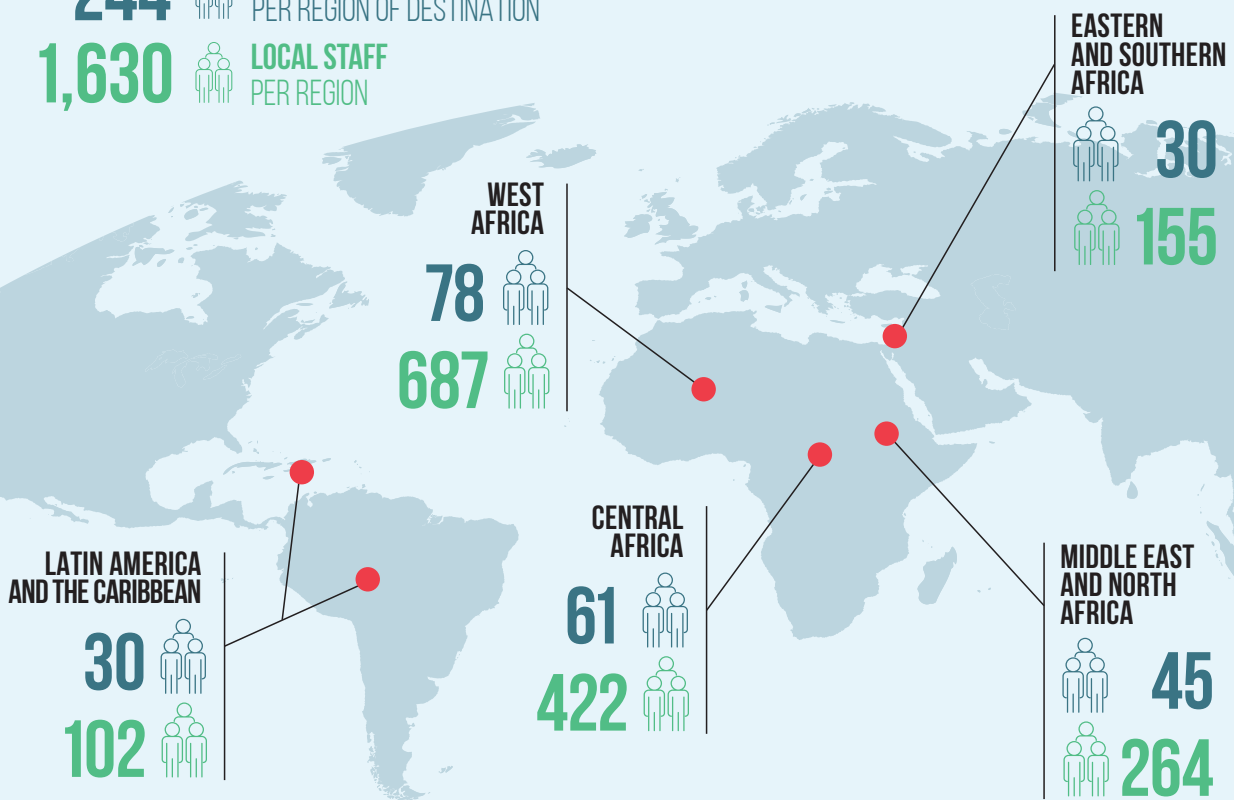


The strong presence of local professionals in each of COOPI's operating Regions contributes to making it a global organization as a whole, while staying strongly rooted in the territory. This characteristic is becoming increasingly stronger, as is also shown by the choice, in an increasing number of cases, of local staff in management positions at country coordination level. Capacity building of local staff has always been considered a priority at all levels in each of the regions where COOPI operates.

PRESENCE IN THE FIELD

244  **INTERNATIONAL OPERATORS**
PER REGION OF DESTINATION

1,630  **LOCAL STAFF**
PER REGION



ORIGIN OF INTERNATIONAL WORKERS

FROM ITALY 126
OF WHICH, ROSTER CONSULTANTS: 21

FROM OTHER EUROPEAN COUNTRIES 25

FROM NON-EUROPEAN COUNTRIES 93

TO FIND OUT MORE ABOUT THE DESTINATIONS OF EXPATRIATE HUMANITARIAN WORKERS, SEE THE CHAPTERS DEDICATED TO EACH REGION OF INTERVENTION OR CONSULT 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.cooipi.org/en/where-we-work.html)



SKILLS IN THE FIELD



Efficiency in operations, transparency and accountability towards all stakeholders are priorities for COOPI, which works with a significant number of operators with managerial skills to guarantee them.

In 2023, a programme was initiated to further strengthen

the skills of administrative and logistical staff in the various countries with the implementation of ad hoc training missions in Mali, Niger, Nigeria, CAR, Ethiopia, Kenya/Sudan and Syria; as well as the preparation of two more training missions in Niger and Syria.



SKILLS AND ROLES OF INTERNATIONAL OPERATORS

PROJECT MANAGERS, PROGRAMME MANAGERS, HEADS OF MISSION, REGIONAL COORDINATORS, EMERGENCY COORDINATORS	114
ADMINISTRATIVE, LOGISTICAL AND SECURITY PROFILES	74
CONSULTANTS AND TECHNICAL EXPERTS	29
OTHER SUPPORT FIGURES FOR PROJECTS AND COORDINATION	27

PHOTO: COOPI ARCHIVE

SKILLS IN THE FIELD



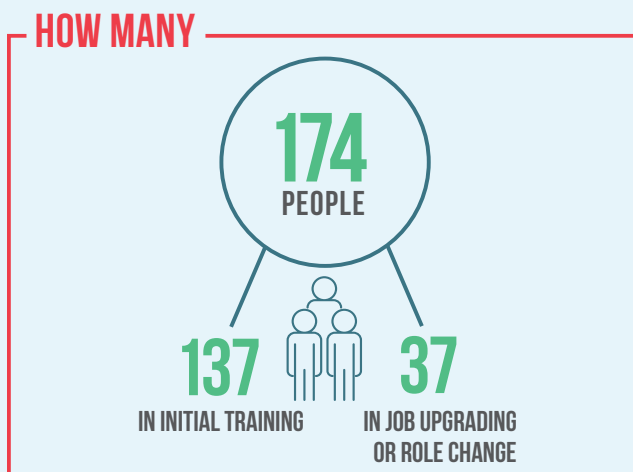
INITIAL BRIEFING AND PATH UPDATES

For several years now, COOPI has been defining a **Plan for the induction** of new staff, both at headquarters and in the countries where it operates and promotes targeted information and periodic **updating** initiatives.



The Plan pays great attention to the **initial briefing** ('on boarding'). It always includes timely and targeted briefings that introduce new employees to COOPI's culture, structure and operating procedures. The training takes place mainly online and also includes a **part of training carried out in the field**. In addition, COOPI has produced 14 training packages to reach its staff in an inclusive and widespread manner even in areas where online connection is not possible.

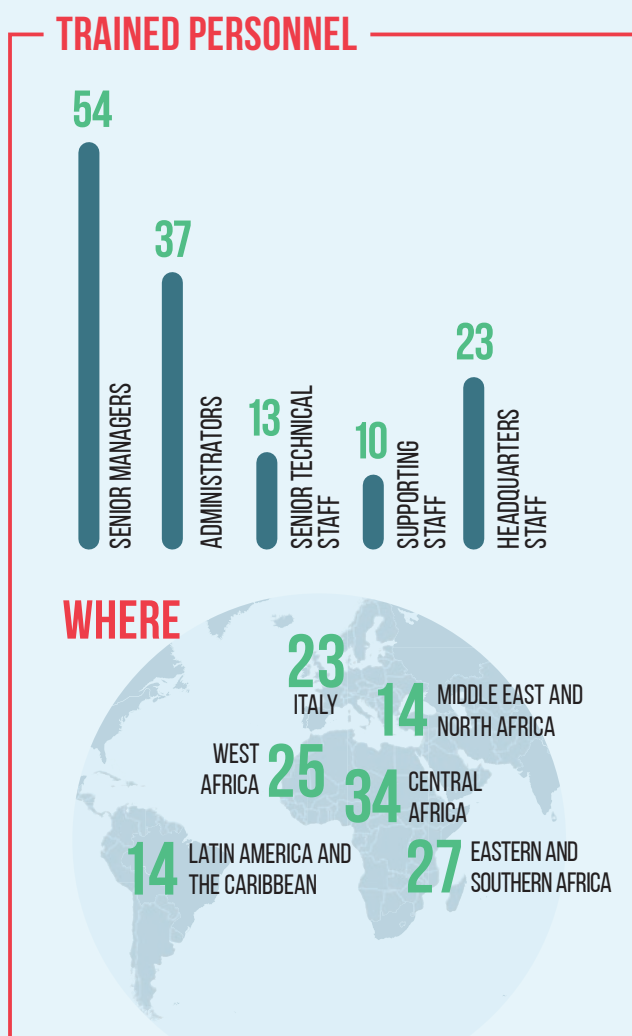
For some roles abroad, COOPI has scheduled **face-to-face meetings** at its headquarters in Milan.



INITIAL TRAINING

The initial training touches on different areas of expertise such as **planning and administrative management, project and programme design, country coordination activities** and includes institutional, procedural, administrative and sectoral modules.

Each training course includes a part that takes place on the ground.



COOPI participates in some **higher education international initiatives** such as the **Cooperation and Development Network** which includes the **Masters of Cartagena de Indias, Bethlehem, Kathmandu, Nairobi** and the historic **Master of Pavia**.

FIND OUT MORE ABOUT THE COOPERATION AND DEVELOPMENT NETWORK AT

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



HEALTH & SAFETY



COOPI follows good practices in the field of **health and safety in the workplace** to protect all 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.



PHOTO: NESTOR QUIÑONES IZQUIERDO



PSEA POLICY

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 "Protection from Sexual Abuse and Exploitation."** All COOPI staff is required to have an irreproachable behaviour 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 circumstances, will staff abuse their influence in situations of inequality of power. In order to affirm COOPI's position and ensure that everyone respects it, we organize various activities, including the initial training as well as other key moments and periodic refresher courses so as to increase the effectiveness of prevention.

WHISTLEBLOWING PLATFORM

In compliance with the provisions of L.D. no. 24 /2023 and EU Directive no. 2019/1937, COOPI has updated the already existing internal procedures for reporting misconduct and illegal behaviour that comes to its attention during the performance of its activities and that involves employees, collaborators, suppliers, beneficiaries. For this purpose,

the whistleblowing platform has been activated with the aim of guaranteeing even greater protection, in terms of privacy in compliance with GDPR regulations, of those who report such conduct to the organisation so that the most appropriate measures can be taken.

STAFF COMPENSATION

The National Collective Labor Agreement for the Trade and Tertiary sectors is applied to personnel working at COOPI's headquarters in Italy.

AVERAGE STAFF COMPENSATION TRADE AND TERTIARY SECTORS (2023 - €)

SENIOR EXECUTIVES	97,113
MANAGER/SUPERVISOR	51,104
1ST LEVEL EMPLOYEES	36,439
2ND LEVEL EMPLOYEES	31,796
3RD LEVEL EMPLOYEES	28,856
4TH LEVEL EMPLOYEES	23,454

RATIO BETWEEN THE MAXIMUM AND MINIMUM WAGES OF COOPI EMPLOYEES

4.18

EXPAT AID WORKERS COORDINATED AND CONTINUOUS COLLABORATION CONTRACTS

GROSS SALARY

HIGHEST	90,737
LOWEST	19,464

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.cooipi.org/en/organization.html)



PHOTO: SIMONE DURANTE

THE SCHOOL OF INTERNATIONAL COOPERATION



The "Scuola di Cooperazione Internazionale" resulted from COOPI's desire to train **experts in the field of emergency and development** (such as project administrators, project leaders, mission leaders, technicians), to promote the **culture of cooperation** and to activate a **fruitful dialogue with the actors of sustainable development** (universities, research centres, companies, third sector organisations).

COOPI considers the **professionalisation** of international cooperation a key element not only for its own development, but also for that of the wider sector. Since 2016, COOPI has been promoting professional courses aimed at training highly qualified humanitarian workers in technical, managerial and administrative terms. From this experience the School of International Cooperation was born, established in 2022 as an autonomous Social Enterprise.

The School of International Cooperation provides **courses for introduction and improvement within the role**, so that

humanitarian aid workers are increasingly equipped to intervene competently in difficult contexts. The school also organizes **cultural events and activities** (such as seminars, conferences and research) to deepen specialist knowledge and to contribute to the overall learning in this sector of intervention.

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.

In recent years, an average of **100 candidates** have applied for each course offered for training **Project Managers and Financial Officers**. About **15% of the candidates were selected** to participate in the course and, of these, almost **90% has been selected for professional experiences** in the humanitarian sector.

THE COURSES PROVIDED BY THE SCHOOL SO FAR ON A CONTINUOUS BASIS ARE:

PROJECT MANAGER COURSE

SINCE 2020, 7 SESSIONS HAVE BEEN ATTENDED BY A TOTAL OF 74 STUDENTS. THE 2 SESSIONS OF THE PROJECT MANAGER COURSE HELD IN 2023 HAD A TOTAL OF 22 STUDENTS.

FINANCIAL OFFICER COURSE

SINCE 2016, THERE HAVE BEEN 7 SESSIONS WHICH WERE ATTENDED BY A TOTAL OF 65 STUDENTS. IN 2023, 1 EDITION OF THE COURSE WAS HELD, ATTENDED BY 4 STUDENTS.

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

WWW.EDUCOOPINT.ORG

A NETWORKING ORGANIZATION

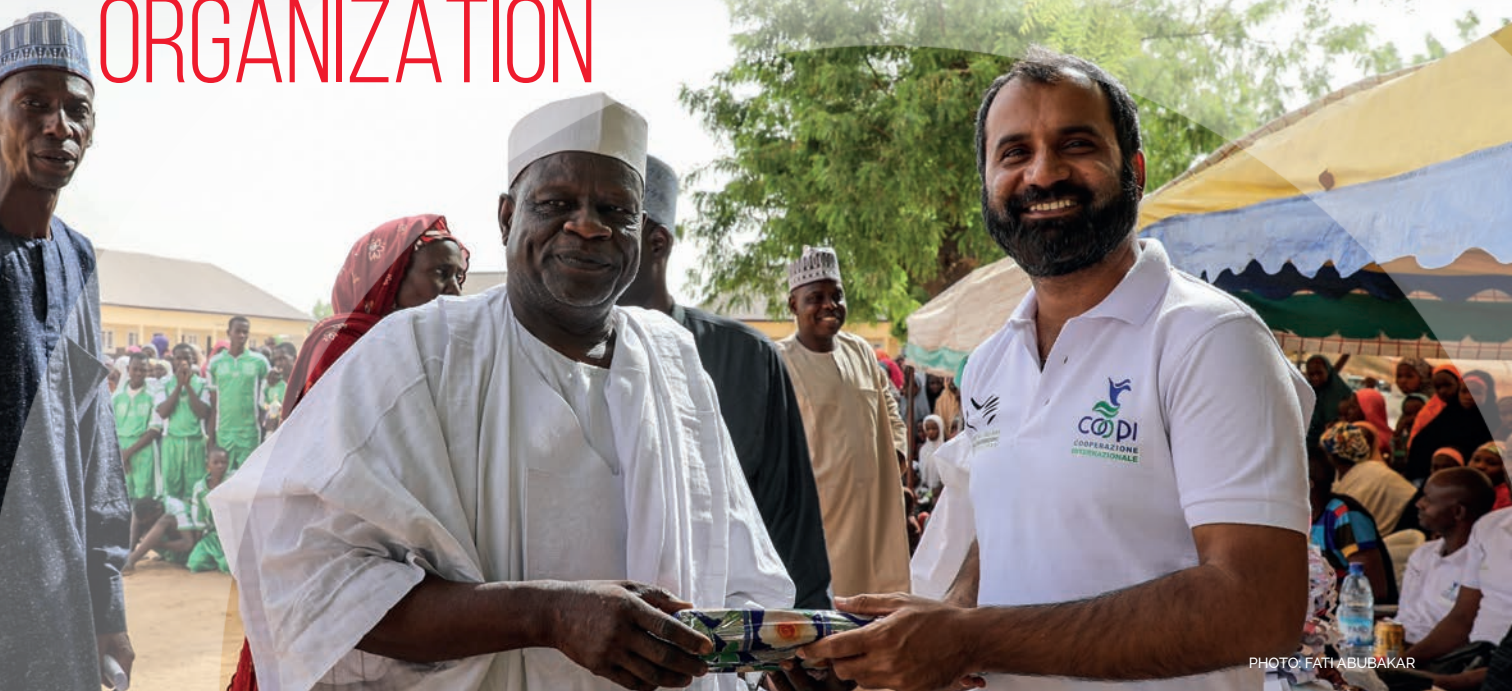


PHOTO: FATH ABUBAKAR

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 wide range of people belonging to spheres 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**.

For COOPI it is of paramount importance 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

MAIN INTERNATIONAL PARTICIPATIONS



MAIN ITALIAN ORGANIZATIONS



UNIVERSITIES AND RESEARCH CENTERS



COOPI 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)

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 • Campagna 070 • As an associate of CoLomba, COOPI participates in the AOI (Italian NGO Association).



PHOTO: COOPI ARCHIVE

TO FIND OUT MORE ABOUT AMERICAN FRIENDS OF COOPI VISIT THE WEBSITE

WWW.COOPI-US.ORG

TO FIND OUT MORE ABOUT COOPI SUISSE VISIT THE WEBSITE

WWW.SUISSE.COOPI.ORG

PRINCIPLES, POLICIES AND GUIDELINES

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

The Policies and Guidelines 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:

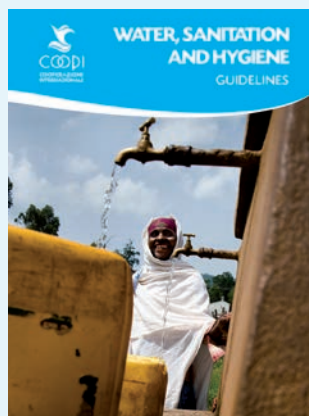
- RECOGNIZE THE **CENTRALITY OF THE INDIVIDUAL** BY RESPECTING OTHER'S IDENTITY, SOCIAL AND PHYSICAL CHARACTERISTICS AND ENSURING THE **PROTECTION OF HUMAN DIGNITY**;
- DETERMINE THE INTERVENTIONS ON THE BASIS OF AN ANALYSIS OF THE **CAPACITIES AND VULNERABILITIES OF THE COMMUNITIES**;
- ADOPT INCLUSIVE **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's 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.

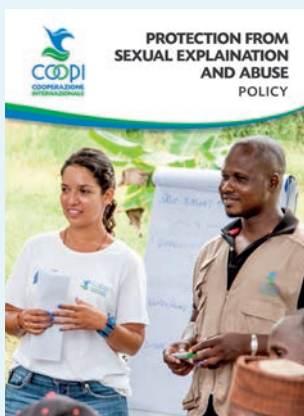
Furthermore, in conjunction with each policy document, a **Standard Operating Procedures** document is drawn up that translates the theoretical into the practical for program management while accompanying the workers who implement it in order to make the interventions sustainable and effective.



COOPI POLICIES AND GUIDELINES



WATER AND HYGIENE
(GUIDELINES, 2022)



PROTECTION FROM SEXUAL ABUSE AND EXPLOITATION
(POLICY, 2019)



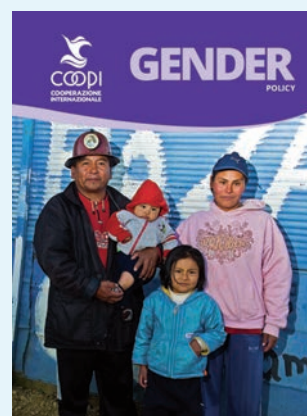
EDUCATION IN EMERGENCY
(POLICY, 2018)



NUTRITIONAL SECURITY
(POLICY, 2017)



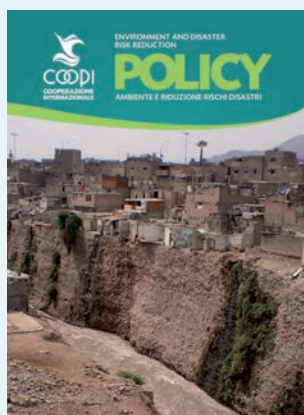
PROTECTION
(POLICY, 2016)



GENDER
(POLICY, 2015)



FOOD SECURITY AND LIVELIHOODS
(POLICY, 2022)



ENVIRONMENT AND DISASTER RISK REDUCTION
(POLICY, 2013)



CHILDHOOD (POLICY, 2011)

CORPORATE SOCIAL RESPONSIBILITY (POLICY, 2011)

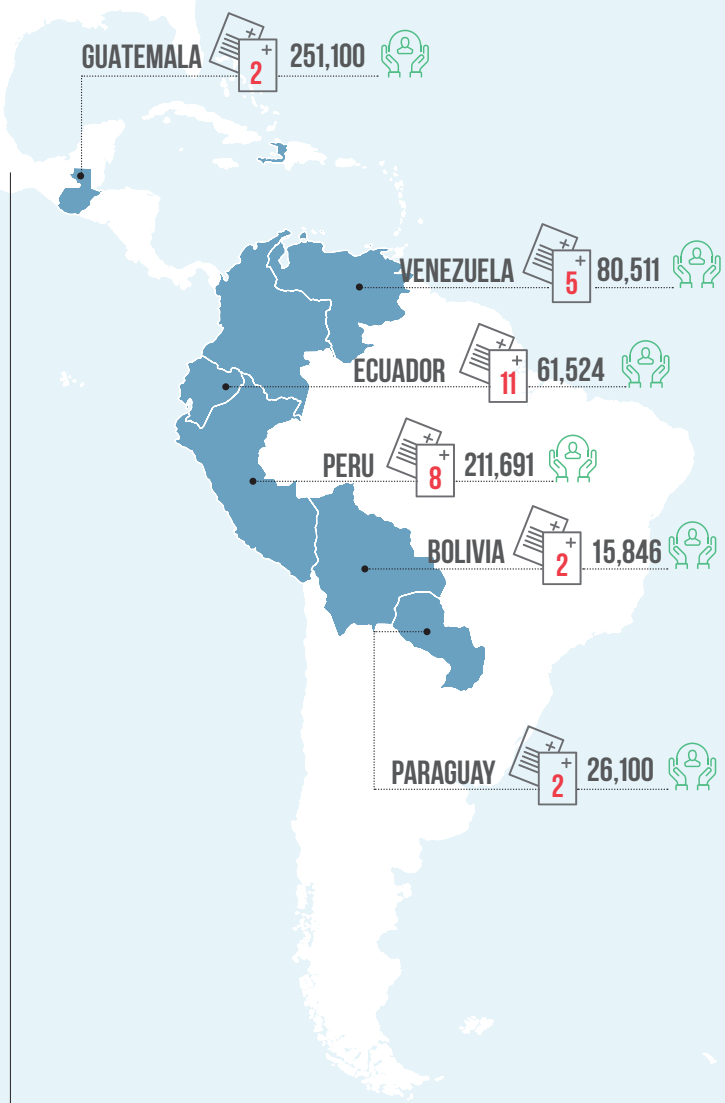
THE POLICIES CAN BE DOWNLOADED FROM THE WEBSITE AT THE FOLLOWING LINKS WWW.COOPI.ORG

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

COOPI'S IMPRINT

In 2023 COOPI was present in **33 countries** in Africa, the Middle East, Latin America and the Caribbean and Italy. In 27 of these countries, it carried out a total of **239 projects**, of which 222 were emergency and development projects and 17 were child sponsorship projects. In total, the number of beneficiaries reached was **7,324,449**.

In 2023, COOPI was also present in Cameroon, Colombia, Gambia, Haiti, Kenya and Tunisia, planning the launch of activities for the following year and maintaining active relationships with stakeholders at different levels.



7,324,449

BENEFICIARIES



239

PROJECTS



33

COUNTRIES

7,323,153
BENEFICIARIES INTERNATIONAL
PROJECTS AND ITALY



222 INTERNATIONAL
PROJECTS AND ITALY



TYPE OF INTERVENTION

EMERGENCY

174

PROJECTS

DEVELOPMENT

47

PROJECTS

CHILD
SPONSORSHIP

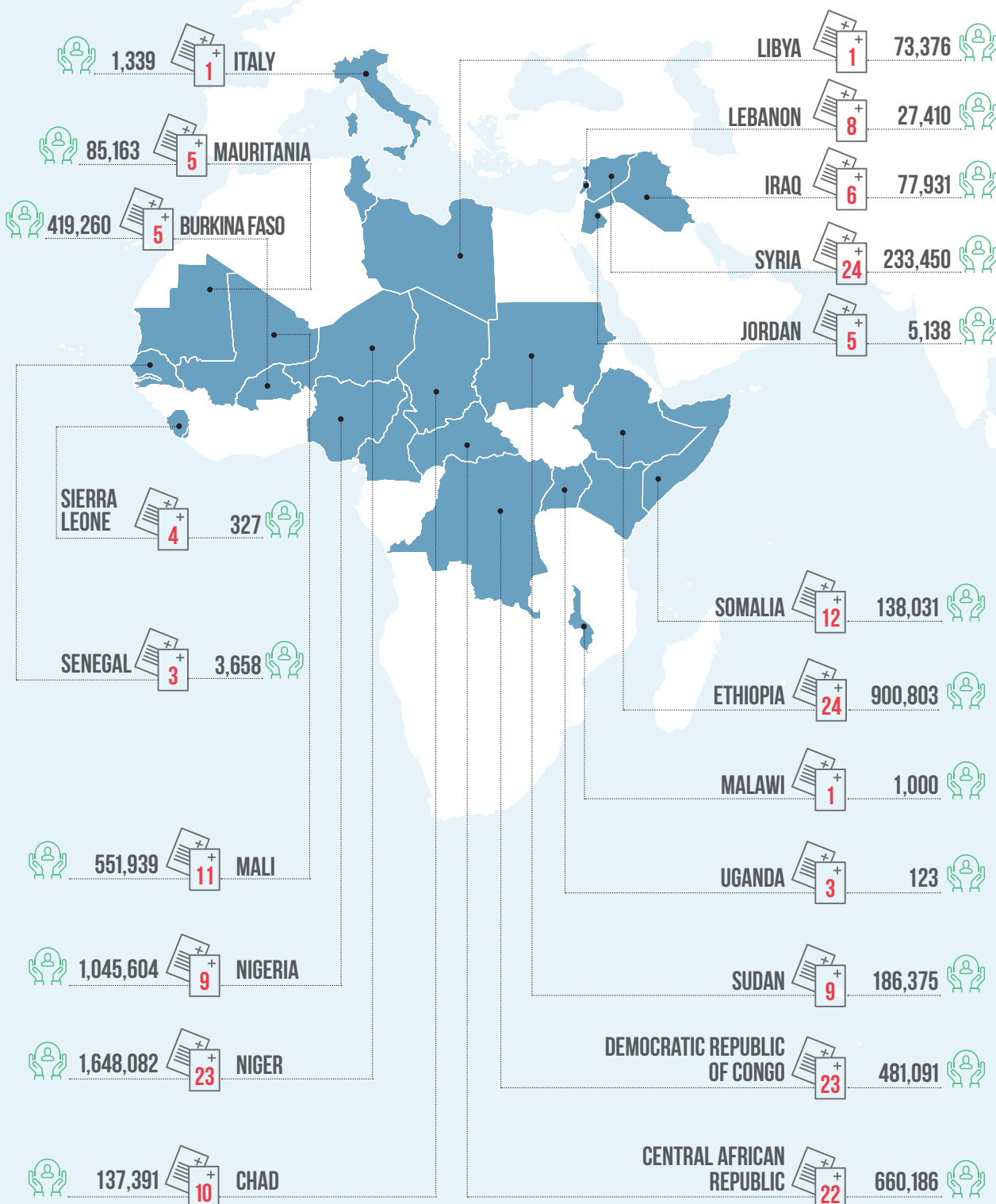
17

PROJECTS

COMBATING FOOD
POVERTY ITALY

1

PROJECT



LEGEND  BENEFICIARIES  PROJECTS

THE “NEAR” FUTURE: DEVELOPMENT LINES 2022-2024

**COOPI PROMOTES
THE EVOLUTION OF FIELD
INTERVENTIONS FROM
EMERGENCIES TO PROCESSES
OF DURABLE AND SUSTAINABLE
DEVELOPMENT.**

“THE NEAR FUTURE” – the title of the document that summarizes the COOPI Development Lines for 2022-2024 – 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 NEIGHBOUR, 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.



Food Security, Protection, Water and Hygiene, Environment and Disaster Risk Reduction are the most consolidated intervention sectors and have always been at the centre 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 also education in emergency.**

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: DEVELOPMENT LINES 2022-2024



PHOTO: GIORGIA VOLPE

6 STRATEGIC OBJECTIVES WILL DETERMINE THE DEVELOPMENT OF COOPI IN THE NEAR FUTURE.

With the new lines of development, COOPI has established the elements of a further stage on its path to 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 working tool that highlights how **COOPI wants to do “more”** than what it already does by giving ever more 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:

1 HUMANITARIAN AID
DEVELOPMENT OF HUMANITARIAN AID OPERATIONS.

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.

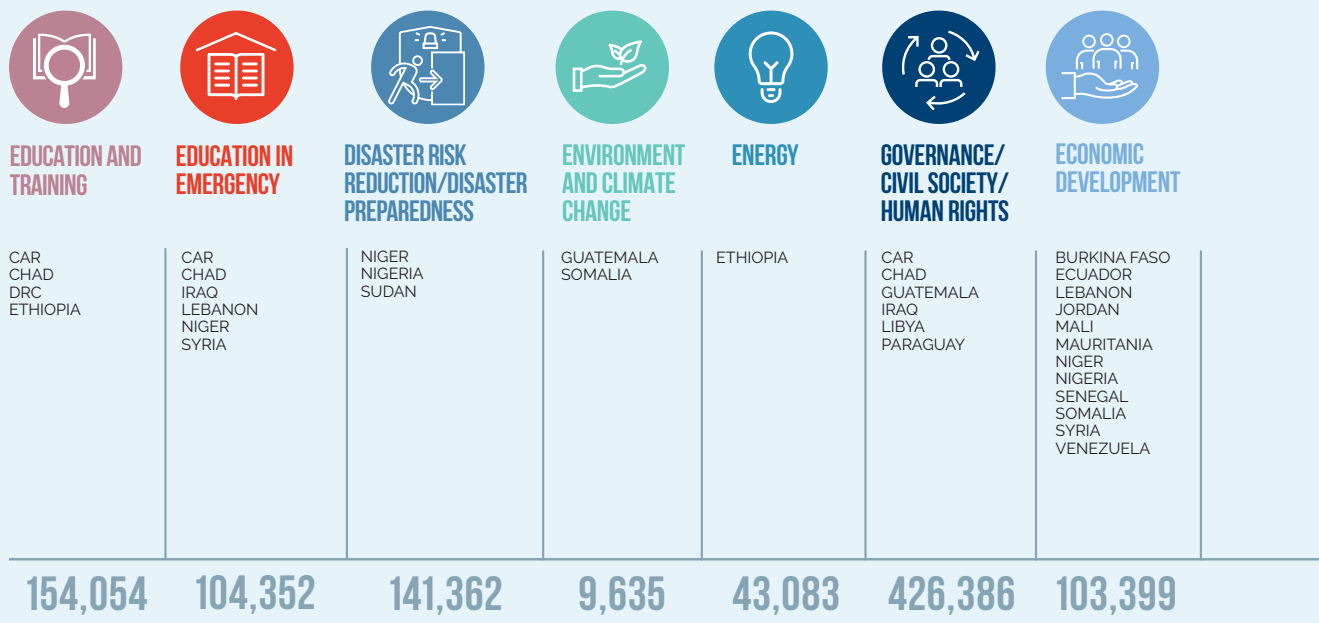
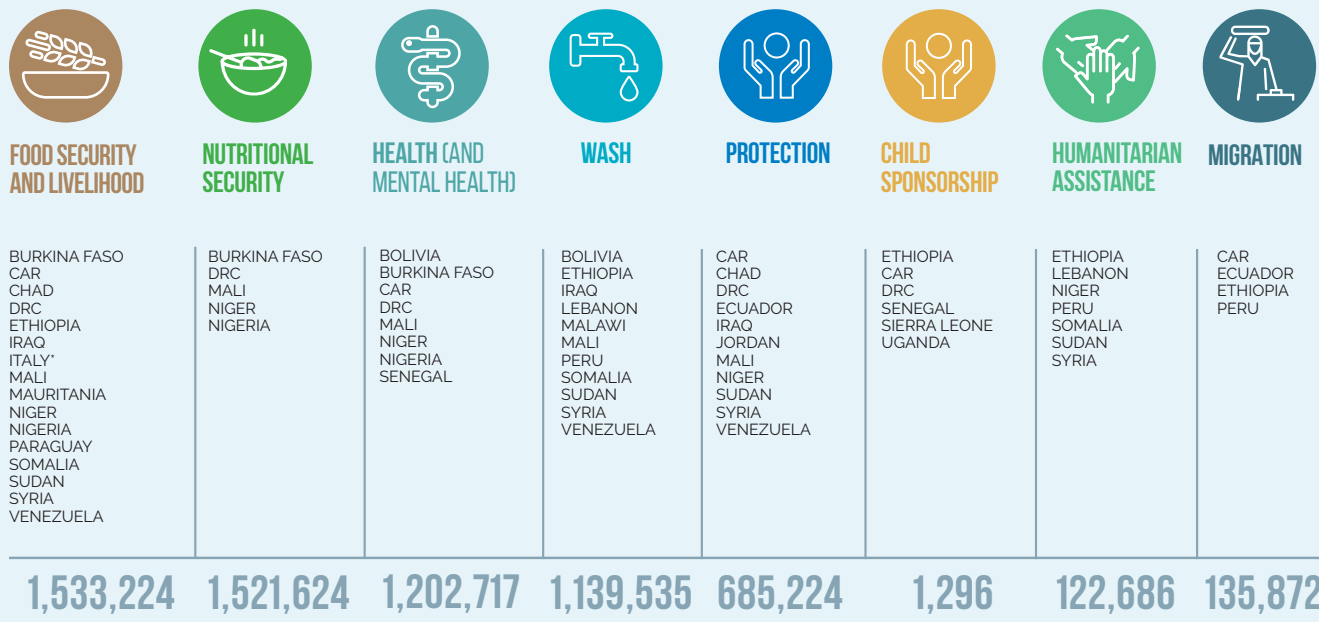
4 FIGHTING POVERTY IN ITALY
DISTRIBUTION OF FOOD AND LISTENING TO FRAGILITY.

5 DEVELOPMENT OF SKILLS AND PROMOTION OF PROFESSIONALISM
ENHANCEMENT OF 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.



SECTORS OF INTERVENTION, COUNTRIES AND BENEFICIARIES REACHED



TOTAL BENEFICIARIES
7,324,449

YOU CAN CONSULT THE COMPLETE DOCUMENT "THE NEAR FUTURE. DEVELOPMENT LINES 2022-2024" AT

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

REGIONAL COORDINATION

WEST AFRICA



SAHEL: HUMANITARIAN NEEDS

35.2

MILLION PEOPLE
IN NEED OF
HUMANITARIAN ASSISTANCE

11.6

MILLION PEOPLE SUFFER
FROM SEVERE
FOOD INSECURITY

2.2

MILLION CHILDREN
SUFFER FROM
MALNUTRITION

7.3

MILLION DISPLACED
PERSONS AND REFUGEES

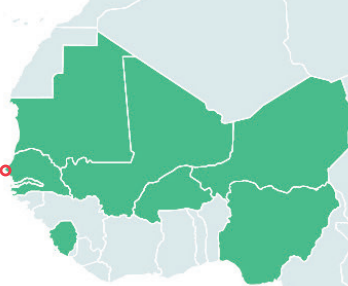


IN WEST AFRICA, we must distinguish two macro-regions: Sahel and the coastal belt. The risk factors are both structural – such as conflicts over resource control, socio-economic and governance fragility, - as well as external - such as climate change, economic shocks and financial speculation, epidemics and the presence of armed extremist groups. In July 2023 there was a coup in Niger, the last in chronological order of a series of coups d'état that has affected several states in the region in recent years.

This combination of factors often leads to the outbreak of serious humanitarian crises - both nationally and regionally - and raises significant challenges in several respects, from the need to manage heavy migratory flows and endless emergencies to the widespread food and nutritional insecurity resulting in the resilience of the local communities being continually put to the test.

COOPI IN WEST AFRICA

DAKAR



60 PROJECTS COMPLETED



3,754,033 BENEFICIARIES REACHED

INTERNATIONAL STAFF



78 PEOPLE

38 WOMEN
40 MEN

LOCAL STAFF

687 PEOPLE

203 WOMEN
484 MEN

COOPI HAS BEEN PRESENT IN WEST AFRICA SINCE 1966.

IN THIS REGION CURRENTLY COOPI OPERATES IN NIGER, NIGERIA, MALI, BURKINA FASO, SENEGAL, SIERRA LEONE, GAMBIA AND MAURITANIA.

THE **REGIONAL COORDINATION FOR WEST AFRICA** IS LOCATED IN **DAKAR**.

MAIN AREAS OF INTERVENTION AT REGIONAL LEVEL



WEST AFRICA

PRIORITY AREAS OF INTERVENTION

In West Africa COOPI is active in the **management of humanitarian crises** affecting different countries in the region and in all contexts where it is possible to implement programmes that aim to reduce **food and nutrition insecurity with a focus on health, mental health and education in emergency** whilst at the same time strengthening the **resilience** of local communities.

Programmes and interventions are always planned and implemented in collaboration with local parties: **institutions, local organizations** and **communities**.











The **multi-country regional approach** that is typical of the presence of COOPI in each area of intervention enables the planning of activities starting from a comprehensive and up-to-date picture of the needs of each area. The projects implemented in individual countries are delivered alongside wide-ranging projects simultaneously in several countries.

The **decentralised organisational model** enables for the most appropriate choices to be made in a timely manner in the contexts in which COOPI operates. This is also possible thanks to its participation in the 'coordination tables' with the main parties active in the region and in each country.

COOPI IN WEST AFRICA 2023

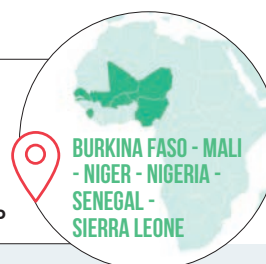
SECTORS OF INTERVENTION

COUNTRIES

FOOD SECURITY AND LIVELIHOODS		BURKINA FASO • MALI • MAURITANIA • NIGER • NIGERIA
MULTI-SECTORAL HUMANITARIAN ASSISTANCE		BURKINA FASO • MALI • NIGER
EDUCATION IN EMERGENCY		NIGER
HEALTH (AND MENTAL HEALTH)		BURKINA FASO • MALI • NIGER • NIGERIA • SENEGAL
NUTRITION SECURITY		BURKINA FASO • MALI • NIGER • NIGERIA
WASH		MALI • NIGER • NIGERIA
PROTECTION		MALI • NIGER • NIGERIA
CHILD SPONSORSHIP PROGRAMME		SENEGAL • SIERRA LEONE
DISASTER RISK REDUCTION/DISASTER PREPAREDNESS		MALI • NIGER • NIGERIA
ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT		BURKINA FASO • MALI • MAURITANIA • NIGER • NIGERIA • SENEGAL

HUMANITARIAN ASSISTANCE AND ACCESS TO BASIC SERVICES

 **39** PROJECTS COMPLETED
 **2,475,603** BENEFICIARIES REACHED



Rapid response in humanitarian crises, health and malnutrition, mental health and psycho-social support, protection and education in emergency, WASH and temporary shelters are the main areas of COOPI's intervention for access to basic services by the West African population. The main target of these activities are displaced persons, refugees, migrants and host communities with a particular focus on the most vulnerable such as women and children from 0 to 5 years.

COOPI's main efforts to promote access to basic services in West Africa include:

- **INTEGRATED RAPID EMERGENCY RESPONSE** FOR THE BASIC NEEDS OF "POPULATIONS ON THE MOVE", SUCH AS DISPLACED PERSONS, REFUGEES AND LOCAL COMMUNITIES THROUGH MULTI-SECTORAL PROTECTION, HEALTH AND MENTAL HEALTH INTERVENTIONS, NUTRITION THROUGH THE DISTRIBUTION OF FOOD, KITS FOR THE CONSTRUCTION OF EMERGENCY SHELTERS, LATRINE CONSTRUCTION, WATER DISTRIBUTION, USE OF MOBILE CLINICS, SANITARY OUTPOSTS, DRUG DISTRIBUTION;
- **FIGHTING MALNUTRITION**, WITH PARTICULAR FOCUS ON CHILDREN OF CRITICAL AGE AND PREGNANT WOMEN, IN

COLLABORATION WITH LOCAL HEALTH FACILITIES;

- **COMMUNITY AND INDIVIDUAL MENTAL HEALTH SERVICES**, INCLUDING AWARENESS-RAISING AND TRAINING OF HEALTHCARE PROFESSIONALS AS WELL AS ADVOCACY IN INSTITUTIONS;
- **FOOD DISTRIBUTION** AND STRENGTHENING OF LIVELIHOODS IN RURAL AREAS;
- **TAKING CHARGE OF UNACCOMPANIED MINORS** PREVIOUSLY ASSOCIATED WITH ARMED GROUPS AND THEIR REINTEGRATION;
- **EDUCATION IN EMERGENCY AND PSYCHOSOCIAL SUPPORT** ESPECIALLY AIMED AT CHILDREN WHO HAVE INTERRUPTED THEIR REGULAR SCHOOLING DUE TO HUMANITARIAN CRISES;
- **MANAGEMENT OF TRANSIT CENTRES** FOR MIGRANTS AND UNACCOMPANIED MINORS;
- **ACCESS TO QUALITY WATER**, ESPECIALLY AT SCHOOL AND COMMUNITY LEVEL, THROUGH THE CONSTRUCTION AND REHABILITATION OF DAMS, WELLS AND WATER POINTS AS WELL AS TRAINING AND AWARENESS-RAISING;
- **CONSTRUCTION OF EMERGENCY LATRINES** AND CLEANING SESSIONS OF COLLECTIVE SPACES.

IN 2023 HUMANITARIAN ASSISTANCE AND ACCESS TO BASIC SERVICES IN WEST AFRICA WERE MAINLY CARRIED OUT IN BURKINA FASO - MALI - NIGER - NIGERIA - SENEGAL - SIERRA LEONE.



PHOTO: APSATOU BAGAYA

WEST AFRICA

STRENGTHENING OF RESILIENCE AND ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT



20 PROJECTS COMPLETED



1,278,430 BENEFICIARIES REACHED



Promoting food security and developing supply chains, infrastructure rehabilitation, conflict prevention, disaster risk reduction and environmental protection are some of COOPI's main initiatives in West Africa: development programmes primarily aimed at farmers and shepherds, craftsmen and entrepreneurs and entire rural communities with a particular focus on the involvement of women and young people.

COOPI's main actions to strengthen community resilience and promote economic development in West Africa include:

- **SUPPORT TO SMALL PRODUCERS TO MODERNIZE AND RELAUNCH AGRICULTURAL AND LIVESTOCK ACTIVITIES;**
- **DEVELOPMENT OF PRODUCTION CHAINS AND THEIR MARKETING;**
- **TRAINING AND SOCIO-ECONOMIC REINTEGRATION MAINLY FOR THE BENEFIT OF RETURNING MIGRANTS OR YOUNG PEOPLE AT RISK OF MIGRATION;**
- **PROMOTION OF ACCESS TO CREDIT;**
- **REHABILITATION OF INFRASTRUCTURE WITH AN INCLUSIVE APPROACH - SUCH AS HIMO (HAUTE INTENSITÉ DE MAIN D'ŒUVRE) - WHICH AIM TO INVOLVE THE WHOLE COMMUNITY;**
- **IMPROVING SOCIAL COHESION AND CONFLICT PREVENTION, ESPECIALLY IN RURAL AREAS;**
- **PARTICIPATORY PLANNING FOR SPATIAL DEVELOPMENT AND REDUCTION OF ENVIRONMENTAL RISKS;**
- **SUPPORT FOR STRENGTHENING SOCIAL SECURITY SYSTEMS;**
- **TRAINING AND INTERVENTIONS FOR DISASTER RISK PREVENTION AND REDUCTION;**
- **ADVOCACY WITH LOCAL AUTHORITIES TO ADAPT SERVICES TO THE NEEDS OF THE MOST VULNERABLE COMMUNITIES.**



PHOTO: COOPI ARCHIVE

IN 2023, ACTIVITIES TO STRENGTHEN RESILIENCE AND PROMOTE ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT IN WEST AFRICA WERE PRIMARILY CARRIED OUT IN BURKINA FASO, MALI, MAURITANIA, NIGER, NIGERIA AND SENEGAL.

DEVELOPMENT LINES

The main lines of development of COOPI in West Africa in the coming years can be summarized as follows.

- **Provide multi-sectoral and holistic humanitarian assistance in emergency situations**
 - with temporary housing, food aid, health and nutrition care, access to water, hygiene and toilets, cash for work and cash transfer;
 - by adopting a transversal approach to Protection in all sectors of intervention, taking also into account the level of satisfaction of the beneficiaries assisted.
- **Respond to the emergency of nutritional insecurity through**
 - the implementation of basic malnutrition management packages that combine the emergency response with the help to close the gap with resilience actions;
 - active and passive screening, referrals and management of acute malnutrition in children under 5 and pregnant and lactating women; support for behavioural change activities through specific awareness-raising sessions (health, nutrition, hygiene, diseases, water-borne diseases, diarrhea, etc.);
 - support for health centres with technical knowledge, rehabilitation and equipment in the form of medical and technical supplies and nutritional advice to improve the management of specific individual cases
- **Ensuring food security through**
 - the distribution of food, money and agricultural inputs, the strengthening of livelihoods and the establishment of income-generating activities;
 - strengthening the technical, material and financial capacity of small farmers to improve productivity and income and create jobs by improving climate-resilient farming practices and post-harvest management.

- **Develop education in emergency situations**, to ensure an inclusive access and provide local school facilities with the means to prevent and manage emergencies and natural disaster risks.
- **Make health, mental health and psychosocial support services more inclusive and accessible, according to the experience gained in recent years in two ways:**
 - providing direct and free assistance for emergencies and managing referrals to specialised facilities;
 - providing medical and technical support to facilities and health workers, both in emergency situations - through mobile teams in remote areas - and in development projects with the support of community operators and committee.
- **Promote economic development and the prevention of socio-economic inequalities through two channels:**
 - developing supply chains, creating jobs and strengthening businesses run by young people and women;
 - access to financial services for local communities, in order to improve their access to markets and economic opportunities.

Develop a culture of preparedness and local responses appropriate to disasters – such as droughts, floods, sandstorms and violent winds (harmattan) – integrating the emergency-development Nexus approach primarily through emergency stocks, advocacy with governments, early alarms.

Finally, COOPI is also one of the main players in the field of Protection in the central Sahel region, with projects with a particular focus on the problem of gender-based violence and the protection of the most vulnerable such as children, adolescents and women.

TO FIND OUT MORE ABOUT OUR WORK IN WEST AFRICA
GO TO THE **WHERE WE WORK** SECTION OF THE COOPI WEBSITE AT

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

AND THEN LOOK UP THE PAGES DEDICATED TO INDIVIDUAL COUNTRIES BY SELECTING THEM FROM THE INTERACTIVE MAP.

REGIONAL COORDINATION

CENTRAL AFRICA



HUMANITARIAN NEEDS

34.2 MILLION PEOPLE IN
NEED OF HUMANITARIAN
ASSISTANCE

31.1 MILLION PEOPLE
AFFECTED BY FOOD
INSECURITY

12.2 MILLION PEOPLE
SUFFERING FROM
MALNUTRITION

9.6 MILLION DISPLACED
PERSONS AND REFUGEES



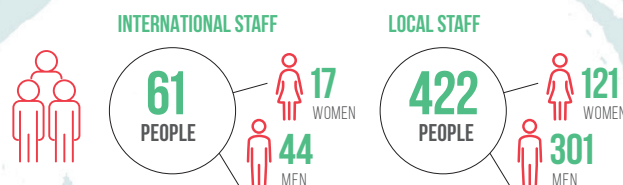
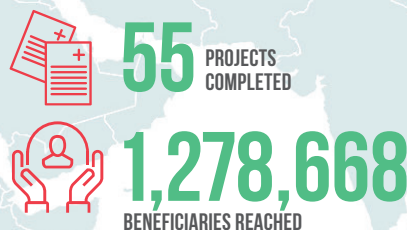
MOST OF THE CENTRAL AFRICAN COUNTRIES have strong structural weaknesses linked to political instability and corruption, the presence of armed groups and crime, poverty and prevalence of the informal economy. Additionally negative effects of climate change have been another serious factor, especially in recent years.

Food insecurity, malnutrition, epidemics, poor access to basic services and human rights violations – especially against vulnerable people such as women and children – and humanitarian crises triggered or aggravated by extreme and cyclical climatic phenomena – such as **floods** and **droughts** – are of critical importance for the stability and development of the countries in the region.

COOPI IN CENTRAL AFRICA

COOPI HAS BEEN PRESENT IN CENTRAL AFRICA SINCE 1974.

CURRENTLY, IN THE REGION, COOPI OPERATES IN THE DEMOCRATIC REPUBLIC OF THE CONGO, CENTRAL AFRICAN REPUBLIC, CHAD AND CAMEROON.



MAIN AREAS OF INTERVENTION AT REGIONAL LEVEL



CENTRAL AFRICA

PRIORITY AREAS OF INTERVENTION

COOPI has been present in Central Africa for almost fifty years operating in different sectors and facilitating, whenever conditions allow, the processes of **transition** from **emergency management** to **development processes**, with the overall objective of promoting wider access to basic services for populations and **strengthening the resilience** of communities.

The programs and interventions arise from **close collaboration** with **institutions** and **organizations active in the area** and actively involve **beneficiary communities**.

The main areas of intervention of COOPI in Central Africa are the **fight against malnutrition** and **food security, protection** and **education**.

COOPI IN CENTRAL AFRICA 2023

SECTORS OF INTERVENTION

COUNTRIES

HUMANITARIAN ASSISTANCE



CAR • CHAD • DRC

FOOD SECURITY AND LIVELIHOODS



CAR • CHAD • DRC

EDUCATION AND TRAINING



CAR • CHAD • DRC

EDUCATION IN EMERGENCY



CAR • CHAD

HEALTH (AND MENTAL HEALTH)



CAR • DRC

NUTRITIONAL SECURITY



DRC

PROTECTION



CAR • CHAD • DRC

CHILD SPONSORSHIP PROGRAMME



CAR • DRC

GOVERNANCE/CIVIL SOCIETY/HUMAN RIGHTS



CAR • CHAD

MIGRATIONS



CAR



FIGHTING MALNUTRITION AND PROTECTING HEALTH


14 PROJECTS COMPLETED

578,526 BENEFICIARIES REACHED



To fight malnutrition, COOPI acts both with regards to healthcare intervention as well as training and prevention with the following activities::

- **IDENTIFICATION AND CARE OF MALNOURISHED CHILDREN, ESPECIALLY IN THE CRITICAL UNDER-5 AGE GROUP WITH APPLICATION OF PROTOCOLS AGAINST MALNUTRITION IN COLLABORATION WITH HEALTH FACILITIES;**
- **TRAINING WITHIN COMMUNITIES AND FAMILIES IN ORDER TO IDENTIFY CASES OF MALNUTRITION;**
- **TRAINING FOR WOMEN ON CORRECT DIETARY PRACTICES DURING PREGNANCY, BREASTFEEDING AND SUBSEQUENTLY FOR THEIR CHILDREN.**

IN 2023, THE FIGHT AGAINST MALNUTRITION IN CENTRAL AFRICA WAS MAINLY CARRIED OUT IN THE DRC.

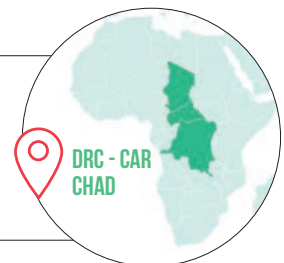


PHOTO: LORENZO DELL'UVA

PROMOTING FOOD SECURITY


9 PROJECTS COMPLETED

206,856 BENEFICIARIES REACHED



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

- **FOOD DISTRIBUTION;**
- **LAUNCHING AND RELAUNCHING OF AGRO-PASTORAL ACTIVITIES;**
- **IMPROVEMENT OF STORAGE CAPACITY FOR AGRICULTURAL AND LIVESTOCK PRODUCTS;**
- **MANAGEMENT AND CONFLICT RESOLUTION BETWEEN SHEPHERDS AND FARMERS, ESPECIALLY IN CHAD;**
- **SUPPORT FOR SMALL ENTREPRENEURS, ESPECIALLY RETURNING MIGRANTS AND YOUNG PEOPLE AT RISK OF MIGRATION.**

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 safeguard the precious biodiversity which characterizes these contexts, too often endangered by unsustainable anthropogenic activities, especially poaching. In this context, in particular, several multi-annual projects are underway in the Democratic Republic of the Congo.

FOOD SECURITY ACTIVITIES IN CENTRAL AFRICA WERE MAINLY CARRIED OUT IN RCA AND RDC IN 2023.

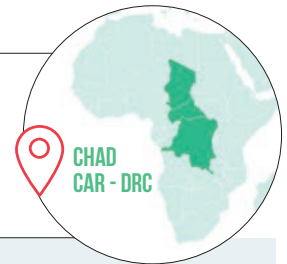
CENTRAL AFRICA

PROTECTION

Activities of Protection 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.

The main protection activities carried out by COOPI in Central Africa are:

- **REINTEGRATION OF WOMEN WHO HAVE SURVIVED ACTS OF VIOLENCE;**
- **PREVENTION AGAINST SEXUAL VIOLENCE;**
- **CARE AND REINTEGRATION OF UNACCOMPANIED MINORS;**
- **SUPPORT FOR THE RECOGNITION OF CHILDREN NOT REGISTERED AT THE REGISTRY OFFICE AND THEREFORE "INVISIBLE" TO INSTITUTIONS;**
- **TAKING CHARGE AND REINTEGRATION OF MINORS PREVIOUSLY ASSOCIATED WITH ARMED GROUPS;**
- **PSYCHOSOCIAL SUPPORT AIMED ESPECIALLY AT CHILDREN;**
- **MENTAL HEALTH PROMOTION WITH DEDICATED LISTENING CENTRES AND PSYCHOLOGICAL SUPPORT;**



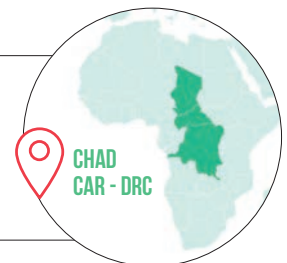
- **EMERGENCY SHELTERS AND MANAGEMENT OF DISPLACED PERSONS SITES;**
- **TRAINING FOR INCOME GENERATING ACTIVITIES, ESPECIALLY FOR RETURNING MIGRANTS AND YOUNG PEOPLE AT RISK OF MIGRATION.**

IN 2023, PROTECTION ACTIVITIES IN CENTRAL AFRICA WERE CARRIED OUT BOTH IN THE RCA AND IN THE DRC AND IN CHAD. IN PARTICULAR, IN CHAD SUPPORT WAS GIVEN TO REFUGEES FLEEING FROM SUDAN EITHER THROUGH FIRST EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT INTERVENTIONS - IN CAMPS SET UP FOR DISPLACED PERSONS IN THE AREA CLOSEST TO THE BORDER - OR THROUGH PSYCHOSOCIAL SUPPORT ACTIVITIES FOR THE MOST VULNERABLE, SUCH AS WOMEN AND CHILDREN.

TRAINING, EDUCATION AND EDUCATION IN EMERGENCY

In the field of Education and Education in Emergency, COOPI carries out both "infrastructural" and support activities as well as training including:

- **CONSTRUCTION OF SCHOOL INFRASTRUCTURE WITH SEMI-PERMANENT MATERIALS, POSSIBLY SOURCED LOCALLY;**
- **REHABILITATION OF DAMAGED CLASSROOMS;**
- **CONSTRUCTION OF TEMPORARY "LIGHT" SCHOOL STRUCTURES WHEREVER IT IS NOT POSSIBLE TO PROVIDE FIXED STRUCTURES;**
- **CLASS EQUIPMENT;**
- **PROVISION OF SCHOOL SUPPLIES;**
- **PSYCHOSOCIAL SUPPORT, ESPECIALLY FOR THOSE CHILDREN WHO HAVE NEVER FOLLOWED A SCHOOL PATH OR WHO HAVE INTERRUPTED IT DUE TO CONFLICTS AND HUMANITARIAN CRISES;**
- **TRAINING OF TEACHERS AND PARENTS.**



In the field of Training, COOPI mainly provides literacy and vocational training courses, especially aimed at women and young people at risk of migration.

IN 2023, ACTIVITIES RELATING TO EDUCATION, EDUCATION IN EMERGENCY AND TRAINING IN CENTRAL AFRICA WERE CARRIED OUT BOTH IN CHAD AND RCA AND IN THE DRC.





INCLUSIVE GOVERNANCE, GENDER AND PEACE


3 PROJECTS COMPLETED

76,810 BENEFICIARIES REACHED



In Central Africa COOPI implements programs for the promotion of social cohesion and peace, especially through inclusive processes aimed at women and young people such as:

- **FIGHTING AND PREVENTING VIOLENCE AND GENDER BASED DISCRIMINATION;**
- **PROGRAMMES TO EMPOWER WOMEN AND STRENGTHEN WOMEN'S**

ORGANISATIONS AND NETWORKS;

- **PROGRAMMES THAT INVOLVE YOUNG PEOPLE AND ENCOURAGE THEM TO TAKE AN ACTIVE ROLE IN PROMOTING SOCIAL COHESION.**

IN 2023, GOVERNANCE ACTIVITIES IN CENTRAL AFRICA WERE CARRIED OUT IN BOTH CHAD AND CAR.

DEVELOPMENT LINES

The priority intervention sectors of COOPI in the near future in Central Africa will remain:

- **Protection** (especially in the CAR and the DRC) with assistance to women who have been victims of gender-based violence, unaccompanied minors, victims of abuse and armed conflicts, while simultaneously promoting awareness and training activities;
- **Education** – especially in Chad and CAR – both with infrastructural as well as support activities and training;
- **Nutrition** – especially in the DRC – through the strengthening of community health centres and prevention activities attending to cases of malnutrition;
- **Food Security** (especially in the DRC, in the CAR and in Chad) above all through the strengthening of the agri-food chain and the increase in agricultural productivity. This area of activity will be conducted, whenever possible, in tandem with environmental protection by promoting correct management of resources in large natural parks, using a sustainable and community based perspective.
- **Promoting peace**, fighting and preventing violence and **gender** based discrimination, **empowering** women and involving young people.

TO FIND OUT MORE ABOUT OUR WORK IN CENTRAL AFRICA, GO TO THE **WHERE WE WORK** SECTION OF THE COOPI WEBSITE AT

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AND THEN LOOK UP THE PAGES DEDICATED TO INDIVIDUAL COUNTRIES BY SELECTING THEM FROM THE INTERACTIVE MAP



PHOTO: SARA MAGNI

REGIONAL COORDINATION

EASTERN AND SOUTHERN AFRICA



HORN OF AFRICA: HUMANITARIAN NEEDS

43 MILLION PEOPLE IN
NEED OF HUMANITARIAN
ASSISTANCE

32 MILLION PEOPLE
AFFECTED BY SEVERE
FOOD INSECURITY

14.6 MILLION DISPLACED
PERSONS

8 MILLION PREGNANT WOMEN
AND CHILDREN SUFFERING
FROM ACUTE MALNUTRITION

25 MILLION PEOPLE
LACKING SUFFICIENT
ACCESS TO WATER

5 MILLION REFUGEES
AND ASYLUM
SEEKERS

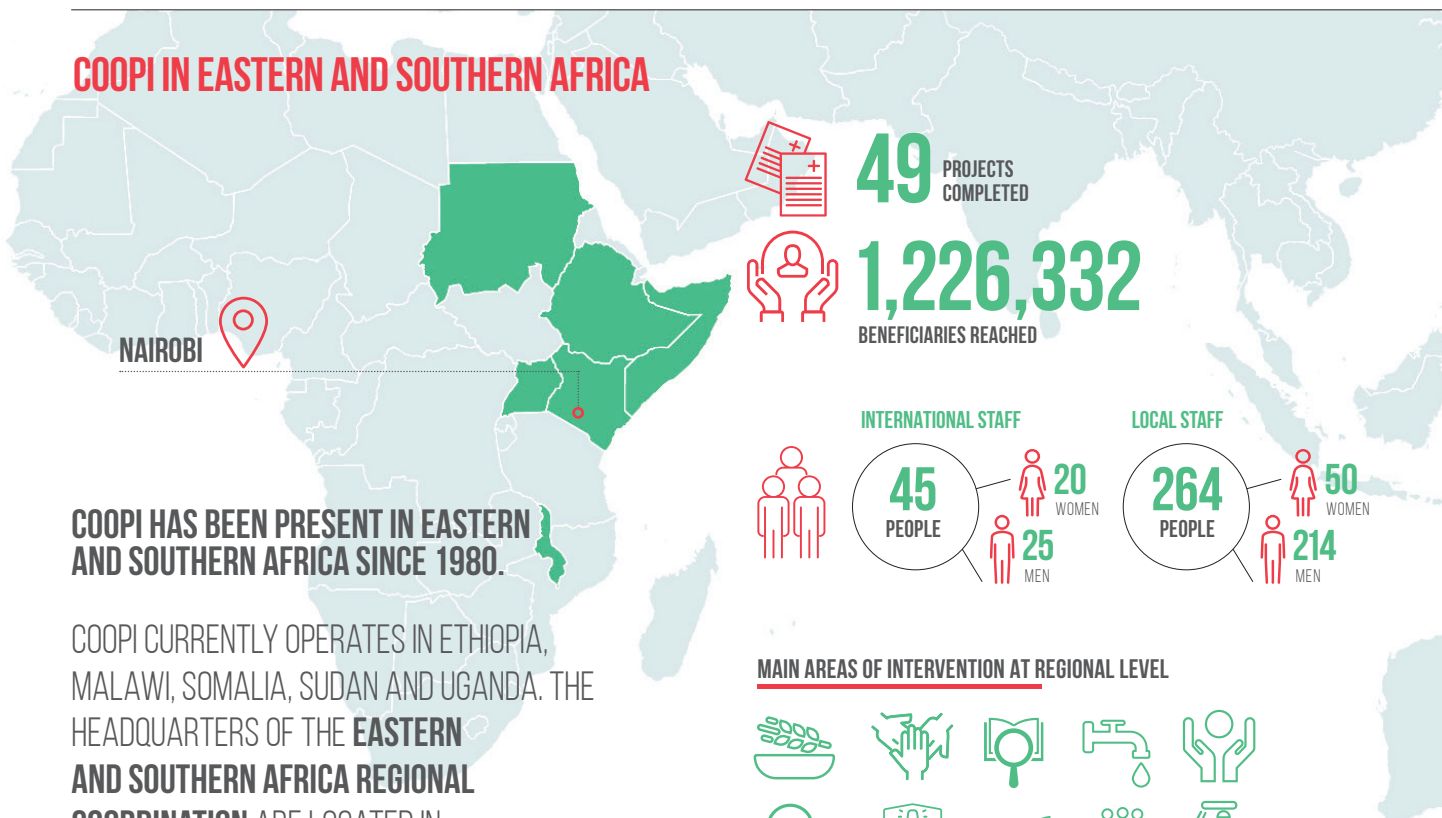


THE MAIN CHALLENGES for the development of the **Horn of Africa** region are stem from three interconnected phenomena: **migrations** (both outside the area for economic reasons and within it due to frequent inter-ethnic and political conflicts, such as those that affected Sudan in 2023), climate change/natural hazards, and political instability.

These phenomena increasingly bring **humanitarian emergencies** and have significant repercussions on the local economy and social infrastructure.

Since 15 April 2023 a bloody internal conflict in **Sudan** has resulted in a very serious **humanitarian crisis** with more than 8 million displaced persons and refugees, also to neighbouring countries, such as Chad, Egypt and South Sudan.

COOPI IN EASTERN AND SOUTHERN AFRICA



EASTERN AND SOUTHERN AFRICA

PRIORITY AREAS OF INTERVENTION

COOPI has been present in East Africa for more than forty years providing humanitarian assistance and programmes for **sustainable development** in the region by fighting **food insecurity**, promoting widespread access to **water** and **sustainable sources of energy**, mitigating and reducing the risks associated with **climate change** and disasters arisen from natural phenomena, while committing to promote greater **community cohesion**.

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











The planning of activities at a regional level enables COOPI to develop an overview of the needs within any specific area and the decentralized model allows to calibrate interventions based on the immediate local needs.

In Eastern and Southern Africa, COOPI operates in various sectors, facilitating a **transition** from processes of **emergency management to processes of development** – the Nexus approach – with the general objective of promoting wider access to **basic services** for populations and **strengthening resilience** within communities.

COOPI IN EAST AND SOUTHERN AFRICA 2023

SECTOR OF INTERVENTIONS

COUNTRIES

FOOD SECURITY AND LIVELIHOODS		ETHIOPIA • SOMALIA • SUDAN
HUMANITARIAN ASSISTANCE		ETHIOPIA • SOMALIA • SUDAN
WASH		ETHIOPIA • MALAWI • SOMALIA • SUDAN
PROTECTION		SUDAN
CHILD SPONSORSHIP PROGRAMME		ETHIOPIA • UGANDA
ENVIRONMENT AND CLIMATE CHANGE		SOMALIA
ENERGY		ETHIOPIA
DISASTER RISK REDUCTION/DISASTER PREPAREDNESS		SUDAN
ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT		SOMALIA
MIGRATION		ETHIOPIA



MANAGING THE HUMANITARIAN EMERGENCY

9 PROJECTS COMPLETED
136,436 BENEFICIARIES REACHED



As part of the management of humanitarian crises in East and Southern Africa, COOPI's way of working is based on **rapid response** mechanisms for the needs of "populations on the move" with activities such as:

- **SHELTER:** DISTRIBUTION OF KITS FOR THE CONSTRUCTION OF TEMPORARY SHELTERS;
- **NFI (NON-FOOD ITEMS):** DISTRIBUTION OF BASIC NECESSITIES;
- **CAMP COORDINATION AND CAMP MANAGEMENT (CCCM)** THROUGH COORDINATION AND MANAGEMENT, IMPROVEMENT AND MAINTENANCE, COMMUNITY PARTICIPATION AND ADVOCACY AND CAPACITY BUILDING ACTIVITIES TOWARDS KEY STAKEHOLDERS, SUCH AS LOCAL AUTHORITIES AND NGOS;
- **CASH AND VOUCHER:** SUPPORT WITH MULTIPURPOSE CASH ASSISTANCE (MPCA) AND CASH FOR RENT (CFR) TO START SMALL INCOME GENERATING BUSINESSES.

IN 2023, IN THIS FIELD IN EAST AFRICA COOPI WAS MAINLY ACTIVE AS FOLLOWS:

- **IN SUDAN, DISTRIBUTING NON-FOOD ITEMS** IN DISPLACED PERSONS CAMPS AS PART OF THE MANAGEMENT OF THE VERY SERIOUS **HUMANITARIAN CRISIS** CAUSED BY THE OUTBREAK OF THE INTERNAL CONFLICT IN APRIL 2023;
- **IN ETHIOPIA,** IN THOSE AREAS STILL AFFECTED BY THE **HUMANITARIAN CRISIS** TRIGGERED BY THE CONFLICT IN THE **TIGRAY REGION**;
- **IN SOMALIA,** WHERE HUMANITARIAN AID IS INCREASINGLY NECESSARY AS A RESULT OF A COMPLEX MULTIDIMENSIONAL CRISIS CAUSED BY PROLONGED DROUGHT AND INTER-ETHNIC CONFLICT.

PROMOTING FOOD SECURITY

11 PROJECTS COMPLETED
192,274 BENEFICIARIES REACHED



In Eastern and Southern Africa, COOPI promotes food security through structured programs which mainly include:

- **STARTING UP AND RELAUNCHING** OF AGRO-PASTORAL ACTIVITIES, THROUGH THE DISTRIBUTION OF TOOLS, INSTRUMENTS, AND SEEDS RESISTANT TO THE ENVIRONMENTAL CONTEXT, AS WELL AS THROUGH PROFESSIONAL TRAINING AIMED AT AGRO-PASTORAL COMMUNITIES;
- **DISTRIBUTION OF ASSISTANCE IN CASH,** INTENDED FOR THE MOST VULNERABLE CATEGORIES AFFECTED BY HUMANITARIAN EMERGENCIES;
- **TRAINING AND SOCIO-ECONOMIC REINTEGRATION,** WITH SPECIFIC FOCUS ON RETURNING MIGRANTS, YOUNG PEOPLE AT RISK OF MIGRATION AND VULNERABLE WOMEN;
- **DEVELOPMENT** OF PRODUCTION CHAINS AND THEIR MARKETING; SUCH AS, FOR EXAMPLE, THE COFFEE SUPPLY CHAIN IN ETHIOPIA.

IN 2023, COOPI WAS ACTIVE IN THIS FIELD IN EAST AFRICA, PARTICULARLY IN ETHIOPIA AND SOMALIA.



PHOTO: COOPI ARCHIVE

EASTERN AND SOUTHERN AFRICA

ACCESS TO WATER



In East and Southern Africa, COOPI implements a significant number of WASH projects, tailor-made to any given context.

As part of the **humanitarian crisis** management, COOPI implements operations for the **distribution of drinking water** and **water sanitation** products, for the organisation of waste management systems and offers training to promote **good hygiene practices**, also as a form of prevention of epidemics.

As part of the development programmes, COOPI promotes **better and more widespread access** to water, working mainly at **community level** in **rural areas** where **dams, wells, water points and latrines** are built or rehabilitated. **Training and awareness-raising** activities are also offered to promote **good sanitation practices** and reduce the spread of diseases caused by water contamination.

IN 2023, IN THIS FIELD IN EAST AFRICA COOPI WAS MAINLY ACTIVE AS FOLLOWS:

- **IN SUDAN**, WITH EMERGENCY INTERVENTIONS IN REFUGEE CAMPS AS PART OF THE MANAGEMENT OF THE HUMANITARIAN CRISIS;
- **IN ETIOPIA**, WITH INTERVENTIONS IN AREAS AFFECTED BY DROUGHT, WITH PROJECTS FOR THE CONSTRUCTION AND REHABILITATION OF WATER SCHEMES IN RURAL AREAS AND WITH TRAINING ON GOOD HYGIENE PRACTICES;
- **IN SOMALIA**, WITH EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT INTERVENTIONS IN AREAS AFFECTED BY DROUGHT.

MITIGATING THE IMPACT OF CLIMATE CRISES



In Eastern and Southern Africa – regions where climate shocks are constantly increasing both in terms of the intensity of the phenomena and in frequency – COOPI carries out extensive environmental programmes to mitigate the effects of **climate change** and projects for **Disaster Risk Reduction and Disaster Preparedness**.

IN 2023, COOPI WAS ACTIVE IN THIS FIELD IN EAST AFRICA:

- **IN SOMALIA** – WHICH IS CURRENTLY EXPERIENCING THE SIXTH RAINLESS SEASON - TO MAKE DISASTER RESPONSE PLANS OPERATIONAL WITHIN THE SOMREP CONSORTIUM;
- AS FAR AS POSSIBLE – UNTIL THE OUTBREAK OF INTERNAL CONFLICT – **IN SUDAN**, IN SUPPORT OF VULNERABLE POPULATIONS IN THE OPEN AREAS OF MAYO (KHARTOUM).



PHOTO: COOPI ARCHIVE



PROMOTING ACCESS TO SUSTAINABLE ENERGY

1 PROJECT COMPLETED
43,083 BENEFICIARIES REACHED



COOPI has been promoting access to sustainable energy sources for several years, especially in rural communities. Projects to install solar panels are underway throughout the region. Furthermore, in Ethiopia for several years a project has been promoted in the rural areas of Bale and South West Shewa – in

the Oromia region – introducing families to "improved" stoves that cook with high energy efficiency. The project has also activated a virtuous circle of generation of carbon credits which are then reinvested for local development.

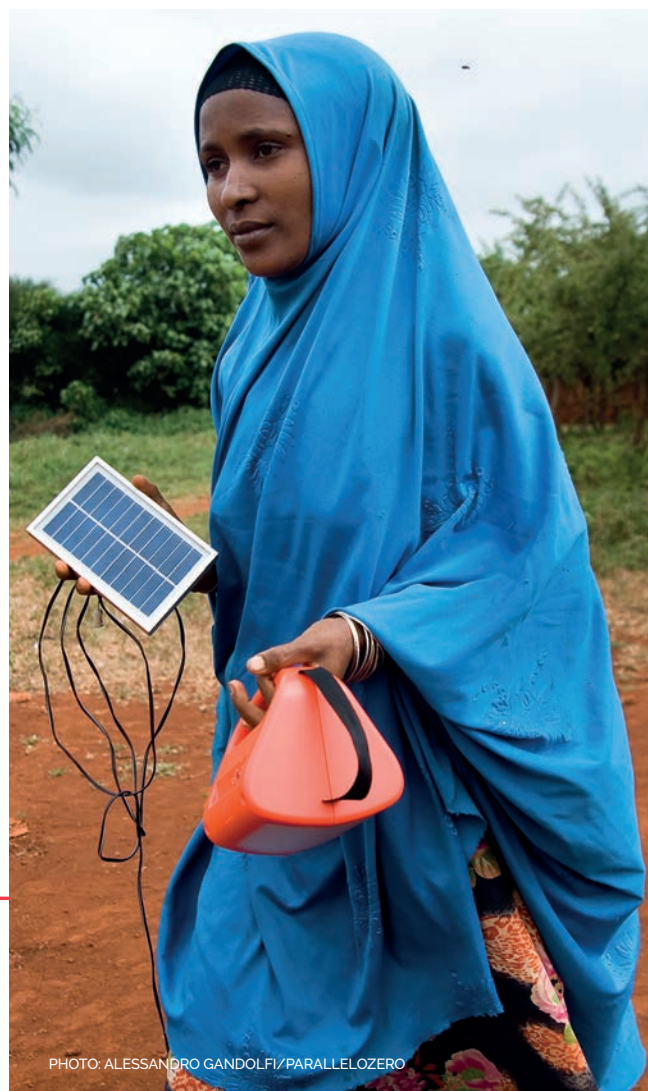
LINES OF DEVELOPMENT

COOPI's priority areas and sectors of intervention in the near future in Eastern and Southern Africa will be primarily **Humanitarian Assistance** linked to ongoing conflicts – such as, for example, in Sudan – and climate change. Whenever possible, programmes of **Food Security and income generating activities, WASH, Disaster Risk Reduction and Disaster Preparedness** will also be promoted. These represent "historical" sectors of COOPI's work in the region for which the organization is already well-known and has a strong expertise.

Looking ahead, COOPI also intends to intervene in **more innovative areas**, such as access to **sustainable energy sources** in rural communities (already successfully tested in Ethiopia).

Given the increasingly frequent occurrence of emergency and development issues affecting the Horn of Africa as a whole, the aim is to further promote and strengthen the capacity to intervene at a regional level in terms of issues and responses needed.

In addition, the "localization" component – typical of the intervention approach of COOPI – will be further structured making it an integral part of a standard procedure, right from the stage of drafting new propositions of intervention.



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PHOTO: ALESSANDRO GANDOLFI/PARALLELOZERO

REGIONAL COORDINATION

MIDDLE EAST AND NORTH AFRICA

SYRIAN CRISIS: HUMANITARIAN NEEDS

16.7 MILLION PEOPLE IN
NEED OF HUMANITARIAN
ASSISTANCE

15 MILLION PEOPLE
AFFECTED BY FOOD
INSECURITY

13.6 MILLION PEOPLE
LACKING SUFFICIENT
ACCESS TO WATER

6.8 MILLION
DISPLACED

5.2 MILLION SYRIAN
REFUGEES IN THE
WORLD

2.5 MILLION CHILDREN UNABLE
TO FOLLOW A REGULAR
EDUCATION PATH

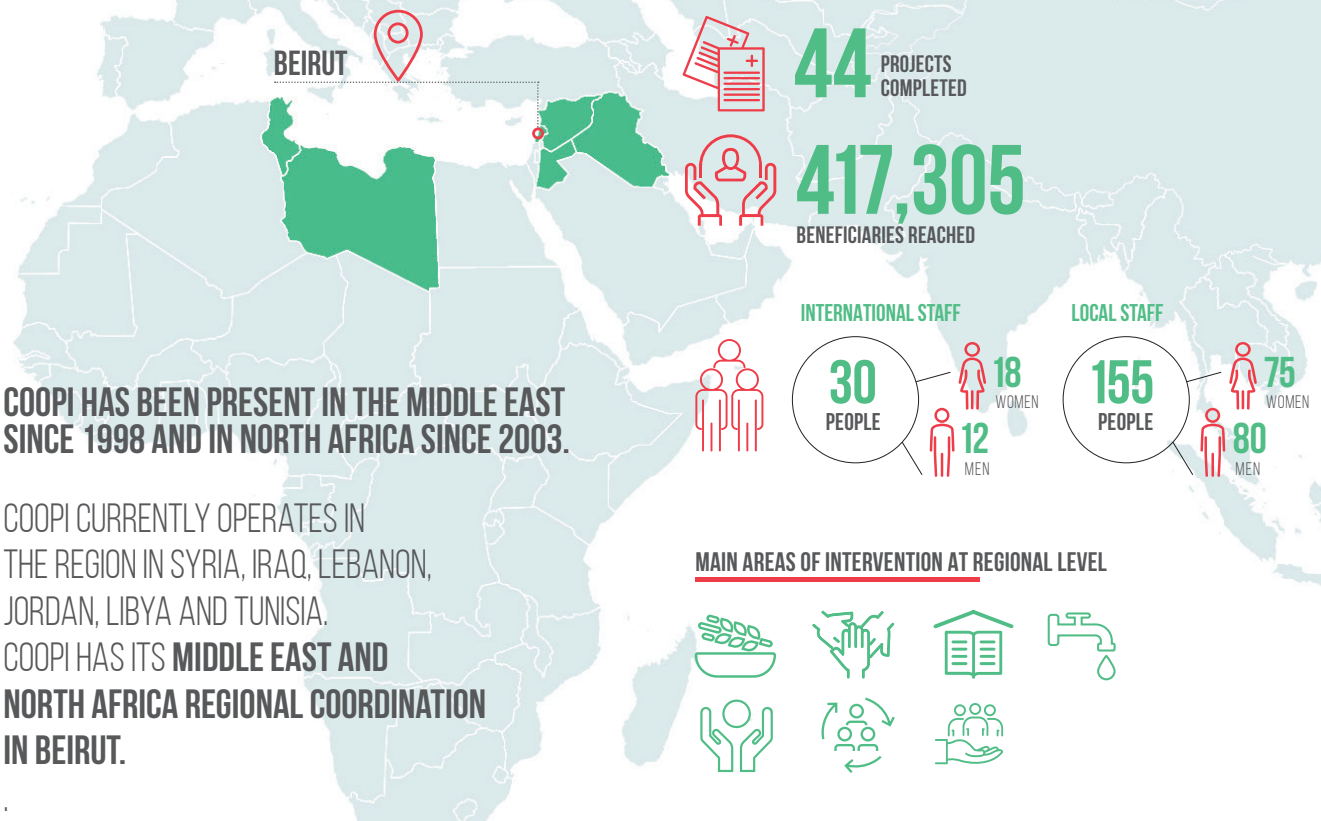


IN THE 14 YEARS SINCE THE BEGINNING OF THE SYRIAN CRISIS more than 13 million people have fled the country or are internally displaced within its borders. The crisis also involves neighboring countries, which have welcomed more than 5 million Syrian refugees and are experiencing growing financial pressure.

The whole region – including countries in North Africa – is characterized by **complex** and prolonged **crises**, most often linked to conflicts, political instability and corruption. This has resulted in the loss of **basic services, displaced people and refugees** from and in every country in the region, internal social tension, ever-increasing poverty and **food insecurity**, with little to no chances of recovery especially due to the lack of job prospects. All of these problems particularly affect the most vulnerable groups, such as women, children, the elderly and people with disabilities.

Adding to this already difficult situation, the impact of the February 6, 2023 earthquake in Syria is estimated to have affected around 4 million people and around 2 million of those are in the province of Aleppo where COOPI has been operating for several years.

COOPI IN THE MIDDLE EAST AND NORTH AFRICA



MIDDLE EAST AND NORTH AFRICA

PRIORITY AREAS OF INTERVENTION

In the Middle East and North Africa, COOPI adopts a regional approach based on a multi-sectoral response and on three programmatic pillars: **Food Security & Livelihood, Protection & Education, and WASH** (Water, Sanitation, Hygiene). To these, emergency management has recently been added, especially in Syria following the February 6 earthquake in 2023.








The **regional approach** in planning interventions enables COOPI to gain an overview of the needs of the area. In addition, the decentralized organizational model makes it possible to promptly make adequate choices, in line with the needs that arise locally.

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

COOPI IN THE MIDDLE EAST AND NORTH AFRICA 2023

SECTORS OF INTERVENTION

COUNTRIES

FOOD SECURITY AND LIVELIHOODS		IRAQ • LEBANON • SYRIA
HUMANITARIAN ASSISTANCE		SYRIA
EDUCATION IN EMERGENCY		JORDAN • IRAQ • LEBANON • SYRIA
WASH		IRAQ • LEBANON • SYRIA • LIBYA
PROTECTION		JORDAN • IRAQ • LEBANON • SYRIA
GOVERNANCE/CIVIL SOCIETY/HUMAN RIGHTS		IRAQ • LEBANON • LIBYA
ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT		JORDAN • IRAQ • SYRIA



HUMANITARIAN ASSISTANCE AND PROTECTION



In the Middle East, COOPI implements Humanitarian Assistance and Protection activities with the aim of supporting the most vulnerable as a result of the war – especially women heads of households who single-handedly must take care of children, disabled people and the elderly – and, most recently, due to the earthquake that struck Syria in February 2023.

COOPI's activities in this field are mainly:

- **EARLY RECOVERY ACTIVITY;**
- **PSYCHOSOCIAL SUPPORT, ESPECIALLY WITH MOBILE UNITS;**
- **OFFER OF PSYCHOLOGICAL SUPPORT PATHS, ALSO THROUGH INDIVIDUAL "CASE MANAGEMENT" AND PROVISION OF SPECIALIZED AND QUALITY SERVICES, SUCH AS THOSE PROVIDED THROUGH THERAPISTS;**
- **PROVISION OF MEDICAL AND GENERAL SUPPLIES AND AWARENESS CAMPAIGNS;**
- **EMERGENCY ECONOMIC ASSISTANCE FOR THE MOST VULNERABLE GROUPS OF PEOPLE.**

IN 2023, HUMANITARIAN ASSISTANCE AND PROTECTION ACTIVITIES IN THE MIDDLE EAST WERE MAINLY CARRIED OUT IN JORDAN, IRAQ, LEBANON AND SYRIA.



PHOTO: COOPI ARCHIVE

EDUCATION IN EMERGENCY PROMOTION



In the Middle East, COOPI promotes Education in emergency projects for children and young people, to encourage their return to regular education. In this context, COOPI carries out both "infrastructural" as well as support and training activities including:

THE RISK OF DROPPING-OUT;

- **REHABILITATION AND IMPROVEMENT OF SCHOOL INFRASTRUCTURE, WHENEVER POSSIBLE WITH SEMI-PERMANENT MATERIALS, AND WHENEVER POSSIBLE AVAILABLE SOURCED LOCALLY;**
- **ACCOMPANYING YOUTH TO AFTER SCHOOL PROGRAMS FOR REINTEGRATION INTO THE EDUCATIONAL SYSTEM AND TO REDUCE**

- **PROVIDING CLASSROOM EQUIPMENT AND SCHOOL SUPPLIES TO CHILDREN;**
- **TEACHER TRAINING, ESPECIALLY IN DEALING WITH CHILDREN WHO ARE VICTIMS OF TRAUMA CAUSED BY HUMANITARIAN CRISES.**

IN 2023 ACTIVITIES OF EDUCATION IN EMERGENCY HAVE BEEN CARRIED OUT FOR THE MOST PART IN IRAQ, JORDAN, LEBANON AND SYRIA.

MIDDLE EAST AND NORTH AFRICA

PROMOTING ACCESS TO WATER AND HYGIENE



In the Middle East, COOPI implements WASH projects promoting better and more widespread access to water at community level and better waste management.

In terms of access to water, COOPI mainly operates:

- **ENSURING ACCESS TO QUALITY WATER AND SANITATION FOR PUBLIC FACILITIES, SUCH AS SCHOOLS AND HOSPITALS;**
- **BUILDING OR REHABILITATING WELLS, WATER POINTS AND LATRINES, ESPECIALLY IN RURAL AREAS;**
- **REHABILITATING WATER TREATMENT PLANTS AND WATER NETWORKS FOR COMMUNITIES AND MUNICIPALITIES;**
- **DISTRIBUTING HYGIENE KITS.**

IN 2023 COOPI IMPLEMENTED SEVERAL WASH PROJECTS IN THE MIDDLE EAST AND NORTH AFRICA BY

- IMPROVING ACCESS TO QUALITY WATER IN **IRAQ, LEBANON AND SYRIA**
- PROMOTING INTEGRATED AND SUSTAINABLE MANAGEMENT OF SOLID WASTE IN URBAN AREAS IN **LEBANON AND LIBYA.**



PROMOTING PARTICIPATORY GOVERNANCE



COOPI always adopts a participatory approach in the projects it carries out. In the Middle East and North Africa in particular, COOPI promotes structured **multi-stakeholder consultation** processes involving local authorities and representatives of civil society in the context of large multi-year projects for the improvement of the delivery and quality of public services, especially water and waste management services in areas where these are very scarce or almost non-existent.

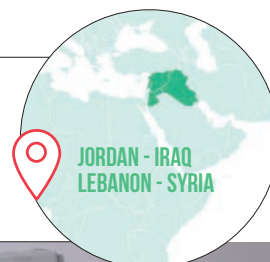
IN 2023 IN THE MIDDLE EAST AND NORTH AFRICA COOPI HAS PROMOTED SEVERAL STRUCTURED PROCESSES OF PARTICIPATORY GOVERNANCE MAINLY IN IRAQ, LEBANON AND LIBYA.





PROMOTING FOOD SECURITY AND INCOME-GENERATING ACTIVITIES

15 PROJECTS COMPLETED
38,007 BENEFICIARIES REACHED



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

- **START-UP AND RELAUNCHING OF SMALL AGRICULTURAL AND ZOOTECHNICAL ACTIVITIES;**
- **LAUNCH OF OTHER INCOME GENERATING ACTIVITIES, ALSO THROUGH CASH FOR WORK MECHANISMS;**
- **PROFESSIONAL TRAINING AND SUPPORT FOR MICRO-ENTERPRISES;**
- **FOOD DISTRIBUTIONS FOR PARTICULARLY VULNERABLE INDIVIDUALS (WOMEN HEAD OF HOUSEHOLDS, DISABLED PERSONS, THE ELDERLY) AND ALSO SUPPORTING THE KICK-START OF SMALL LOCAL BUSINESSES.**



IN 2023, IN THE AREA OF THE SYRIAN CRISIS, COOPI CARRIED OUT FOOD SECURITY AND START-UP PROJECTS FOR MICRO-ENTERPRISES, ESPECIALLY IN JORDAN, IRAQ, LEBANON AND SYRIA.

PHOTO: COOPI ARCHIVE

DEVELOPMENT LINES

COOPI's priority areas and sectors of intervention in the near future in the Middle East will be:

- **Humanitarian Assistance and Emergency management**, especially in Syria and in the countries impacted by the Syrian crisis;
- **Protection and Education in Emergency;**
- **Food Security, Income Generating Activities and Economic Development;**
- **WASH**, including waste management systems.
- **Governance and localization**, to increase participation and involve more and more local people, especially young people and women, in the development of their future.



PHOTO: COOPI ARCHIVE

TO FIND OUT MORE ABOUT OUR WORK IN THE MIDDLE EAST, GO TO THE **WHERE WE WORK** SECTION OF THE COOPI WEBSITE AT

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AND THEN LOOK UP THE PAGES DEDICATED TO INDIVIDUAL COUNTRIES BY SELECTING THEM FROM THE INTERACTIVE MAP

REGIONAL COORDINATION

LATIN AMERICA AND THE CARIBBEAN



**VENEZUELAN CRISIS:
HUMANITARIAN NEEDS**

7 MILLION PEOPLE
IN NEED OF HUMANITARIAN
ASSISTANCE

6.5 MILLION VENEZUELAN REFUGEES OR
ASYLUM SEEKERS IN OTHER LATIN
AMERICAN AND CARIBBEAN COUNTRIES

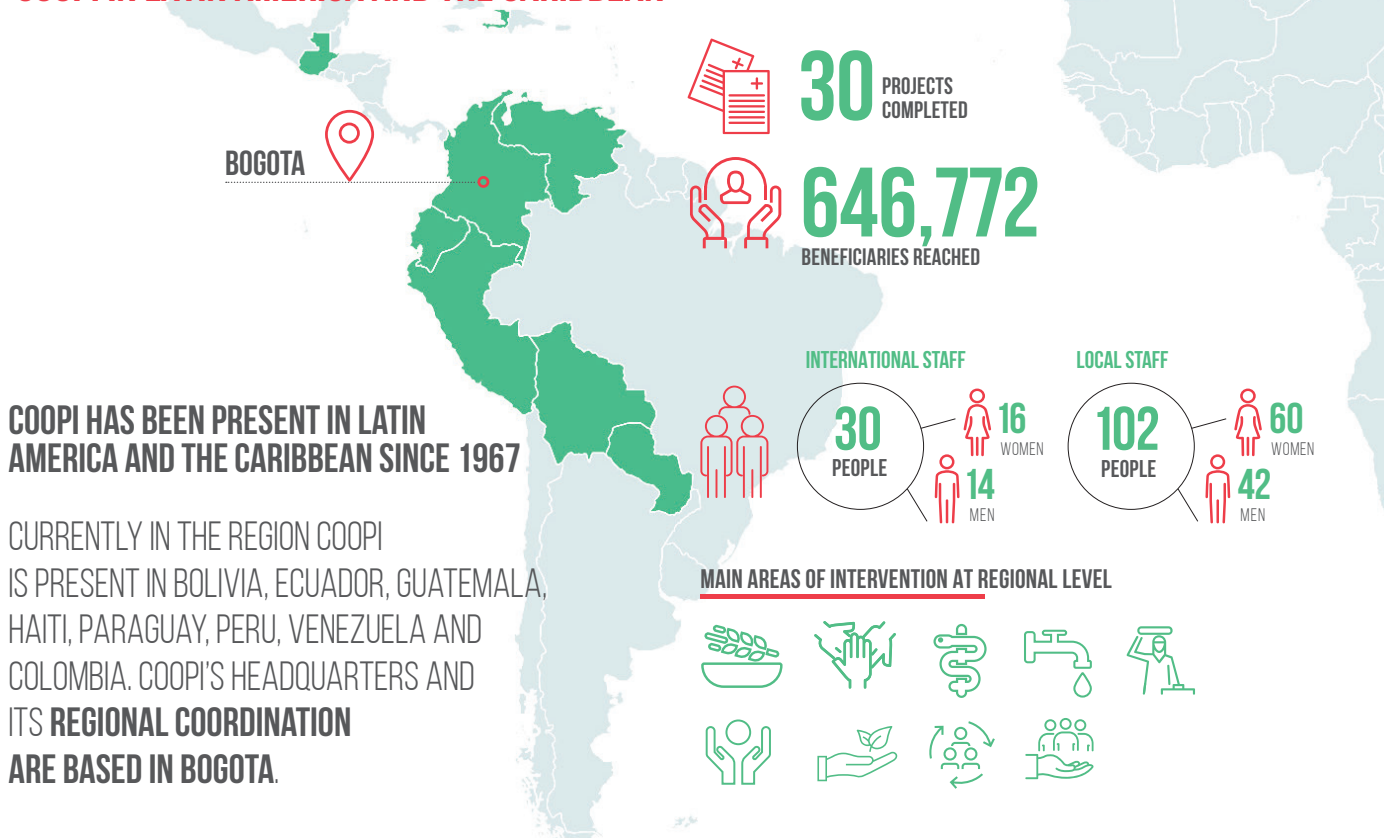
LATIN AMERICA AND THE CARIBBEAN



IN LATIN AMERICA AND THE CARIBBEAN COOPI operates across a vast territory, that of South America, Central America and the Caribbean, which has considerable internal differences. Despite the great heterogeneity of the environmental, cultural and political-economic context of these countries, some recurrent critical issues are challenging their development. These are political instability, corruption and presence of armed groups, strong social inequalities and high unemployment rates, the pervasive presence of crime in many economic sectors and the prevalence of an informal economy. Furthermore, in recent years several of the countries where COOPI operates have been hit by the **Venezuelan crisis**, the most serious internal migration crisis in modern Latin American history.

These countries are mostly characterized by poor access to **basic services**, a constant increase of people in need of **humanitarian aid** due to natural hazards or internal conflicts and **migratory phenomena** (economic or "environmental" migrants) both at regional and national level.

COOPI IN LATIN AMERICA AND THE CARIBBEAN



LATIN AMERICA AND THE CARIBBEAN

PRIORITY AREAS OF INTERVENTION

In Latin America and the Caribbean, COOPI develops **integrated multi-sector interventions** in **complex crisis situations**, strengthening the **resilience** of communities in a framework that links **humanitarian response, rehabilitation and development**. The main areas of intervention in which COOPI is involved in the region are protection and **access to water**, the promotion of **food security** and **access to livelihoods**, **environmental protection** and **disaster risk reduction**, 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 promotion of the empowerment of local organizations (so-called localization) – through technical assistance to local stakeholders – are the defining factors of COOPI's approach in the area.

The main beneficiaries of COOPI's work and the local organisations that COOPI cooperates with in the region are groups that suffer specific situations of vulnerability such as indigenous populations, farmers, migrants, asylum seekers and refugees, with priority given to women and children.

COOPI's modus operandi in the region is characterized by the involvement of **institutions**, local **organizations** and **communities**.

COOPI IN LATIN AMERICA AND THE CARIBBEAN 2023

SECTORS OF INTERVENTION

COUNTRIES

FOOD SECURITY AND LIVELIHOODS



PARAGUAY • VENEZUELA

HUMANITARIAN ASSISTANCE



PERU

HEALTH (AND MENTAL HEALTH)



BOLIVIA

WASH



BOLIVIA • PERU • VENEZUELA

PROTECTION



ECUADOR • VENEZUELA

ENVIRONMENT AND CLIMATE CHANGE



GUATEMALA

GOVERNANCE/CIVIL SOCIETY/HUMAN RIGHTS



GUATEMALA • PARAGUAY

ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT



ECUADOR • VENEZUELA

MIGRATIONS



ECUADOR • PERU



MANAGING THE HUMANITARIAN EMERGENCY AND PROVIDING PROTECTION

14 PROJECTS COMPLETED
103,647 BENEFICIARIES REACHED



As part of the management of humanitarian crises in Latin America and the Caribbean, COOPI works with local partners to promote a rapid response mechanism for the needs of the "populations on the move", from setting up temporary shelters and supplying basic services to offering assistance for small start-ups and income-generating activities. As part of these interventions, COOPI plays an important role in the protection of vulnerable populations, especially boys, girls and women. Particular focus is placed on people who are victims of

gender-based violence and human trafficking and on the protection of sexual and reproductive rights.

IN 2023 INTERVENTIONS OF HUMANITARIAN ASSISTANCE WERE PROMOTED ESPECIALLY IN VENEZUELA AND ECUADOR, IN THE CONTEXT OF MANAGING THE VENEZUELAN CRISIS. MORE SPECIFICALLY:

- **IN VENEZUELA** AIMED AT ASSISTING VICTIMS OF HUMAN TRAFFICKING AND GENDER-BASED VIOLENCE;
- **IN ECUADOR** PROMOTING PROFESSIONAL TRAINING FOR DISPLACED PEOPLE, MIGRANTS AND REFUGEES AS WELL AS FACILITATING START-UPS AND OTHER INCOME-GENERATING ACTIVITIES.



PHOTO: YOFRE MORALES

LATIN AMERICA AND THE CARIBBEAN

PROMOTING ACCESS TO WATER AND HYGIENE



In Latin America and the Caribbean, COOPI promotes many WASH projects with the aim of ensuring widespread **access to quality water**, improving **water services** and **hygiene** conditions, and launching waste management systems.

Access to water is guaranteed both with **emergency interventions** and with the **construction and rehabilitation of water infrastructure** especially at Community level – such as, for example, in schools and hospitals – accompanied by **training** and **awareness-raising** activities aimed at water service operators and the population.

Waste management systems are set up in such a way as to **improve hygiene** at community level – thus also preventing the risk of epidemics – to ensure **environmental sustainability** and to launch **circular economy** projects.

IN 2023, WASH INTERVENTIONS IN LATIN AMERICA WERE MAINLY PROMOTED IN:

- **VENEZUELA** AND **PERU**, WHERE COOPI HAS MAINLY PROVIDED THE DISTRIBUTION OF HYGIENE KITS AND WASH INTERVENTIONS IN EMERGENCIES IN THE CONTEXT OF THE MANAGEMENT OF THE VENEZUELAN CRISIS AND FOR THE PERUVIAN POPULATION AFFECTED BY EXTREME CLIMATE EVENTS;
- **BOLIVIA**, WHERE A MULTI-ANNUAL INTEGRATED WASTE MANAGEMENT AND CIRCULAR ECONOMY PROJECT IS UNDERWAY.

PROMOTING FOOD SECURITY



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

- **LAUNCHING OF START-UPS AND RELAUNCHING 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.**

IN 2023 FOOD SECURITY ACTIVITIES WERE CARRIED THROUGHOUT THE REGION, MAINLY IN VENEZUELA AND PARAGUAY.



PHOTO: COOPI ARCHIVE



MANAGING CLIMATE CHANGE AND PROTECTING THE ENVIRONMENT


3 PROJECTS COMPLETED

276,000 BENEFICIARIES REACHED



In Latin America and the Caribbean, COOPI develops programmes aimed at improving the management of the effects of **climate change**, which in many areas represents a serious threat for the population. COOPI's interventions in the sector focus on promoting **local capacities** in disaster risk prevention and **extreme climate management preparation**.

In some areas of great environmental value, **sustainable development** programmes are also introduced. These offer communities concrete **prospects for fair progress** while protecting the biodiversity of the places.

IN 2023 SUCH ACTIVITIES IN LATIN AMERICA WERE CARRIED OUT MAINLY IN GUATEMALA AND PARAGUAY

WITH PROJECTS RECONCILING THE STRENGTHENING OF LOCAL CAPACITIES IN THE MANAGEMENT OF PUBLIC SERVICES - EVEN IN EXTREME CLIMATIC SITUATIONS - BY PROMOTING SMALL AGRICULTURAL AND ENTREPRENEURIAL ORGANISATIONS USING ENVIRONMENTALLY SUSTAINABLE TECHNIQUES.

LINES OF DEVELOPMENT

COOPI's main lines of development in Latin America and the Caribbean for the next few years can be summarized as follows:

- to continue the promotion of the **empowerment of local civil society organizations** in the field of Development and Human Rights as well as in the localization of Humanitarian Aid;
- in the context of the **Venezuelan crisis**, protection interventions – especially for the benefit of victims of human trafficking and gender-based violence – and **circular economy** initiatives for the reactivation of **livelihoods**;
- response interventions to **disasters resulting from natural phenomena** and programs for the prevention and management of the same.



PHOTO: COOPI ARCHIVE

TO FIND OUT MORE ABOUT OUR WORK IN LATIN AMERICA AND THE CARIBBEAN GO TO THE **WHERE WE WORK** SECTION OF THE COOPI WEBSITE AT

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

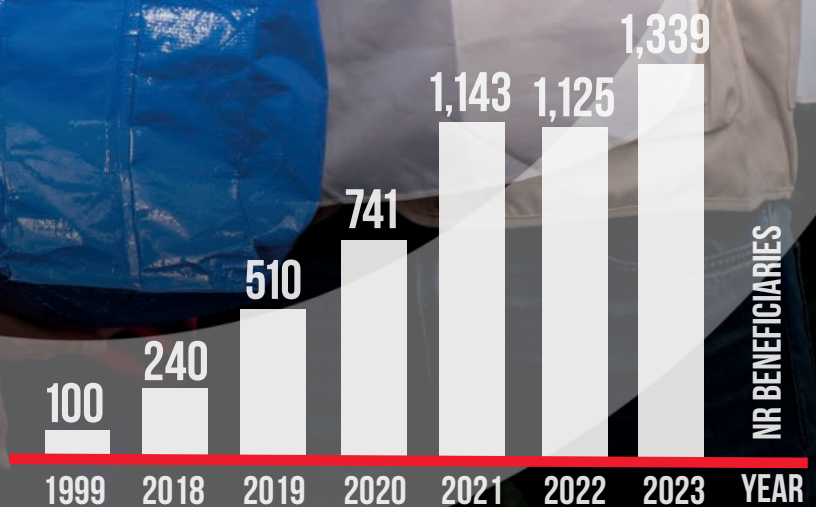
AND THEN LOOK UP THE PAGES DEDICATED TO INDIVIDUAL COUNTRIES BY SELECTING THEM FROM THE INTERACTIVE MAP.

FOOD DISTRIBUTION AND THE FIGHT AGAINST POVERTY IN ITALY

PHOTO: PAOLO CARLINI



SINCE 2020, THE NUMBER OF BENEFICIARIES OF THE PROJECT HAS GROWN BY 80% AND THAT OF PEOPLE WHO ASK FOR FOOD AID HAS DOUBLED.



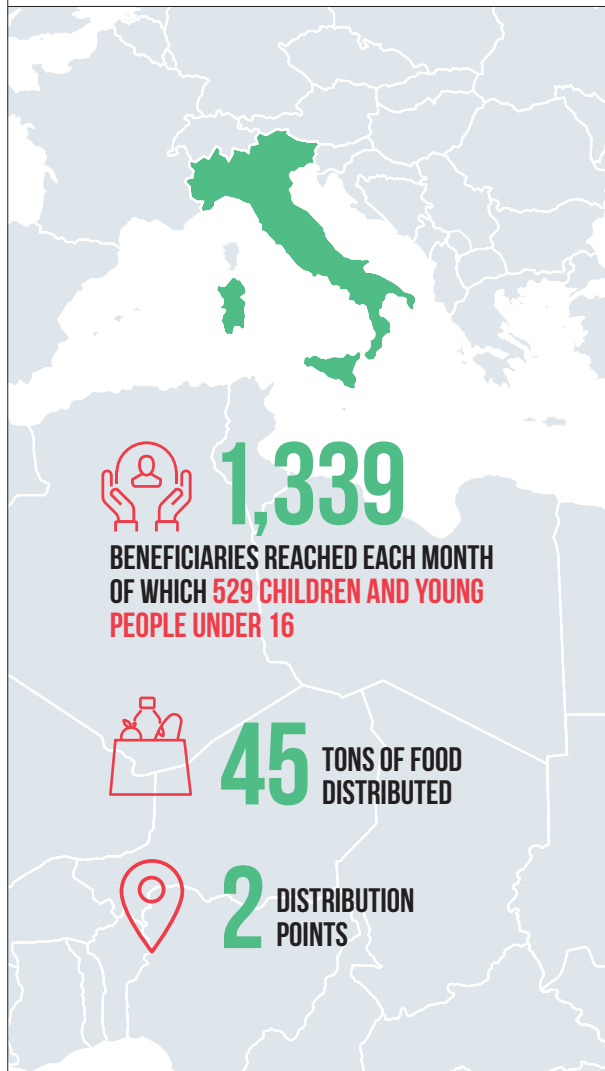


LAUNCHED IN 1999 through the initiative of Father Barbieri, COOPI founder and former President, the activity of food distribution to people in difficulty in Milan has grown year by year.

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 activity, it was possible not only to continue, but also to enhance distribution, even during the health emergency. Moreover, in 2021, the idea of expanding support for people in difficulty in our country has taken on greater consistency, even beyond food aid; an approach that was further developed in the following years. A **food distribution centre** opened in the San Siro district – on Selinunte Square – which can also count on the precious help of several volunteers. This venue has soon become a **point of reference**: a place where to establish a first contact that is part of a wider network of organizations active in the area with the common goal to support vulnerable people. Acting within such network, it is possible, in fact, to expand the activities carried out and tailor the intervention according to the needs of the individual: in some cases one may need material help; in other cases one may need help filling in forms and documents. Bureaucracy can be very complex and far too often end up becoming an obstacle preventing people in need to successfully access local social services or exercise their own rights. The effectiveness of this experience led COOPI to subsequently open a **second distribution point in the Gallarate district**. Located directly within the COOPI headquarters, this second point serves also as a **meeting point for its staff** and those who benefit directly from the food aid. In addition it provides a venue for those who **wish to support** the project by bringing their own contributions directly to the distribution point – precious opportunities for an exchange and dialogue.

In 2023, with this activity, COOPI reached **several districts of Milan and its immediate surroundings**. Finally, the space on Selinunte Square has become part of the project «**Hub against Food Waste**» of the Food Policy of Milan.

INCREASINGLY LARGE SEGMENTS OF THE POPULATION IN ITALY LIVE IN POVERTY, EXPERIENCING BOTH OLD AND NEW FORMS OF FRAGILITY.

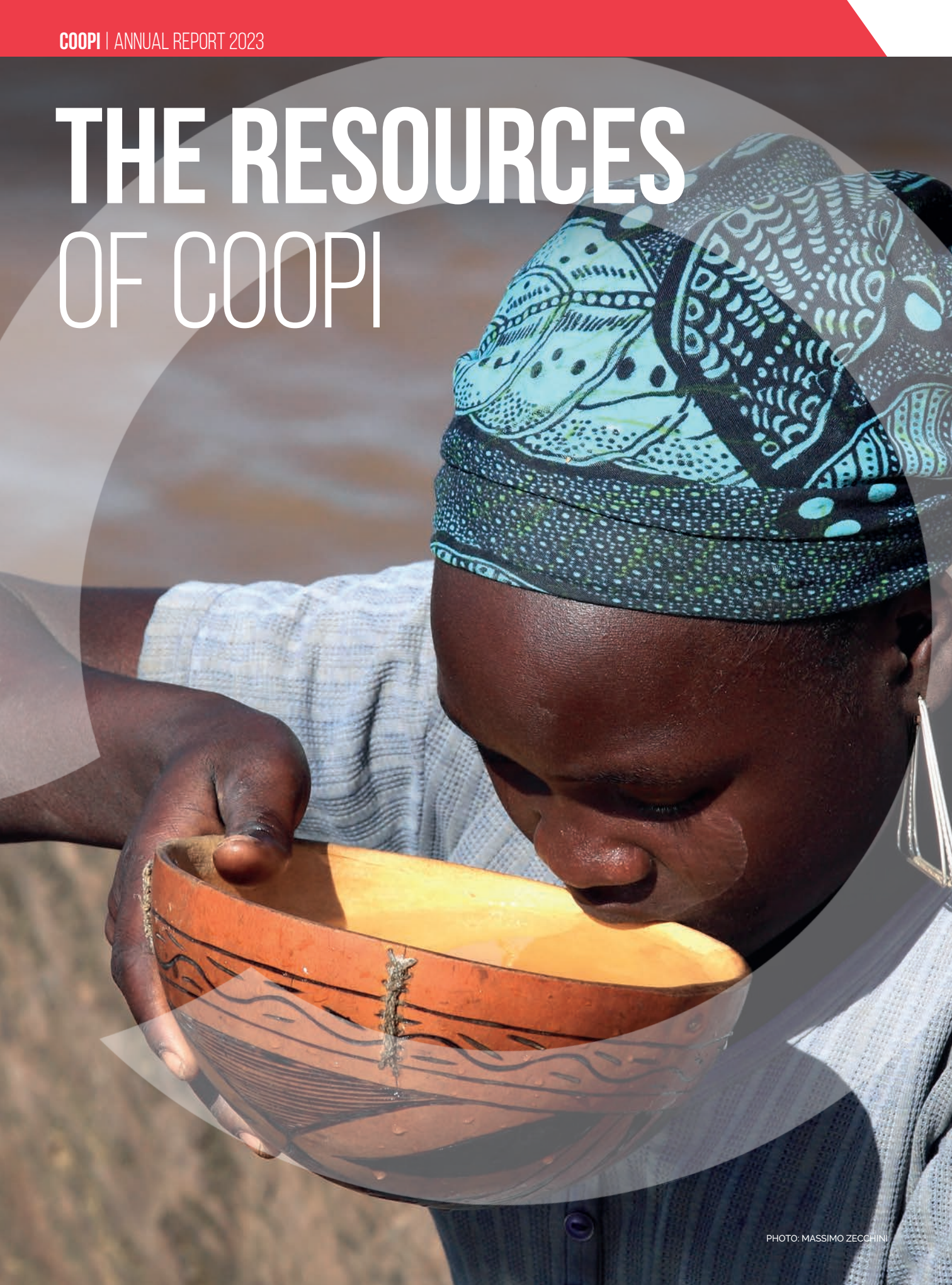


TO FIND OUT MORE ABOUT WHAT WE DO IN ITALY, ACCESS THE **WHERE WE WORK** SECTION OF THE COOPI WEBSITE FOLLOWING THE LINK

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

AND THEN LOOK UP THE PAGE DEDICATED TO ITALY BY SELECTING IT FROM THE INTERACTIVE MAP.

THE RESOURCES OF COOPI





INSTITUTIONAL DONORS

COOPI TRADITIONALLY BASES ITS ACTIVITY ON SO-CALLED “INSTITUTIONAL” FUNDS, COMING FROM PUBLIC OR PRIVATE ENTITIES, WHOSE MISSION IS TO SELECT INTERNATIONAL COOPERATION PROJECTS CONSIDERED WORTHY TO BE FUNDED.

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.

INTERNATIONAL INSTITUTIONAL DONORS

   <p>Australian Government Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade</p>    <p>European Union Civil Protection and Humanitarian Aid</p> 	    <p>European Union Civil Protection and Humanitarian Aid</p> 	      	      <p>Empowered lives. Resilient nations.</p>	   <p>European Union</p>  
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ITALIAN INSTITUTIONAL DONORS



STRATEGIC PARTNERS



PHOTO: MARCO MENSA



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 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.

INTERNATIONAL HUMANITARIAN ORGANIZATIONS PARTNERS

WEST AFRICA

BURKINA FASO

- LVIA
- MERCY CORPS
- WHH WELTHUNGERHILFE

MALI

- LVIA
- MERCY CORPS
- TAMAT
- TDH SWITZERLAND
- VIS

MAURITANIA

- SOS SAHEL FRANCE

NIGER

- ALIMA
- CWW
- E4IMPACT
- MERCY CORPS
- NORWEGIAN REFUGEE COUNCIL (NRC)
- PROGETTOMONDO
- PUI FRANCE
- SAVE THE CHILDREN INTERNATIONAL

NIGERIA

- ALIMA
- CHRISTIAN AID IRELAND
- IRC

SENEGAL

- LVIA
- VIS

CENTRAL AFRICA

CAR

- ACTED
- DRC
- OXFAM SPAIN

CHAD

- IRC
- OHDEL
- PADIESTE
- RED CROSS CHAD

DRC

- ALIMA

EAST AND SOUTH AFRICA

ETHIOPIA

- ANE ETIOPIA
- CARITAS SWITZERLAND
- CISP
- CORDAID
- CUAMM
- IRC
- LVIA
- MERCY CORPS
- NORWEGIAN REFUGEE COUNCIL (NRC)

- SAVE THE CHILDREN ITALY

SOMALIA

- ACF
- ACF SPAIN
- ADRA
- CARE NEDERLAND
- CWW
- DRC
- OXFAM SPAIN
- WVI
- WVI AUSTRALIA
- WVI SOMALIA

MIDDLE EAST AND NORTH AFRICA

IRAQ

- AVSI
- CESVI

JORDAN

- AIDOS
- ICU

LEBANON

- CISP
- COSPE
- ERICA
- MUNICIPALITY OF FANO

SYRIA

- ICU

LATIN AMERICA AND THE CARABBEAN

ECUADOR

- AVSI
- COSPE
- RIKOLTO INTERNATIONAL

GUATEMALA

- CISP

PARAGUAY

- ALTERVIDA
- PARAGUAY ORGANICO

VENEZUELA

- ACTED
- CESVI
- PUI FRANCE
- SOLIDARITÉ INTERNATIONALE FRANCE

ITALY

- QUBI NETWORK



PHOTO: COOPI ARCHIVE

LOCAL HUMANITARIAN ORGANIZATIONS PARTNERS

WEST AFRICA

BURKINA FASO

- ASSOCIATION ZOOD NOOMA POUR LE DÉVELOPPEMENT (AZND)
- BALLA SUKABE'
- KEOGO

MALI

- AMSODE
- ARCADE SANTÉ PLUS
- CATHOLIC RELIEF SERVICES - UNITED STATES CONFERENCE OF CATHOLIC BISHOPS

MAURITANIA

- AMAPV
- SOS DÉSSERT

NIGER

- INITIATIVES COMMUNAUTAIRES RESILIENCE DÉVELOPPEMENT (ICRD)

NIGERIA

- LIFE HELPERS INITIATIVES (LHI)

CENTRAL AFRICA

CHAD

- ACORD TCHAD (ASSOCIATION DE COOPÉRATION ET DE RECHERCHE POUR LE DÉVELOPPEMENT)
- ASSOCIATION POUR LA PROTECTION, SOLUTION AUX ORPHELINS ABANDONNÉS ET VULNÉRABLES (APSOA)
- CELIAF (CELLULE DE LIAISON ET D'INFORMATION DES ASSOCIATIONS FÉMININES)
- INITIATIVE DÉVELOPPEMENT DES PROJETS SOLIDAIRES

CAR

- AVPM
- COLLECTIF POUR LA PAIX EN CENTRAFRIQUE (CPCA)
- ECAC
- URU

DRC

- ACTION JUSTICE PAIX (AJP)
- BDC ANGLICAN RDC

- DIOCESI DI BUKAVU
- FECONDE
- INSPECTION TERRITORIALE DU DÉVELOPPEMENT RURAL (ITDR)
- INSTITUT CONGOLAIS POUR LA CONSERVATION DE LA NATURE (ICCN) VIA LA ZONE DE CONSERVATION DE BILI-MBOMU (ZCBM)
- INSTITUT CONGOLAIS POUR LA CONSERVATION DE LA NATURE (ICCN) VIA LE PARC NATIONAL UPEMBA
- INSTITUT ALFAJIRI
- PADI
- PRONANUT
- SOCIAL DEVELOPMENT CENTER (SDC)

EAST AND SOUTH AFRICA

ETHIOPIA

- ACTION FOR SOCIAL DEVELOPMENT AND ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION ORGANISATION (ASDEPO)
- AIED AFRO ETHIOPIA INTEGRATED DEVELOPMENT ASSOCIATION
- ARSI UNIVERSITY
- UNIVERSITY INDUSTRY LINKAGE (CSUIL)
- DEVELOPMENT FOR PEACE ORGANIZATION (DPO)
- ERSHA
- IMAGINE 1DAY
- MCMDO MOTHERS AND CHILDREN MULTISECTORAL DEVELOPMENT ORGANIZATION
- NEXUS ETHIOPIA
- ORGANISATION FOR SOCIAL SERVICE HEALTH AND DEVELOPMENT (OSSHD)
- TRIPLE BOTTOM LINE ENTERPRISES (3BL)
- WEPAYDO

SOMALIA

- WARDI RELIEF AND DEVELOPMENT INITIATIVES

SUDAN

- ALESHRAQ FOR DEVELOPMENT AND CONSTRUCTION ORGANIZATION
- BUSINESS AND PROFESSION WOMEN (BPWVO)



LOCAL HUMANITARIAN ORGANIZATIONS PARTNERS

- GOAL
- OSRATONA
- SAHARI ORGANIZATION FOR DEVELOPMENT
- UPO UNITED PEACE ORGANIZATION
- ZULFA DEVELOPMENT AND PEACE ORGANIZATION

MIDDLE EAST AND NORTH AFRICA**JORDAN**

- ARAB RENAISSANCE FOR DEMOCRACY AND DEVELOPMENT (ARDD)
- EDUCATION FOR EMPLOYMENT JORDAN
- INJAZ

IRAQ

- AID GATE ORGANIZATION (AGO)
- HEALTH AND SOCIAL CARE ORGANIZATION (HSCO)
- PUBLIC AID ORGANISATION (PAO)
- SEDO

LEBANON

- ABAAD
- ASET
- EL QUOBBEH'S SOCIAL DEVELOPMENT CENTER (SDC)

- GREENTRACK ONG
- MADA ASSOCIATION
- MINISTRY OF EDUCATION AND HIGHER EDUCATION (MEHE)
- MINISTRY OF SOCIAL AFFAIRS (MOSA)
- MUNICIPALITY OF TRIPOLI (LEBANON)
- RENEE MOWAD FOUNDATION
- UNION OF JED
- UNION OF MUNICIPALITIES JURD AL KAYTEE

SYRIA

- SARC
- SYRIAN MINISTRY OF EDUCATION

LATIN AMERICA AND THE CARABBEAN**BOLIVIA**

- PROYECTO DE DESARROLLO COMUNITARIO (PRODECO)

ECUADOR

- FUNDACIÓN EDUCATIVA MONSEÑOR CÁNDIDO RADA (FUNDER)
- GRUPO FARO (CONFORMACIÓN DE OBSERVATORIOS DE CUMPLIMIENTO DE DERECHOS DE LA

- POBLACIÓN EN MOVILIDAD HUMANA)
- MINISTRY OF ECONOMIC AND SOCIAL INCLUSION (MIES)
- MINISTRY OF FOREIGN AFFAIRS AND HUMAN MOBILITY
- NATIONAL COUNCIL FOR EQUALITY IN HUMAN MOBILITY (CNIMH)

PARAGUAY

- MANOS UNIDAS

VENEZUELA

- PLAFAM
- TINTA VIOLETA

FOUNDATIONS

FONDAZIONE
CASA DI DIO
ONLUS



FONDAZIONE
DE AGOSTINI

**COMPANIES AND OTHER PRIVATE ENTITIES**

ELGON®

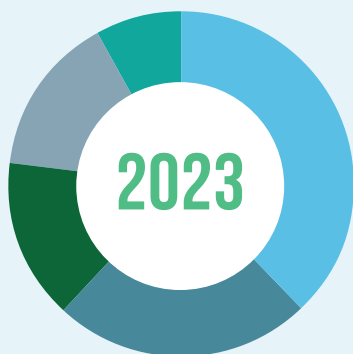


THE BALANCE SHEET IN BRIEF

BALANCE SHEET (in Euro)		2023
ASSETS		
Net fixed assets		751,933
Receivables from donors		5,171,646
Receivables from others		4,626,520
Liquid assets		16,392,340
Prepayments and accrued income		12,049
Income for Ongoing Projects		
TOTAL ASSETS		26,954,488
LIABILITIES		
Common fund		70,000
Reserves restricted by decision of institutional bodies		150,000
Other funds		2,308,449
Operating profit		15,384
TOTAL NET WORTH		2,543,833
Provisions for risks and charges		-
Severance indemnity for subordinate employment		647,278
Payables to banks		3,867,080
Other short payables		4,468,025
Accruals and deferred income		211,024
Ongoing Projects deferred income		15,217,248
TOTAL LIABILITIES		26,954,488
PROFIT AND LOSS ACCOUNT (in Euro; reclassified balance)		
PROCEEDS		
Income by projects		68,631,548
Subscriptions		6,105
Fundraising		1,488,593
TOTAL		70,126,246
OUTLAYS		
Outlays for projects		66,139,598
Fundraising Outlays		902,329
Support Outlays		3,068,935
TOTAL		70,110,862
PROFIT/LOSS FINANCIAL YEAR		15,384

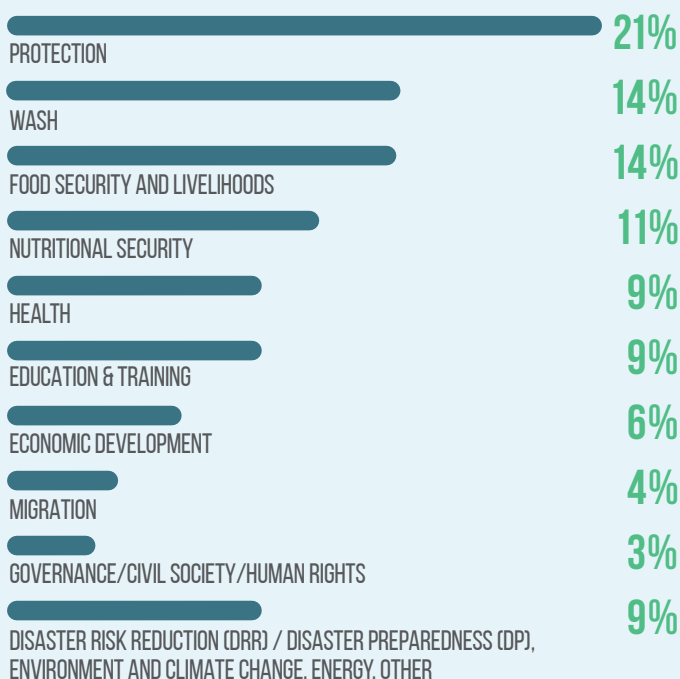


FUNDING SOURCES



INTERNATIONAL ORGANIZATIONS	38%
EUROPEAN UNION	24%
FOREIGN GOVERNMENTS	15%
ITALIAN GOVERNMENT & LOCAL ENTITIES	15%
PRIVATE INSTITUTIONS AND PRIVATE DONORS	8%

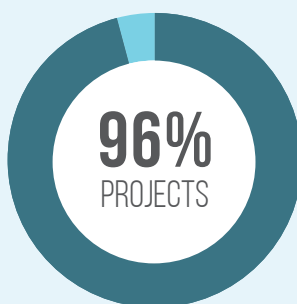
USE OF FUNDS BY SECTORS OF INTERVENTION



USE OF FUNDS BY GEOGRAPHICAL AREA

AFRICA	72%
THE MIDDLE EAST AND NORTH AFRICA	14%
LATIN AMERICA AND THE CARIBBEAN	13%
ITALY	1%

HOW THE FUNDS ARE DISTRIBUTED



THE COMPLETE VERSION OF THE FINAL BALANCE AS AT 31 DECEMBER 2023, SUBJECT TO AUDITING BY BDO ITALIA SPA, AND THE RELATED CERTIFICATION LETTER ARE AVAILABLE ON THE WEBSITE WWW.COOPI.ORG AT THE FOLLOWING LINKS:

WWW.COOPI.ORG/EN/ACCOUNTABILITY.HTML

FUNDRAISING

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.

COOPI's dialogue with private donors is primarily aimed at building **long-lasting relationships** based on frequent information regarding the activities carried out as well as constant communication.

In recent years, **digital platforms** have become of fundamental importance among COOPI's fundraising avenues alongside the more traditional ones. In addition, networking with **companies** and **large donors** is also gradually being developed.

1,002
NEW PRIVATE DONORS

+18%
NEW CONTACTS CLOSE TO THE COOPI MISSION

72
SPECIFIC APPEALS SENT VIA EMAIL

2.4
MILLION PEOPLE REACHED WITH SOCIAL MEDIA CAMPAIGNS



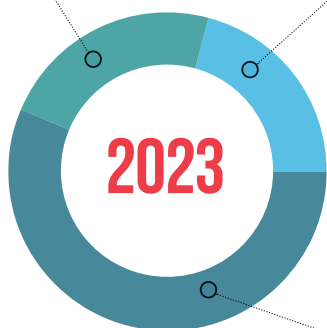
WHAT PRIVATE DONORS CHOOSE

23%

ONGOING DONATION TO COOPI

21%

CHILD SPONSORSHIP



56%

SPECIAL APPEALS AND OCCASIONAL DONATIONS

10 PRINTED MAILINGS

10,000 COPIES OF EACH ISSUE OF COOPI NEWS, A BIENNIAL NEWSLETTER

During the year, an intense awareness-raising and fundraising activity was regularly carried out

- with **appeals on key issues**, such as humanitarian emergencies, hunger, protection and education of children, distribution of food to families in need in Italy;
- in **particular moments or periods** such as back-to-school and "Days" dedicated to causes close to COOPI's mission;
- **suggesting specific methods to donate** such as 5x1000 or legacies.

In 2023, media and poster presence was increased.





CHILD SPONSORSHIP PROGRAMME

In 2023, COOPI continued to promote and manage Child Sponsorship Programme for nearly **1,300 children in 17 centres** in 6 countries (Ethiopia, CAR, DRC, Senegal, Sierra Leone, and Uganda).

Throughout the year, an intense activity of donor care was carried out ensuring that timely and extensive information was shared about the activities carried out thanks to the donors' contributions.

CAMPAIGN FOR FOOD AID FOR FAMILIES IN NEED IN MILAN

Throughout 2023 a fundraising campaign for the distribution of bags of food to families in need in Milan was actively promoted. It combined the standard promotional channels – radio commercials, billboards, leafleting – with more specific activities aimed at the active involvement of the Foundation's territorial proximity network.

5X1000

In 2023, COOPI's campaign for the promotion of 5x1000 focused on the activity of the distribution of bags of food to families in difficulty in Milan, a need which is constantly growing due to the recent crises.

In 2023 COOPI received **€63,553** in 5x1000 contributions with **1,491 preferences** (related to 2021-2022 income tax returns).

EVENTS AND INITIATIVES ON THE TERRITORY

In 2023 Cascina Boldinasco – COOPI's headquarters – opened its doors to the neighborhood, to friends and all interested parties on the occasion of Piano City, in May, and Cascina Aperta, in September. In addition, there were also some initiatives organized by local groups of volunteers of COOPI Crema and COOPI Brescia.

LIFE IS A GIFT THAT LASTS FOREVER

In 2023, COOPI's legacy campaign entitled "Life is a gift that lasts forever" continued. It was launched in 2021 with a new dedicated website **TESTAMENTOSOLIDALE.COOPI.ORG** in 2021 and was backed by the National Council of Notaries.

In 2023 COOPI received 1 bequest of €28,000 which brings the total received by COOPI through bequests and in memory donations to around €340,000 since 2015, the year the first campaign was launched.



COOPI COMMUNICATES



PHOTO: MARCO MENSA

COOPI'S STRATEGIC OBJECTIVES - AS OUTLINED IN THE 2022-2024 DEVELOPMENT LINES - REPRESENT THE "COMPASS" THAT ALSO DICTATES THE INSTITUTIONAL COMMUNICATION ACTIVITY OF THE ORGANIZATION.

In 2023, the complexity of the context in which the international cooperation operated, COOPI's commitment in humanitarian emergencies and in the fight against poverty were highlighted, including in Italy.

Alongside the account of the commitment on the ground, COOPI's communication illustrated the activities of the organization for the promotion of the professionalization of the sector of the International Cooperation and developed additional tools to support institutional communication in the countries where COOPI operates.



COOPI IN EMERGENCIES

In 2023, many countries where COOPI operates - already affected by socio-economic and climate related crises - experienced "**emergencies in emergencies**". This was the case, for example, with the **floods in Paraguay** and the **earthquake in northern Syria**, particularly in Aleppo: in both situations COOPI was able to reach the affected communities with aid. Or again with the crisis of the military junta in **Sudan** - which created an unprecedented **humanitarian emergency** in the entire region - and the **coup in Niger**, despite which COOPI continued to operate. These crisis situations were reported with a careful communication activity which on one hand enabled the public to appreciate the **complexities** and on the other highlighted COOPI's **commitment and expertise** in emergencies.



COMPLEXITY IN INTERNATIONAL COOPERATION

In the current international scenario, humanitarian crises - due to wars, episodes of violence or disasters of natural origin - follow each other and amplify each other, affecting the whole world, where they end up causing other crises and emergencies. In this context, humanitarian intervention is often threatened and there is a widespread tendency for it to be reduced.

COOPI is highly committed to ensuring that the complexity in which the international cooperation currently operates is known, not trivialised and adequately understood by the institutions and the public.

Complexity was also the focus of the main institutional event of the year, the international conference "**The complexity in the present and future of international cooperation**".

UN Secretary General Antonio Guterres has described this historical period as a "cascading crisis", because global and local crises are intertwined and their effects are multiplied by conflicts, catastrophes, aftermath of the pandemic, new geopolitical balances, thus widening the scope of poverty and migratory flows.

The event - which took place on 27 October 2023 - opened with the institutional greetings of COOPI's President Claudio Ceravolo and Link2007's President Roberto Ridolfi and was followed by a Round Table - moderated by the journalist Antonella Tagliabue, who is COOPI's Vice-President - with the presence of Enrica Chiappero-Martinetti - professor of Economic Policy at the University of Pavia - Edouard Rodier, member of the board of NGOs VOICE - and Francesca Paltenghi - protection associate of UNHCR.

The conference was held at the end of the COOPI Meeting, an event in which every year a large representation of the managers of COOPI's activities in the countries where the organisation operates meet at COOPI's headquarters in Milan for several days of discussion and sharing. Broadcasted in 4 languages, the conference saw the participation of more than **400 people** both inside and outside the organization, both in person and remotely.

COOPI COMMUNICATES

FIGHTING POVERTY IN ITALY

Poverty in Milan – and more generally in Italy – is growing and COOPI has been working for the last 25 years to fight it (see the chapter on fighting poverty in Italy in this document). COOPI's commitment has been highlighted continuously throughout the year in order to enhance the organisation's profile in this field, especially in some areas of the city of Milan with a high concentration of marginality, such as Municipalities 7 and 8.

Communication activities were addressed to both public and private stakeholders and were accompanied by work to promote access to the initiative and food aid.

The project was covered by several TV channels - Rai News, Rai News Lombardia and TGR Lombardia - by the press and online.

The activity carried out was also enhanced through a campaign focusing on the visual impact, including a photo shoot by Paolo Carlini.

EXPERTISE AND THE SCHOOL OF INTERNATIONAL COOPERATION

COOPI's communication is also aimed at **young people** who wish to become **professionals in international cooperation**.

Throughout 2023, communication relating to the **School of International Cooperation** was strengthened and further developed, with new information and listening activities, including webinars to promote courses to become **Project Manager** and **Financial Officer**. These were very well received and each webinar had approximately 50 attendees.

Once again in 2023 COOPI also promoted several other educational opportunities in the humanitarian field including the **Master of the University of Pavia** - within the Cooperation and Development Network - and the call for the **Universal Civil Service**.

CASCINA APERTA

Held on 30 September, **Cascina Aperta** (part of the program with the same name promoted annually by the Municipality of Milan) like every year, provided an opportunity to "open the doors" of the organization, a

chance to talk to the public and show them the evolution of the **project to fight poverty** in Italy. It also offered an opportunity to present the show **"The courage to change the world. The story of Father Barbieri"** by Manuel Ferreira – actor and founder of the Alma Rosé Company – and to show once again the photographic exhibition **"Peoples of Lake Chad"** by Abdoulaye Barry, which is always received favourably by the public. During the event, the **COOPI's 2022 Annual Report** was presented.

SUPPORT FOR INSTITUTIONAL COMMUNICATION IN COUNTRIES

In 2023, the institutional communication area of COOPI worked mainly to strengthen and systematize effective institutional communication **tools** available to those **countries where COOPI operates**. This was done mainly through:

- Reformatting and enhancement of the **Country web pages** on the institutional website, which acts as a "business card" of the organization in the Country;
- The addition of **Country Snapshots** that summarize, for each of them, COOPI's activities and historical evolution with regards to its presence;
- **Annual Report**, which now includes a wider section dedicated to the Regions of intervention.

For each of these tools, internal training and monitoring activities were promoted in order to ensure they were used correctly and properly updated and disseminated in each country.

ADVOCACY CAMPAIGNS

Throughout 2023 COOPI committed to supporting **advocacy campaigns** carried out by organisations of which COOPI is a member, both national and international. As part of the campaigns promoted by **Link2007**, several appeals were made on the COOPI website to urge a correct management of **migratory phenomena** and with regards to the **Palestinian emergency**. In addition, the Campaign 070 was relaunched. This is promoted by FOCSIV, Link 2007, AOI International Cooperation and Solidarity, CINI Italian NGO Coordination and it advocates for the active allocation of 0.70% of the national wealth in support of development goals.



NUMBERS MADE UP OF PEOPLE: COOPI IN THE MEDIA IN 2023

Year after year, the commitment to inform the public on the impact on the lives of the people reached by the projects carried out by COOPI increases. This is made possible in the first instance thanks to the increasing number of direct testimonies by the beneficiaries themselves, but also thanks to the communication offices and the field operators, who are increasingly actively participating in this joint effort to inform and raise awareness.

IN 2023, WERE PUBLISHED ON COOPI'S WEBSITE

276 CLIPPINGS REPRESENTING A SIGNIFICANT GROWTH COMPARED TO 196 IN 2022 - OF WHICH:

199 TRANSLATED IN 4 LANGUAGES - ABOUT 86 INTERNATIONAL PROJECTS

34% ARE DIRECT TESTIMONIALS OF SUCCESS STORIES TOLD BY THE PROJECT BENEFICIARIES.

COOPI'S PRESS REVIEW IN 2023 COUNTED

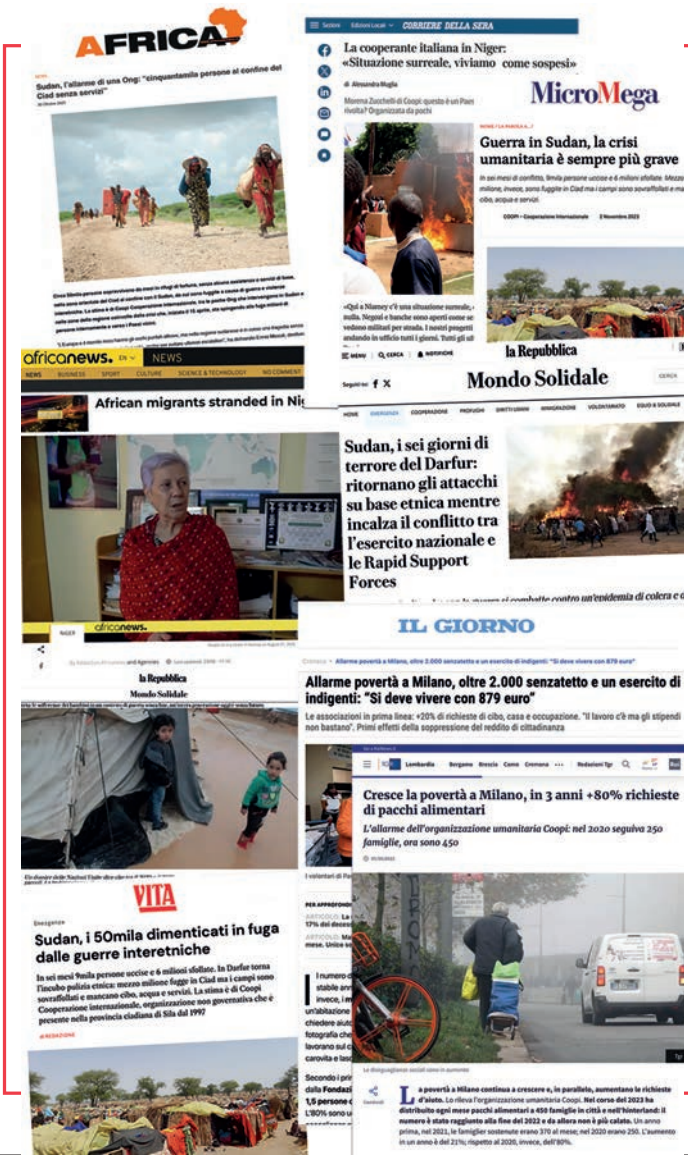
387 ISSUES WITH A SIGNIFICANT GROWTH COMPARED TO 170 IN 2022. THE MAIN THEMES COVERED BY TV, RADIO AND PRESS WERE

- EARTHQUAKE IN SYRIA: 10 MEDIA RELEASE
- THE SUDAN EMERGENCY: 25 MEDIA RELEASE
- COUP IN NIGER: 20 MEDIA RELEASE
- FIGHTING POVERTY IN ITALY: 9 MEDIA RELEASE
- CASCINA APERTA: 8 MEDIA RELEASE
- COOPI MEETING: 5 MEDIA RELEASE

NUMBER OF FOLLOWERS

2023

COOPI.ORG	113,112
NEWSLETTER	68,240
YOUTUBE	45,275
FACEBOOK	35,396
TWITTER	8,500
LINKEDIN	45,636
INSTAGRAM	4,708
COOPI NEWS	10,000



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 communicate with the various stakeholders.

The 2023 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 offices and final approval by 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 attestation can be consulted on the website www.cooi.org). COOPI's activity is also analysed 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, US AID, 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.

CERTIFICATE OF CONFORMITY

The compliance of COOPI's 2023 Annual Report with the provisions of the Guidelines for the preparation of the Social Report of Third Sector Entities has been verified and certified by the Control Body of the Foundation.

THE CERTIFICATE OF CONFORMITY CAN BE CONSULTED AT THE LINK [HTTPS://COOPI.ORG/EN/ACCOUNTABILITY.HTML](https://coopi.org/en/accountability.html)

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