



# 2018 ANNUAL REPORT



emmaus  
INTERNATIONAL

ACTIVISTS FOR CHANGE

# EDITORIAL



In 2018, Emmaus International organised the first World Forum of Alternatives led with the most excluded in Geneva from 17 to 20 september. This 4-day event brought together almost 500 participants from the Emmaus movement and allied movements who exchanged views on the alternatives and potential alliances that they are pursuing to fight against poverty. Various obstacles were identified, as well as key opportunities to take action to combat the causes of poverty. It is clear to us all that we need collective, visible action to highlight our alternatives and our lobbying work carried out between the Emmaus groups and our allies. This way we can withstand policies of exclusion, taking up the torch and making the «voice of the voiceless» heard once again, on an international scale, by the general public and decision-makers alike.

2018 was also a year we redesigned the criteria for allocating international solidarity funds within the movement. The board was committed to encouraging involvement and developing interaction between members of the movement in the selection and assessment of the initiatives supported.

We also fulfilled one of our commitments made during the World Assembly in Jesolo to strengthen our movement. An Emmaus international work camp was held in India on agroecology, enabling participants to be in a better position to take up the struggles of the movement. Above all, it reaffirmed that our commitment to social and environmental justice could also be a powerful driver for raising awareness and for the overall advancement of mankind.

Patrick ATOHOUN,  
Chair of Emmaus International

# INTRODUCTION

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Created in 1971 by Abbé Pierre, Emmaus International is a solidarity movement acting against poverty and exclusion. It brings together 360 organisations in 37 countries, spread over 4 continents. All have the same values of welcoming, solidarity, openness, respect and sharing in very diverse social, economic and political contexts. All share the same goal: acting against the causes of poverty and being vehicles for social transformation through allowing the poorest to become actors in their own lives.

Emmaus organisations the world over engage in activities and political lobbying within the framework of three struggles for access to fundamental rights: an ethical and solidarity economy, social and environmental justice, and peace, freedom of movement and of residence for universal citizenship.

As Abbé Pierre's sole legatee, Emmaus International is responsible for protecting and keeping the memory of Abbé Pierre alive, along with the struggles he tirelessly waged throughout his life.

# ORGANISATION



**EMMAUS INTERNATIONAL**  
Board meeting/Executive Committee  
International secretariat, Montreuil, France

AFRICA REGION	AMERICAS REGION	ASIA REGION	EUROPE REGION
<p>Regional executive committee</p> <hr/> <p>Regional Secretariat (Ouagadougou, Burkina Faso)</p>	<p>Regional executive committee</p> <hr/> <p>Regional Secretariat (Montevideo, Uruguay)</p>	<p>Regional executive committee</p> <hr/> <p>Regional Secretariat (Pondicherry, India)</p>	<p>Regional executive committee</p> <hr/> <p>Regional Secretariat (Montreuil, France)</p>

# GOVERNANCE



Emmaus International is democratically and internationally governed by elected members at local level from all four continents. Every four years, the member organisations come together at the World Assembly. This is a key moment in the life of the Movement in determining its strategic guidelines and in electing its Chair. In each region (Africa, the Americas, Asia, Europe), the Regional Assemblies elect the 24 board members who will serve on the Emmaus International board, along with the Chair. The elected bodies in the regions oversee the implementation of the strategic guidelines adopted, with the support of salaried teams.

## EMMAUS INTERNATIONAL EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE MEETING

Chair: Patrick Atohoun (Benin)

1<sup>st</sup> Vice Chair: Juan Melquiades (Peru)

2<sup>nd</sup> Vice Chair: Moon Sharma (India)

Treasurer: Pierre Dubois (France)

Secretary: Koné Nantegue (Côte d'Ivoire)

Members: Gloria Zuluaga (Colombia), Maryse Faure (France)

CHIEF EXECUTIVE

Nathalie Péré-Marzano

# WORLD MAP



# WORLD FORUM OF ALTERNATIVES



418 activists and volunteers from 37 countries.

During the World Assembly in 2016, the representatives decided that Emmaus International would organise the first “World Forum of Alternatives led with the most excluded” in Geneva, from 17 to 20 September 2018, together with social movements who joined us from around the world. 418 activists and volunteers originating from over 30 countries gathered for 4 days to establish common struggles against the structural causes of poverty and to work together to develop alternatives for a fairer world. These days together were structured around workshops to create initiatives, plenary sessions, conferences, and a cultural day to relax and give the participants a chance to interact with the local population in Geneva.



The emphasis was on group work carried out during 21 workshops.

## PUTTING IDEAS INTO ACTION

The 21 workshops enabled us to identify the common structural causes for each issue presented in the workshops, along with opportunities to combat these. This Forum resulted in the drafting of 38 initiative proposals, categorised into three key modes of action: popular education and training of actors on the ground; identifying and rolling out pilot initiatives that already exist; lobbying of public decision-makers.



The Forum was also an opportunity to lobby and demonstrate.

## MAKING THE VOICE OF THE VOICELESS HEARD

The Forum was also an opportunity for strong political lobbying aimed at making the «voice of the voiceless» heard in one of the world’s financial and political capitals. It ended with a large march which led to a colourful demonstration to «disrupt the sleep of those in power». The march crossed the commercial and financial heart of Geneva to the Place des Nations opposite the UN headquarters, where the elected representatives of the movement issued a public final statement from the Forum.

# ACCOUNTS OF EXPERIENCES



## MIKEL AZKOMA

EMMAUS COMPANION, PAMPLONA (SPAIN)

« This Forum was of great interest to us as we got to meet people from very different walks of life, living in very different circumstances, with a broad range of ideas. This Forum has helped us realise that Emmaus International has networks worldwide and that we must keep forging ahead!

I was really struck by how much insight I gained into the experiences of those who live in Africa, Latin America, and also other countries in Europe. I learnt about things that I didn't know about before. I became aware of their realities and that has had a huge impact on me.

This Forum will help me in my daily work as I now have a clearer view of what is happening elsewhere. In Europe, we're very much focused on our own lives, but when we see what's happening elsewhere in the world, we realise we need to organise and mobilise even more to build a future all together.



## YVONNE TOBA

SPOKESPERSON FOR THE NO VOX MOVEMENT  
IN CÔTE D'IVOIRE

« In my country, we campaign alongside the fishing communities, and peasant farmers who fall victim to land grabbing by multinationals with the complicity of our authorities, against the country's general interest.

This Forum is an opportunity to share our campaigning experience and to forge new ties. Working alone in our country, we won't be able to achieve our aims. We need to set up alliances at an international level with movements that have experience in our field of action. It's highly important we take part in this Forum in order to meet them, so they can offer us guidance, and so we look together at strategies that we should follow to carry out our work.

We have a duty to speak out. That's why it's important to take part in this type of gathering. We make the voice of the «voiceless» heard in our different countries.



# INTERNATIONAL WORK CAMPS

During the last World Assembly in Jesolo, Italy, in 2016, the Emmaus movement reaffirmed that it wanted to continue organising international work camps. These spaces for discussion and shared commitment gather members of Emmaus International from all four regions of the movement to meet, interact with local members and take action on a common struggle. The first camp took place in Asia from 17 to 27 January 2018 and the following, initially planned that same year in Africa, was postponed to the beginning of 2019.

## ASIA WORK CAMP



Some forty members of Emmaus International gathered in the south of India, hosted by the Emmaus Kudumbam group, to share their fight for agroecology, hold constructive debates and for participants to lend a hand on site.

Over ten structured days, discussions were followed by physical work. Participants got their hands dirty sowing seeds on Kolunji, an organic farm, they removed silt from ponds, planted vegetation in a sacred forest and learnt how to grow Azolla, a useful algae for compost. In total, the work camp participants planted more than 700 trees.

This activity led to fruitful exchanges on agro-ecological practices and a joint discussion on food sovereignty and the right to land. Exchanges between the Emmaus groups were a key component of the work camp. Participants spoke about the struggle for environmental justice as a reality they have in common, and the work camp allowed them not only to exchange agricultural practices but also inspire each other. The work camp motivated the participants to continue the fight for sustainable alternatives, not just at the local level but also at the international level.





# AFRICA

## WORK CAMP



In Africa, some fifty members of Emmaus International joined forces to show how the most excluded people can organise to reclaim their fundamental rights and they discovered a range of locally-led alternatives.

Participants were welcomed by the Emmaus Pahou group in Cotonou, Benin. Through reflection workshops and fieldwork, they addressed the three struggles of the movement and discussed their perceptions and practices relating to international solidarity.

During this work camp, participants also had opportunities to interact with the local population and members of civil society, with a particular focus on the Nokoué project (a citizen project on access to water and sanitation) and to discover the activities of the three Emmaus groups in Benin. After unloading the container from France (sent by the Rédéne community), the participants and the whole local team organised a large solidarity sale which was a great success. This Emmaus-style resource sharing is one of the foundations of the international solidarity model which the movement stands for.



# INTERNATIONAL SOLIDARITY AND CAMPAIGNING

Solidarity is at the heart of the Emmaus movement. Emmaus organisations pool their resources so that they are able to come to the rescue of those most in need, through solidarity programmes based around three

struggles. Our international solidarity initiatives are part of the broader perspective of real social change and feed into our actions to challenge decision-makers.

## ETHICAL AND SOLIDARITY ECONOMY

→ Creating and defending economic models which provide a place for all, allowing everyone to live off their work and to reclaim their fundamental rights.

### EMMAUS INITIATIVES

Guaranteeing loans to associations or cooperatives; financing of social actions for the collection activity in communities; reintegration through employment; production of crafts and fair trade; sorting and revaluation.

### SPOTLIGHT ON...

In Vila Velha, Brazil, the community of 55 companions needed to renovate their retail building which was very run down and had become hazardous. Without the support of Emmaus International they wouldn't have been able to make this investment. This support was essential as this community's social activity is vital for those who live in the favela where the community is based.



## SOCIAL AND ENVIRONMENTAL JUSTICE

→ It's about setting up initiatives that bring about a fair balance across the board: social, environmental, democratic, with regard to gender, accessing fundamental rights, etc. to be able to propose solutions for a sustainable world.

### EMMAUS INITIATIVES

Mutual health funds for disadvantaged people; schooling for children and young people from disadvantaged backgrounds; Nokoué programme for citizen-based and participatory management of access to water and sanitation for 90,000 inhabitants living in extreme poverty.

### SPOTLIGHT ON...

For years, Bangladesh has pursued a food self-sufficiency policy which had led to farming practices that are highly destructive of the environment, to the extent that the soil has is now becoming barren. The Thanapara group has benefited from Emmaus International's solidarity to run a project which aims to help farms to opt for organic and sustainable agriculture.

## PEACE, FREEDOM OF MOVEMENT AND OF RESIDENCE FOR UNIVERSAL CITIZENSHIP

→ Providing all with the right to live in a peaceful world without borders.

### EMMAUS INITIATIVES

Protection and reintegration of child soldiers in the Democratic Republic of Congo; fighting against human trafficking; assisting migrants and asylum seekers so they receive a dignified welcome; advocacy for freedom of circulation and settlement of people for universal citizenship.

### SPOTLIGHT ON...

In the Democratic Republic of Congo the fratricidal conflicts mean that every year children are being used as soldiers, depriving them of a future other than one of violence and conflict. Thanks to a pooling of resources by the Emmaus movement, the CAJED group is building a reception centre, step by step, to house these young people and to open up new horizons.



All organisations in the movement organise an annual solidarity sale. The money raised by these sales is pooled and then redistributed to fund projects designed to build the capacity of Emmaus organisations, support their initiatives and respond to developing needs.

## IN 2018

> 170

Emmaus associations contributed to the annual solidarity programme which resulted in funding of projects of

18 Emmaus associations

in Eastern Europe, Africa, the Americas and Asia, of a total of

€ 477 600

### ANNUAL SOLIDARITY PROGRAMME

All organisations in the movement organise an annual solidarity sale. The money raised by these sales is pooled and then redistributed to fund projects designed to build the capacity of Emmaus organisations, support their initiatives and respond to developing needs.

In 2018, 41 containers were sent by 20 organisations in the movement.

### CONTAINER PROGRAMME

By sending shipping containers, Emmaus organisations in Western Europe share material resources with those in Africa, Latin America and Eastern Europe. These resources can be used as equipment, sold second-hand, or can be used to help local partner organisations. The programme also offers members of Emmaus groups an opportunity to meet one another.

### EMERGENCY RELIEF

When a member organisation facing an emergency situation sends out a call for help, all the movement's groups are called on to show their solidarity. The financial support collected can allow the organisation to deal with the initial emergency or to put into place longer-term solutions.



### COMING TO THE AID OF THE EXILED ROHINGYA

The extremely serious violence perpetrated by the Burmese army and extremist Buddhist militias against the Rohingya of Burma at the start of 2018 have forced hundreds of thousands of people to flee to neighbouring Bangladesh. Confronted by this tragedy, Emmaus Asia launched an appeal for solidarity with one key priority: to distribute food supplements to around 5,000 women who are pregnant or breastfeeding, as well as to children and the elderly in three refugee camps.



### RESPONDING TO NATURAL DISASTERS IN INDIA

In August and then November 2018, India was struck by flooding in Kerala and a cyclone along the coast of Tamil Nadu. In response to these natural disasters, Emmaus groups in India and the Asia region mobilised to assess the damage and take necessary measures. In Kerala in particular, using experience gained following the 2004 tsunami, Emmaus members were involved in the recovery of 300 hectares of farmland belonging to poor farmers that had been particularly affected.

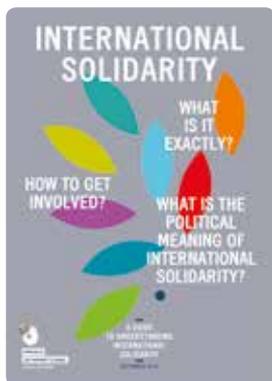
# TOOLS FOR ACTION

Tools have been created around our approach to solidarity and our political voice in order to enable all Emmaus International members to take ownership of the work carried out across the four regions and to better share the results of this collective work externally.



## ➔ TWO VIDEOS MADE DURING THE FORUM OF ALTERNATIVES

«International solidarity to have more strength for our struggles», based on a vision of solidarity embodied by the movement, and «Emmaus changed my life», in the form of accounts from actors in the movement and the impact that Emmaus has had on their lives.

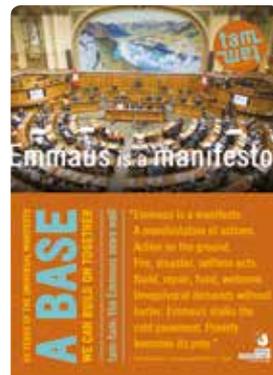


## ➔ THE «GUIDE TO INTERNATIONAL SOLIDARITY»

A practical guide aimed at Emmaus groups, to understand international solidarity, its political meaning within the movement, and to discover the correct way to organise actions on the ground.

## ➔ TAM-TAM, EMMAUS INTERNATIONAL'S NEWS FOR YOUR WALL

Tam-Tam brings our latest news to all members of the movement, reporting on the highlights of the organisation and the actions of Emmaus groups throughout the world, as well as the women and men behind them these actions.



## ➔ EMMAUS INTERNATIONAL'S MEDIAPART BLOG

A space for communication (in French) to raise awareness of the struggles led by the movement. It's also a space to share our reactions to current events and to present campaigns and appeals, in which Emmaus International is involved, in order to mobilise action.

# FINANCIAL SUMMARY 2018

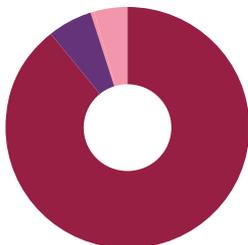
## ALLOCATION OF INCOME AND EXPENDITURE

Regarding 'Operations and Life of the Movement', the financial year 2018 ended with a surplus of €237,996, which will be earmarked to finance the next World Assembly. Concerning our political and solidarity commitments, 2018 had a positive balance of €278,947, which will allow us to finance future actions.

### 1 - OPERATIONS AND LIFE OF THE MOVEMENT: SURPLUS €237 996

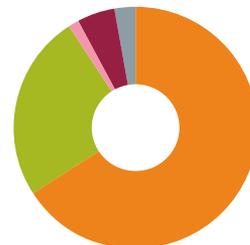
#### INCOME

- Group subscriptions €2 252 258
- External subsidies and sponsorships €135 048
- Other income €110 026
- TOTAL €2 497 333**



#### EXPENDITURE

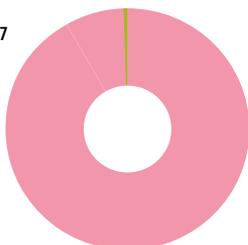
- Salaries and general costs €1 491 463
- Movement leadership €561 834
- Communication €32 100
- Heritage (including support for the Abbé Pierre Centre) €116 520
- Other expenditure €57 421
- TOTAL €2 259 337**



### 2 - SOLIDARITY AND POLITICAL COMMITMENTS: SURPLUS €278 947

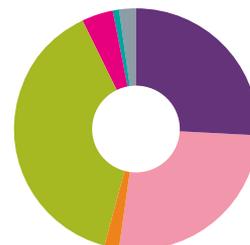
#### INCOME

- Emmaus groups' contribution €1 736 927
- Donations and legacies €23 546
- TOTAL €1 760 473**



#### DÉPENSES

- World Forum of Alternatives €388 180
- Restricted funds for Emmaus International's three struggles €385 024
- Solidarity following emergency appeals €29 845
- Support the group's projects in Africa, Asia, the Americas and Eastern Europe €573 321
- International work camps €60 038
- Heritage Funds €12 321
- Other expenses (including work camps, educational tools and coalitions) €32 797
- TOTAL €1 481 526**



## BALANCE SHEET EXTRACT (IN EUROS)

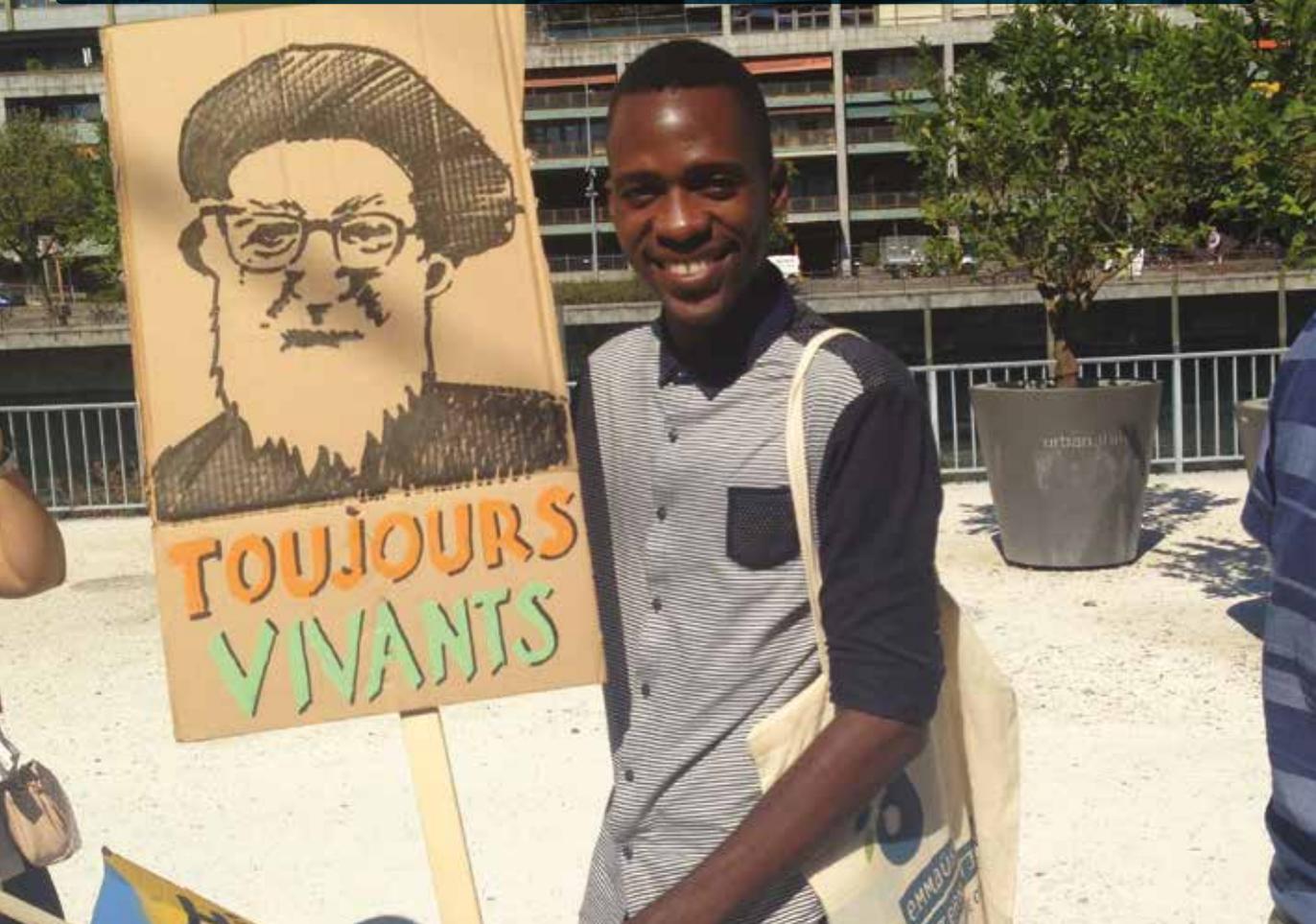
1 - STATEMENT OF ASSETS			ON 31/12/2018	ON 31/12/2017
	GROSS	DEPRECIATION	NET	NET
TOTAL FIXED ASSETS	€2 045 466	€312 067	€1 733 399	€1 833 303
TOTAL CURRENT ASSETS	€3 543 662	€24 512	€3 519 149	€2 801 497
OVERALL TOTAL	€5 589 128	€336 579	€5 252 549	€4 634 800

1 - STATEMENT OF LIABILITIES		ON 31/12/2018	ON 31/12/2017
	NET	NET	NET
ASSOCIATION FUNDS	€1 602 523	€1 340 981	€1 340 981
RISK AND CONTINGENCY PROVISIONS	€29 354	€23 484	€23 484
RESTRICTED FUNDS	€2 124 043	€1 868 641	€1 868 641
DEBTS	€1 496 629	€1 401 694	€1 401 694
LIABILITY CONVERSION DIFFERENTIAL	—	—	—
OVERALL TOTAL	€5 252 549	€4 634 800	€4 634 800

“The first mission for people who want to fight all forms of poverty is to make it visible. For those in power live amongst themselves, far from these realities. The first task of those who want to act is to lift up the veil; to show public opinion what it doesn't want to see.”

**Abbé Pierre**

*(The Voice of the Voiceless, 1990)*



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