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Living, working and committing together

Throughout the history of the Emmaus movement, general assemblies have occupied a central place, whether it is because they have given people a chance to discuss or take action, or because the memory of them remains etched in our activists’ minds. Marking forty years since Emmaus International came into existence, the twelfth Assembly was no exception. Its postponement by several months triggered a great deal of disappointment, but this may have contributed to the high and active level of participation at the Assembly. 412 representatives came from all across the world, seizing every opportunity to discuss and meet throughout the intensive week. They set out to find out about the complex issues facing an international organisation, to which they all belong.

The points for consideration, put forward in the Guidance Report, under “Coexistence”, “Collective Action” and “Collective Commitment”, were fuelled by the central theme, “Emmaus, a credible alternative in a difficult world”, giving rise to several priorities:
- Ensure that the original, unique values upheld by Abbé Pierre are promulgated and step up training to prepare for the future and to prepare new activists.
- Make possible decentralised operations, a principle that our Movement has upheld from the beginning, and increase solidarity as this will enable decentralised operations.
- Against a background of accelerating globalisation and unacceptable exclusion, unite around and develop the areas in which we have put in place examples to follow, so as to take action and speak out: access to water, education and healthcare, fighting human trafficking, protecting migrants and freedom of movement of people, ethical finance and social economy.
- Fight for the emergence of harmonious and fair societies and, as the Final Declaration reminds us, show that a better future is possible.

Jean Rousseau, President of Emmaus International

1 See Fact File no.3: 40 years of action for solidarity
Emmaus International is a secular solidarity Movement which aims to fight exclusion and poverty. It was set up in 1971 by Abbé Pierre, and is now his sole legatee and spiritual heir. Emmaus International fights to enable the most underprivileged to take back control of their own lives by helping others. From India to Poland, via Peru and Benin, its member organisations develop economic and solidarity-based activities with the poorest in society. It tackles waste by collecting and recycling second-hand goods, producing handicrafts and organic farming, helping street children and providing microcredit. In the four corners of the world, these organisations work together to combine their efforts and establish solidarity ties.
Overview

Day after day, the Movement’s 327 member organisations throughout the world are tackling poverty and exclusion.

Shared values

Thousands of companions, volunteers, staff and members give up their time and energy to further Emmaus International’s causes. They share strongly-held values: offering unconditional shelter, respecting human dignity, recognising every individual’s ability to take control of their lives and manage independently and showing solidarity to the most vulnerable people in society.

Autonomous groups

Every member organisation of Emmaus International has its own legal status and is organisationally, politically and religiously independent. To join the Movement several conditions must be met. Organisations must operate in a democratic manner, their finances must be transparent and they must be financially independent, or at least be aiming to be so.

On the ground

Decisions that guide international action are made by groups at grassroots level. The groups set out the Movement’s priorities at the World Assembly, which takes place every four years.

Each group, national organisation and regional organisation elects its representatives and makes decisions about its own projects. The elected members tasked with leading Emmaus International are all from grassroots groups and are given a mandate by the groups to foster collective work throughout the year.

Four continents

Emmaus International is a decentralised organisation with members in 37 countries in Africa, America, Asia and Europe.

WHAT IS EMMAUS INTERNATIONAL?

327 groups that share the same values and one principle: serve first those who suffer most

Five political action areas to achieve an ideal across the world, with one guiding principle: take action and speak out

An international solidarity Movement with one goal: fight and help to fight all kinds of exclusion

AN ARRAY OF ACTIVITIES

Emmaus International member organisations carry out a very wide range of activities. They run them locally as part of collective programmes or as individual initiatives.

- Education for disadvantaged children
- Community education through culture
- Access to new technologies for the most excluded members of society
- Microcredit and ethical finance
- Fair trade textile production workshops
- Collecting, repairing and selling second-hand goods
- Access to drinking water
- Green initiatives
- Developing local sustainable farming
- Work integration social enterprises
- Offering support to prisoners
- Vocational training centres for marginalised groups
- Access to healthcare
- Tackling domestic violence
Highlights of the year

THE 2011 SOLIDARITY TOUR
A new event was launched in 2011 - the Emmaus International Solidarity Tour which aims to strengthen ties between Emmaus groups, wherever they are in the world, and to encourage them to get more involved at international level. In May 2011 four regional delegates from Africa, Asia, Latin America and Europe visited Emmaus organisations in France and elsewhere in Europe to talk to them about the social initiatives they are running in their countries, mainly through Emmaus International’s support. As the event was so successful, it has been decided to stage it every year.

OFFICIAL OPENING OF THE ABBÉ PIERRE - EMMAUS CENTRE
The house in Esteville, France that Abbé Pierre used to live in is now home to the Abbé Pierre - Emmaus Centre. The centre opened on 22 January 2012 and is a place to remember Abbé Pierre, with ten exhibition rooms outlining his life, work and outlook. The centre not only welcomes visitors but also provides accommodation for people experiencing exclusion.

THE WORLD ASSEMBLY IN ANGLET
Emmaus International’s World Assembly took place in Anglet, France from 19 to 24 March 2012. 412 representatives from member organisations on four continents came together for the event to evaluate Emmaus International’s work over the past few years and to set out the Movement’s priority action areas for the next few years. There were workshops at the Assembly, in which participants were able to discuss and prepare the items on the plenary session agenda. There were also around forty informal meetings on freely-chosen topics and a public demonstration on ‘living together’, which was jointly organised with Emmaus Landes Pays Basques and local partners. There were also visits to four nearby French and Spanish communities. Jean Rousseau, president of Emmaus International since 2007, was re-elected for a further four years. There are many new members on the Board, Executive Committee and Wise Persons’ Committee.

Elected members

The Board

Jean Karekezi
Secretary
France

Tania Schubert
Barbosa
Assistant Secretary
Brazil

Gérard Racinno
Treasurer
France

Jean Busogi
Member
DRC

Français d’Assise Tokpo
Benin

Mahamady Sawadogo
Burkina Faso

Nantegue Kone
Côte d’Ivoire

D’Enana Šabic
Bosnia

Margherita Zilliacus
Finland

Alexander Sawarimuthu
India

Osvaldo Quintal
India

Hélène Sayad
Lebanon

Franck-Benoît Puntous
France

Silvana Ngarolle
Italy

Alberto Luis de Urquiza
Argentina

Juan Melquiades
Peru

Jorge Ambiado
Uruguay

Hans Van Beek
France

Tobias Petersson
Sweden

Gianni Belletti
Italy

Composition on 1 June 2012

THE PRESIDENT... is elected by the General Assembly, which meets every four years.

THE BOARD... is made up of the President and several representatives from the Emmaus regions. It meets at least once a year and is tasked with implementing the guidelines and decisions adopted by the General Assembly.

THE EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE... is made up of the President and seven board members who are elected by the board. It meets around once every two months and is responsible for the day-to-day management of Emmaus International.
Secretariats

THE INTERNATIONAL SECRETARIAT... is composed of 17 staff members working in several departments: administration and organisation, mobilisation, coordination and training, solidarity, political action, communications and life of the Movement. The Secretariat is under the authority of the Executive Committee and a general manager.

BOOSTING SOLIDARITY

EMMAUS INTERNATIONAL AIMS TO MAKE THE WORD “SHARING” MORE MEANINGFUL. BY PUTTING EMMAUS ORGANISATIONS IN CONTACT WITH EACH OTHER AND FACILITATING SOLIDARITY BETWEEN THEM, IT ENABLES THEM TO BUILD THEIR CAPACITIES, DEVELOP NEW ACTIVITIES REINFORCING THEIR SENSE OF BELONGING TO THE MOVEMENT.

Composition on 1 June 2012
Supporting each other: how and why?

A wide range of solidarity initiatives

Each year, many member organisations of Emmaus International need a helping hand to deal with temporary difficulties, or simply to launch new activities. Others are faced with completely unforeseen events, such as an accident, fire or natural catastrophe. These organisations are not, however, alone or isolated. They are part of an international movement and as such, they benefit from mutual support from all the other members. Emmaus International’s role is to coordinate everyone’s efforts so that together, we can put the situation right.

The annual solidarity sales

Solidarity is simple. It’s based on a central idea, which is to share resources. All groups contribute to a fund, which is used to implement solidarity initiatives and to finance emergency interventions, where required. Almost all of the funds come from the proceeds of the annual solidarity sales. The sales are all held at the same time, usually in June, by Emmaus organisations throughout the world wishing to join together in solidarity within the Movement.

In 2011, sales by Emmaus organisations together with the Emmaus Salon in Paris raised €627,382 euros. The money financed around fifteen initiatives and was used to set up a reserve for emergency situations. Some of it was also used for the regional solidarity funds.

It’s a gradual process... Requests for financial support are first made by member groups and are then examined by group representatives at regional level. They then compile an initial selection, which they present to the elected members responsible for international solidarity. The elected members give their opinions and the Board approves the list of priority initiatives to be funded.

Initiatives funded by the sales held in 2011

The proceeds of the solidarity sales have enabled several initiatives to be run, covering three main areas: developing income-generating activities, purchasing tools and vehicles and launching and developing collective regional initiatives.

Developing income-generating activities

In 2011, the proceeds of the annual sales were used to support three projects in Benin.

Mobovome is an organisation that specialises in pig and rabbit farming. New enclosures have been built, which has markedly improved the animals’ living conditions. It is expected that these developments will enable the organisation to significantly increase the size of its farm and, with the ensuing profits, take another step towards self-sufficiency.

Emmaus Pahou runs a second-hand shop and an internet café. It also specialises in market gardening and in converting farm produce into finished products. It is now also starting up other kinds of services: equipment rental and a removals service. The group has invested in new tools and accessories to develop these activities. It has also purchased equipment to manufacture tarpaulins, chairs and tables.

At Emmaus Tohoué, the palm nut factory has been equipped with wells. The companions now have access to water both for the manufacturing processes and for their own consumption. The wells also benefit the wider community, which can use them for their own water supply.

Other groups in Africa have also received financial support to reinforce their activities.

- Burkina Faso: the equipment rental workshop at ESO (Emmaus Solidarity Ouaga) and market gardening cooperative run by SEMUS (Solidarity and Mutual Support in the Sahel).
- Burundi: the drinks warehouse at AIPH (Supporting Initiatives for Disabled People) and the wood treatment and sales workshop at ALDP (Association for Fighting Crime and Poverty).
- Democratic Republic of the Congo: microcredit provided by CAJED (Combined Initiatives for Disadvantaged Young People and Children).
Tool and vehicle purchases

- Three groups have been able to buy vehicles with the funds allocated to them.

Benebnooma in Burkina Faso has bought a four-by-four, which has enabled the leaders to travel more often out into the wider community and take part in more events within the region. This has also opened up a job for a driver.

Emmaüs Vie Madagascar has bought an all-terrain truck to transport hand pumps and wind turbines which the group sometimes installs in very isolated areas. Having its own vehicle has enabled the organisation to reduce its costs, increase the number of orders and generate more profits.

In Brazil, the young Emmaus group, Vila Velha has bought a van, which has enabled it to pick up goods in new areas. It will also enable the group, which accommodates 42 companions, to be self-financing and continue running social action initiatives such as learning support and medical assistance.

- Aportes in Uruguay has built a warehouse next to an existing one, giving it room to set up new workshops and to store more furniture and other items.

Developing collective regional initiatives

- Emmaüs America has recently launched a project to provide training on the recycling of solid urban waste. It is a three-year project and twelve groups are involved: Aportes and Emmaús Malдонado (Uruguay), Emmaús Resistencia and Emmaús Mendoza (Argentina), Emmaús San Agustín, Cuna Nazareth, Emmaús Lambayeque and Emmaús Piura (Peru), Emmaús Pereira (Colombia), Emmaús Recife, Emmaús Amor y Justicia, and Emmaús Cachoeira Paulista (Brazil). The first stage was completed at the end of 2011, after existing practices were identified and a strategy was adopted. The next stages will involve buying equipment needed both for the training course and for implementing and developing the waste management processes.

- The seven member organisations of Emmaus International in Asia, FHF, VCDS, Kudumbam and Tara Projects (India), Yayasan Penghibur (Indonesia), Thanapara Swallows (Bangladesh) and AEP (Lebanon) have continued working on water access projects and microcredit. As well as these two main areas, groups and now also developing ecotourism. In order to generate income and let people know about their initiatives, groups have produced brochures, not only about nearby tourist attractions, but also about their organisations and what areas they are involved in. They have also helped improve accommodation for visitors.

- The container programme is drawn up every year based on the offers of containers from sender groups. This supply is then sent to applicant groups in Africa and Latin America, which, in collaboration with their elected members, decide which groups to prioritise. After the programme has been drafted, it is then approved by the Board of Emmaus International. Special days are held to provide information and training about the programme. The latest ones were in October 2011 in Cologne, Germany and in May 2012 in Coventry, United Kingdom.

For more information about the Container Programme, please consult Fact File no.1: Sharing goods in the Emmaus way

Establishing ties with another community

Emmaüs Vie Madagascar has been a member of Emmaus International since 2006 and received its first container in June 2011. It was also a big moment for the sender group, Emmaus Nantes in France, which took part in the programme after attending the Container training and information days held in Angers in 2009.

Emmaüs Vie Madagascar used the material it received for its second-hand shop. The profits made by selling the goods were used to train companions and help homeless people. The operation was such a success that at the end of May 2012, Nantes sent a second container to Emmaüs Vie Madagascar.
Sometimes groups have to contend with natural catastrophes or unforeseen events. Emmaus International grants emergency funding to help groups react swiftly and to ensure that their work is not jeopardised. An appeal may also be made to all groups within the Emmaus Movement if necessary. This financial support is used to help groups that have been affected, as well as neighbouring communities with which the groups work.

From June 2011 to May 2012, Emmaus International granted emergency relief on three occasions:

- **Columbia**: in December 2011, the villages of El Porvenir, La Palomera and Puerto Bertin were flooded, leaving 210 families homeless. Financial support from the emergency fund was used to re-house and feed families and provide them with clothing and medication.

- **India**: there were two emergencies within a few months of each other. On 16 March 2011, in the village of Alathur in southern India, an electrical fire burnt 27 homes to the ground. Funding from Emmaus International was used to provide victims with basic necessities. Their homes were rebuilt over the following months. Following cyclone Thane, Emmaus International also helped with rebuilding work in the villages of Naravakkam and Vellakulam in south east India. Thirty people were killed and the cyclone destroyed everything in its path. The three Emmaus organisations in the area helped and housed several victims. They also did repairs on their own buildings, including a farm and a centre for children.

In both cases, the financial support came from the emergency fund and from Emmaus Asia’s solidarity budget.

Emmaus International is committed to defending basic human rights and has been actively working on five priority action areas since 2003: access to water, healthcare and education, migrants’ rights and freedom of Movement, and ethical finance. It does this by taking action and speaking out. In other words, it uses the example of its concrete and successful pilot programmes in order to develop a public and political stance at international level. It aims to show that alternative solutions do exist and that they may be put into action throughout the world.
Access to water

"Water is a common resource that should be accessible to everyone"

The situation

Water is a precious resource, a common asset belonging to all humanity that should never be misappropriated or traded. Over recent years, this awareness has gradually taken root, with citizens all over the world stating their opposition to water privatisation. This has been seen in Italy for example, where in June 2011, people voted overwhelmingly against the decision to turn water into a commodity. For Emmaus International too, it is an absolute imperative: water is a public resource and it should therefore be publicly managed by citizens.

Action mechanisms

In order to support this strategy, some years ago Emmaus International launched a pilot initiative to provide access to drinking water and sanitation entitled “Citizens together in solidarity for water on Nokoué”. The initiative was based in Benin and involved 70,000 people. Before the launch of this programme, only 10% of the local population had access to drinking water and only 2% to sanitation. The project’s central idea is that local people can themselves be key stakeholders, who are able – if they join together – to manage their own water resources effectively. This led to the creation of a local water users’ association bringing together 8,000 families. The Nokoué Association of Water and Sanitation Users and Stakeholders is responsible for the collective, solidarity-based, economically balanced and sustainable management of water resources and water and sanitation installations created by the programme for the entire local area. It works in collaboration with the local authorities and takes advantage of the expertise provided by the various Emmaus groups involved in this project. Ninety groups in total have helped to fund the early years of the programme and have sent companions, paid employees and volunteers to take part in the project.

The programme entered its second phase in August 2011 and is scheduled to end in 2015. In the meantime, its results have already proved impressive. At the pilot sites of Ahomey Gblon and Gbesou, there has been a very real change in hygiene awareness, sanitation and living conditions on the lake. With such positive results achieved, local people from the other seven sites have become very actively involved to ensure that the work can be completed as quickly as possible.

The Nokoué experience, which can be hailed a success, will now serve as a showcase for the initiatives undertaken by Emmaus International to promote public and citizen management of water. The stance and expertise demonstrated by the International Movement were among the achievements singled out for praise at the Dakar World Social Forum (Senegal) in 2011 and the Alternative World Water Forum in Marseille (France) in 2012.

In the near future, the Movement will also lend its support to a European citizen initiative “Water = public resource”, due to be launched in early 2013.

CONCRETE AND CREDIBLE SOLUTIONS

The Alternative World Water Forum (FAME) is the international meeting place for all those fighting for better access to drinking water and sanitation. Its 6th edition, which took place in Marseille (France) on 14 - 17 March 2012, brought together several thousand representatives from organisations and citizens wishing to share their initiatives and experiences of public management of water resources.

As a co-organiser of the event, Emmaus International contributed to the various discussions and proposals. A delegation of over 40 representatives from the four Emmaus regions took part in the scheduled programme of workshops. These discussion days led to proposals for collaboration at international level (establishing a global network, setting up an international water tribunal, etc.)
Migrants’ rights and freedom of movement

Guaranteeing freedom of movement for everyone at global level

The situation

Offering unconditional shelter is one of the basic principles underpinning Emmaus member groups’ day to day activities. This commitment is at the very heart of everything we do: welcoming people without thinking about their ethnic, religious, social or cultural background. Emmaus’ practice of offering unconditional shelter and its work with the most disadvantaged people quite naturally led the Movement to take up the issue of respect for migrants’ rights very early on. Starting from the premise that freedom of movement – in addition to being a basic right – is an effective way of reducing injustice and inequality in the world, Emmaus International even made this one of its priority work areas.

Action mechanisms

In order to give more weight to its interventions and effectively influence debate, Emmaus International is chairing a working group looking at the issue of freedom of movement. A number of organisations that attended the last World Social Forum are also involved: Caritas, Enda Europe, World Charter for Migrants, France Libertés, CIMADE and the Utopia Movement, to name a few. It is an opportunity for these bodies to explore synergies for joint action and to exchange views on the campaigns and initiatives they each implement.

Moreover, Emmaus International is involved in international networks of non-profit organisations campaigning on migration issues. In June 2011, the Movement – in tandem with other organisations – referred the case of migrants in Calais (France), who were the victims of police brutality, to the French Rights Defender. It is also supporting the Boats4people campaign (www.boats4people.org). Launched in July 2011, its remit is to observe and denounce the human rights violations suffered by migrants at sea.

Among other initiatives underway are activities linked to A Visa for the World. This includes organising debates with Emmaus groups to denounce untruths and prejudices about migration, raising the profile of these issues on social media networks, developing the website www.avisafortewworld.org, which is updated on a regular basis, promoting initiatives throughout the world in favour of migration policies based on openness, hospitality, the right to mobility and freedom of movement.

Emmaus International is also supporting the introduction of the Universal Citizen Passport, a concept initiated by the Utopia Movement.

We are also planning to officially register the demand for freedom of movement at international level. This might take the form of a worldwide conference bringing together not only Emmaus International and its non-profit partners, but also stakeholders from the political, economic and intellectual arenas who share this same global vision. Its primary objective would be to set up an official international discussion forum on the issue of migration and freedom of movement.

A WIDER POLITICAL PROGRAMME

At the World Assembly which took place in March 2012 in Anglet (France), the topic of freedom of movement was the focus of much attention. A large number of interventions and debates were devoted to this, while a public demonstration on the forecourt of Bayonne Town Hall publicised itself under the slogan: ‘Coexistence for the future: unconditional shelter and freedom of movement’.

At the end of this meeting, the Movement took the decision – in tandem with the freedom of movement issue – to reflect and work on the theme of “combating all forms of exploitation, slavery and human trafficking”. The experience of a number of groups already campaigning actively in this field will no doubt inspire avenues for exploration that are more widely accessible to the whole of the Movement.
Access to healthcare

**Putting in place a social protection model based on solidarity**

**The situation**

Everyone should have the opportunity to receive medical treatment, irrespective of their financial means. Access to healthcare is a basic human right, but all too often this is forgotten. For a number of years now, Emmaus International has been working to remedy this issue by setting up mutual health programmes whose stakeholders are the most disadvantaged groups. These programmes cover healthcare costs and facilitate access to medical treatment.

**Action mechanisms**

The principle behind the Emmaus mutual health system is simple: those who are the most excluded become active participants in securing access to their rights. By organising themselves, defining their needs, analysing local provision and pooling their resources, they set up programmes intended to provide access to healthcare.

In concrete terms, each member pays a monthly contribution to create a mutual fund enabling some of their healthcare costs to be refunded. The benefits derived from these programmes are numerous: 80% of the cost of medicines can be refunded, together with fees for medical consultations, analyses, vaccinations, surgical procedures and hospital in-patient fees (up to a maximum threshold set by the mutual fund subscribers themselves).

The first programmes of this kind to be set up were in Africa – in Burkina Faso and Benin – in the early 2000s. When the model proved successful, it was then extended and adapted for use in Asia. In 2011, two similar initiatives were launched in the groups of Thanapara Swallows (Bangladesh) and Tara Projects (India), where local people frequently cannot afford to consult a doctor.

In total, more than 2300 people can now enjoy the benefits of the Emmaus mutual health funds for an annual membership fee, averaging between 1.3 euros and 18 euros per person. This system works so well because the future beneficiaries themselves – supported by Emmaus groups – are responsible for its organisation, specifying the operating method, contribution rate and criteria for membership of these mutual schemes.

In spite of their success, other hurdles lie ahead for these mutual health fund programmes. In Africa, the challenge is to make them financially independent within a reasonable time scale. In Asia, however, as the system is only just getting under way, we must ensure that the regulations put in place to facilitate its smooth running are fully respected. In the years ahead, the Movement may decide to develop these initiatives in order to make this solidarity-based social protection model available to everyone.

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Ethical finance

**Supporting solidarity economy projects and new businesses**

**The situation**

Ethical finance involves making use of savings in order to support investments and economic activities that are considered socially useful. Within this concept lie two key ideas: on the one hand, the fact that this practice is intended to benefit those with the greatest need (people with no access to credit); and on the other, that it should encourage the development of solidarity-based and responsible behaviour - a strategy consistent with the work of Emmaus all over the world.

**Action mechanisms**

It comes as no surprise then that the Movement took the decision to adapt this model and move into ethical finance in its turn. For the past five years, groups have had the option to deposit money into the Emmaus Ethical Fund. These funds build up a financial reserve which is used as a guarantee fund for loans granted by Banca Etica, an ethical Italian bank with an international outreach and a partner of Emmaus International. In 2012, the Emmaus Ethical Fund maintained a level of around 1.5 million euros, a rise of almost 500 000 euros on the previous year. This success was due to an increased number of participants. Over the 2011/2012 period, sixteen new groups joined the forty or so already committed to the fund. Of particular note in relation to this growth is the high involvement of Asian groups which, in spite of frequently very delicate situations, all play their part – each at their own level – in contributing money to the Ethical Fund.

The guarantee fund has already provided support to five projects, for an overall sum of 87 000 euros. After these projects were approved by the Executive Committee, 60% of the loans allocated were guaranteed by the Emmaus Ethical Fund. Of these projects, three are being undertaken by Emmaus groups: Emaús Buenos Aires (Argentina), International Solidarity Forum (Bosnia-Herzegovina) and Emaus Rzeszów (Poland). The other two are being managed by external organisations which share the same values as Emmaus International: one project provides support to small scale fruit producers – for the most part women – managed by the INSIEME cooperative (Bosnia-Herzegovina) and the other is a social inclusion project run by the SARL ECOLOJAR (Spain).

Other solidarity economy activities are lined up to receive support or are currently being considered both in Italy and a number of Asian countries, with loan amounts ranging from 10 000 to 350 000 euros.

Finally, over the 2011/2012 period, only six groups asked to recover their deposits as their set term had come to an end, with these amounts totalling 62 500 euros; the other groups have kept their contributions in the Ethical Fund.

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PUBLIC DEBT

In tandem with our initiative promoting ethical finance, Emmaus International has pledged its support to CAC, a French collective calling for a citizen audit of public debt. The collective brings together some thirty trade union and community organisations and its goal is to launch a debate on credible alternatives to the European debt crisis. For more information, visit: www.audith-citoyen.org
Access to education

Sharing educational practices and visions

The situation

Education is one of the most effective ways of combating the root causes of poverty and exclusion. Having fully grasped its importance, Emmaus International chose to make this one of its priority goals. Through its "Right and Access to Education" programme, for some years now the Movement has been funding training and education initiatives run by member groups in Latin America, Asia and Africa. In 2011, 50 000 euros were earmarked for this cause.

Action mechanisms

In order to support and promote the development of these practices, Emmaus International – in cooperation with Emmaus America – organised the first Emmaus world education meeting, which took place from 28 August to 4 September 2011 in Montevideo, Uruguay. Some fifty participants from 15 different countries were able to share their experiences of education and consider possible areas for future collaboration. A number of proposals for potential initiatives were also discussed. These included the possibility of organising an Emmaus day – or even an international week – dedicated to education. Although no political discourse or lobbying have surfaced so far, this remains a highly promising work area. The pooling of educational practices and visions – which is still in its early stages – is set to develop very rapidly.

EMMAUS INTERNATIONAL: ITS NETWORK AND VISIBILITY

In order to share its expertise and raise the profile of its practices and campaigns, Emmaus International has chosen to work with other stakeholders on two issues:

→ the right to and citizen management of water;
→ international migration and freedom of movement.

These are some of the organisations with which we have forged strong links: France Libertés, Utopia Movement, World Charter for Migrants, Secours Catholique-Caritas France, CIMADE, Migreurop, GISTI and others.

Emmaus International maintains its involvement in a number of collectives, including CRID (on migration issues and international civil society meetings), the European citizen initiative on the right to water and CAC, the French collective calling for a citizen audit of public debt.

Finally, Emmaus International boosted its visibility in the international arena by taking part and jointly organising a number of large-scale events, such as the Alternative World Water Forum (FAME). Also worthy of note is the fact that the Movement has consultative status on the UN Economic and Social Council (ECOSOC).
Communication media

Emmaus International’s communication media are available in the Movement’s three languages (English, French and Spanish). Documents are disseminated to the whole Movement as soon as they are published but they can also be downloaded directly from Emmaus International’s website (www.emmaus-international.org)

Multimedia

→ WEBSITES

- www.planet-emmaus.org
  Launched in December 2011, the Planet Emmaus online portal offers each of the Movement’s 327 member organisations its own personal page where it can express itself freely. Accessible in six languages and very simple to use, it enables each group to publicise its actions independently to a wider public, by posting photos, videos or even its latest news.

- www.avisafortheworld.org
  The website “A visa for the world” is at the heart of the campaign set up by Emmaus International to raise public awareness of freedom of movement. The campaign can also be followed on social media networks, Twitter (twitter.com/visapourlemonde) and Facebook (www.facebook.com/visapourlemonde).

- www.emmaus-international.org
  The institutional website is not intended simply to present the work of Emmaus International. It also offers visitors large volumes of documents and information that may be of use to them: photos, videos, publications, together with the latest news on the life of the Movement.

→ FILMS

Four films, made at the request of Emmaus International, are available both on DVD and on the website www.emmaus-international.org (in the “Videos” gallery):

- Thanapara Swallows, an oasis of hope in rural Bangladesh and Tara Projects, for a fairer world present Emmaus’ work in India and Bangladesh.

- Nokoué, the Water Companions records the progress of the water access programme on Lake Nokoué, in Benin.

- The film 33 sustainable minutes is intended to help groups evaluate their local resources better, with a view to promoting sustainable development.

Regular publications

- Emmaus Postcard
  The Postcard gives a voice to Emmaus stakeholders working at grassroots level. Each provides a genuinely personal account, helping us to gain a better understanding of the initiatives being run by Emmaus International. Here, the focus is more on solidarity initiatives and priority programmes. The Postcard is issued every two months.

- Emmaus Express
  Emmaus Express enables groups to keep track of the Movement’s international news. It is the ideal forum to announce a large-scale event, launch an emergency appeal, promote a new publication etc. This resource can be displayed and is published every other month.

- Tam-Tam
  The Tam-Tam is a journal for Emmaus groups to display on the wall, so it can reach the widest possible audience. Each issue focuses on a theme of importance for the Movement and includes analyses, personal accounts and practical information. It is published every other month.
Other media

- Fact Files
The Fact Files are designed to be practical guides, providing groups with detailed information about a specific topic. At the moment, the collection comprises three titles — the first on the container programme, the second on freedom of Movement, and the third retracing the story of how Emmaus International was created. They will gradually build up a library, providing a useful basis for discussion and action.

- Universal Manifesto
A poster featuring the founding text is available in the 21 languages that are spoken within the Movement.

- World map
See the geographic distribution of Emmaus groups throughout the world and get an idea of the scope of the Movement.

- And not forgetting: Emmaus Express
Special edition on Nokoué, Annual Reports, posters, etc.

Books

- Planète Emmaus
Published to mark the international Movement’s 40th anniversary, Planète Emmaus is an anthology of photographs illustrating the incredible diversity of initiatives run by local Emmaus organisations all over the world. The book, which is in three languages (French, English and Spanish), showcases the photographs of Sébastien Gracco de Lay. It is published by Democratic Books.

- A Visa for the World – Freedom of Movement for Migrants
The book, A Visa for the World – Freedom of Movement for Migrants provides personal accounts seeking to overturn prejudice, illustrating the reality of migrants’ experiences. It has been published in French, English and Spanish by Editions de l’Atelier.

- Les Combats de l’abbé Pierre
This work, published on the initiative of Emmaus International, pays homage to Abbé Pierre in an original manner by highlighting the campaigns he spearheaded both in France and across the world. Written by Denis Lefèvre, it is published in French by Cherche Midi and in Italian by EMI.

- Inédits – Textes de combat, écrits intimes, correspondances de l’Abbé Pierre (Abbé Pierre’s hitherto unpublished campaign literature, personal writings and correspondence)
Five hundred pages offering an opportunity to rediscover and gain a better understanding of the founder of the Emmaus Movement. Published by Bayard, the book is available in French.
**A look back over 2011**

**Income and expenditure distribution**

2011 saw a balance sheet surplus of €1,064,444. This was a clear improvement on last year, thanks in particular to lower expenditure and increased membership dues.

1 - Operations: €1,064,444 surplus

2 - Solidarity: a balanced budget

**Balance sheet excerpt (in euros)**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>I - Assets</th>
<th>as at 31/12/2011</th>
<th>31/12/2010</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Gross</td>
<td>Depreciation</td>
<td>Net</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total fixed assets</td>
<td>€1,123,108</td>
<td>€79,772</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total current assets</td>
<td>€3,909,315</td>
<td>€856,684</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Overall total</td>
<td>€5,032,424</td>
<td>€936,456</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>II - Liabilities</th>
<th>as at 31/12/2011</th>
<th>31/12/2010</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Gross</td>
<td>Net</td>
<td>Net</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Funds</td>
<td>€695,564</td>
<td>€684,346</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Risk and contingency provisions</td>
<td>€161,744</td>
<td>€182,271</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Dedicated funds</td>
<td>€1,179,596</td>
<td>€1,272,301</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Debts</td>
<td>€2,059,063</td>
<td>€1,655,966</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Overall total</td>
<td>€4,095,968</td>
<td>€3,794,884</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Looking ahead to 2012**

**2012 Budget (in euros)**

The budget is broken down into two parts: the first part (Operations) brings together financial information relating to the association’s day-to-day operations (e.g. operating expenses, meeting costs and life of the international Movement). The second part (Political and solidarity commitments) gathers together specific information relating to initiatives put in place to combat exclusion and offer alternatives throughout the world.

1 - 2012 Operating budget - Structure and life of the Movement

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Expenditure</th>
<th>Total</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Personnel</td>
<td>€510,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Overheads</td>
<td>€103,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>General communications</td>
<td>€23,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Meeting costs</td>
<td>€190,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Support for decentralised organisations</td>
<td>€185,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>“Life of the Movement”</td>
<td>€40,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Depreciation</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total</td>
<td>€1,330,000</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Income</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Membership dues</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Donations and legacies</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Contributions made by Movement organisations</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sponsorship</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Other income</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

2 - 2012 Budget - Political and solidarity commitments

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Expenditure</th>
<th>Total</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Political action areas</td>
<td>€1,512,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Containers</td>
<td>€50,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Executive Committee emergency fund</td>
<td>€55,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Regional solidarity funds and projects</td>
<td>€414,608</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Other undertakings</td>
<td>€65,600</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Coordination, general management and communications for the solidarity initiatives and political commitments</td>
<td>€673,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total</td>
<td>€2,779,208</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Income</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Membership dues</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Emmaus sales</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Targeted contributions</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Dedicated reserves</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>External funding and income</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

To make a donation to Emmaus International and support its work, go to www.emmaus-international.org!
In order to boost its international solidarity work, throughout the year Emmaus International has pursued a strategy aimed at developing partnerships and securing external funding.

However, in addition to very strict ethical criteria, the Movement is careful to ensure that it is not over-dependent on external funding; maintaining a set level of funding primarily from its member groups helps the Movement to preserve its independence, ensure the continuity of its work and safeguard its freedom of speech.

In 2011, Emmaus International obtained co-funding from the European Commission for the “Citizens in solidarity together for water on Lake Nokoué” project, within the framework of the ”ACP-EU Water Facility” allocated from the 10th European development fund. The co-funding will make it possible to extend the project to seven other locations around Lake Nokoué, in Benin, until 2015. This external support comes in addition to contributions from 90 groups, communities and committees of friends, ranging from the Abbé Pierre Foundation and other bodies committed to this project such as the San Zeno Foundation (through Emmaus Italy).

Moreover, Orange is to continue its sponsorship of Emmaus International for the third consecutive year. The Movement and the French telecommunications company are bound together by joint commitments at grassroots level: they are supporting the development of mobile phone recycling workshops in collaboration with the Ateliers du Bocage and Emmaus groups in Burkina Faso, Benin and Madagascar.

Emmaus International is also a member of the online platform Alvarum, a website designed to facilitate fund raising for individuals wishing to get involved on behalf of the organisation of their choice. Individuals can create a personal page to raise funds for the international Movement via a sporting, cultural or even personal event. All the information required to organise an event is available on the website www.emmaus-international.org (Section “Make a donation” / “Organise a collection”).

WHO ELSE IS SUPPORTING THE NOKOUÉ PROJECT

The Vélo-nomades, three cyclists who cycled across Africa to raise money for Emmaus International and its access to water and sanitation programme on Lake Nokoué, finally completed their incredible journey in July 2011. Their trip achieved a dual aim – to relay and raise the profile of the initiative being managed by Emmaus International in Benin, and to raise money to fund the project.

“The content of the publication is the responsibility of Emmaus International alone and may in no way be considered as a reflection of the European Union’s viewpoint.”
EMMAUS INTERNATIONAL IN BRIEF...

→ A COMMON GOAL
To work with and for poor people so they can take charge of their lives

→ ACTIVITIES FOCUSED ON THE FUTURE
Collecting and recycling second-hand goods, farming, handicrafts, microcredit, training, housing and healthcare

→ INTERNATIONAL INITIATIVES
Access to education, healthcare and drinking water and promotion of ethical finance and migrants’ rights

→ A PRESENCE ON FOUR CONTINENTS
327 member organisation in 37 countries (Africa, America, Asia and Europe)

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